



# MURDER HANGS OVER RAKER

## CONFESSION OF CONVICTS IS DOUBTED

### Location of Body Found Near Chehalis Casts Doubt on Story Told By Prisoners.

Seattle, Wash., March 28.—Dispatches published here today indicated conflict of opinion as to whether a body found Sunday in a shallow grave near Chehalis was that of a man whom Armand Durner and James Mack, inmates of the Oregon penitentiary confessed yesterday they had slain.

One dispatch stated that the body found Sunday was undoubtedly that of the man whom Durner and Mack said they buried along the road as they were driving south from Seattle in a stolen automobile last May.

This narrative left the body in a grave beyond Chehalis.

Another telegram said Sheriff Roberts of Lewis county expressed doubt, pointing out that while the body found Sunday, which was near the Tilton river, about 39 miles east of Chehalis, had been dead as long as last May, it seemed to have been only a short time in that place. The sheriff also remarked that the spot would have been a very hard one for strangers to reach.

Declaring that they prefer to pay the penalty, even death by the rope, rather than bear any longer the mental burden of unconfessed guilt, two youthful prisoners in the state penitentiary yesterday voluntarily confessed to Warden Dalrymple that they murdered the man whose skeleton was found last Sunday by Deputy Sheriff Joe Coleman of Chehalis, Wash., on Tilton river, 28 miles east of that city. A bullet hole in the skull indicated murder, but the mystery was complete, with the skeleton unidentified and suspicion held against no man.

**Names Not Revealed**

The prison authorities refused to make public the names of the two men, but stated they were received at the state prison about four months ago from Jackson county to do five years each for burglary. Dispatches from Medford indicate that the two are Armand H. Durner and James W. Mack.

J. V. Stewart, state parole officer, who also heard the confession of the two men, said that he was working at the Jackson county court house at the time they were convicted and that he distinctly remembered that they were members of a party of five hoboes who were traveling south. They are 23 and 24 years old.

According to the story told by the two men to the warden, they had stolen a Studebaker automobile in Seattle the latter part of last May and started south in the car. A short distance out of Seattle they overtook a stranger who wanted to ride. They allowed him to get into their car. He was drunk

**Cambridge Wins Race**

Futney, Eng., March 28.—(By Associated Press.)—The annual Oxford-Cambridge boat race ended seasonally this afternoon when the Oxonians after rowing about two miles in very rough water, were forced to abandon the contest owing to the waterlogged condition of their boat.

**Germans to Choose Ruler by Ballot for First Time Sunday**

Berlin, Mar. 28.—(By Associated Press.)—For the first time in its history of more than a thousand years, dotted with the turbulent reigns of Margraves, electors, kings and emperors, the German nation tomorrow will be given the opportunity of electing its head through the medium of a popular ballot.

The late Frederick Ebert, first president of the German republic held office by virtue of a note of the national assembly in 1919, by which he was designated provisional president. By act of the Reichstag in October, 1921, his provisional status was changed to a regular one, his term to expire June 28, 1925. His sudden death

## SALEM TO BID FOR LOCATION OF FLAX MILL

### Determination To Secure Proposed Plant Voiced At Meeting; Will Seek Local Finances.

Determination of local citizens to bring to Salem or some nearby community a second flax manufacturing enterprise, which would be a spinning factory promoted mainly by D. M. Sanson, head of Canadian and New England mills, was manifested in a conference at the chamber of commerce last night. Sanson, while unable to promise location of the project directly in Salem, explained the nature of the proposed plant at length and several local men spoke enthusiastically for the project. No opposition was heard.

As a first step Mr. Sanson and his associates will be thoroughly investigated by the present local committee, and then a method to raise the necessary money will be formulated.

Mr. Sanson announced last night that \$500,000 will be necessary for the plant, and the promoters desire that all but \$50,000 if possible be raised in the Willamette valley communities, with control of the plant placed into the hands of local men but supervision furnished by the Sanson interests.

