

STOLEN WATCH ONLY CLEW TO MURDERER

PHYSICIAN SLAIN BY HIGHWAYMEN

IS ROBBED AND HURLED OFF BRIDGE EVERY BONE IS BROKEN BY IMPACT

Dr. P. E. Johnson Victim of Brutal Thugs. Suicide Theory Is Nounced by Police

In their efforts to run down the murderous thugs who assaulted Dr. P. E. Johnson on the Ford street bridge, on the Portland heights 11-c, last night, battered him into insensibility with a bludgeon, and, after rifling his pockets, hurled him into the abyss depths below.

The watch may prove one of the strongest clues in unraveling the mystery surrounding last night's fiendish crime. It was worn by Dr. Johnson when he started on his fatal trip across the bridge. When the body was found at the bottom of the narrow canyon beneath, the watch was missing. It had been detached from the chain, and on its fobing hopes of apprehending the murderers are being built.

Names in Watch. On the back of the watch was inscribed the monogram, "P. E. J." Inside the back case was inscribed, "Dr. P. E. Johnson, Tuxedo Park, N. Y." It is a stop watch, and by its peculiar shape and positive marks of identification will, if found, aid greatly in establishing the identity of the murderers.

It was shortly after 7 o'clock last night that Dr. Johnson left his wife in their apartments at the Northton, Fourteenth and Washington streets, to make the trip to Portland Heights. Possessed of a premonition of evil, she persuaded him to leave his jewelry and money at home, but was denied permission to accompany him.

Two Two Witnesses. He always wore two watches, but on starting out last night left his gold watch at home. He carried with him the small open-face silver watch and a small sum of money. He walked up the hill to the residence of W. C. Alvord, 205 King street. He went inside and talked for a time with Mr. and Mrs. Alvord, where he was again warned of the possibility of holdups. He was going to the residence of Dr. A. C. Paston, Terrace road, a short distance beyond the Ford street bridge, he said. But he also said that he would take a car on reaching the bridge.

Body of Dr. Johnson Falls Distance Nearly Equal to Height of Wells-Fargo Building

So terrific was the impact with which Dr. Johnson's body struck the frozen macadam a few feet north of the car tracks in Canyon road that practically every bone in his body was broken. As he was hurled over the railing of the Ford street bridge by the thugs who had struck and robbed him, his body shot downward a distance equal to that from the eaves of the new 13-story Wells-Fargo building to the ground.

Found Lying on Face. The body was lying almost face downward when it was discovered by Motorman Dozier and Conductor Thatcher of the Jefferson street line, and until taken in charge by Coroner Finley a few minutes later it was believed that the doctor's body had struck the ground face foremost. A closer investigation, however, showed that the doctor had struck the ground first upon his back and had bounded into the air and that the body in coming in contact with the ground a second time had turned nearly completely over.

Coroner Finley said this morning that with the exception of a few small bones in the hands, every other bone in the body was broken and fractured. There was a deep cut on the top of the head which may have been made by a blow from a bludgeon in the hands of the robbers, or it may be the result of the fall into Canyon road. The horrible mutilation of the body precludes the possibility of determining how the wound was inflicted.

It is likewise difficult to determine whether Dr. Johnson fought with his assailants on the bridge before being thrown over the railing, but indications found this morning point to the conclusion that a struggle of some kind ensued when the doctor was stopped by the highwaymen.

A dragnet was used yesterday for two or three hours, but the current was extremely swift at this point Saturday night on account of the high water, and there is no certainty that the body will ever be recovered. Meader came from Nebraska a short time ago. He bought a lot in University Park, and with his young wife has been living in a tent upon it until he could save enough money to build a house. Just before quitting time Saturday evening a line had been passed from the shore to the first casing of the bridge. Meader, who was separated from his regular gang, was one of the three men who undertook to pass it over the bridge.

A neighbor tried yesterday to learn from the superintendent of construction who was the man nearest Meader when he fell. The questioner was told it would be impossible to get this information. No report of the drowning has been made to the coroner's office by those in charge of the bridge.

LOBBIES FOR HARRIMAN



Councilman George S. Shepherd, Attorney for Southern Pacific Interests.

