

# MAN IN FRENZIED ONSLAUGHT KILLS TWO OF CHILDREN

Richard Stafford Hacks Tots to  
Death, Inflicts Fatal Wounds  
on His Wife and Kills Self.

## DOES DEED WITH HATCHET

Only Pluck of 11-Year-Old Son  
Saves Mad Man From Taking  
More Lives.

With a death toll of three and  
with every probability that the  
fourth victim of Richard W. Staff-  
ord's madgened frenzy would die  
within a few hours, the coroner and  
police investigators this morning  
were attempting to ascertain the  
cause of the murder lust that  
shocked South Portland Tuesday  
afternoon.

Mrs. Caroline Stafford, wife of the  
maniac, who later killed himself, died  
of her injuries at the county hospital  
at 3 o'clock this morning. Five-year-  
old Wirt Stafford, hacked about the  
head with the same hatchet that was  
the weapon in the other cases, was  
hanging to life this morning by a splen-  
der thread.

The bodies of Stafford and Baby  
Walter were turned over to Coroner  
Smith Tuesday afternoon.

Suddenly becoming insane, Stafford,  
who was superintendent of the Sterling  
Food Products company of Portland,  
attacked his entire family with a hatchet  
at their home, 1335 Corbett street, about  
3:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. He set  
the house afire and then ended his own  
life by cutting his throat with the blood  
stained hatchet.

Only the pluck of his 11-year-old boy,  
Richard, prevented the madman from  
taking a heavier toll of life. The boy,  
seeing his father's condition, grappled  
with him and succeeded in saving the  
lives of his sisters, Mabel and Marcia,

aged 3 and 7 years respectively.  
The police and coroner have been un-  
able to offer any other explanation for  
the tragedy but insanity. Stafford's  
health, financial standing and family re-  
lations were all that a man could ex-  
pect. Employees of the food plant not-  
iced that he acted queerly throughout  
the day and left his office without warn-  
ing, but he gave no one any idea of what  
was in his mind.

Stafford was brought from Minnesota  
by the Sterling company to act as su-  
perintendent of their plant. With his  
family, he arrived in Portland about  
three months ago, and has been occu-  
pying the house in Corbett street for about  
a month.

Employees of the plant noticed that he  
was acting queerly Tuesday morning,  
but paid no attention to him when he  
left his office about 3 o'clock. Accord-  
ing to neighbors, and the three children  
who survive the massacre, he went to  
the house and sat for a while on the  
steps, meditating.

WIFE ATTACKED FIRST  
Details of what happened within are  
unknown. Richard, seeing his father  
take a hatchet and lunge at the chil-  
dren, stood in his way until the two  
girls made their escape and then ran  
to the house, where he was first at-  
tacked by his father. She was terribly  
mutilated in the struggle. The unfor-  
tunate woman fell on the porch of the  
house, the 1-year-old son, who was  
killed by a blow of the hatchet as he  
lay asleep in his bed, and 5-year-old  
Wirt was struck down on the porch of  
the house.

The madman then turned over a small  
heating stove, scattered clothing on the  
flames so that the blaze would spread,  
and turned on the gas in the kitchen.  
Going to the porch, he cut his own throat  
with the hatchet with which he had  
committed his other crimes, and fell  
prone beside his dying wife.

Neighbors, hearing the screams of the  
terrified children and seeing the tragedy  
on the porch, called the police. Motor-  
cycle Officers Schad and Gouldstone ar-  
rived on the scene and found that neigh-  
bors had already rushed to the aid of  
the victims. W. P. Chaffield of 1375  
Front street and Mrs. Charles Bousson  
of 1549 1/2 Corbett street had dragged the  
two children from the porch, out of  
reach of the fire that was beginning to  
destroy the house.

FIRE IS EXTINGUISHED  
While Officer Schad ran to summon  
ambulances, Gouldstone and H. W. Plath  
of 583 Miller street kicked in a back  
door and with buckets of water put out  
the fire. The fire department was also  
summoned by neighbors, but arrived  
after the blaze was extinguished.