R. O. Smedley, chairman of the local committee, announced that the project would embrace not only the major enterprise of a spinning mill, but also a number of scutching mills to be located in the smaller cities of the valley. Silvertown citizens, he said, have promised to subscribe to \$50,000 for the major operation in addition to what is necessary for a scutching mill at that place. The same is true of Albany. Eugene is a candidate as the location of the main plant and is not taking up the project as a chamber of commerce enterprise at present, but has a local committee working

**TRIAL TO REVEAL PARTY SECRETS**

New York, Mar. 28.—L. A. Van Pelt, who no advertising agency is involved in a struggle with the democratic national committee over an advertising deal during the presidential campaign last night, promises that "the works" will be produced at the trial of suits filed yesterday by both sides.

"The floor committee investigating campaign expenditures will be interested more than a little in this suit," said Mr. Van Patten. He added that trial of the cases "would shed great light on the reasons why John W. Davis, democratic presidential candidate, and Charles W. Bryan, vice presidential candidate, suffered such a crushing defeat in the election last fall."

The democratic national committee filed suit to compel Van Patten, Inc., to account for a \$50,000 cash advance for campaign advertising last fall and to return any amounts due.

**Body of Dewey Transferred**

Washington, March 28.—Memories of Spanish-American war days crowded in today on the occasion of the removal of the body of Admiral George Dewey, hero of Manila bay, from its resting place of nearly eight years in Arlington cemetery to the Bethlehem chapel of Washington cathedral to repose there with other noted dead.

Full military honors attended arrangements for the transfer of the body, including the stationing of blue jackets and marines, with the navy band, to face the caisson within the entrance to the cathedral grounds.

For the escort from the mausoleum, however, where the naval hero has lain within rows of his dead comrades in war, there was only a little group—his widow, at whose request the transfer of the body was arranged; his son, George Dewey of Chicago, and as honorary pall bearers, fellow officers who served with him in the battle

**Archbishop Christie in Serious Condition**

Portland, Or., March 28.—Archbishop Alexander Christie, aged 73, of the Catholic archdiocese of Oregon City, was reported in serious condition today at a local hospital.

## Sentiment on Parking Plan Being Sought

### PARKING BALLOT

For more than three years Salem has been engaged spasmodically in more or less heated discussions over the system of parking to be used in the city. Time and again efforts have been made to have the present system of backing into the curb changed, and to require autos parking in the business district to park head-on to the curb.

The merits of both systems have been argued and rearranged before the city's service clubs, mass meetings and the city council.

The council has before it for final action at its next meeting an ordinance establishing the head-on system. Whether or not it will pass is a matter of conjecture.

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## PLEA OF GUILTY FOR ELLINGSON GIRL DECLINED

San Francisco, Mar. 28.—The counsel for the defense of Dorothy Ellingson, confessed matricide, refused in a conference with Judge Harold Lunderback, trial judge today, to enter a plea of guilty to a murder charge in any degree. The conference was arranged by the defense in an effort to bring the trial to an immediate conclusion.

The prosecution has held that the girl must plead guilty to a murder charge before it will consent to halt the case.

The girl's chief counsel, Alexander Meadell, had announced that he would confer with the trial judge in an effort to agree upon a plea that would be acceptable to all concerned.

This plan, if agreed upon, would obviate the necessity of testimony before a jury, and would place the girl's fate with Judge Lunderback's court. Court was adjourned yesterday until Monday.

The defense has expressed its willingness to have the girl plead guilty to a charge of manslaughter, while the prosecution will consider nothing less than a second degree murder plea. The spectacle of the girl repeatedly fainting through the court ordeal has hastened the desire of both parties to bring the trial to an immediate end.

**Big Rush of Tax Payments is Due**

With tax payments on the first half of the year's taxes due by April 5, the big rush is expected the next few days, in fact has started, and Sheriff Bower stated that while taxes being received by mail are cleaned up to date in sending out of statements, from now on this mail will begin to pile up and statements sent out as it is possible to reach them. Consequently he urges that people do not become alarmed if their receipts are not mailed at once.

Up to last night \$450 paid statements had been made out. This is 250 more paid receipts than last year, and a total of 1199 more statements have been made out than were made out last year as of the same date. This is largely due to the fact that the tax rolls were not received by the sheriff last year until February 29, while on this year they were turned over February 5. The delay last year was due to litigation which held up completion of the rolls until court action could be had.

The new law which changes date of payment for the first half from April 5 to May 5 and for the last half from October 5 to November 5, does not become effective until January 1, 1926, and consequently has no bearing on this year's payments.