SHEPHERD GETS FRANCHISE FOR HARRIMAN LINE

President of Portland City Council Appears Repeatedly as Railroad Attorney Before Kalama Council to Secure Passage of Ordinance for Road.

Kalama, Wash., Jan. 8.—George S. Shepherd, president of the Portland city council, as attorney for the Harriman railroad interests, has succeeded in obtaining a franchise for the Oregon & Washington Railroad company, giving this proposed branch of the Harriman system the right to occupy some of the principal streets in Kalama.

Mr. Shepherd has proved a valuable lobbyist for Harriman, as there had developed considerable popular opposition to the terms of the franchise. The ordinance was introduced three months ago and frequent trips to Kalama were made by Mr. Shepherd, Councilman Schulz headed the opposition to the franchise, voting against it at every opportunity.

Mr. Shepherd finally forced the passage of the franchise over Mr. Schulz's head at the last council meeting. Only four councilmen were present, and three of them voted for the measure. The mayor lost no time, but affixed his signature at once, and the ordinance will be in force after its publication.

KILLS TWENTY PERSONS WITH DOSES OF POISON

Berlin, Jan. 8.—Wholesale murder by poisoning is the dreadful charge against a woman named Feige, of Grunau, Silesia. The deaths of 20 different persons are attributed to her, and nine bodies have been disinterred to provide evidence against her. The murdered people are mostly relatives whose deaths would benefit the accused woman or other members of the family. The bodies of her stepmother and sister-in-law were found to contain a great quantity of arsenic.

CORTELYOU'S NOMINATION IS HELD UP

Senate Postpones Action Confirming Garfield and Shaw's Successor in Treasury

Senator Overman Defends States Rights and Decries Tendency Towards Centralization Manifested Recently in Proposed Legislation.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 8.—At the request of Senators Teller and Daniels the senate today held up the nominations of G. B. Cortelyou and Harry A. Garfield for secretaries of the treasury and interior. The only excuse given was that they do not take office until March 4, and there was no hurry to confirm the nominations.

Senator Overman this morning defended states rights in the senate. In discussing the tendency of the federal government to override the prerogatives of the people, he said that federal regulation of child labor, the admission of negroes or orientals to white schools, and other proposed legislation was entirely outside the province of the national government.

AGGIE MEYERS TO GET LONGER LEASE OF LIFE

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 8.—The governor today asked the attorney-general or an opinion as to whether it was necessary for him to grant a respite to Aggie Meyers, or if the appeal to the supreme court would act as a respite. He granted Frank Hoffman, Mrs. Meyers' accomplice, an additional 90 days this morning.

ACCUSED MAY DIE ON WAY TO TRIAL

Hamburg, Germany, Jan. 8.—Professor Carl Haas of Washington will probably never be tried on the charge of murdering his mother-in-law at Baden Baden. The officers say they will be surprised if he survives the trip to the scene. He is a nervous wreck.

JOHNSONS RULE IN THE GOPHER STATE

St. Paul, Jan. 8.—There is considerable Johnson in the public eye in Minnesota today. Governor John D. Johnson will send his message to the legislature tomorrow. He P. Johnson was today elected speaker of the house, and Adolph E. L. Johnson chief clerk.

MORE WITNESSES IN WALSH BANK CASE

Chicago, Jan. 8.—F. J. Corning and T. W. Miller, directors of the Peoria Gas company, and A. W. Nast and Benton Ellis were witnesses today before the federal grand jury that is examining the failure of the Walsh banks. It is understood that gas and coal stocks in which these men were interested were found among the assets of the Chicago National bank.

SPEAKERS BEFORE OREGON



W. K. Newell.

A. WIDDOWSON ASKS FOR MORE TIME TO PLEAD

His Demeanor Is Fearless—Ira Brown, Accused With Him, Arraigned and Will Plead Tomorrow—Brown More Resentful of Arrest but Silent.

Baker City, Or., Jan. 8.—Although this afternoon was set by the court as the time for the entering of a plea by Alexander Widdowson, accused of the murder of his former friend, Willard Moody, the defendant's attorney, Judge Samuel White, moved the court that his time be extended, and the motion was allowed. Widdowson will plead to the charge of murder in the first degree within the next 48 hours.

