

### INNES' WIFE DECLARES SHE KNEW LITTLE OF HIM BEFORE WEDDING

Husband Always Spoke Very Highly of Mrs. Clarice Innes, His Former Spouse.

### MRS. DENNIS SENT COIN

Atlanta Realty Men Declare They Saw Letters From Lawyer Regarding Financial Affairs.

Mrs. Ida M. Innes, wife of Victor E. Innes, a local attorney, whose name is closely interwoven with the inexplicable disappearance of two wealthy Atlanta young women, Mrs. Eloise Dennis and her sister, Beatrice Nelms, today told "The Journal" that she knew little of her husband's history prior to their marriage at Salt Lake City in September of 1910.

Mrs. Innes freely admitted, however, that he had been married to Miss Clarice Siskles in New York in October of 1903, and left her the following year. She also has knowledge of his boy James, now 10 years of age, who she says has been raised by Innes' mother, Mrs. Haddock, of New York city, who is said to be wealthy.

This is the child which Mrs. Clarice Innes is said to have found at Breaksheen, N. Y., yesterday, according to telegraphic dispatches received here. Mrs. Clarice Innes is the woman from whom Innes secured a divorce at Carson City, Nev., in 1910, a short time prior to his marriage to his present wife.

**Wife Identifies Picture.**  
"Clarice Siskles is the only woman he ever mentioned to me," said Mrs. Innes today at her Welder street home as she settled herself among boxes and barrels and furniture all packed for removal and shipment. "He always spoke highly of her. I know nothing of a Mrs. Caroline Green Innes, who the papers say was his common law wife. Neither do I know anything about his ever having been sent to the Tombs in New York on a bigamy charge in 1904, which the papers declare cost Mrs. Clarice Innes over a thousand dollars to get him out of."

Shown a photographic copy of a warrant for Innes' arrest for abandonment and non-support of Mrs. Clarice Innes, issued in New York July 9, 1908, and a picture of Innes, his son James and Mrs. Clarice Siskles Innes, Mrs. Innes said nothing, but carefully noted down the date. Innes, despatches state, is still wanted on the charge. She readily identified the picture attached as that of her husband, but declared she had absolute confidence in him, and even if he had been in trouble during his earlier years that she stood ready to forgive him now.

"He's been too good to me, and too thoughtful for me to believe what is said about him, until I have the most positive proof," she said.

**Innes at Hood River.**  
Asked concerning his present whereabouts, Mrs. Innes stated that he was either at or near Hood River. In explanation of his absence from the city she volunteered the information that the family is considering removing to some town near Portland that may prove more beneficial to her health. She has been a semi-invalid for some time and for this reason came to Portland from Reno in 1911, and made Portland her home. Innes, however, continued his position as assistant United States attorney at Carson, a position he resigned only recently and after a few weeks here. Mrs. Innes returned to Reno. They made semi-annual trips to Portland each of short duration.

Concerning his business affairs she said she knew very little. In this connection she admitted they had a common banking account and that he had helped her make investments of her own money, which had been bequeathed her by her second husband, but she said on his death and by the will of her mother.

**Met Innes in Philippines.**  
According to her story she first met him in the Philippines when she was en route from Japan, where an uncle, a tea merchant, resides. He was then practicing law. This was in 1908. In 1909 he returned to the United States and at Carson, Nev., secured a divorce from Mrs. Clarice Siskles in 1910 and soon afterward they were married at Salt Lake. Two children, twins, now 3 years old, have been born of the union.

She was unable to shed any light on the alleged relations of Innes with Mrs. Eloise Nelms and her husband. In fact, she said she did not know Mrs. Dennis and did not know she existed until the newspapers printed the story of her disappearance. The mother, declaring that Innes could clear up the entire mystery concerning the disappearance of the two sisters in the middle of June after Eloise had secured thousands of dollars by sacrificing valuable property she owned.

**Inneses Were in South.**  
"Isn't it true that when you are explaining the continued absence of the girls than to point accusingly at my husband all the time?" she asked. "Why can't there be another man in the case? It is true that we were in Atlanta, but Mr. Innes was with me virtually all the time. I was sick, am hardly recovered now, and he watched over me and cared for me like the times. The papers say the girls went to Texas shortly after we did. And there Mr. Innes was with me all the time. We did not go to San Francisco, but July 3 we were at the Capitol hotel at Sacramento, and I remember that we wrote letters, but he was hardly out of my sight for a moment."

