

Coos Bay Times

AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN PAPER
PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY AND ALSO WEEKLY BY

THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

FRED PASLEY, EDITOR.
REX LARGE, BUSINESS MANAGER.

The policy of the Coos Bay Times will be Republican in politics, with the independence of which President Roosevelt is the leading exponent.

Entered at the postoffice at Marshfield, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Single copy, daily,	5 cents
Per month, daily,	50 cents
Three months, daily,	\$1 25
Six months, daily,	\$2 50
One year, daily,	\$5 00
Weekly, per year	\$1 00

Address all communications to
COOS BAY TIMES
Marshfield, Oregon.

A PINKERTON PLEA.

THE Boise Daily Statesman, which is making an enviable newspaper record in its handling of the Steenberg murder case, makes comment on the Pinkerton detective agency. The article is interesting for the reason that that paper has of late been thrown in close personal contact with one of the most famous of Pinkerton men—James McParland.

"Elsewhere in this issue the Statesman republishes an article written by Bat Masterson on the Orchard case. In that article the famous frontiersman takes occasion to speak of James McParland, the Pinkerton manager. He tells of having known Mr. McParland for many years. Further, he calls attention to the fact that he is of very high character, and never attempts to fasten crime upon any one of whose guilt he is not satisfied.

"Coming from such a man as Mr. Masterson, that statement is of particular interest. It is well known to all who have knowledge of Mr. McParland's work that the statement is literally true. This is known to all officers of the law who come in contact with him; to all public prosecutors; also to all criminals of every character whose careers have led them into knowledge of his methods. Nor is this knowledge confined to criminals whom he has helped to run to earth. It is disseminated throughout the criminal world, and crooks of all kinds know that Mr. McParland is what they call "square."

It may be stated in this connection that the work of Mr. McParland is characteristic of the work of the Pinkerton agency. That agency has always maintained the highest standard; it never works for a reward; and it never permits its men to work for or receive rewards. It is a principle of the agency to avoid harassing innocence. Unless evidence is found indicating guilt, it does not attempt to fasten crime upon any one. While in the pursuit of a case, it follows out evidence of innocence as carefully as that of guilt in order to determine to its own satisfaction what the facts of the matter are, that it may avoid doing injustice to an innocent person.

"By such methods this agency has built up its great reputation and achieved such a commanding position in the confidence of the public. When a case is placed in its hands the persons interested know that the best methods will be employed to follow it in all its ramifications, and that the truth will be brought to light if it is possible for this to be accomplished by human agency. They know, further, that guilty men will be brought forth charged with the crime they may have committed.

"Further, people operating in the world of crime know that the Pinkertons will never attempt to fasten any particular crime upon a criminal simply because he has led a life of crime. It is the guilty only who have cause to fear the silent, relentless, unerring work of this organization. Because of the character of its methods, it has been able to secure the services of the best detective talent of the country, and, when a crime is placed in the hands of its men to be investigated that the criminal may be brought to justice, there will be detected if it is within the power of human ingenuity to accomplish that result.

"This agency has been marvelously successful throughout its long career; it is dreaded by all wrongdoers, and is rolled upon by those who desire justice to reach into the dark abiding places of criminals and drag them forth that they may be punished for their offenses. This agency stands before the world presently as the one whose successful mission has been to tear the mask from the face of crime and to stand the criminal in the dock face to face with the stern countenance of

that are necessary if crime of the most cunning character is to be traced to its source and the crafty criminal taken into custody.

"Moreover, in employing these methods, it is so expert that the most wily criminals of the age have failed to detect its agents or to suspect their own danger until the net had been cast about their shoulders. It has been able to secure the services of men who can be depended upon never to disclose their identity; never to incautiously drop a word that would arouse the suspicions of those whose dark and evil plans they are endeavoring to fathom.

"A class call these men "spotters." True, they are spotters, but their services are necessary for the welfare and protection of society. Were there no such organization as the Pinkerton agency employing men who could thus ingratiate themselves into the abiding places of crime and gather the evidence necessary to bring shrewd, evasive criminals to the bar of justice, a vast number of the worst class of criminals that the country produces would go on to the ends of their careers without being brought to punishment.

"The criminal sneers at the "spotter;" the sympathizer with crime sneers at the "spotter," but the fact can not be too vigorously emphasized that the work of the spotter, carried on under the most dangerous and trying conditions, is necessary for the detection of crime. Therefore, society realizes it owes these men an obligation because of the fact that they take their lives in their hands to ferret out the plots of evil-doers and secure the testimony necessary to bring such characters within the reach of the law.

"Humanity is not infallible, no human agency can be perfect, but it is marvelous with what accuracy the Pinkertons trace down the crimes

they are employed to investigate. They may, and no doubt do, make some minor mistakes, but the record as a whole is such that those who have knowledge of the agency's work are amazed at the success it has achieved in all the fields of its activity.

"Perhaps in no other great case taken up by this agency have greater difficulties been encountered than have confronted it in the discharge of its duties in connection with the prosecution that is now in progress here. Yet its success has been phenomenal. It has succeeded in securing information for the use of the state which would have been thought impossible. It has not only induced men to make confessions, but it has also brought forth witnesses by whom the details of crime have been most convincingly corroborated.

"One of the favorite themes of those who have from the first been opposing this prosecution and laying obstacles in the way of those charged with the administration of the law has been the false allegation to the effect that the Pinkertons failed in this instance, that they have misrepresented their evidence and that they generally deceived the men charged with the management of the case. This allegation emanates from those who, like coyotes in the night, stand about in the dark and yelp themselves hoarse at those who are discharging a great duty toward society. It is not worthy of serious consideration, but it is well to state, for the benefit of any who may have been deceived, that the assertion is false in every particular.

"The Pinkerton agency, acting through James McParland, has not only come up to the expectations of the prosecution and the public, but it has far exceeded them, as will be fully shown when presentation of

the evidence on behalf of the state shall have been completed and the great case closed.

"Whatever the result of this trial may be, the people of Idaho, the people of the entire west, the people of all this broad land of ours will be placed under everlasting obligation to the Pinkerton agency and to James McParland, its representative in this work, for what it has unearthed and set before the world in connection with this prosecution."

High Water.

Fri., 5.....	3:43	1.2	3:27	2.6
Sat., 6.....	4:40	0.7	4:22	3.0
Sun., 7.....	5:28	0.2	5:18	3.2
Mon., 8.....	6:11	-0.2	5:58	3.4
Tues., 9.....	6:47	-0.4	6:38	3.6
Wed., 10.....	0:15	8.7	1:37	6.8

Low Water.

Fri., 5.....	9:42	6.4	9:32	8.4
Sat., 6.....	10:46	6.4	10:20	8.5
Sun., 7.....	11:38	6.5	11:02	8.6
Mon., 8.....	12:24	6.6	11:40	8.6
Tues., 9.....	13:03	6.7	0:00	9.0
Wed., 10.....	7:21	-0.5	7:14	3.7

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