Deputy Sheriff Caviness arrived in Baker City late last night bringing Ira Brown, the pine hotel keeper, jointly charged with the murder with Widdowson, to the county jail. Brown remains silent on the subject of his arrest and cannot be persuaded to make a statement of his case. He is somewhat morose and takes his imprisonment much more to heart than does Widdowson, who has been confident of regaining his freedom when his case comes to trial, ever since his incarceration. Brown was arraigned this afternoon and given until tomorrow to enter his plea.

USING TELEPHONES TO CONVERT SINNERS

Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 8.—Five hundred telephones are connected every evening with a receiver alongside the pulpit of the Methodist church in Newport, where revival services are being conducted. Neighboring towns and farmers of the district avail themselves of the opportunity to listen to sermons. The roads are so bad from the open winter that transportation into town is almost impossible.

AT WORK ON SUICIDE THEORY

Captain of Detectives Bruin, who has taken complete charge of the Johnson case, is working on this theory, although the facts do not in any way substantiate the statements upon which the police base their theory in an effort to work out a solution. Captain Bruin, however, has not been deterred by a further investigation had been made and before several material facts had been brought to light. Considerable stress is laid by the captain of the detective force upon the assertion that no highwayman would select a point on so well-lighted a bridge where there was streetcar travel every five minutes. Last night the car service over the Ford street bridge was suspended, owing to the fact that the power at the time of the murder was cut off, the cars blocked and the electric lights in that neighborhood went in total darkness.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



E. L. Smith.

NEW GOVERNOR INAUGURATED IN DENVER CHURCH

Denver, Jan. 8.—Henry A. Buchtel, chancellor of the University of Denver, Methodist Episcopal minister, was inaugurated governor of Colorado today in Trinity M. E. church. The ceremonies had the appearance of a ministerial function. An inaugural parade preceded the inaugural. There will be no inaugural ball, but a reception tonight at the capitol. In his message Governor Buchtel recommends a railroad commission to regulate rates, giving the roads just consideration and having authority to permit special rates to aid new industries. He wants the influence of the lobbyist minimized, school teachers paid more and favors the employment of convict labor.

SALT LAKE JURY PROBING COAL FRAUDS

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 8.—The grand jury is again investigating alleged land frauds. A government suit to recover 5,664 acres of land in Carbon county, alleged to have been fraudulently acquired by the late S. E. Milner and the Carbon County Land company, has been commenced.

ROOSEVELT EXPECTED TO VISIT FILIPINOS

Manila, Jan. 8.—The Philippines expect Secretary Taft and President Roosevelt to visit the islands next October. The press is enthusiastic over the prospect. The elections will be held on January 30.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Resolutions were introduced favoring the following things: The establishment of postal savings banks, free school books, the abolishment of the poll tax by means of a referendum vote, an eight-hour law to apply to all occupations in Oregon, the prohibition of the salmon-fishing industry in the Columbia, against the law of injunction and the national subsidy bill, and

GOOD ROADS LEGISLATION IS ENDORSED

State Federation of Labor Adopts Report of Commission and Convict Labor Bill

Report Meets With Some Opposition at First, but Is Unanimously Indorsed After Letter of Forest Grove Banker Is Read.

By a unanimous vote this morning the State Federation of Labor adopted the report of the good roads commission and recommended the passage by the legislature of the convict labor bill. Before recommendation of the bill met with attacks at the hands of delegates, and its adoption was seriously threatened. When it was taken up the federation was inclined to accept it just as it was presented, but a letter from State Senator E. W. Haines of Forest Grove upset the proceedings and made the delegates feel like giving Mr. Haines cause to make in the hall of the legislature the avowal he made in his communication.

In substance, Mr. Haines told the federation that he was not in favor of the good roads bill. He did not believe the convicts should be employed upon the state highways. He thought the penitentiary should be made a self-supporting institution, and the only way it could be made self-supporting was to allow the convicts to compete with free labor.