July 3 was the postmarked date on the famous "death note" which Mrs. Nelms received from San Francisco, which was signed "Eloise."

The note, typewritten, said that she had done away with Beatrice in New Orleans and intended to commit suicide just as soon as she killed her brother, Marshall Nelms, then residing there, but who is now at Atlanta directing the search for the girls.

**Family Believes Beatrice Slain.**  
Since then the bayous of the Mississippi river near New Orleans have been dragged in an effort to find the body and the family generally believes that Beatrice had been slain. Otherwise she would communicate, they assert, because she was a level-headed, successful business woman and had long been situated to get the money her sister from giving her money into Innes' keeping, according to testimony of several Atlanta business men who had the confidence of the girls.

In fact, "money" plays an important part in every event connected with their disappearance by which Innes' name is usually connected with it. According to a recent statement the only

### WOMEN WHO DISAPPEARED FROM ATLANTA, GA.



Mrs. Eloise Nelms Dennis, the mother of the boy shown in the illustration with her, left home in June. She got a divorce in Nevada. Soon afterward the sister, Miss Beatrice Nelms, a bright girl of 25, who had established a good real estate business in Atlanta, left home.

Later a letter purporting to have been written by Mrs. Dennis to her mother in Atlanta, saying she had killed Beatrice and was looking for her brother to kill him, too, whereupon she would commit suicide, was received.

money he received from Mrs. Dennis was fees for securing her a divorce at Carson in 1912, and for the repayment of loans. This is what he has told his wife, also.

But according to statements made by J. P. Weathers of the Weathers Realty company at Atlanta, Mrs. Dennis had told him that Innes had bought for her a tract of land in Montana for \$12,000, and about a year ago showed her a number of letters from Innes in this connection. She also told him that she intended to take her young son, and live on the tract until Innes could secure a divorce and then she would marry Innes and all three would go to India.

This statement taken in connection with another by a real estate man named Harling who converted her Georgia street property into cash, is taken as an indication that she had carefully planned her disappearance. When she left she carried about \$8000, it is said, and prior to her departure informed Harling that she planned to go to India.

**Baty Gets Girls' Descriptions.**  
Other testimony indicates that Innes had talked and written her concerning occultism, and when she came back from Carson was "simply crazy over Hindu mysticism," according to a member of her family.

Today Captain Baty received this description regarding the missing sisters, from the Atlanta police:  
Mrs. Eloise Nelms Dennis: Age 39 years, 5 feet, 4 inches tall, weight 110 pounds. Brunette, large brown eyes.  
Miss Beatrice Nelms: Age 26 years, 5 feet, 5 inches tall, weight 120 to 125 pounds. Wears eyeglasses, blonde, has blue eyes; has dark scar on one index finger caused by a knife but when she was a child. She is large build, or rather has large frame for her height.

These women left Atlanta, Ga., in 1910, 1911, together traveling west and they had considerable sums of money, \$1600 or \$2000. Had New York exchange cashed in New Orleans, La. Packages shipped to them June 15, by Southern Pacific express No. 16,539, marked Margaret Nelms, San Antonio, Texas.

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In the opinion, written by Justice Burnett, it is pointed out that while the legislature can amend and repeal laws relating to the formation of corporations, it cannot impair or destroy vested corporate rights. Continuing, he says: "The act does not, as its title professes, protect cooperative associations, because the defendant's name in no way affects the property of such associations, or their autonomy or business. The act in effect destroys the plaintiff's name, in which it has a species of property, ostensibly for the benefit of other artificial persons."

"The defendant has upward of \$250,000 invested in its business and had built up an annual business of \$150,000, and the word 'cooperative' is of great value to it."  
The act is denounced as "an unreasonable exercise of the law making function, besides being as to this defendant an avowed effort to take from it a valuable part of its assets for the benefit of other private associations."