Stafford came from a prominent East-  
ern family. His father, Richard Staff-  
ord, has been identified for years with  
the pickle business, and the dead man,  
taking it up, became a master of the  
trade.

Henry Hahn, president of the Sterling

# HAPPY FAMILY STRICKEN BY MADMAN



Above—Richard W. Stafford, whose maniacal frenzy caused death of wife and baby and self. Below—Little  
Mabel Stafford, whose plucky brother saved her from hatchet; Mrs. Caroline Stafford, who died early this  
morning, with Baby Walter, also dead, in arms. Hiding behind tree is 5 year old Wirt, who is at death's  
door.

Food Products company, going East  
three months ago to look for a suitable  
man to act as superintendent of the  
local plant, became acquainted with  
Stafford at Matawa, Minn., where he  
was manager of a small pickle factory.

Stafford and his family were brought  
to Portland by the local concern, ar-  
riving here three months ago. Unable  
to locate a proper home, they had been  
renting the small furnished house on  
Corbett street until they could find bet-  
ter accommodations.

According to Mr. Hahn, Stafford  
seemed happy and contented in his new  
position. He was not overworked, and  
did nothing but superintend the work  
of other employees. He received a good  
salary, was making good at his work  
and had recently been offered a part-  
nership in the concern. He always spoke  
highly of his family, and seemed to be  
in love with his wife and children.

Previous to the day of the tragedy, he  
had acted as any normal, healthy man.  
Tuesday morning, Mr. Hahn noticed  
that Stafford was acting queerly, but  
paid little attention to it. The two  
lunched together in the city, Hahn re-  
maining downtown on business, while  
Stafford returned to the plant.

The dead man was a Mason, a mem-  
ber of the Shriners and Odd Fellows,

and prior to coming West, had been a  
captain in the Minnesota National  
Guard.

He lived at various times at Area and  
Chicago, Ill., and at Barnum, Matawa  
and Cromwell, Carlton county, Minne-  
sota. Last Sunday he and his wife at-  
tended the Trinity Presbyterian church  
on Corbett street, and Stafford sang  
in the church choir.

Beside the three children who escaped  
with their lives, Stafford had one other  
child, Anna, 16 years of age, who is on  
her way to the home of her grand-  
parents in Minnesota. His father, Rich-  
ard Stafford, and his mother, Marcia  
Stafford, both live in Barnum, Minn.,  
according to papers found in the home.  
Stafford carried a life insurance policy  
for \$2500, made out in favor of his  
mother.

The three children who escaped from  
the house are being cared for by Rev.  
Dr. Smith, pastor of the Trinity Pres-  
byterian church, until arrangements can  
be made for them.

Though little damage was done to the  
house by the fire, practically all of the  
clothing of the family was destroyed.  
From the appearance of the place, it  
was evident that the madman, after  
turning over the stove and setting the  
floor afire, piled all the clothing he  
could gather on the flames.

# NEARNESS OF LAND TO RIFLE RANGE HAS NO BEARING, RULES COURT

Federal Judge Says Man Should  
Not Be Forced to Sell Prop-  
erty Below Value.

Because his land is so close to the  
government rifle range at Clackamas  
station as to endanger the lives of per-  
sons upon the land, is no reason why  
Michael Gaffney should be required to  
sell below the actual market price the  
46 acres of land the government is seek-  
ing to condemn through action in Fed-  
eral Judge Wolverton's court today.

The judge ruled this morning to bar  
evidence of danger to persons who might  
be upon the land, which is surrounded  
on three sides by government owned  
property.

The government appraised the land at  
\$2000 and offered Mr. Gaffney that sum  
testimony shows. Mr. Gaffney refused  
to sell for less than \$8000 and the gov-  
ernment's condemnation suit resulted.  
Witnesses for the government this morn-  
ing testified in some cases that they  
would not have the 46 acres as a gift,  
while others placed a maximum value  
of from \$50 to \$60 an acre on the land,  
said to be rocky and precipitous for  
the most part.

