

BURGLAR HAS HIS FAMILY WITH HIM ON ROBBING TOUR

J. Allison, whose true name is believed to be John Torgerson, confesses to many thefts, at Roseburg.

(Special to The Journal.)
Roseburg, Or., Jan. 14.—Confessing to a series of postoffice, railroad station and store robberies in the vicinity of Medford and Grants Pass recently, after being arrested here yesterday by Postal Inspector Morse and Chief of Police B. Fenton, a man giving the alias of J. Allison, but whose true name is said to be John Torgerson, is being held here for the federal authorities. He is wanted at Red Bluff, Cal., for murder, and has served two and one half years in Polson for burglary.

Nearly all the loot secured in the robberies was found in the man's possession. He has a wife and two small children with him, and has been staying at the McChallen hotel in Roseburg since last Thursday noon.

A circular sent out by Sheriff Boyd, of Red Bluff, which bears a photograph resembling the man under arrest and an almost perfect description of him, says that on the night of December 4, 1912, at Vina, California, Torgerson, evidently crazed from drink, took an automatic revolver and held up the town, and in reckless shooting, killed John Miller, a ranch hand. It is also thought he robbed two postoffices in California, as evidence to that effect was found in his belongings. A \$400 reward was offered for his arrest.

Under the name of John St. Clair, he was sent up from Tehama county to Polson in March, 1909, for three years for burglary and was released from Polson in August, 1911. He is slender and comely looking and gives the age of 28 years.

Wife Gives Clue.
The prisoner confessed to robbing between December 17 and January 6 last, the following places in the order named: Postoffice at Medford, securing \$17 in stamp books, six registered packages, carrier's street letter box key and a revolver; postoffice, S. P. station and R. L. Burdick's store at Talent, securing \$8 in stamp books, \$2.40 in pennies, nickels and dimes; jewelry store at Grants Pass, securing a large quantity of cutlery, a revolver and various articles of small jewelry; postoffice, Jennings' saloon and Lance's store at Gold Hill, securing \$18 in pennies and small change, a marked two dollar bill, a revolver, string of rose beads and chains of skin; postoffice, J. A. Murray's store and railroad station at Rogue River, securing \$1.25 in pennies, \$4.00 in stamps, \$4.25 in nickels and various articles of jewelry.

The robber's arrest was effected through cooperative detective work by P. E. Kelly, S. P. detective; Postal Inspector S. H. Morse and Chief of Police B. Fenton of Roseburg, who have been persistently on the trail of the man since the first robbery. The first definite clue was obtained on January 7, when the man's wife cashed \$7.75 in pennies at a bank in Grants Pass. That night Torgerson committed the burglaries at Rogue River, then rode a railroad velocipede to Grants Pass and joined his wife. The next morning, January 9, the couple bought railroad tickets to Roseburg for themselves and two children, a 5-year-old girl and 2-year-old boy.

Clue to Medford.
Detective Kelly, learned of Mrs. Torgerson's transaction with the pennies at Grants Pass and of her departure for Roseburg with her husband and children. The suspect was watched here and Fenton learned that Torgerson always paid bills in nickels and dimes. On Sunday he made a search of Torgerson's room, while the family was absent, and found the woolen knit jacket that was secured from one of the six registered packages stolen from the Medford postoffice.

This packet was a Christmas present to a Medford woman from Bloomington Ill. Fenton notified Morse, who immediately telegraphed to the sender at Bloomington to describe it. On Monday he received an answer giving a minute description of the garment. The officers went at once to Torgerson's room and arrested him. He offered no resistance and frankly confessed to committing the crimes.

Wife Calm at First.
The officers found secured a suitcase containing nearly all of the loot. On his person was found a revolver and in his personal effects were a set of keys used by burglars for picking locks, a chisel, diamond pointed glass cutter and a pair of files. Among the stolen articles found in his possession were five gold watches, three revolvers, three sets of carriages, two pairs of cuff buttons, four stick pins, one brooch, 48 pieces of silver cutlery, one gold-plated drinking cup, one rose bead necklace, one razor, one compass, one fountain pen, one souvenir spoon, one pair jeweler's pliers, one letter carrier's key, two railroad switch keys, a lady's woolen jacket, 51 books of stamps worth \$24, loose stamps amounting to \$4.60, and \$8.55 in nickels, dimes and pennies.

