

LITTLE WILLIE ADDS NEW FEATURE TO STORY OF TRAGEDY

Six-Year-Old Son of Mrs. Kersh Tells of Movements of Trio; Says He Disliked Dead Man, Without Reason.

"Willie Webb is my name, and my father and mother brought me here last night. I've been looking for my mamma all day and she hasn't come. And I don't know where papa is."

The 6-year-old boy, who was left at the Willamette rooming house last night in connection with the horrible murder of W. A. Johnson, sobbed out his story to the detectives today. He is being cared for by Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Davis, who run the rooming house.

"I don't like that man," said Willie, referring to Johnson, the murdered man. "I never saw him before we went to Spokane—papa and mamma and myself. Then he used to come around."

Came to Portland Yesterday. "He came to Portland with us yesterday morning and he went to the hotel with us. He got a room right across the hall. I don't know where he went."

"Papa put his hand on the corner of a trunk. He was packing the trunk yesterday afternoon. What was he putting in it? Why, clothes, of course, and a lot of stuff. When he got through packing it he pushed it down stairs and threw it into a wagon, and he and I got on the wagon and rode down to the depot with the driver. Then papa checked the trunk, and we rode back again. I didn't seem him buy any tickets."

"I didn't go to the park in the morning with papa and that man that came from Spokane with us. It was raining and mamma and I went to a theatre, and papa went to the park with him."

Webb Tells Different Story. Webb, however, in a statement made to the district attorney, said his "wife" accompanied him to the park and that Johnson was with them.

"Papa left us in the afternoon," continued the boy, "and said he had to get shaved. I didn't see that man again, and I don't know where he went."

Willie dropped several remarks which

led the detectives to believe he was

cautioned not to talk. "Did your uncle (Johnson) buy you many things?" he was asked. "Yes, he bought me lots of things, but I didn't like him, say, say. Papa didn't like him either. I guess he won't come back."

"Why do you think he won't come back?" he was next asked. "Well," said Willie in surprise, "how can he come back when he hasn't got any money?"

The boy said he did not know why Johnson would not have money.

Was in Spokane. The boy said he and the man and woman he calls father and mother were in Spokane only a few days. He said his father is a printer, as is Webb, and that he worked in Spokane. So did his mother work, said Willie, he thought in a hotel, but he didn't remember where they lived.

Webb admitted today having lived in Seattle, Vancouver, B. C., Nelson, B. C., and other cities. Willie said he lived in Nelson and Seattle. He seemed to know more about Seattle than any of the other cities. He said he had not been in San Francisco.

Willie said his papa did not have much money, and for that reason the mother worked. His father drank some, he said, but he loved him. He didn't know anything about Johnson or from whence he came. He said he slept with his father on the train, coming from Spokane to Portland Sunday night, and that his mother was with Johnson. He did not know if his mother and John were the same woman. In the New Grand Central hotel, but thought they did.

Says Webb Cut His Hand. Willie said he did not hear the sound of a shot just before his father began packing the trunk yesterday afternoon. He did not know if his father had a revolver. But he remembered well that Webb cut his hand on the corner of the trunk, or anyway, that his father told him that was the way he hurt it.

Considering the child's story, it is evident to the detectives that Mrs. Kersh and Webb lived together for several months, for the boy says he lived with "papa and mamma" in Seattle for "a long time." He did not remember the name of the street on which they lived, but said they were in a house on a street where the interurban cars, interurban trains and Laurel park cars ran.

MURDERED MAN

(Continued From Page One.)

The woman and her 7 year old son to go to the Willamette rooming house, from which place they went on a joy ride until 3 o'clock this morning, when they were arrested by Detectives Price and Carpenter, and taken to the rooming house. Webb put up a hard fight, and still denies knowing anything about the death of Johnson.

The woman says she has been living with Webb for several months, and met Johnson in Alaska, and he later came to Spokane, where he fell in love with her and proposed they be married.

Gave Her \$1000. Yesterday afternoon Johnson gave her the \$1000 in the presence of Webb. As Johnson gave her the money he hugged and kissed her. Webb made the threat that if Johnson ever did that again he would kill him. The woman put the money in her stocking, where most of it was found when she and Webb were arrested.

The story told by Webb to Detectives Price, Carpenter and Mallett and Deputy District Attorney Fitzgerald this morning conflicts in many places and is not at all satisfactory. The first indication of the murder was from the baggage room at the Union depot, where J. B. Davis, a trucker, discovered blood coming from the trunk. To find the women, child and Webb was the next question. They found they had engaged a room at the Willamette rooming house, Sixth and Stark streets, and that the boy had been left there, while the man and woman went out in an automobile. This was about 7 o'clock.