Trial of the government's case was  
started in Judge Wolverton's court Tues-  
day with the selection of a jury, but the  
jurors were excused for the afternoon  
to make a personal inspection of the  
property. They were at Clackamas  
station most of the afternoon in com-  
pany with the defendant and Special  
Agent Hutchinson of the department of  
justice.

The land in question is directly be-  
hind the targets of the rifle range used  
by government and national guard  
troops, witnesses decried, and is cov-  
ered with second growth fir said to be  
almost inaccessible to market.

Deputy United States Attorney Wat-  
kins will call on witnesses this afterno-  
on and will rest his case. The government  
submitted testimony this morning  
through R. W. Hagood and B. Lee Pa-  
get of Portland.

The defense will take up the case this  
afternoon and will call several wit-  
nesses, including J. E. Jack, former  
county assessor of Clackamas county;  
Sam Dillman, Oregon City realty dealer,  
and others.

# Man Is Given 90 Days in City Jail To 'Think It Over'

Begging Judge Rossman of the mu-  
nicipal court for a good stiff suspended  
sentence and a chance to get out of the  
city, and promising to keep away from  
here in the future, Edward Thurman,  
who was arrested at Third and Wash-  
ington about 8:30 Monday night, by Of-  
ficer Lee Martin, received the suspended  
sentence of 90 days Tuesday morning  
and in addition a term of 10 days in  
the city jail to "think it over."

J. N. Grant, who was arrested Sun-  
day at St. Johns by Officer Roberts on  
a charge of driving an automobile while  
intoxicated, was fined \$75 and given a  
suspended sentence of 60 days, with a  
warning that if he ever came up for a  
similar offense he would be forced to  
serve the 60 days.

William Jones was fined \$50 for viola-  
tion of the prohibition law.

Many Attend Convention  
Mount Angel, July 1.—More than 1500  
persons attended the fourth annual con-  
vention of the D. R. K. Staatsverband  
here Sunday. A special train, carrying  
nearly 600 people, came from Portland  
for the event.

# DANCING Guaranteed

In eight lessons, Ladies,  
\$2.50; gentlemen, \$5.00,  
at DeHoney's Beautiful  
Academy, 522 and  
Washington. New sum-  
mer classes start Mon-  
day, Tuesday and Thurs-  
day evenings, 8 to 11:30.  
Plenty of desirable part-  
ners and practice. No embarrassment.  
Private lessons all hours. Learn from  
professional dancers. Phone Main 7654.  
—Adv.

# MILLION EXPECTED TO GO ON STRIKE

High Estimate Placed on Number  
Likely to Quit in Sympathy  
With Thomas Mooney.

San Francisco, July 2.—(U. P.)—  
One million men will quit work Fri-  
day for four days in the first demon-  
stration in behalf of Thomas  
Mooney, Selig Schulberg of the In-  
ternational Workers' Defense league  
told the United Press today. This  
number represents all organized  
trades, and will affect practically  
every city and town in the United  
States.

"The approximate union vote cast on  
the demonstration was 128,000 to 25,000,"  
said Schulberg. "Considering that union  
meetings usually draw 20 per cent of  
their attendance, and that this does not  
include a number of heavy radical labor  
organizations not affiliated with the A.  
F. of L., the number of workers affected  
is at least one million."

"A tally of the vote shows the best  
response to be likely in Detroit, Minne-  
apolis, Chicago, Butte, Seattle and Ta-  
coma. Great Falls, Mont., and Terre  
Haute, Ind. The biggest single craft  
ready to walk out is the United Mine  
Workers, with a heavy membership in  
Pennsylvania, West Virginia, the Middle  
West and Far West."

The strikers will remain out four days  
as a protest against Mooney's convic-  
tion. They will then return to work,  
and if the new trial is not granted will  
walk out again Labor day for four days.  
There is no general leader for the strike,  
Schulberg said, each union handling its  
own walkout.

## STRIKE LIKELY TO BE WIDESPREAD IN TACOMA

Tacoma, July 2.—(U. P.)—Results of  
the referendum vote among local unions  
indicated today that the Mooney strike,  
to begin July 4, and continue until next  
Wednesday, will be widespread in Ta-  
coma.