Torgerson said that after robbing the jewelry store at Grants Pass he threw away three gold-filled watch cases, which were found there last Saturday, and a set of surveying instruments which he secured from one of the six

registered mail packages stolen from the Medford postoffice. He described to the officers where these instruments were thrown.

Torgerson's wife took her husband's arrest quietly, as he himself did, but afterwards she broke down and gave way to spells of crying. She remained in her room and refused to be interviewed. The officers do not believe the woman aided her husband in any of the robberies, but they are firmly convinced she knew what her husband was doing.

Originally the officers thought two men were involved in the series of robberies, but Torgerson declares he committed all of them single handed. He used no explosive of any kind in his jobs, always effecting entrance to the building by picking the lock of a door, then using a file, chisel or some instrument best suited to his purpose.

It was originally reported during the time he operated in the Rogue River valley that the postoffice at Eagle Point was robbed, but Torgerson denies any knowledge of that job and the officers believe him. There is no evidence to connect him with that crime and there is even doubt if such a crime was committed at all.

The arrest of Torgerson means the distribution of several hundred dollars reward among the officers responsible for his capture.

Torgerson waived examination on the charge of robbing postoffices and is held under \$10,000 bail. He will be taken to Portland tonight.

SHINGLE WEAVERS TO MEET HERE ON JAN. 16

The annual convention of the International Shingle Weavers' Union of America will be held in Portland, January 16, 17 and 18, at the Multnomah hotel.

About 75 delegates are expected to be present, and they will represent the Washington, Oregon, California, Wisconsin and British Columbia districts, these being the only sections of the continent where cedar shingles are manufactured on a large scale.

The feature of the convention will probably be the formulation of plans to extend the jurisdiction of the shingle weavers to take in the whole lumber industry, which will mean the organization of loggers and saw mill workers, which it is estimated will probably involve 600,000 men. The weavers are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and permission has been granted them to extend the jurisdiction as indicated. The weavers claim a membership of about 1000.

H. H. Clifford and Frank La Crosse of the entertainment committee are arranging for the entertainment of the delegates. The crowning feature of the

social functions will be a grand ball at the Multnomah hotel.

The officers of the international union are at the Multnomah. They are: J. G. Brown of Seattle, president; William H. Reid of Everett, secretary treasurer; Harry Call of Bellingham, vice president; James Jones, Macinette, Wn., vice president; Frank Baker of Granite Falls, vice president; A. J. Larson of Sedro Woolley, vice president.

SOCIETY GIVEN SPACE IN NEW COURT HOUSE

When the new county jail is completed and the present quarters in the east wing of the courthouse on the seventh floor is vacated, the Oregon Historical society will occupy the place with its office and exhibits. A committee from the society appealed to the county commissioners yesterday for a location, as the society has received notice to vacate the rooms occupied in the city hall on account of the crowded space there.

Temporarily the society will be given three rooms on the fifth floor of the new wing of the courthouse, and storage places wherever room can be found. The committee announced that it was the hope of the society that a building of its own might be erected within a short time.

Everyone talks \$2 Kenshaw.

BANDON-GRANTS PASS LINE OWNS ITS RIGHT OF WAY

Surveys Have Been Completed and Work on Southeastern Oregon Railway Expected to Begin Soon.

(Special to The Journal.)
Bandon, Or., Jan. 14.—The surveys have been finished and the right of way secured for the Bandon-Oregon Railway company's line, articles of incorporation for which were filed at Salem in October, 1912. The road when built will not only open up a vast and rich section of country in this immediate vicinity and furnish an outlet for this country to the outside world, but will tap a country with unbounded resources all the way from Bandon to Grants Pass, and will mean millions of dol-

lars worth of material of all kinds to be transported here by rail and exported through the local harbor.

The proposed line will follow the foothills on the south side of the Coquille river avoiding the marshes and lowland so as to get a substantial and permanent roadbed with the required elevation. Most of the right of way grants were obtained for \$1 which indicates the favor with which the people look upon the project.

