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GEORGE KERR MISTAKEN FOR A DEER AND KILLED

Shot by a Companion, Loren Hunt While Hunting on Sharp's Creek Monday---Hard Trip Home with the Remains.

A deplorable accidental shooting occurred on Sharp's creek on the hill east of Sharp's place Monday afternoon at about 2 o'clock, resulting in the almost instant death of George Kerr, Jr., at the hands of a companion, Loren Hunt. These two young men, with Clyde Kerr, were hunting in the Bohemia foothills and had separated, young Hunt and Clyde Kerr taking one side of the ridge, while George Kerr chose another course, it being the intention to meet at a stated point. In some way the trio met unexpectedly at a point where game had been sighted previously and getting a partial view of his companion skulking through the bushes and snow, Mr. Hunt mistaking him for a deer pulled his gun to his shoulder and fired, the ball striking Kerr near the center of the breast and coming out at his back. He uttered a single cry and soon expired. The younger brother and young Hunt were soon upon the scene and were

almost prostrated with grief over the terrible accident and while one man guarded the body the other went for assistance. Returning, the body was carried out over the rough and rugged country through deep snow to the young man's home, which was not reached however, until after midnight. The young men then came to this city and telephoned to the coroner, but owing to the nature of the case an inquest will probably not be deemed necessary. The father, Geo. Kerr, and two sons have been at home alone for some weeks, the mother and small son being guests of a daughter in southern California, but who have been summoned home by telegraph. Deceased is a brother of Mrs. Green Pitcher of this city, and was a most exemplary and highly esteemed young man, aged about 24 years. The entire community is shocked and greatly grieved as a result of the sad affair.

OAKLAND'S HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER SEEKS NEW AND GREENER FIELDS

Roseburg, Or., Jan. 6.—Professor George Sawyer, principal of the Oakland public schools of this county, has disappeared and his friends and relatives are seeking his whereabouts. Shortly after Christmas Professor Sawyer left Oakland for Red Bluff, Cal., to spend a few days duck hunting in that vicinity. He was expected home last Sunday night so as to be ready for the re-opening of the school Monday morning. His failure to appear aroused alarm and telegraphic inquiries were made. It was found that he had registered at a hotel at Red Bluff December 29, but no further trace of him has been learned. It is not known how long he was at the hotel at Red Bluff. That he has been the victim of foul play or has met with some serious accident while hunting are theories advanced here. The Oakland lodge of Odd Fellows, of which Professor Sawyer was a member, has joined in the quest, and unless the missing man is heard from by Wednesday morn-

ing the lodge will send two men to Red Bluff to investigate, one being commissioned as a deputy sheriff. Mrs. Sawyer is at the family home in Oakland and is on the verge of a nervous collapse. PROF. MAY HAVE SKIPPED. Roseburg, Or., Jan. 7.—Professor Sawyer is gone for good! He drew all of his money, \$2,000, from the Oakland bank, took most of his clothing, paid all of his debts and gave his wife \$125 for a Christmas present. The theory advanced by Oakland people is that he had a wife in the east who he was not divorced from. He came to Oregon five years ago from Pennsylvania and transferred from the Odd Fellows in the East to Oakland; he also joined the Oakland Masonic lodge and was elected Worshipful Master. He married Miss Emily Devore of Yoncalla, two years ago. He was an honest citizen and a good educator and a Sunday school and church worker. Oaklanders think he took the steamer for foreign lands.

MORE LUMBER ORDERS FOR PORTLAND MILLS

Charter rates for coast carriers to transport lumber cargoes from Portland to San Francisco are quoted at \$3.75 and from here to Southern California ports at \$4.50 a thousand feet. The same rates are paid for carrying cargoes from ports on Puget Sound. Each week of the past six months the freights have been advancing slightly until they are now practically double. Less than half a year ago lumber tonnage could be had for \$2 a thousand feet. While the tariff is not expected to reach the figure of two years ago, when anything in the shape of a lumber drought was being paid from \$8 to \$9 a thousand feet those following this line of business are confident that the rates will continue to increase for the next few months. The orders for lumber are coming in from California about as rapidly as they can be filled.—Telegram.

MARSHFIELD GETS A COAST ARTILLERY

Portland, Or., Jan. 7.—In accordance with recommendations submitted recently to the War department by Adjutant-General W. E. Finzer of the Oregon National Guard, instructions were received at Guard headquarters yesterday for the organization of a full company of Coast Artillery at Marshfield at as early a date as possible. Upon receiving authorization from the war department, General Finzer at once took up the plans for the Coos Bay company. He will communicate with Marshfield, requesting that a roster be prepared of the citizens of that place who are willing to enter the service. Plans for organization and development of new county and municipal governing bodies are created, therefore the need for the creation of the new county of Nesmith. Mr. Thompson was very courteous in his address, but his argument was strong and convincing, and while apparently well received by the county seat people, was not a popular theme with them. Hon. R. M. Veatch was the next speaker introduced and he made an eloquent and effective plea for the proposed new county, causing many of the Eugene citizens to squirm and wince under the burden of facts heaped upon them. He likened a county government to a great family growing up, with the county seat the paternal roof. He said as the sons and daughters reach maturity there comes a time when they must sever home ties and depend upon themselves, enter upon life's industrial affairs, build up a home independent of all paternal ties and influences. That time is at hand in the "family affairs" of Lane county. While Eugene has long been a father to Cottage Grove, the time has come when the stalwart son is able to take care of himself and direct his own affairs. He then proceeded to present facts concerning the development of South Lane county, its peculiar geographical location, its topography being of such a character as to constitute a little empire separate and distinct from the outlying districts of Lane and Douglas counties, and this district comprising 1956 square miles with Cottage Grove as its center is the territory desired created into the new county of Nesmith. He made an appeal to Eugene to enter into an amicable agreement with Cottage Grove in the location of the boundary lines of the new county, but stated plainly that if amicable relations could not be maintained and a fight was precipitated, Cottage Grove would be found entrenched to the last ditch. Col. Veatch made a most favorable impression upon his hearers, and while they would not admit that the argument had carried conviction as to the justice of the demands embodied therein, it was noticeable that there was none who cared to even attempt to meet the

