

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
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Why Not Boil Them in Oil

AFTER 24 hours of almost continuous questioning, Prosecutor John J. Chester, Jr., announced this afternoon that he had ceased interrogating Dr. James H. Snook. So read the A. P. dispatch just preceding the release of the news that Snook had confessed the murder of an Ohio co-ed, his love-mate. That means of course that the officers of the law resorted to the conventional third degree methods, though possibly not in so barbaric a manner as in the case of the ordinary rough-neck suspect.

Theoretically a man is supposed to be innocent until he is proven guilty. Actually if the police lay hands on a man after the commission of a major crime, and if there is any indication of his connection with the crime, he is put through a terrific grilling or even worse to break down his resistance and extort a confession from him. Aaa Keyes and his retinue followed similar tactics with Gordon Northcott. Now Snook is put through 24 hours of "almost continuous questioning." Standing on his strictly legal rights Snook could have refused to answer any questions. If he had done that he might have had the host treatment or some other physical brutality visited on him to "make him talk."

Snook is no doubt guilty, in spite of the confession the zealous prosecutor has extracted from him. But what about the continuance of third degree methods by enforcing officials? We are not at all squeamish about the matter, but there ought to be some limit this side of police barbarism which officers of the law may go to in trying to make a man talk the way they want him to talk. Statements and confessions signed at the end of a day or longer of being on the rack may have as little value as the recanting of a heretic after a similar experience. At least if we are going to permit police officers to break a man's body and mind in such fashion, it ought to be done under some color of law and not with such an invasion of human rights which even the accused of crime is supposed to possess.

Utility Racketeers

WE hope the federal trade commission gets around sometime before long to pull the curtain on the financing of these public utility holding companies. Changing the figure of speech, it will be like lifting a plank that has been lying on dank earth. What a lot of wriggling there will be to locate protective shade.

It is easy enough to understand pyramiding of holding companies, where company A holds the voting stock of company B and company B holds the voting stock of company C and so on down to company Z which is the real operating company. But the latest moves of the financial wizards is to scramble the eggs until it will take some one like Lawyer C. E. Hughes in the old insurance investigation days to get the eggs traced to their proper ancestry. Holding companies are now formed to hold stocks in numerous "already-holding" companies. Thus Universal Super Power corporation is a big holding company with a chain of subsidiaries. Along comes some stock holding concern of some other financial house and buys a big block of Universal Super Power stock, and vice versa, and in and out and all about.

Perhaps everything is wholesome and in the public interest. Our guess is that the revelation of the financial high-jacking which has been going on will make the utility racket as malodorous as the insurance scandals of a generation ago. Here is one lead that might prove interesting if followed up aggressively. It is a news item from one of the Pulitzer papers:

"Morgan and Associated Gas Interests had a skirmish over Associated's taking over operating subsidiaries of General Gas & Electric corporation, in which United Gas Improvement Co. had a large stock interest. The case was settled out of court by Associated paying United Gas \$46,725,525 for its General Gas stock. United Gas Improvement is controlled by United Corporation."

Who are the Country's Foes?

THE real enemies of the country are not other nations, but the regiments and brigades in the mighty army of illiterates in all nations, our own included. That is the opinion of the editor of the Oregon Journal. So we all used to think. Banish ignorance and the world would be ushered into an enlightened age with wrong and crime and distress abolished. Education, education was the program to work the salvation of the world.

So we thought, and we poured our money like water building schoolhouses and more schoolhouses and finer schoolhouses and more expensive programs and higher-salaried teachers. We have pretty well banished illiteracy in this country at any rate. For a generation and longer we have had compulsory school laws.

Yet we have an outbreak of crime that we are officially warned by no less a personage than our president, that threatens the very foundations of our state. This crime is not the handiwork of the illiterate. It is the work of chaps of from 17 to 25 who have had the advantage of our superior educational opportunities. The crimes of today are not the crimes of hot passion in brains dulled by ignorance. They are crimes of stealth and cunning, utterly cold-blooded. Murder is now a matter of merchandise. Leopold and Loeb, Hickman, and now Dr. Snook were not illiterate. On the contrary they were well educated.

We may grant that the criminals of today are not of superior minds; but are in fact dullards and those low in mental scale. Still the fact remains that education in and of itself is not enough. There must be moral training to accompany book-teaching. There must be discipline to cultivate character. There is a vital need for a religious idealism which can grip and hold those whose moral fiber is less sturdy.

Education without moral training makes for skilled thievery and shrewd criminality. The criminal with an education is more dangerous than the illiterate and the ignorant.

Changing Traffic Signals in Detroit

BILLY SUNDAY, veteran of many an evangelistic campaign, and Aimee McPherson are announced to join in a 15-day drive against the devil and his works in Detroit. This duo of soul-savers ought to succeed in changing the traffic directions in that sinful city, where the green signal on the hell-road has been stuck fast for a good many months. If they can only begin on rum row and stop the importations of booze from across the river they will save the government a lot of money and the officers a lot of target practice.

The only change of disagreement from this team might come when they go to divide the proceeds. Is it 50-50, or a 60-40 split? We wonder too how Sunday's gospel will harmonize with Aimee's divine healing attachments.