Gate Water Front.
The company has secured for dockage at Bandon the entire river front from Lyons-Johnson's mill, two miles up the river, to the plant of the George W. Moore Lumber company in the town proper. This affords a fine frontage for depots and docks as could be desired. At Port Orford, dockage room and depot grounds have been secured. At this time there is no obstacle in the way of the construction of the road.

The completion of this road will be the awakening of southeastern Oregon, and will mark the beginning of a new and wonderful industrial and commercial era. Timber of the best quality and largest quantities, mineral, agricultural and dairy products, will find their ready market and throughout the section touched by this road all business will be transacted in volume equalled by no other territory of same dimensions under the shadow of the American flag.

Tunnel Through Mountains.
The route of the proposed line extends up the coast from Port Orford to

Bandon, thence up the south bank of the Coquille river past Coquille and Myrtle Point, thence up the south fork of the Rogue river mountains, thence by tunnel through these mountains to a point on the Rogue river 15 or 20 miles above Illaha, thence up Rogue river to Grants Pass, and thence to a point near Medford, where the line will connect with the Pacific & Eastern.

The Coquille river valley, Coon and Curry counties, are but a small part of the territory that will be benefited by the proposed line. The Galice and Rogue river valleys will reap a decided benefit. The Alameda mines alone will furnish much business for the road. The 21,000,000,000 feet of lumber in the Rogue river valley—every foot of which is merchantable—will contribute to the income of the road.

SEATTLE WOMAN MAY PRACTICE IN U. S. COURT

(United Press Local Wire.)
Seattle, Jan. 14.—Miss Lois Blinn, formerly of Los Angeles, is today entitled to practice before the federal court, having been admitted by Judge Howard on a motion by United States District Attorney Riddell. She is the first woman to be admitted to the federal court in this district.

Ignorance helps to boom business when a man orders a \$3 frame for a 30 cent picture.

GOLF PARK has other compelling reasons why you should consider it, now, as the location of your permanent home. You who are familiar with the choicer residence communities of other big cities, are you thinking seriously enough of the future for your family's home?

Just think for a moment how far into the country the better class of people had to go to develop a fine suburban home near Chicago. Think of the long ride to the recently established residence districts of a suburban character surrounding New York.

You have your Irvington, your Portland Heights, your Nob Hill, and what else? How long will it be, do you suppose, when these three districts will be crowded and you will begin longing for more air, more lawn, more room and more scenery?

Then, of course, Golf Park will be in great demand. Then, of course, you will pay the price that tremendous growth will name. Then, of course you will wish that you had given Golf Park some of the consideration that it deserved long before.

Golf Park is cheap now. The improvements are all installed and all paid for. The sites are large, averaging about four city lots each. At \$5000 per site, in Golf Park, you will be paying about \$1250 per average city lot, which price includes everything.

Golf Park safeguards you in every way. An adequate building restriction protects the harmony of your building. Other restrictions protect the fine topographical environment. Nothing can ever destroy the magnificent outlook of golf links, hills along the western shore of the Willamette and perfect lay of the district.

Golf Park, in every way, holds for you a home building opportunity that it would be difficult to find anywhere else in the Pacific northwest, to say nothing of the city of Portland.

At the same time, \$5000 is all that need be invested in the property.

MAY GAIN LIBERTY BY NEW MEDICAL THEORY

(United Press Local Wire.)
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 14.—Depending on the newest medical theory that the stomach will digest food even after the body is dead, attorneys for William Pledge, convicted of killing his sister, are today fighting in court to free the wealthy young farmer. They offered the testimony of Doctors Ludwig Heck, Strom and Raynes of Chicago, who examined the woman's stomach after disinterment and said that she had been killed at least three hours after she had eaten a meal. The fact that the food was digested shows this, they say.

The state attorneys are attempting to disprove this by showing that the stomach was pushed around while the surgeons were probing for the bullet. No motive is known for the crime. Pledge is making his appeal for a third trial, his last time having been sentenced to the penitentiary.

Figuratively speaking, an old bachelor nearly always hugs himself when he sees a poor, meek looking man trying to quiet a snoring infant.

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