

Coos Bay Times

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J. C. LA FRANCE CONFESSES BUT SAYS ALL \$15,000 IS GONE

Refuses to Tell How and Where He Secured Body Substituted for His Own.

CONFESSION MADE TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Maintains That His Wife Did Not Know of Plot Until After She Got Money.

(Special to The Times.) PORTLAND, Oregon, May 2.—With the exception of explaining where he obtained the body used as a substitute for his own, J. C. LaFrance has made a complete confession to District Attorney Walter Evans of how he swindled the insurance companies out of \$15,000. Today he has not a penny left of the small fortune, he claims. On all subjects connected with the swindle, except where he secured the cadaver, LaFrance speaks freely.

There is a theory that he had assistance in the plan, but this LaFrance stoutly denies. He maintains that he worked it out alone. Detectives believe that the body was transported from Portland or some nearby town to the place where it was discovered by a party of fishermen last June. LaFrance claims that he knew he was followed but expressed wonder why he was not arrested long ago. He says his wife knew nothing of the plot until after she had received the insurance money, when he wrote her, later met her, and compelled her to carry out the plot, to which she demurred, but finally giving way to his wishes. The prisoner is charged with obtaining money under false pretense and a similar charge has been placed against his wife.

Was in Roseburg. The Roseburg News says that J. C. LaFrance was in Roseburg about three weeks ago and while there had Thomas Cobb execute a bill of sale of a sawmill near Bandon and some timberland to J. C. Walker, which LaFrance, who gave his name as A. J. Forger, said he had recently sold. The matters were executed. LaFrance sent two letters from there, but both were returned to Cobb, because LaFrance, who appeared very nervous, failed to put on stamps when he dropped them in the postoffice. One was addressed to Mrs. LaFrance and the other to Miss Post, both at Bandon. It is presumed that Miss Post, whoever she is, is the woman that LaFrance referred to as being the probable cause of his arrest.

FILE ATTACHMENT SUIT.

Other Insurance Companies Want to Recover LaFrance Property. A day or two after J. C. LaFrance's arrest, the Modern Woodmen of America, who are entitled to the credit for running LaFrance down, filed an attachment suit at Coquille against all his money and property, C. K. Peck acting as their attorney. Now the other insurance concerns want to get in on it as shown by the following in a Portland paper:

Another development in the case of James C. LaFrance, accused of having obtained money under false pretenses from the insurance companies, came yesterday afternoon when the Postal Life Insurance Company of New York filed an attachment suit in the United States district court against the property and effects of LaFrance and his wife, Emilie LaFrance. LaFrance's wife is accused of collecting insurance money on the life of her husband after a dead body, dressed in his clothes had been identified as the body of James C. LaFrance. It is said to have fixed up the scheme for the purpose of duping the several companies with whom LaFrance had insurance.

Deputy United States Marshal B. Fuller is now on his way to Coquille to levy on the effects of the couple. The Sheriff of Coos County is said to have already levied on a part of these effects in the name of other insurance companies who are said to have been swindled out of the amount of the LaFrance policies.

The complaint alleges that Emilie LaFrance, as beneficiary in the life insurance policies of James C. LaFrance, otherwise known as A. J. Forger, collected from the company a policy of \$9927.60. The money was paid, it is alleged, November 4, 1912, and judgment in that sum with 6 per cent interest was asked. It is said that the money was used by both defendants.

The complaint was filed by Attorney Zera Snow of Snow & McCann.

Members of Blanco Lodge No. 2, A. F. & A. M., and all sojourning Master Masons in good standing are requested to meet at the Masonic Hall Sunday, May 4, at 10 P. M., for the purpose of attending the funeral of Brother James P. Ferry.

By order of the W. M. NORIS JENSEN, Sec.

BRYAN STAYS IN CALIFORNIA

Decides to Remain in Sacramento Pending Further Action on Land Bill.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) WASHINGTON, May 2.—Secretary of State Bryan telegraphed today that he had reconsidered his purpose to start at once for Washington and would remain in Sacramento until the alien land legislation was concluded. Officials here infer that the Secretary feels that he has not exhausted his resources and still hopes to influence legislation in accordance with administration's views.

