

Brutal Murder Is Laid To Roseburg Dentist; Crude Methods Fail to Hide Crime

Roseburg, Or., July 15.—Dr. R. M. Brumfield, a dentist of this city, was today being sought on a warrant charging murder of Dennis Russell, a laborer, who had been living alone in a cabin at Billard, near here. The warrant was issued last night after Sheriff Stamer had investigated the wreck of Dr. Brumfield's automobile which was found burned at the foot of an embankment west of here, with a headless body beneath it.

The investigation disclosed mixed identification marks on the body under the wreckage of the automobile. At Russell's home a blood-stained and bullet-marked hat belonging to him was found and officers reported indications that an attack had been made on some one near Russell's home.

Sheriff Stamer declared his investigations had disclosed that Dr. Brumfield carried \$1000 insurance on his automobile, \$10,000 accident insurance and \$15,000 life insurance. It developed that Dr. Brumfield had been heavily involved financially, officers said.

There were found at the bank of a creek near the scene of the wreck blood stains, indicating that some one had survived the smashup and had gone there to wash. Sheriff Stamer expressed the belief that Dr. Brumfield murdered Russell, loaded the body into the automobile, drove to the embankment west of the city and steered the car from the road. In the car prior to the wreck were six or eight sticks of dynamite, three caps and several lengths of fuse, all of which were to be used in blasting stumps on Dr. Brumfield's ranch near here. The explosion of the dynamite, officers said, explains the decapitation of the body, only three sticks remaining intact after the accident.

The automobile was driven over a steep grade at a sharp curve, and crashed into a tree. It then rolled over a high culvert and dropped about ten feet into a ravine. Bits of clothing found on the body were identified as belonging to Russell. Pieces of the scalp of a man with hair tinged with gray also were found some distance from the wreck and were identified as being Russell.

Mrs. Brumfield identified the body as that of her husband, as the result of finding his signet ring on one of the fingers. Russell's watch and fountain pen were found underneath the body, while the shoes worn were identified as Dr. Brumfield's. Two watches and two vests were found, as well as other articles belonging to each of the men.

The sheriff's office here has sent out circulars describing Dr. Brumfield, and offering two hundred dollars reward for his arrest.

Officers are endeavoring to close up every avenue of escape open to Dr. Brumfield. They said they believe the doctor either took the road to the coast traveling over the mountains, a territory with which he is familiar, or else returned to the city and took the midnight train north.

A warning has been sent broadcast throughout the state and special officers are guarding all passes and trails leading out of Douglas county.

Bonus Board Seeks to Plug Up Loop Holes

Application blanks, various forms, and rules and regulations for the benefit of ex-service men who contemplate taking advantage of the soldier bonus bill, were considered by the world war veterans' state aid commission in session here today. That the law as it is now stands is full of holes, that it leaves the ex-service man open to be victimized by speculators, and that the commission should do everything in its power to keep the state out of the "real estate business," were statements of Arthur C. Spencer, Portland attorney, who is one of the members of the commission.

"I hope to see matters so regulated that the former service men may safely take advantage of the loan feature of the bill," Mr. Spencer said. "I believe very little consideration was given to the law at the time it was passed, but I believe that things may be 'buttoned up' so that it will be safe."

Olcott Rushes To Defense of Pendleton Show

Rallying to the defense of the Pendleton Round-Up show, declaring it to be "one of the finest and most thrilling" exhibitions he has ever attended, Governor Olcott has sent a letter to Dr. W. C. Stillman, president of the American Humane association, who had written the governor, asking his views relative to those "savage and cruel" shows.

"I might say that it has been a practice for agents of the Oregon Humane society to attend the Pendleton show every year, usually under the direction of the execu-

utive office," Governor Olcott said. "On but very few occasions has it been necessary for such agents to in any way interfere and then they did so only as to minor particulars."

In his letter, Dr. Stillman had asked, "ought not the better element of society to stand against the savage and cruel parts of these shows and demand their elimination?" In his reply Governor Olcott said:

"If all round-up shows were conducted on the high plane of the Pendleton show I certainly could not agree with your intimation that the 'better element' should demand their elimination. As to the passing 'fly-by-night' wild west shows, which occasionally go through the country, I know nothing. But I do know Oregon unquestionably has the greatest, the best and the most interesting round-up there is in existence and one well worthy of preservation and continuation."

John Simpson Passes Away

John Simpson, age 57 years, died at the Dallas hospital Thursday morning. Besides his wife he leaves two daughters, Mrs. Zelma Williams of Airle and Mrs. Ruth Wagner of Corvallis. Mrs. Etta Simpson is a daughter of the late J. C. Johnson of Corvallis.

Ackerman Estate Valued at Forty Thousand Dollars

The probate work in the county has been increased in volume recently, but more so in the last three days, during which time the clerk has received four large estates. Among them the estate of J. H. Ackerman, deceased, former president of the Oregon state normal school, showing that the estate was of the value of \$40,000 and that there were four heirs, the widow, Ellen Ackerman, and three daughters, Mrs. Bertha of Salem, Mrs. Carleton of Eugene and Mrs. Luan of Corvallis. Ellen Ackerman, widow of the deceased, was named as executrix of the estate which is being handled by James G. Heitzel, attorney of Salem.

In the estate of Marshall M. Sover, deceased, there has been filed a petition by Nora Sover, daughter of the deceased, asking that the court revoke the let-

Polk Road Case Is Set for Monday

Judge Skipworth To Review Motion to Strike Amended and New Complaints

Dallas, Or., July 15.—The case which has been filed by some of the independence people against the state highway commission trying to get the highway through Independence and south to the Benton county line will be considered in some of its phases in the circuit court next Monday afternoon at 1:30, when the motion to strike the supplemental complaint and the amended complaint filed by the plaintiffs will be heard, with Judge Skipworth of Eugene presiding.

In the complaint the plaintiffs alleged that the county court did not have the right to spend \$25,000 of the market road money in building the highway, as it should be spent only on market roads as

intended by the laws legislative in respect to the market roads, and further that the contracts entered into between Polk county and the highway commission were not legal because they are contracts creating an indebtedness of more than \$5000, and extending over more than one year, without the levy of any taxes to pay the in-

debtedness and without the vote of the people.

Prior to filing the complaint, which was filed on June 11, the county court caused the payment of \$43,000 out of the market road fund to the highway commission. On June 27 the defendants filed a supplemental complaint stating that the county court and county

clerk had notice of and knew that the complaint had been filed but paid to the highway commission \$43,000 out of the market road fund illegally, therefore plaintiffs demanded that the highway commission be served with a mandatory injunction to repay to the county the sum of \$43,000.

This supplemental complaint, however, was erroneous, because the court paid the \$43,000, three days prior to the filing of the complaint. On the same day the supplemental complaint was filed an amended complaint was filed in behalf of the plaintiff. The chief addition to the amended complaint being in paragraph four, saying that the plaintiffs are taxpayers in Polk county and their property is subject to taxation and is assessed taxes to help pay the principal and interest on the bonds issued by act of the legislature and approved by the people in June, 1917, establishing the highway through Mouth, and Independence and south to Corvallis.

Assets Are High. The total assets of the state industrial accident commission are \$4,327,742, according to a statement given out today by J. W.

Ferguson, of the commission. While running to catch a train at Arlington Alfred J. Ball, 21 years old, tripped and fell, over a small embankment and receiving injuries which resulted in his death.

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