

# "NO ONE EXCEPT A COWARD AFRAID OF DEATH"—WEBB

## Murderer Writes Against Capital Punishment "but Not Because Noose Dangles About My Own Neck."

Under sentence of death for the murder of William A. Johnson, whose body was found crumpled in a trunk in the Union passenger station, Jesse P. Webb has undertaken to write an argumentative article on "Capital Punishment."

"A statement," he writes, "from one personally interested would not be amiss."

"The man who commits murder during a quarrel and in the heat of passion," he argues, "does not stop to figure out the legal aspect of the case. Naturally a man in my position is opposed to capital punishment, but my opposition does not arise entirely from the fact that the noose is dangling about my own neck, for no one but a coward is afraid to die."

Webb's article reads: "To begin with, how many murders are perpetrated? Not over one per cent. And those who deliberately plan and premeditate murder do not decoy their victim into some state where capital punishment has been abolished."

"The man who commits murder during a quarrel and in the heat of passion does not stop to figure out the legal aspect of his case. The man who takes the life of a fellow being in self defense does not have time to consider points of law other than the law of self preservation, which is the first law of nature. He is too busy."

"Those in favor of capital punishment point to Iowa as a state that has reestablished this relic of the dark ages, presumably because abolition was a failure. Is murder less frequent in Iowa than before? If so, it is not because of the reestablishment of capital punishment. Iowa is the only state in the union showing a decrease in population according to 1910 census statistics—a decrease of 3 per cent. Where population is congested will be found the most crime, regardless of law or its consequences for the habitual criminal we will always have with us, and such should be taken care of in the proper manner. The solution is easy."

"Naturally a man in my position is opposed to capital punishment, but my opposition does not arise from the fact that the noose is dangling about my own neck, for no one but a coward is afraid to die. I have always been opposed to it. I have witnessed the execution, legal and otherwise, of nine human beings during my time, and judicial murder always seemed the most revolting for the reason that it is planned and deliberate and not only snuffs out the life of the victim, but forever ruins the lives of his immediate family. Ah, there is the rub—the injustice of the law of vindictive vengeance. The victim himself does not suffer, for death is instantaneous except where electricity is employed, but what of those left behind who are entirely innocent, and to whom the state

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deals out the severest punishment every day of their lives. Capital punishment is quick and easy for the offender, but slow and everlasting for the innocent ones left behind, who not infrequently die from grief and shame.

## MORRIS' ESTIMATE MISSES BY \$30,000

### City Engineer Hears Unpleasant Words Over Corbett St. Improvement.

City Engineer Morris had to do some more explaining to the street committee of the executive board yesterday afternoon when William Joplin of the firm of Joplin & Meeks, which has the contract for making grades and sidewalks on Corbett street from Clatsop street to Boundary avenue, came before the committee and announced that he could not fulfill his contract for the price he had offered.

Chairman Platt of the street committee called upon Engineer Morris for an explanation. After this had been given the chairman criticized the official.

"Misses It 75 Per Cent." "If the grading of Corbett street is to be completed," said Mr. Morris, "my estimate will have to be increased 75 per cent, or between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The estimate was \$45,000, and the contractors' bid was \$41,000. This large increase will be necessitated because I could not foresee that there would be a large number of boulders and rock formations in the soil."

"No, perhaps you couldn't foresee that condition," cut in Chairman Platt, "but you should have foreseen the effects of a 29 foot cut for a sidewalk. Why, that is an outrage on the human family. It would leave a man's residence up in the air where he couldn't get to it with a stepladder."

"The city engineer then told the committee there would be more rocks encountered on several other street grading contracts in South Portland, and that his estimate would fall short on all of these."

"Have you notified the property owners?" asked Mr. Platt.

"No, I haven't," was the reply. "The committee was in a quandary as to what course it should pursue. The contractors, through Mr. Joplin and Attorney L. A. McNary, declared that they would not proceed with the work unless guaranteed that they would get the extra cost. They expressed willingness, however, to accept any reasonable offer of the city."