ALTER ALIEN LAND RULING

California Senate Amends Bill After Sharp Debate. Allows Japs to Lease.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) SACRAMENTO, May 2.—A long telegram of protest against the passage of the anti-alien law signed by George Shima, the "potato king" of California and president of the Japanese Association of America, was read in the senate this morning. Shima is the wealthiest Japanese in the state and is said to have large land interests in the Delta region of the San Joaquin River. The message said: "Japan has ceased to send laborers to America. Japanese who are here have tried to keep both the word and spirit of all laws and treaties. All have settled in this land of liberty and equality with trust and confidence in the American people.

"We appeal to you and your associates to consider well the result of any unfavorable legislation upon them and American industry as well. We hope justice and humanity, which we conceive to be the fundamental principles of the American Nation will not be forgotten at this time." More than a dozen telegrams from labor organizations throughout the state were received, all urging the enactment of a law to prevent land ownership by "aliens ineligible to citizenship."

The amendment to the Webb re-draft of the anti-alien land bill permitting eligible aliens to lease agricultural property for a period not exceeding three years was adopted by the Senate at noon by a non-partisan vote. The bill was sent to the printer with emergency rush orders. It is expected that it will be returned from the printer this afternoon in order that a final vote may be taken today.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

SACRAMENTO, May 2.—A sharp debate preceded the adoption of the Boynton amendment. Several Senators declared it weakened the bill to such an extent that Japanese colonies could exist virtually on the same basis as at present.

Senator Caminetti asked Boynton if this was not the case. "It is not the case," replied Boynton, "or I would not be offering this amendment. I don't want to see a single Japanese in California. I don't want to see Japanese own a foot of land in California. If they are willing to perform manual labor on farms under the direction of citizen owners, that is all right."

"In this case, however, it appears that to pass the bill in its original form, we would be working a hardship on many big land interests that now lease to Japanese and Chinese farmers. We should give them a chance to obtain American tenants before making the law too drastic."

At the close of Boynton's address Senator Wright said, "It will become the distinguished senator to speak the words he has just spoken and I hope he will modify them."

"Boynton remained silent for a few moments and then admitted he was willing to make the remarks apply to alien laborers."

Senator Finn said neither the bill nor the amendment met his approval. "My constituents demand a law with the specific words 'ineligible to citizenship,' that is what I want."

Senator Birdsall, author of the original anti-alien bill, declared the amendment was not to his liking and he should be excused from voting. Senator Cohn, Democrat, said he had been persuaded by men representing 200,000 acres of land now leased by Japanese, that an exemption of three year leases should be made.

Vote: 25 ayes; 13 noes.

COURTNEY MILL BOUGHT BY PORTLAND MEN TO OPERATE

Coos Bay Mill Company Organized by Geo. A. Houck, E. O. Samuels and W. L. Houston—Employ 50 Men and Cut 75,000 Daily.

E. A. Samuels and W. L. Houston of Portland arrived here yesterday from Portland to take over the Courtney mill at Millington on Isthmus Inlet, which they have bought from A. E. Matthews, receiver. The mill has been purchased by a Portland syndicate, which has incorporated as the Coos Bay Mill company, and arrangements will be made immediately to operate the mill. It will be fitted to turn out about 75,000 feet per day and will employ about fifty men.

Associated with Messrs. Samuels and Houston is Geo. A. Houck of Portland, who will arrive here soon to join his associates. The officers of the new company are: President—Geo. Houck. Vice President and Manager—E. O. Samuels. Secretary and Treasurer—W. L. Houston.

All are experienced mill men. Mr. Samuels having been engaged in the lumber business for sixteen years. He said that all would be actively associated in the business. He said that while they were not prepared to announce where their timber would be secured, they have made arrangements for logs.

It is understood that they plan to supply the local market and also to buy logs in small quantities from various ones about the Bay. Mr. Wheeler, who has been manager of the Nasburg Grocery, will open a store at Millington, in connection with the new plant.

The Courtney mill is a moment of "high finance" on Coos Bay. It was built about seven years ago by A. E. Courtney of Portland on borrowed capital. However, he got his financing mixed up and litigation was started, tying up the business before it ever turned a wheel and it has never been operated. It has been kept in good shape by C. H. Coddling, caretaker, during the years of litigation and receivership proceedings.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

BOSTON, May 2.—President Mellen in explaining the apparent profit made by him of the \$102,000 by the sale of New Haven stock in 1904 told the Interstate Commerce Commission today that the money had been paid back to him to reimburse him for contributions to the Republican campaign fund that year.