**Sacred Island is Discovered**

New Orleans, La., Mar. 28.—Discovery of a sacred island containing ruins of the ancient Maya civilization in Lake Catemaco in the Mexican state of Vera Cruz has been made by the Archaeological exploring expedition of the department of American research of Tulane university.

## BLACKMAIL CHARGE MADE BY SHEPHERD

### Hearing On Motion Asking Bail Also Featured By Allegations of Attempts At Intimidation

Chicago, Mar. 28.—Charges of blackmail and of intimidation and bribery were exchanged today as counsel for William D. Shepherd, charged with murder, renewed the fight for bail for the accused. In an affidavit in support of a motion that Judge Jacob Hopkins reconsider his denial of bail, it was charged that the confession of C. Fairman, that he taught Shepherd how to kill shepherd's wife, William M. McClintock, with typhoid germs, was obtained by a blackmail scheme.

The defense first called upon the court to give Shepherd its protection. After filing the affidavit with Judge Hopkins, Attorney William Scott Stewart, who himself swore to the affidavit, announced that Earl Clark, a former agent for Fairman's national university of sciences, had been arrested by the state's attorney's men last night and that Clark's wife also was held in custody.

Assistant State's Attorney George E. Gorman stated to the court that it was true that Clark and his wife were held and declared that all witnesses against whom intimidation or bribery was attempted, would be taken into custody for their own protection, as was Clark.

Clark was represented in the affidavit as having told Attorney Stewart that Fairman once had operated upon a woman who died afterward and that fear of prosecution had caused him to make his confession accusing Shepherd.

The affidavit set forth that according to Earl Clark, a former agent for Fairman's school, the woman was taken to the school by a man and there an operation for some disease was performed by Fairman and that the death followed.

Further the affidavit deposed that he had information and believed that John Shebaro, assistant state's attorney, had promised immunity to Fairman who was indicted with Shepherd but who had been held in a hotel by the state's attorney's men and had not yet been arrested on the indictment or put in jail, also, it was said that his school would not be interfered with. It was further stated that the affidavit believed that when J. P. Marchand, the name by which a former agent of Fairman's school was known, and had said Shepherd wrote a letter applying for a course in bacteriology which Fairman spoke of in his confession, had struck Fairman in the state's attorney's office before Fairman confessed that it was in reference to the alleged operation. It was asserted that Marchand was threatening to divulge information of the operation unless Fairman would tell the state's attorney about the alleged study of germs by Shepherd at Fairman's school.

The affidavit charged that Fairman's confession was obtained by an alleged blackmail scheme, in connection with the encounter with Marchand and the alleged operation. Clark, the affidavit alleged, told the affidavit that he had a certain conversation with Marchand regarding the letter of application Marchand and Fairman say was sent to the school and that as a result he sought advice from C. C. Bartlett, an attorney, in the fear that some blackmail charge might arise. Marchand has testified that he once made the remark that that letter ought to be worth \$50,000 or \$100,000.

## Conspiracy Found In Apartment Deal By Court Decision

That the stockholders in the defunct Capital Apartment company were victims of a secret conspiracy between Warren Armstrong, attorney, and Curie Lindo, architect of Portland, to defraud them under the terms of a concealed contract between Armstrong and Lindo, is the finding of Circuit Judge McMahan in connection with a decree handed down today.

Under the terms of the decree the following actions are taken:

Subscriptions made by stockholders are cancelled and declared null and void.

Money paid on account of such subscriptions is decreed to be the property of the plaintiffs in the suit and secretary Fred D. Thielson of the corporation ordered to repay it to the subscribing stockholders.

A judgment entered in Multnomah circuit court against the stockholders is declared null and void.

Lindo is enjoined from causing any execution to be levied against the stockholders or from starting any action or suit to collect.

In his findings Judge McMahan states that the stockholders did agree with Lindo on plans for an apartment house to cost not in excess of \$125,000 based on certain conditions in connection with stock subscriptions.

But, that on November 8, 1922, Warren Armstrong and the architect Lindo entered into a secret agreement, which was entirely concealed by the stockholders, in which Lindo was to draw plans for an apartment house without limitation of cost. This agreement, stated the findings was never ratified by the stockholders or agreed to by any officer of the corporation but Armstrong. As soon as it was discovered, the findings state, the contract with Lindo was rescinded.