Return at 3 o'clock. Webb and Mrs. Kersh returned about 3 o'clock and were arrested. The woman was not told what she was wanted for. Webb denied knowing anything about the death of Johnson.

This morning Webb was taken to the New Grand Central hotel and brought face to face with the room where the act was done. He saw the bloody mattress and blood bespattered walls, but never flinched, all the time saying he was still in a drunken stupor, and could not remember what he had been doing. When questioned at the detective bureau, he said he was a married man and that his wife and two daughters now live at 212 Eleventh avenue, Seattle. Continuing, he said he met Johnson and the woman on the train coming from Spokane.

Davis and other baggage men broke open the trunk and found the horrible sight of a man's body twisted and blood covered. The police were notified, and Detectives Price, Carpenter, Mallett and Sergeant Goitz took up the case. It took until 7:30 yesterday morning, during the trunk to the depot. This was tracked back to the New Grand Central hotel, where J. H. Long, a bellboy, had given the trunk to the expressman. Long said it came from the room of A. C. Powers, who later proved to be J. P. Webb. The trunk and murdered man were removed to the undertaking parlors of Dunning, McEntee & Gilbaugh. An examination showed the man had been beaten over the head, and shot through both temples. The blood on his shirt had been tightly tied around his neck. The man had been dead about five hours.

The detectives then traced the case back to the hotel, and found he was W. A. Johnson, and that he came to the hotel with a woman and son, who were represented to be his wife and son. They also found that Webb came with them, and was seen with him throughout the day.

After arriving in Portland, the three, wife, boy and father, were engaged at the hotel. They arrived at the hotel at about 7:30 yesterday morning. During the day, Webb says, he and Johnson had several drinks, and that they also drank several bottles of beer in the rooms of Johnson and the woman, and that the woman drank.

Shortly before noon Webb and Johnson took a streetcar ride and went to the City Park. They returned and had several more drinks, when Johnson was put to bed.

All Says Lunch. Webb then says he, the woman and the boy had lunch, and that the woman said she would pack her effects in a new trunk which Johnson had bought for her. When she had the trunk packed, Webb admits roping and locking it. His story from here on is very indefinite and he is unable to explain his actions. However, he says, shortly before 4 o'clock he and the woman engaged the automobile to go to the roadhouses.

The woman talked more freely and said she has been separated from her husband for three or four years. Several months ago she cannot remember how long she stole the boy from her husband.

This was in Seattle. She left the boy and took up with Webb. She is unable to state just where, but admits they were in San Francisco together, and later in Alaska. Finally, they drifted to Spokane and she was en-

gaged as a maid in the Elk hotel. Part of her story is to the effect that she and the son lived alone there, and that Webb joined them a few weeks ago. In the meantime, she had become acquainted with Johnson, who was a rancher living near Spokane.

Johnson Meets Woman. She says she fell in love with her, and wanted to marry her and take care of the boy. He gave her considerable money, and they planned coming to Portland, where she would secure a divorce from her Seattle husband and they would marry. The woman admits that Webb appeared on the scene in Spokane before their departure, but cannot state how long before. She also admits telling Webb she and Johnson planned coming to Portland and that she told Webb what train they would take. They took the train and Webb met them soon after they left Spokane.

Mrs. Kersh then takes up the story told by Webb that they agreed to go to the New Grand Central hotel and that she and Johnson registered as man and wife, while Webb took a nearby room. She says they had breakfast, and that Johnson and Webb were in and around the hotel. She knew the two men had several drinks together. The woman further tells of the trip of the two men to the City Park, and that they returned about noon. She says she saw Webb get a drink at the bar, and that he went to the room and go to sleep.

She and Webb and the boy had lunch and the three returned to her room. It was there, she states, that Johnson gave her the trunk from the hall way. As Johnson gave her the money he hugged and kissed her, whereupon Webb cursed and said that if Johnson did that again he would kill him. The woman put the money in her stocking. Soon after this, she says, she wanted to change her effects from the old to the new trunk, and went to the room of Webb, where the trunks had been taken upon orders of Webb.

The woman says she left Johnson asleep. That was the last she saw of him alive. For the next couple of hours she is unable to explain definitely what she did, except to say that she was packing her new trunk. Shortly before 6 o'clock she remembers Webb proposing they have dinner, and that they went to the Willamette rooming house, from which place they started on their ride in the automobile. Her story of what she did in the afternoon and evening was very unsatisfactory to Detectives Carpenter and Price, who let her over and over the case.