"Well, I don't know what to do. It looks like somebody, the city or the contractors, or somebody else will be 'goat,'" said the city engineer.

"One Way Out of It." Attorney McNary then suggested that the contractors might complete their contract on both sides of the portion of the streets in which boulders were encountered, leaving that piece of street untouched. Then the present proceedings on the street could be rescinded and new ones started and a reassessment made.

The plan seemed to meet with favor on the part of the committee and the engineer. It will probably be adopted, not only on this street, but on the others mentioned by Engineer Morris.

The committee does not wish to involve the city in another muddle like that occasioned by the Hall street concrete retaining wall improvement. The city engineer's estimate on this was about \$13,000, but the final cost was over \$20,000, and property owners refused to pay and have threatened to resort to the courts to avoid being compelled to pay such a large difference between the original estimate of the engineer and his second estimate, made when the work was finished.

## STRANGER DIES ON PASCO, WASH., STREET

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Pasco, Wash., Jan. 20.—A man about 45 years of age, well dressed and apparently of some means, was picked up dead on Lewis street here last night, and the only means of identification was a letter found in one of the pockets addressed to J. Jacobson, The Dalles, Or. The letter was dated November 1, and was from the O. R. & N. company relative to a shipment of goods to Jacobson from Ontario, Or. Sheriff Davis telephoned the sheriff at The Dalles, but the latter said no such person was known there.

## TWO MORE BILLS ARE PASSED BY SENATE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Salem, Or., Jan. 20.—Senator Barrett of Washington yesterday presented a resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution increasing the number of signatures required for an initiative petition from a 20 to 25 per cent.

Bills were passed in the afternoon as follows: By Lester, authorizing Clatsop county to levy 2 1/2 mills tax for celebration of founding of Astoria; its normal rate never to be well, and I feel that I owe a great deal to the Cuticura Remedies." (Signed) Mrs. Mary W. Ramsey, 224 E. Jackson St., Colorado Springs, Colo., Sept. 24, 1910. Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. Send to Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Boston, Mass., for free book on the skin.

# IRON MATERIAL DEALERS OBJECT

## Ask That 120 Pounds Pressure Be Allowed in Class A Buildings.

The new board of appeal of the city building inspection department, at its first session yesterday afternoon, received half a dozen complaints from builders and prospective builders in order to make alterations provided by the building code which went into effect the first of the year.

It is believed that iron material men are behind the petition of the Trussed Steel Concrete company that the stress qualifications on certain buildings be reduced. The company suggested that a change be made whereby loads of 120 pounds to the square inch be permitted to be placed on beams in class A buildings, instead of only 90 pounds, the present requirement. The board took this petition under advisement.

The College Endowment association and Abe Tischer put in a joint request to be permitted to construct a balcony in the basement of the Meagly-Tischer reinforced concrete building being erected at Seventh and Alder streets. Though such construction is not in accordance with the new code, the petitioners believe, they say, that the law should not be strictly adhered to in their case, as they are constructing a first-class building. This argument didn't strike the board as being very logical.

Representatives of moving picture shows and film exchanges protested against the order of the executive board that they make changes to comply with the new code, within the next 90 days. They declared 90-days is not enough time.

The board and Fire Chief Campbell reminded them that the building code was passed last July and that six months had been given them in which to prepare to meet its requirements. They pleaded ignorance of the nature of the requirements.

Moving picture shows, according to the regulations must have one rear exit and at least one exit on each side. Many of the places will be unable to comply with the rear exit requirement on account of the fact that Portland has no alleys. These will have to go out of business. That is why they are pleading for more time. One of the requirements that will have to be met is that requiring the lamp rooms of moving picture theatres to be so placed as to permit of the audience, in case of fire to reach the street without passing the lamp rooms.