The findings further state that the suit against the stockholders brought in Multnomah county by Lindo and based on which judgment of \$4500 was awarded against the stockholders, was brought in furtherance of the design to defraud the stockholders and the judgment secured thereunder is declared null and void.

## BISHOP SUMNER WINS FIRST TILT IN COURT ACTION

Medford, Ore., March 28.—The demurrer of Jackson county, named defendant in the suit of the Right Rev. Walter T. Sumner, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Oregon, against Joseph A. Nowell, of the collection of \$5,000, alleged to be due on a promissory note, secured by a mortgage on an orchard, was overruled in an opinion handed down by Circuit Judge Charles M. Thomas late yesterday.

Jackson county filed a horticultural lien against the orchard, for about \$400 incurred in combating blight in the orchard.

Bishop Sumner contended that the horticultural lien constituted a cloud on the title, and charged that the horticultural lien notices had not been filed within the six months specified time provided by the law.

The county in its demurrer admitted this, but held that it had the right to file at any time, and that the six months clause was not mandatory.

The court in its opinion upholds the contention of the plaintiff, that the county has not the right to enter upon a premise and incur expenditures and attempt collection, except "as in the identical and precise manner prescribed by the law."

## 1925 BUSINESS BETTER, REPORT

San Francisco, Mar. 28.—Business was better in the west during February, 1925, as compared with the same month in 1924. The retail price advanced 8 per cent as compared with 1924 February prices, according to the report of John Perrin, chairman of the federal reserve board in the twelfth district.

The report made public today shows that the volume of trade during the month of February, 1925, was slightly larger than in February, 1924.

Decreases in industrial output were general during February, 1924.

Production of lumber was practically unchanged as compared with January, 1925, and 19.5 per cent less than in February, 1924.

The value of building permits issued during February, 1925, in 20 principal cities, showed a seasonal increase over January, 1925, but a decrease of 4.5 per cent from February, 1924.

## OREGON PLEA FOR RAILWAY IS OPPOSED

### Union Pacific Spokesman Says Business Needed To Justify Expenditure Is Not In Sight.

Washington, Mar. 28.—Railroads wound up today before the interstate commerce commission their argument in opposition to the demand of the state of Oregon that more than 400 miles of new lines be constructed through its central and eastern portions. After brief rejoinders by attorneys representing the state and localities interested, the issue was taken under consideration by the commission.

A. G. Spencer, general solicitor for the Union Pacific, declared the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company, the Union Pacific's subsidiary which would be obliged to undertake a large portion of the expenditure, was in no financial condition to assume the burden.

**Business Not There**

"That corporation now has \$11,000,000 of accumulated deficit on operations," he said. "The country is extensive through which these lines are projected but the extension is a matter of embarrassment to the railroad which must serve it. It is well to remember that 25,000,000 acres of the total area of Oregon are owned by the United States government and millions of this area are marked in yellow on the map—the high desert country."

"I think the Union Pacific is well enough known in the west so that these gentlemen even would admit that the directors would not hesitate to put up the \$11,000,000 necessary to construct the east and west line if they could get the traffic in sight to maintain it. But there isn't any such tonnage."

Chairman Atchison suggested that with the line built across central Oregon to tap the timber reserves on the western slope, the Union Pacific could count on making joint rates to attract timber for movement eastward. Mr. Spencer rejoined that the timber mills on the western slope were already located on Southern Pacific lines and that the corporation would have no difficulty in retaining the haul for their own systems.

"The Union Pacific would have spent \$11,000,000 in order to put a line across," he said, "where it could sit on the side of a mountain and watch the traffic go by—on the rails of its competitors."

## MURDER PROBE WAITS ARREST OF 2 SUSPECTS

Klamath Falls, Or., March 28.—Investigation into the supposed murder mystery involving Freddie Jackson, Klamath Indian cowboy, reached stalemate this morning when the acting district attorney announced that nothing further would be done until the apprehension of Louis Knight and Silas Barclay, two Indian suspects, who escaped from the county jail here early Monday.

The murder theory connected with Jackson's ill-fated horseback ride through Chiloquin, March 15, has been dispensed as the inquiry proceeds.

Although Fred A. Baker, superintendent of the reservation, yesterday gave county authorities permission to exhume Jackson's body, Acting District Attorney Myers today announced that the exhumation would be postponed until after the capture of the two missing Indians.