A Perilous Position



BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

To the unknown pioneer—

There is to be a monument built through the efforts of the Bend Kiwanis club.

In the desert near that city stands a gnarled and twisted juniper tree that marks the grave of a woman. There is roughly carved on the tree's wood words that tell of the burial there of a pioneer who breathed her last at that lonely spot, almost within sight of the promised land, after enduring the dangers and hardships of prairie, plain and mountain for nearly or quite two thousand miles of slow and weary travel. But the growth of the tree has obliterated the name, and there remains in all the central Oregon country no one who recalls, either by memory or by hearsay, the event of her death.

Frank Jenkins, editor, writing in the Eugene Register, tells of the late J. C. Bushnell, of that city, whose memory of the events of the great migration to the Oregon country remained unusually clear and sharp almost to the day of his death, relating to him once a pitiful little story that may throw some light upon this grave in the desert.

Mr. Jenkins says the unknown pioneer woman was laid to her last long rest "some 82 years ago." This would indicate that she was of the immigration of 1847. Mr. Bushnell told Mr. Jenkins, as he remembers, of a young mother in the wagon train with which he came across the plains whose strength was insufficient for the hardships of the journey; "day by day she failed, and for weeks it seemed that she must pass on beyond the great divide;

but so earnest was her longing to see the promised land on the shores of the far western sea, where a home was to be found for her and hers, that she seemed able, because of her great longing, to push back the clutching hand of death."

"The end came, as Mr. Bushnell remembered it, somewhere near the great bend of the Deschutes river, the Farewell Bend of the ox team pioneers who there left the level and open stretches of the desert and ventured the passage of the rugged Cascades."

At the annual reunion of the Oregon Pioneer association, at the state fair grounds Tuesday, June 17, 1879, Ralph C. Geer told much in the "occasional address" of that year of the 1847 immigration, in which were the Geers, the Dimicks, the later Burnetts, and many more whose names adorn the history of Oregon. Thomas Cox and his son, William, who opened the first store in Salem, brought their goods with which they opened up business across

the plains by ox team in the immigration of that year. The Luellings and Geers brought their nurseries and fruit seeds that started the early orchards of Oregon. Many brought herds of good stock, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, etc. The immigration of that year, some 5000 souls, doubled the population of Oregon, and started the schools and many improved lines of industry and agriculture. That immigration brought Samuel R. Thurston, Oregon's first official delegate in congress, who gave the pioneers their titles through the passage of the donation land laws.

Bancroft says: "The immigration of 1847 from its numbers and general competency materially assisted in the development of the country; and by greatly increasing the population rendered possible the introduction of country schools, though they were still supported by private means. To this addition more than to any previous one the colony was indebted for improvements in stock and farm products, and particularly in fruit raising. The men of 1847 were not like those of 1843 and 1844 animated by a romantic idea of founding a Pacific state. They realized that this had already been done, and came to gather whatever advantage was to flow from it to their generation."

Bancroft also said: "They commenced arriving at The Dalles as early as the end of August, and continued to arrive until November, when 200 wagons were still on the eastern side of the mountains. Every expedition by wagon had been attended by suffering and loss; nor was this one an exception. Its number was the principal cause of its misfortunes; the foremost companies exhausted the forest, compelling the rear to delay in order to recruit their cattle, which brought them in late, with great loss and in a starving condition. For the same cause, sickness attacked the trains and an epidemic called the black measles prevailed, from which many died on the latter part of the journey

or after arrival." Bancroft says the Indians, from the Blue mountains to The Dalles, "attacked several small companies, robbing the wagons and in some instances tearing the clothing from the persons of the women, leaving them naked in the wilderness, and committing other outrages."

That was the year of the Whitman massacre, Nov. 29, and a number of immigrants who arrived late and remained at Wall-latu were included in the horrible butchery and nameless outrages of the treacherous Cayuse savages.

The Bend people plan well in proposing the monument to the unknown pioneer. If their example were generally followed such monuments would be so numerous across 2,000 miles of territory that one retracing the steps of the covered wagon trek would not be out of sight of such a marker all the long way.

Editors Say:

SHOULD TOM MOONEY BE PARDONED?

As far as Mooney and Billings are concerned, those who know most about their case believe most strongly in their innocence. It is generally agreed they were convicted on perjured testimony. The judge in the case, the prosecuting attorney, and members of the jury have all signed the petition asking for their pardon. Were it not for the political risk such action would involve it is a moral certainty Governor Young would have pardoned the two men long ago—and Governor Richardson would probably have taken such action before him. But the feeling against Mooney and Billings still runs strong in California. This is not due to any steadfast conviction concerning their guilt, but to the general belief,—pretty well sustained by the facts,—that Mooney and Billings, particularly the former, are undesirable, if not positively dangerous, characters. This feeling, of course, does not

justify their continued incarceration. If their conviction was secured on perjured testimony, if the guilt of these two men was not established beyond a reasonable doubt then, regardless of their respective reputations, they should be released. This would seem the least society could do to correct a great wrong.