Mellen appeared before the commission in his own behalf and gave an unexpected explanation of some figures of the New Haven road's books. According to the government expert accountant, David E. Brown, there appeared an apparent profit of \$102,000 made by Mellen personally, in trading in the stock of the railroad company. Mellen said that \$50,000 went to the Republican national

ALASKA NAVAL BASE IS URGED

Delegate Wickersham Points it Out as Reason for Building Railway.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) WASHINGTON, May 2.—"Why not establish a naval base in Alaska?" Delegate Wickersham asked today of the Senate territories committee. "Then if you want to go the Orient you will have a route one thousand miles shorter and if you build those railroads you will have millions of tons of coal nearer your naval base."

The Alaskan delegate for an hour and a half spoke in behalf of Senator Chamberlain's resolution for a Government bond issue of \$35,000,000 to build 733 miles of railroad from Southwestern Alaska ports to the interior.

Many a man wants to get in on the ground floor because it is so hard to climb the front steps.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEAD OF THE GREAT NEWS GATHERING ASSOCIATION THAT SERVES THE TIMES GIVES INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION.

PROBABLY no institution is more widely known by name than The Associated Press, and on the other hand, more vaguely understood by the public generally as to its organization and its functions. For whatever cause this may be, that it is a fact is daily apparent.

The Associated Press is an association of something over 850 newspapers, operating under a charter

of the state of New York as a mutual and co-operative organization for the interchange and collection of news. Under the terms of its charter "the corporation is not to make a profit nor to make or declare dividends and is not to engage in the business of selling intelligence nor traffic in the same."

In other words, The Associated Press is simply a common agent of its members, by which they arrange an interchange of the news that each collects, and is bound by its membership obligation to contribute for the common use of its fellow members and also as the agency through which reports of foreign and certain classes of domestic happenings are collected and

distributed to the member newspapers. It is not a corporation, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a partnership, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a trust, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a company, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a firm, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a partnership, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a trust, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a company, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations. It is not a firm, and its members are not liable for its debts or obligations.

(Continued on Page Four.)

GUY GREENLEAF CONVICTED ON COMPROMISE CHARGE TODAY

WATER SYSTEM PAYS.

(From Coquille Sentinel) THE MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM IS PAYING OVER \$4,000 PER YEAR NET, ACCORDING TO THE MAYOR. THE COUNCIL PLANS TO EXPEND \$2,000 FOR IMPROVING THE WATER SYSTEM IN THE ZONE OF STREETS THAT ARE TO BE IMPROVED THIS SUMMER.

U. S. RECOGNITION GIVEN CHINA

Formal Approval of New Regime in Celestial Empire Given by Ambassador.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) WASHINGTON, May 2.—The new Chinese Republic was formally recognized today by the United States. Charge d'Affairs Williams at Peking, cabled that he had delivered the formal recognition as he was authorized to do upon the complete organization of the new government.

This Government's action has created a most interesting international situation and brings to a point the intention of five other powers, parties to the six-power loan negotiations from which the United States recently withdrew, in announcing its purpose to recognize China and urging the others to do the same.

President Wilson received a felicitous message of appreciation from President Yuan Shi Kai for the recognition by this Government of the new Republic of China.

EN PALME GIVEN UP BY REBELS

Mexican Federals on Western Coast Get Reinforcements and Rebels Fall Back.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) NOGALES, May 2.—The insurgent state forces evacuated Empalme today after which the Mexican gunboat Guerrero began shelling the California Gulf town preliminary to a land movement from Guaymas, where the Federal garrison was strongly reinforced yesterday. At Empalme are many American railway men, including Superintendent J. H. Temple, of the Southern Pacific of Mexico.

As soon as it became evident that the Constitutionalists had decided to leave Empalme, a suburb across the bay from Guaymas, the Guerrero poured a hot fire over the town. The Constitutionalists are retreating toward Hermosillo, the state capital.

CARRANZA IS FIRM.

Declares He Will Not Accept Diaz as Compromise Candidate.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) WASHINGTON, May 2.—The Carranza forces claim all the territory about Torreon by occupation. Confidential agents of the Constitutionalists' movement here today received a telegram from Governor Carranza declaring that he would never accept Felix Diaz as a compromise candidate for President, but would continue his fight.