The detectives questioned J. H. Long, the bellboy, who positively identified Webb as the man who directed him to get the trunk containing the dead body to the station. He told that Webb asked him to get the trunk from the hallway about 3 o'clock, and that he wheeled it to the expressman.

John C. Woehrlert, checkman at the baggage room, said he checked the trunk to North Puget and that the man for whom he checked it looked like Webb. Woehrlert further said the man had a small boy with him. After checking the trunk he rolled it across the room. It rolled as though some large loose object was inside. There was excess on the trunk, which weighed 300 pounds, and when he told the man, he promptly paid it.

The trunk was bound with a heavy cotton cord and at one time bore the hotel labels from San Francisco. These

AN END TO SKIN TROUBLES

Action of Poslam Is Rapid—Easy to Prove What It Will Do.

"To think," says Mr. L. J. Cooper, North Haven, Conn., "that I have been trying everything (to cure eczema) for fifteen years, and now Poslam has done it. The first application stopped all the itching."

When a remedy is available like Poslam, which in a skin trouble stops itching and accomplishes cures so rapidly and readily, there is really no reason why such afflictions should be allowed to go unchecked, particularly as no one is asked to purchase Poslam without first obtaining and trying one of the free trial packages. This will be sent by mail to any one who will write to the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West 25th street, New York City.

While primarily intended for the treatment of eczema, acne, tetter, barber's and all other forms of itch, etc., Poslam promptly cures all the lesser skin affections, such as pimples, blotches, fever blisters, red noses, inflamed skin, rash, herpes, sunburn, clears the complexion and keeps the skin in healthy condition.

A special 50 cent package of Poslam is prepared for minor uses, and this, as well as the regular \$2 jar is for sale by all druggists, particularly the Owl Drug Co.

Poor Digestion? This is one of the first signs of stomach weakness. Distress after eating, sour eructations, sick headache, bilious conditions are all indicative that it is the stomach that needs assistance. Help it to regain health and strength by taking

BEECHAM'S PILLS for they are a stomach remedy that never disappoints. They act quickly and gently upon the digestive organs, sweeten the contents of the stomach, carry off the disturbing elements, and establish healthy conditions of the liver and bile.

The wonderful tonic and strengthening effects from Beecham's Pills, make them a safe remedy—they

Help Weak Stomachs In Boxes with full directions, 10c. and 25c.

To feel strong, have good appetite and digestion, sleep soundly and enjoy life, use Beecham's Pills, the great system tonic and builder.

Itch! Itch! Itch!—Scratch! Scratch! The more you scratch the worse the itch. Try Doan's Ointment. It cures piles, eczema, any skin itching. All druggists sell it.

A lazy liver leads to chronic dyspepsia and constipation—weakens the whole system. Doan's Regulax (25 cents) corrects the liver, tone the stomach, cure constipation.

Cures baby's croup. Willie's daily cuts and bruises, mamma's sore throat, grandma's lameness—Dr. Thomas' Eucalypti Oil—the great household remedy.

labels had been scratched off. The body in the trunk had nothing on except the underclothing.

Here Ten Years. Webb states he came from Nebraska about 10 years ago. He has been in all the larger towns along the coast and worked in several places in British Columbia and Alaska. He was married to Miss Lena Samuelson about 13 years ago at Astoria, Neb., and later worked on the Omaha World-Herald when William Jennings Bryan was connected with the publication. At one time he was engaged in the real estate business in Seattle and has not lived with his wife for about eight months. He is about 35 years of age and Mrs. Kersh is about the same age.

Detectives Price and Carpenter are of the firm opinion that Webb is the man who killed Johnson and attempted to ship his body out of the city. They are undecided as to what connection Mrs. Kersh had with the crime, but think she knows more than she has told. Webb appears not to realize his situation, while the woman cries at times and then declares she knows nothing of the killing. She appears to be a woman who has led a fast life. Today she wore an elegant black silk dress.

Mrs. Kersh says Johnson owned a ranch half way between Seattle and Tacoma, near Renton. She further says that he sold his ranch within the past two months, and the money he gave her yesterday was part of the proceeds of the sale. Johnson was about 43 years old.

WEBB CARRIES WORK CARD FROM PRINTERS' AND ENGINEERS' UNIONS

Papers taken from Webb's satchel bear out his story in many particulars. There is a letter of recommendation of the notepaper of the Grant Paving company, of Omaha, Neb., dated November 14, 1909, and signed A. C. Powers. Webb, in his statement, was unable to explain satisfactorily why he used the name of A. C. Powers when he registered at the New Grand Central hotel. He said, though, that Powers really existed and that he had been his "boss" in Omaha. The letter explained that Webb had worked for the Grant Paving company during the years of 1908 and 1909 as "an accountant of material and timekeeper."