To meet this requirement the curtains and the lamp rooms in nearly every one of the shows will have to be changed about, the curtains being shifted to the end of the theatres now housing the lamp rooms and vice versa.

To Eliminate Rots and Spots. Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 20.—Leading egg dealers of Oklahoma, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri met in conference here today with the pure food officials of those states to agree upon uniform laws for the inspection and handling of eggs.

## When the Stomach Stops Working Properly, Because There Is Wind in It, Use Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets to Set It Going Again.

A Trial Package Free.

The doctors call it flatulency, but unprofessional folks know it as "wind on the stomach," and a most distressing state of things it is. It is a serious condition of this great motor organ. Always annoying and painful in the extreme, at times often leading to bad and fatal results. The stomach embarrassed and hampered with wind, cannot take care of its food properly and indigestion follows, and this has a train too appalling to enumerate. The entire system is implicated—made an active or passive factor in this trouble and life soon becomes a questionable boon.

All this is explained in doctor books; how undigested food causes gases by fermentation and fomentation in which process some essential fluids are destroyed—burnt up—wasted by chemical action, followed by defective nutrition, and the distribution through the alimentary tract of chemically wrong elements and as a consequence the stomach and entire system is starved. Plenty of food, you see, but spoilt in preparation and worse than spoilt.

A deranged stomach is the epitome of evil; nothing too bad to emanate from it, but the gas it generates is probably its worst primary effect and the only way to do away with this is to remove the cause. Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets go to the root of this trouble. They attack the gas making foods and render them harmless. Flatulency or wind on the stomach simply cannot exist where these powerful and wonderworking little tablets are in evidence.

They were made for this very purpose to attack gas making foods and convert them into proper nutriment. This is their province and office. A whole book could be written about them and then not all told that might be told with profit to sufferers from this painful disease, dyspepsia. It would mention the years of patient and expensive experiment in effort to arrive at this result—of failures innumerable and at last success. It would make mention of the different stomach correctives that enter into this tablet and make it faithfully represent all.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are not alone intended for the sick, but well folks as well; for the person who craves hearty foods and wants to eat healthy and run no risk of bad effects, they act like a charm and make eating and digestion a delight and pleasure. They keep the stomach active and energetic and able and willing to do extra work without special labor or effort. Don't forget this. Well people are often neglected, but the Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets have them in mind.

A free trial package will be sent any one who wants to know just what they are, how they look and taste, before beginning treatment with them. After this go to the drug store for them; everywhere, here or at home, they are 50 cents a box and by getting them at home you will save time and postage. Your doctor will prescribe them; they say there are 30,000 doctors using them, but when you know what is the matter with yourself, why go to the expense of a prescription? For free trial package address F. A. Stuart Co., 150 Stuart Building, Marshall, Michigan.

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- \$25 MEN'S SUITS NOW ..... \$17.85

Men's Overcoats and Raincoats at Same Reduction.

### Pants

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- \$2.00 PANTS NOW ..... \$1.45
- \$2.50 PANTS NOW ..... \$1.95
- \$3.00 PANTS NOW ..... \$2.25
- \$3.50 PANTS NOW ..... \$2.65
- \$4.00 PANTS NOW ..... \$3.25

### Boys' Suits

- \$2.50 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$1.85
- \$2.95 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$2.15
- \$3.45 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$2.65
- \$3.95 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$2.95
- \$5.00 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$3.95
- \$6.00 BOYS' SUITS NOW ..... \$4.50

### Furnishings

- \$1.50 MEN'S WOOL UNDERWEAR now 98c
- \$1.00 MEN'S WOOL UNDESWEAR now 79c
- \$4.00 MEN'S FLANNEL SHIRTS now . \$2.95
- \$3.00 MEN'S FLANNEL SHIRTS now . \$2.25
- 25c MEN'S WOOL OR COTTON SOCKS 19c
- 15c MEN'S WOOL OR COTTON SOCKS . 9c

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