Absolutely sound in theory but where politics are injected things, unfortunately, do not work out this way.

For Governor Young to pardon Mooney and Billings would take courage and involve the risk of losing votes. Perhaps he is big enough and strong enough to place abstract justice above his personal political fortunes. We hope so. But there seem to be very few men of this stamp in the public life of America today.—Medford Mail Tribune.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

June 27, 1904
The annual commencement of the Chemawa Indian school will begin today and continue four days. Rev. Dr. Hieppe will deliver the baccalaureate sermon.

Claud Gateh is carrying around a bandaged and painful eye, the result of rubbing his eye after he had been handling paper money.

Frank Grierson, who lives four miles below Salem, has a game chicken with three legs, each perfectly developed.

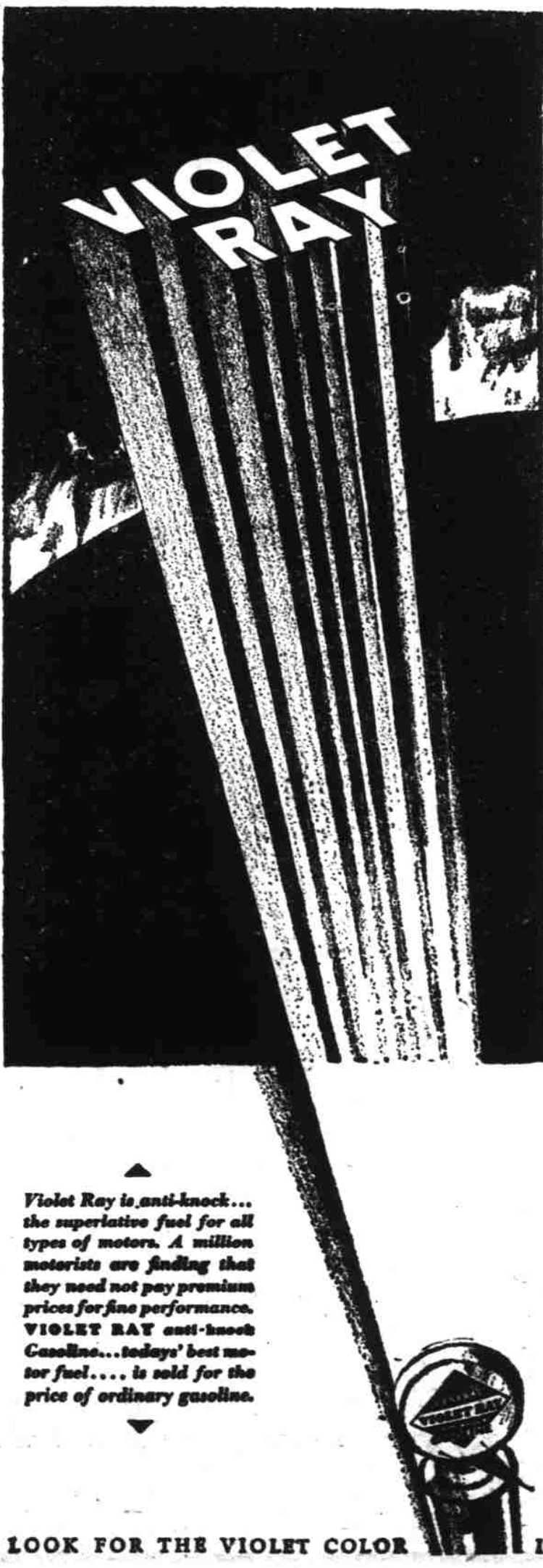
Mrs. A. B. Giesy has gone to Aurora for a visit with friends.

Salem won from Eugene 11 to 7 in yesterday's ball game played at Eugene. Salem retains the league lead, with Eugene second.

Vacation time is here, have The Oregon Statesman mailed to you while you are gone. Fifty cents per month anywhere. Phone 500, we will do the rest.

To maintain a slender figure, no one can deny the truth of the advice:

"REACH FOR A LUCKY INSTEAD OF A SWEET"



The REWARD that CAME to this NEW and BETTER GASOLINE

ALMOST like a grass fire the news spread last October, that a new and better motor fuel named VIOLET RAY anti-knock Gasoline, had come on the market.

One man told another, and he another, until thousands were spreading the word of Violet Ray, and its better performance and greater economy.

This process has never stopped. It is still going on and in larger volume than ever before.

The greatest reward in business has been conferred on VIOLET RAY anti-knock Gasoline—public approval. The public wants it, as more than 300 General Petroleum authorized independent dealers testify. It is no longer being sold—in the sense that customer resistance must be overcome—it is being bought everywhere in greatly growing volume.

There is no denying the public demand for a product, once the public has found that product good and to its liking.

That is precisely what has happened in the case of VIOLET RAY anti-knock Gasoline. In a few short months it has become the preferred gasoline among all who demand fine performance, fuel economy and maintenance economy in their motor cars.

Try just one tankful and the improved performance of your motor will tell you that Violet Ray is the finest motor fuel that refining science can produce today.

Product of General Petroleum Corporation of California