Receipts, filled out in full, showed he purchased a typewriter at Nelson, B. C., on the installment plan, paying up for it February 8, 1910, and a card showed he is a member of the typographical union in Vancouver, B. C. The card is dated November 30, 1909. He was also a member of the steam and engine union in Seattle, a card showing he took out a license September 25, 1909. He had an account book on the Scandinavian-American bank, Seattle, Wash., but it showed no balance to his credit. Receipts showed he had purchased a photograph from a Spokane firm.

Several envelopes, without enclosures, were found, all addressed to Mrs. May Webster, 1021 Ellis street, San Francisco, Cal.

So far as the detectives have been able to learn Webb is not known in Portland. Dispatches from Seattle said he went to that place from Nome, Alaska, about a year ago. According to the police he engaged in a "fake" real estate transaction, attempting to raffie off a house that he did not own. A warrant was issued for his arrest November 15, 1909, but he had disappeared. Printers in Seattle remember Webb, and recall he carried a card in the International Typographical union, No. 236 of Vancouver, B. C., but say he did not work at his trade while in Seattle.

MURDERED MAN IN TRUNK WAS BEATEN, NOT SHOT TO DEATH

W. A. Johnson, the man murdered in the New Grand Central hotel and put into a trunk, was not shot as was at first supposed, but was beaten to death, according to the autopsy conducted this afternoon. He died from concussion of the brain and partly from strangulation, his shirt sleeve having been tied so tightly around his neck that it had to be cut off.

The testimony given at the inquest, which is being conducted this afternoon, shows that Frank Dana, deputy coroner, deserves much of the credit for the apprehension of the man and woman suspected of the killing. Dana was called to the depot and made an examination of the body, but found nothing to distinguish it except the marks "W. A. J." on some of the clothing. As he turned to leave after making his examination a man in the crowd told of two people who had rented a room at his lodging house earlier in the evening and left a child there. This was A. H. Davis, proprietor of the Willamette lodging house, at Sixth and Stark streets.

Dana made an investigation of the rooms rented by the strange man and woman and found a bottle of benzine, often used for washing off blood stains, a pile of white and a box of face powder. He made the examination of the room at 10:30 o'clock and then secured police officers to watch the room. After waiting from 2:30 o'clock to 3 the couple appeared and were arrested after a struggle.

WEBB WORKED AT TRADE AT VANCOUVER; CONSIDERED CRANKY

Vancouver, B. C., June 21.—J. F. Webb, arrested in the Portland trunk case, was known to the police in Vancouver, having put in some months during the latter part of last year as extra linotype operator on a newspaper, and having also worked a short time for a job printing firm on Cordova street.

Webb worked at the trade of a printer, and was known to many friends while in this city, being of a retiring disposition. He was regarded by many as a crank, being of a mercurial temperament, alternately sombre and enthusiastic. Where he went from here no one appears to know.

KERSH AN ELECTRICAL WORKER AT SEATTLE

Seattle, June 21.—Bert W. Kersh, the man whom the woman held in Portland in connection with the murder of William A. Johnson, claims as her husband, is an electrician employed by the city light department. He lives in Ballard, a suburb. Kersh could not be found this afternoon. Fellow members of the electrical union and personal friends, declare that he had trouble with his wife some months ago and they separated.

Webb Left Spokane Saturday

Seattle, June 21.—J. F. Webb, held for murder at Portland, left Spokane last Saturday night for Portland, according to a letter from the wife of Webb, who arrived here yesterday. The man who will not allow his name to be used, worked with Webb in the ad room of a morning paper published at Spokane. They had worked together since the middle of last year. Webb's wife's friend Saturday morning he was leaving that night either for Butte or Portland.

BROWNE BRIBERY CASE NEAR END

State in Rebuttal Puts in Evidence Significant Utterance of White.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Chicago, June 21.—Without calling on Senator William Lorimer, as a witness the defense in the trial of Lee O'Neill Browne, charged with bribery in connection with the election of Lorimer to the United States senate, rested its case today.

The appearance of Lorimer was expected by those who have been following the case, as the defense has charged that the prosecution of Browne was the result of a political plot. It was expected that Lorimer would be called to testify as to the existence of an alleged plot.

The state opened in rebuttal this afternoon and it is likely that the case will go to the jury tomorrow morning. Frederick Bentner, a traveling salesman, testified today that last June Representative C. A. White said to him: "I will get money, and I will not work for it either. I got the worst of it at Springfield, as I am a Democrat and supported Lorimer, I guess that if I said I got money for it they'd come through."