Disregard Haines' Letter. "Mr. Haines is a banker of Forest Grove," said Reading Clerk W. E. Pitechke, after the reading of the letter. "He is also a member of the legislature," dryly remarked Vice-President H. G. Parsons, who presided in the absence of President Grant. The letter was laid aside, and then M. H. Lornsten of Astoria suggested that consideration be shown the convicts to an end that they might not be looked upon as slaves only. He proposed that in addition to the provisions of the good roads bill, each convict taken from the penitentiary for work upon the roads be paid 50 cents a day during the last months of his confinement.

This motion was strongly opposed. As a member of the good roads commission, R. A. Harris said it would cause the defeat of the bill in the legislature. A private corporation is paying the state 25 cents per day for the labor of a convict, and if the state were to pay the convict 50 cents a day and maintain him besides, the whole object of the bill would be defeated. The object of the bill was to make the penitentiary a paying institution, and at the same time to make the convicts of use to the state. After the speech of Mr. Harris, the report was adopted.

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MEADER DROWNED IN RIVER

Steps Between Two Barges in Darkness and Is Swept Down Willamette Before Attempt at Rescue Can Be Made

That Lewis E. Meader was drowned Saturday night at the Northern Pacific bridge under construction across the Willamette near the drydock, has been established by the round-up made of the men employed on the bridge. The unfortunate man, a carpenter's helper, stepped between two barges in the darkness and was swept downstream before any concerted attempt at rescue could be made by his companions. No one at the bridge knew who had been drowned, though it was evident one of three men had disappeared from the barges. Meader could not swim a stroke.

Sunday a partial accounting of the men employed was made. Meader had failed to return to his home at Willis boulevard and Dwight street, University Park. Yesterday all the other men employed were accounted for, and it became apparent that Meader, who is still missing, was the man who fell from the barges. A dragnet was used yesterday for two or three hours, but the current was extremely swift at this point Saturday night on account of the high water, and there is no certainty that the body will ever be recovered.

NAKED NATIVES SHIVER WITH COLD IN MANILA

Manila, Jan. 8.—A cold wave is sweeping the islands. The temperature is 55 degrees, the lowest in the islands' history. The natives are suffering, having no clothes for so low a temperature.

LARRY SULLIVAN GRANTED TIME TO ADJUST TROUBLE BY NUMEROUS CREDITORS

Additional Security Given as Pledge of Future Payment of Liability—Company to Remain in Business.

San Francisco, Jan. 8.—At a meeting held here to pass upon the differences between the Sullivan Trust company and the local stock brokers, the affairs of the Sullivan company were gone over and an arrangement entirely satisfactory to the brokers made. The company has engaged to pay all brokers, dollar for dollar, and will continue in business. An extension of time was granted to the Sullivan people, and they gave additional security as pledge of future payment. An expert accountant, who has been working on the books of the company for three days, read a financial statement of the company's assets and liabilities.

Everybody connected with the discussion declined to give any figures, but one broker said that the liabilities were larger than anybody dreamed of. Another remarked that the company that there was no doubting the solvency. The company was granted 60, 90 or 120 days to get on its feet. In the meantime, the stocks bought on the order of the company, drafts of which were protested, lie in escrow in the bank as security, the company to place in the bank one share for sale of stock for every share of orders that has not been paid. If at the end of 120 days they have not protected their protested drafts, the stock placed in the bank as security will become the property of the brokers.

the detective force are that Dr. Johnson wore an overcoat and that when he left home early in the evening he left his gold watch and took a silver one. Dr. Johnson had not been in the habit of wearing an overcoat. He was a very robust man and this probably accounts for the fact that he was not wearing an outside garment during the winter. Mrs. Johnson and friends state that Dr. Johnson prized his gold watch highly, as it was one formerly worn by his father, and he left it at home, as he did his money, because of a superstitious fear possessed by Mrs. Johnson that something might happen to him while on the street at night. Mr. Alvord stated that he desired to get the keys from the police office because he knew Mrs. Johnson would not want to step at the Northern Pacific herself during the rest of the night. He thought the keys might possibly open a trunk containing a large sum of money which Mrs. Johnson had hidden in the trunk.