**Mrs. Warner Leaves Industrial School**  
Girl Who Ran Away and Was Married Paroled to the Father of Her Husband; Board Fought Release.  
Salem, Or., July 21.—Mrs. Henry Warner, formerly Catherine Doran, was released today from the state industrial school for girls, being paroled to John Warner, father of her husband of Amity, by the state board of control. The father, mother and sister of Henry Warner came here from Amity to plead with the board for the

lease of the girl, who was returned last Friday to the institution from which she escaped July 4. She was married July 15 to Henry Warner.  
A spirited fight was made against her release by the members of the advisory board, consisting of women. They insisted that it would establish a bad precedent and would hurt discipline in the school.  
The board of control took the view that the state is not anxious to hold its wards if it can find a good way to avoid it. It was convinced that young Warner is not a bad sort and will give his wife a good home; that his father stands well in the community in which he resides, and that the girl will stand a better chance of being reformed if paroled now than she would if held for three years more in the industrial school as desired by the advisory board.  
Warner is 21 years old and his bride is 18. They had been engaged, they say, for six months when they paid a visit to Salem last fall, and the girl was detained by the police.

**Irvington Park Club To Hold Mock Trial**  
E. E. O'Neill Is Accused of Snatching Ice Cream; Club to Give Dance on Evening of July 25.  
The Irvington Park club will hold a mock trial on August 7 in its grove at East Thirtieth and Holman streets of E. E. O'Neill, a member, on a charge of "snatching" ice cream left over from the club's Fourth of July celebration. At the meeting Friday night, O'Neill was permitted to join Charles Heft and Mrs. F. Fitzgerald in a trio on the piano, clarinet and violin. Lou Heft contributed a solo. Mrs. B. Bush gave a reading and the club orchestra provided music for the informal dance which followed.  
The club will give a dance at its new pavilion in the grove on the evening of July 25.  
Sentenced and Paroled.  
This morning District Judge Jones took up the case against James Convey, 18 years old, on complaint of J. D. Plager, charging the boy with larceny, and sentenced him to a year on the reformatory, paroling him to his father pending good behavior.  
Plager charged Convey with stealing pipes, cigarette cases and candy from his store on East Morrison street. Convey has been held in jail for some time.  
Journal Want Ads bring results.

**John M. Scott Sprains His Ankle**  
John M. Scott, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific company, has a sprained ankle. The pebbles in a caboose of a freight train in southern Oregon proved his undoing.  
Mr. Scott had gone to Grants Pass after seeing the Oregon druggists safely on their way to Newport, and was returning Saturday, riding toward Medford in the way car. The train stopped with the caboose some distance from the station. He started to walk to the depot along the narrow path. The path suddenly dropped down along a ditch, and Mr. Scott undertook to step down into it, when a pebble rolled under his foot and he fell. It was some minutes before he recovered consciousness, and then he dragged himself to the station, where the agent called a doctor.

**BARBER GETS FINE OF \$10**  
Daniel Heldman, a barber, failed to convince a jury in District Judge Bell's court yesterday that the law compelling barbers to post certificates or renewal cards in their shops is unconstitutional and he was convicted of failing to observe the statute. Judge Bell fined him \$10, but may raise the fine to \$20 should Heldman carry out his announcement of an appeal, as no appeal can be taken from a fine less than \$20. Heldman acted as his own attorney.

**EXTRA APPROACH URGED**  
In a letter to the county commissioners this morning, E. M. Lepper suggested that the interstate bridge commission build an extra approach to the interstate bridge from Vancouver avenue to George M. Hyland and other boosters for that vicinity furnish the county with a free right of way. The letter was filed for future consideration by the bridge commission.

**ACT TO PREVENT USE OF 'COOPERATIVE' IS INVALID, SAYS COURT**  
Supreme Court Opinion Upholds Decision of Circuit Court of Clatsop County.

**LORNTSEN WAS PLAINTIFF**  
State Legislature Cannot Impair or Destroy Vested Corporate Rights.  
(Salem Bureau of the Journal.)  
Salem, Or., July 21.—The supreme court today upheld the decision of the circuit court of Clatsop county in declaring unconstitutional the so-called act to protect cooperative associations by preventing the use of the "cooperative" by any firm, association or corporation as a part of its associate, corporate or business name, as a trade mark or designation, passed by the legislature of 1912. The decision is made in