KLUMPP WILL IS HELD INVALID

When William Klumpp died, June 16, he supposed he left a valid will behind him. But he neglected to have more than one witness to his signature, when the law requires two. So when Charles J. Schnabel filed a copy of the document in the county court today he did not claim it was a will, and the court disregarded it.

The widow and children of Klumpp have agreed that his desires shall be carried out, just as though the will were valid. Five children will divide \$1000 between them, and the remainder of the property, valued at \$2000, goes to the widow, Minnie Klumpp.

IMPROVE WEATHER BUREAU SERVICE

More complete reports to the weather bureau will be made after July 1. Weather conditions will be given from 10 different stations well distributed over the country. A revision of the list of stations has been made which covers the country more thoroughly and other stations have been added. Weather reports, after that date, will come in from Anchorage, as well as Alaska and other remote parts of the United States, and the territory from Maine to Florida and from Alaska to California will be well covered.

Picnic at the Oaks. One hundred children from the St. Steven's Episcopal church are enjoying their annual picnic at the Oaks this afternoon, in care of their Sunday school superintendent and teachers.

Helpful Hints on Hair Health

Scalp and Hair Troubles Generally Caused by Carelessness. Dandruff is a contagious disease caused by a microbe which also produces baldness. Never use a comb or brush belonging to some one else. No matter how cleanly the owner may be, these articles may be infected with microbes, which will infect your scalp. It is far easier to catch hair microbes than it is to get rid of them, and a single stroke of an infected comb or brush may well lead to baldness. Never try on anybody else's hat. Many a husband is a resting place for microbes.

If you happen to be troubled with dandruff, itching scalp, falling hair or baldness, we have a remedy which we believe will completely relieve these troubles. We are so sure of this that we offer it to you with the understanding that it will cost you nothing for the trial if it does not produce the results we claim. This remedy is called Rexall "33" Hair Tonic. We honestly believe it to be the most scientific remedy for scalp and hair troubles, and we know of nothing else that equals it for effectiveness, because of the results it has produced in thousands of cases.

Rexall "33" Hair Tonic is devised to banish dandruff, restore natural color when its loss has been brought about by disease, and make the hair naturally silky, soft and glossy. It does this because it stimulates the hair follicles, destroys the germ matter, and brings about a free, healthy circulation of blood, which nourishes the hair roots, causing them to tighten and grow new hair. We want every body who has any trouble with hair or scalp to know that Rexall "33" Hair Tonic is the best hair tonic and restorative in existence, and no one should scoff at or doubt this statement until they have put our claims to a fair test, with the understanding that they pay us nothing for the remedy if it does not give full and complete satisfaction in every particular. Two sizes, 60 cents and \$1.00. Remember you can obtain Rexall Remedies only at—The Rexall Store—The Owl Drug Co., Inc., corner Seventh and Washington streets.

HAY'S HAIR HEALTH NEVER FAILS TO RESTORE GRAY HAIR TO ITS NATURAL COLOR AND BEAUTY. Satisfy Yourself by Sending Now for a SAMPLE BOTTLE FREE. Cut this out and mail with your name and address, and 10 cents to PHILIP HAY SPECIALTIES CO., 30 Clifton St., Newark, N. J., U. S. A.

PERSONAL

Henry Pirriah, a wealthy timber operator of Duluth, Minn., accompanied by his wife and daughter, is registered at the Portland hotel. E. P. Blaine, a pioneer lawyer and Democratic politician of Seattle, arrived in Portland this morning and is registered at the Portland hotel. H. F. McCallan, Roseburg hotel proprietor, is stopping with his wife at the Oregon hotel. D. E. Yoran of Eugene, grand vice chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, arrived in the city last night to attend the grand lodge, K. of P., which meets here today. Mr. Yoran is registered at the Imperial hotel. F. H. Rosenberg of Cottage Grove, grand master at arms, K. of P., is in attendance at the grand lodge and is registered at the Imperial hotel. Thomas P. MacKenzie, assistant district forester in the office of graining district No. 6, has just returned from a trip to Australia. John Hartog, formerly manager of the Eugene Commercial club, leaves New York today on the steamer Noordam for his home in Rotterdam. Mr. Hartog left Portland last week. A 720 acre farm near Waterloo reported sold for \$30,000.

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The Piano upon which anyone can play any music with artistic personal expression.



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The Repertoire There are more than 15,000 compositions available to the Angelus Player-Piano owner—popular, operatic, classic and dance music—from the earliest works written two hundred years ago down to the latest creations of musical genius of today.

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