All the unions in the basic industries,  
including the shipyard workers, have  
voted to walk out in the nation-wide  
demonstration in Mooney's behalf, ac-  
cording to reports given out at the La-  
bor temple.

The strike has been endorsed by the  
Tacoma Central Labor council, Metal  
Trades council and the Soldiers, Sail-  
ors and Workmen's council.

## ANTI-STRIKE PROPOSAL DEFEATED IN SEATTLE

Seattle, July 2.—(U. P.)—By a vote  
of 34 to 20, the Metal Trades council  
at its meeting last night turned down  
a recommendation from the engineers'  
union, local 40, that the five-day strike  
in sympathy with Tom Mooney, sched-  
uled to start July 4, be called off.  
All the delegates spoke sympathet-

# Messrs Blumauer & Hoch Announce White Rock Ginger Ale. It retails, A Quart For A Quarter.

Crew Assembled to  
Begin Construction  
Of Rogue Spanway

Gold Hill, July 2.—Parker & Banfield  
of Portland, contractors for the con-  
struction of the new Pacific highway  
bridge spanning Rogue river at Rock  
Point, three miles below Gold Hill, are  
assembling a crew and material to begin  
work on the structure. The new bridge  
with its approaches will have a total  
length of 425 feet, and will occupy the  
site of the present bridge, a Howe truss  
wood structure, which has been in con-  
tinual use since its erection in 1874.  
The site is at a point where the waters  
of the Rogue sweep at great depth  
through a narrow gorge in bed rock with  
high walls, which requires an arch of  
115 feet in spanning the river.  
The structure will be built of rein-  
forced concrete, at an expense of \$47,000,  
erected jointly by Jackson county and  
the state highway commission. It will  
require a crew of 20 men five months to  
complete the structure.

## Kelso Sawmill Enlarged

Kelso, Wash., July 2.—P. H. Greene  
and S. N. Newell are increasing the ca-  
pacity of their sawmill at Shanghai by  
installing a larger engine and other  
machinery, and its daily output will be  
increased from 10,000 feet to 30,000 feet  
by the changes being made. The mill is  
shut down for alterations until after the  
Fourth, when sawing will be resumed.  
There is 15,000,000 feet of timber im-  
mediately available for the mill. The  
lumber is hauled four miles to Carrolls  
and shipped.

# What Is Business Insurance?

A policy of the same form as that written on  
any person where an individual is the bene-  
ficiary, except in business insurance the part-  
nership or corporation is the beneficiary. In  
business insurance the insured does not reserve  
the right to change the beneficiary. Consult  
us for low premium rates before placing such  
insurance.

# Oregon Life Insurance Company

HOME OFFICE: CORBETT BUILDING, FIFTH AND MORRISON STREETS,  
PORTLAND

A. L. MILLS, President. C. S. SAMUEL, General Manager. E. N. STRONG, Assistant Manager.

## NEW SHOW TODAY

Dorothy Dalton as  
**THE LADY OF RED BUTTE**

**NOTE:**  
As a special attraction, "Elmo the Mighty" will be shown each Friday only, in addition to the regular programme.

There was the Desert, the Dominie and the Dancehall Girl—Dorothy Dalton. He thought she was bad and she thought he was "sad"—but, then, the desert has a way of making things seem like they "ain't" and it all turns out very nicely.

Coming Saturday Wallace Reid in YOU'RE FIRED

Pictograph  
Burton Holmes  
Mutt and Jeff

**COLUMBIA**  
K3-COOL  
Dancehall of J. & W. Williams

THE SCREEN'S GREATEST EMOTIONAL ACTRESS

**NORMA TALMAGE**

IN  
**"THE NEW MOON"**

A REMARKABLE STORY OF RUSSIA AS IT IS TODAY—IT DIGS DEEP INTO ONE'S EMOTIONS—BUT ITS ENTERTAINMENT VALUE IS 100 PER CENT

TODAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

NOW PLAYING STOPS FRIDAY AT MIDNIGHT

**LIBERTY**

STARTING SATURDAY MARY PICKFORD IN DADDY LONG LEGS