The original theory that Jackson was knocked unconscious and then placed astride an untamed pony for the spectacular death ride has been exploded by the testimony of competent white witnesses.

The one theory which now remains for the acting district attorney and the Indian friends of young Jackson is that the boy might have received a fractured skull during a fight with Barclay and Knight just before the ride, but had remained conscious up until the time he rolled from the racing pony.

The two escaped Indians have been reported seen at various points on the reservation since their escape from jail but officers thus far have been unable to locate them.

## MININGER FORGED NOTE IS CHARGE

John Minger, aged horticulturalist of this section, is directly charged with having "wrongfully, unlawfully, feloniously and fraudulently forged" a note for \$2000 against the estate of Adeline Minger, in an answer filed by Louis Ashman and other defendants to the complaint of Minger, endeavoring to collect on the \$2000 note.

It is charged in the Minger complaint that Adeline Minger, before her death, gave him a promissory note for \$2000, that the note has been submitted for collection to Ashman as executor of the estate, and Ashman has refused to pay it.

Intimations have been made in litigation before that Minger in some manner intercepted a note which the estate did not owe, but was responsible for the direct allegation of forgery.

The estate has been more or less involved in litigation ever since its admission to probate.

## 4 INCHES SNOW AT KLAMATH FALLS

Klamath Falls, Or., March 28.—Klamath Falls got another touch of winter this morning when it awoke to find from three to four inches of snow on the ground. The snowfall followed a brisk wind and rain storm which started last night, but which turned to snow shortly before midnight.

The skies were clearing this morning and it appeared as though the warm spring weather of the past week would again prevail later in the day.

## AGED VICTIM OF ASSAULT NEAR DEATH

### Broadacre Man, Beaten By Employer, In Bad Shape; Officers Seek Death-bed Statement.

The grim shadow of a murder charge darkened the cell of James Raker in the county jail today.

Last week Raker was arrested on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon on an aged employe, James Hanson. Today Sheriff Oscar Bower, District Attorney Carson, Deputy District Attorney Page and Miss Blanche Barrett, court reporter, rushed to the county where Hanson has been lying since the assault to take what may be Hanson's dying statement relative to the assault.

**Reported Driven**

Dr. Donnelly of Woodburn reported after an examination of the man yesterday that he is in a dying condition and unless prompt steps are taken to alleviate him and remove him from his unkept surroundings where he has been lying with practically no care for the past week, that it will be a case for the coroner and a possible chance for the noose for Raker.

According to the allegations made Raker assaulted Hanson as a result of some argument, first beating him up with a steel banjo, then using a heavy club to continue his tattoo on the man's body, and finally winding up the assault with a knife wound somewhere in the neighborhood of the heart.

**Wounds Neglected**

The knife wound was considered superficial and the other bruises not of such a character as to cause grave concern. But Hanson is a bachelor and has been lying unattended here for one previous visit from the physician.

If his condition is such that he can be moved, District Attorney Carson stated today, he will be taken to a hospital, or some steps will be taken for his care in an effort to save his life.

From reports it is possible that prompt attention may succeed in keeping the aged man alive, but a few days more without care probably would result in his death.

If he does die the question arises as to what extent Raker could be charged with his death. While it is stated, from every indication the alleged assault on the part of Raker was responsible for his present condition, failure to receive proper care after the assault would probably be directly responsible for his death.

## GREB NO MATCH FOR GENE TUNNEY

St. Paul, Minn., March 28.—(By Associated Press.)—Whatever doubt existed as to the superiority of Gene Tunney, American light heavyweight champion, over Harry Greb, was removed by his victory today as a result of Tunney's decisive victory over the world's middleweight title holder here last night.

Tunney gave Greb as thorough a beating in their ten-round decision bout as he has ever received.

To give Greb credit he showed remarkable assimilative power in standing up under Tunney's vicious attack.

## RAILROAD PERMIT ASKED

Washington, March 28.—The Oregon, California & Eastern railroad asked the interstate commerce commission today for permission to build 140 miles of new railroad in Oregon. No estimates of costs were included. The line would extend in two directions from Sprague river, the present terminus of the Oregon, California & Eastern's system. One branch would run to Silver Lake and the other to Lakeview.