DESERT TO CARRANZA.

Two Huerta Generals Reported to Have Joined Him.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) EAGLE PASS, Texas, May 2.—Reports from Mexico City that Huerta's Generals, Truq Aubert and Rabago, have joined the revolutionary movement in Northern Mexico gave weight today to a statement issued from the Constitutionalists' headquarters that active campaigning by the Federal troops had ceased. Another report stated that General Lopez was campaigning for Aubert and was negotiating to join Carranza. Rabago is fighting a different branch of Constitutionalists.

ALL KINDS OF FRESH VEGETABLES at OLLIVANT & WEAVER, PHONE 275-J.

The LADIES EPISCOPAL GUILD will hold a COOKED FOOD SALE SATURDAY afternoon at the PERRY & NICHOLSON furniture store and will begin at 1 o'clock.

NOW IS YOUR TIME.

A small ad in The Times want column may bring you results immediately. Try one.

Jury Finds Him Guilty of Assault With Intent to Commit Crime. 1 to 10 Years

ONE JUROR HELD OUT FOR EIGHTEEN HOURS

Reported That Eleven Wanted to Convict From Start—R. E. Knorr's Breakdown.

Doubt Verdict. There was more or less indignation expressed in Marshfield today when the verdict in the Greenleaf case was heard, the general impression being that the case allowed no compromise. The punishment for rape is imprisonment from three to 20 years while the punishment for assault is from one to ten years imprisonment.

(Special to The Times)

COQUILLE, Ore., May 2.—The jury in the case of Guy Greenleaf, indicted for a statutory crime against Erna Knorr, the fourteen-year-old Marshfield girl who committed suicide in Marshfield a few weeks ago, this morning returned a compromise verdict, finding Greenleaf guilty of "assault with intent to commit rape." The penalty is from one to ten years and Greenleaf will probably be sentenced next Monday. An appeal is expected.

The verdict was reached about 8 o'clock this morning and was presented to the court at 8:30. Judge Coke receiving it without comment. The jury went out yesterday at 2:30.

It has been reported this morning that the great majority of the twelve men were in favor of conviction from the first ballot for conviction and one opposed. Finally the compromise verdict was agreed upon. It is said that J. E. Paulsen of Coquille was the jurymen, who opposed a verdict of conviction of rape and resulted in the compromise verdict being brought in. However, this could not be verified. Clerk Watson said that he did not know how the ballots stood and he doubted the report that Paulsen had voted against conviction but he did not know.

Knorr Is Francic.

R. E. Knorr, father of the dead girl, who suffered an attack of hysteria during the final pleas in the Greenleaf case, yesterday, was frantic for many hours. After he was hastened from the court room, Tom Dimmick, Peter Mirraoul, Tom Hall and the janitor took charge of him in the county judge's office but they finally had to call for help. He fought to get back into the courtroom but he was finally held until a physician was secured to administer to him.

Case Was Pathetic.

The case was pathetic, Greenleaf's little child flitting about the courtroom and playing, laughing and talking with the parents, being too young to understand just what it all meant. The little child was a strong card for the defense, making an appeal to the jurors that could not be made in any other way. R. O. Graves defended Greenleaf while L. A. Liljeqvist and Geo. M. Brown prosecuted the case.

NO SENTENCE ON CAMERON

(Special to The Times)

COQUILLE, Ore., May 2.—A motion for a new trial was filed today in the case of Frank Cameron, who was convicted of bootlegging on South Slough. In consequence, Cameron did not show up for sentence.

The case of Winkler, the Bandon half breed Indian who was indicted for assault with intent to commit a crime on a nine-year-old girl, is being tried and the trial will probably be concluded this afternoon.

Following the Winkler case, the civil action of Folsom vs. Bestul is scheduled for trial.

The grand jury has completed its work and is waiting on the prosecuting attorney for an opportunity to make its final report before adjourning for the term. There have been rumors that an indictment would be brought in about certain criminal operations in the Coquille Valley towns. The grand jury will report on the condition of the jail, county farm, etc.

A petition asking for a continuance of the case of J. S. Barton, who was indicted for assaulting Miss Madge Yoakam, has been filed. The petition is signed by many of the leading lawyers and sets forth that owing to the community being highly wrought up over the stories of the affair and other cases, it would be impossible for the accused to secure a fair trial