DRAIN WOULD CREATE A NEW DRAIN COUNTY

Roseburg, Or., Jan. 11.—At a meeting of the Commercial Club at Drain Saturday night additional resolutions were adopted opposing the plan of Cottage Grove to form a new county out of Southern Lane and Northern Douglas, with Cottage Grove as the county seat, and demanding instead the formation of a new county out of Northern Douglas, with Drain as the county seat. A bill providing for a new county after the Drain idea will be introduced in the present legislature by representative E. R. Applegate of that city. Embraced within the boundaries of Drain's proposed new county is \$8,000,000 worth or one-third of the taxable property in Douglas. It comprises all of the territory lying north of a trans-county line, crossing the Southern Pacific right of way on the township line between Rice Hill and Isadora. There are included also parts of two townships in Lane county in order to give a straight boundary line. The new county would have a population of about 5000.

Creswell people seem to realize who their best friends are. They have been paying tribute to Eugene for many years and have little or nothing to show for it. Cottage Grove is in the same class.

BEARDED LION IN HIS LAIR

Same Old Story, "Time Not Propitious For County Division"

More than a score of prominent Cottage Grove business men visited Eugene Monday for the purpose of meeting with the Eugene Commercial Club Monday evening to discuss the creation of the proposed new county of Nesmith from South Lane and North Douglas counties. There was a large attendance of Eugene business men and county officials at this meeting and the visitors were given a cordial reception and an attentive, courteous hearing. H. O. Thompson, president of the Cottage Grove Commercial Club was the first speaker introduced. He began by thanking the Eugene Commercial body for the kind invitation extended to the Cottage Grove club to visit and amicably discuss county division matters with them. One of the best points made by Mr. Thompson was the fact that centralization of population and property always renders government more economical, more practical and more prompt in execution, otherwise, the affairs of the nation would be directed solely from Washington, D. C. or from the several state capitols, but to expedite governmental affairs especially pertaining to local affairs, county and municipal governments have been established and as if these progresses and develops new county and municipal governing bodies are created, therefore the need for the creation of the new county of Nesmith. Mr. Thompson was very courteous in his address, but his argument was strong and convincing, and while apparently well received by the county seat people, was not a popular theme with them. Hon. R. M. Veatch was the next speaker introduced and he made an eloquent and effective plea for the proposed new county, causing many of the Eugene citizens to squirm and wince under the burden of facts heaped upon them. He likened a county government to a great family growing up, with the county seat the paternal roof. He said as the sons and daughters reach maturity there comes a time when they must sever home ties and depend upon themselves, enter upon life's industrial affairs, build up a home independent of all paternal ties and influences. That time is at hand in the "family affairs" of Lane county. While Eugene has long been a father to Cottage Grove, the time has come when the stalwart son is able to take care of himself and direct his own affairs. He then proceeded to present facts concerning the development of South Lane county, its peculiar geographical location, its topography being of such a character as to constitute a little empire separate and distinct from the outlying districts of Lane and Douglas counties, and this district comprising 1956 square miles with Cottage Grove as its center is the territory desired created into the new county of Nesmith. He made an appeal to Eugene to enter into an amicable agreement with Cottage Grove in the location of the boundary lines of the new county, but stated plainly that if amicable relations could not be maintained and a fight was precipitated, Cottage Grove would be found entrenched to the last ditch. Col. Veatch made a most favorable impression upon his hearers, and while they would not admit that the argument had carried conviction as to the justice of the demands embodied therein, it was noticeable that there was none who cared to even attempt to meet the

strong argument presented.

Attorney J. C. Johnson was the next speaker and he fully concurred in the arguments presented by the former speakers and asserted the loss of the territory required by the new county would have no effect upon the remaining Lane county, its tax levy nor the administration of its affairs, as the loss to Lane was about equivalent to the gain in the way of county expenses incurred in this territory. He further stated that the people of this new county territory were practically a unit in favor of the creation of a new county.

N. H. Martin presented a large map outlining the new county and showing the territory left in the two old counties. He traced the lines showing a territory of 1950 square miles with 8000 population, 6500 of which is taken from Lane. The line runs three miles north of Creswell and goes within eight miles of Eugene.

C. H. Burkholder explained that the reason the lines were run north of Creswell instead exactly half way was because large land-holders in Creswell territory had asked to be included. He said he would like to see the matter adjusted amicably for the longer the fight is kept up the more feeling there will be engendered. If the legislature does not grant the new county the people of the state will be asked to do it.

E. S. Rolfe of the Eugene club asked if the Nesmith county people would be willing to let the two old counties settle the new county proposition by vote. Mr. Burkholder replied that the right way to do it would be by vote of the people in the proposed new county.

J. F. Spray followed and used eastern Oregon counties to demonstrate the idea that smaller counties can be maintained at less expense than large ones.

Mr. Spray presented a very strong and forcible argument which no county seat man cared to question or combat. He showed that four counties had been carved from the original Wasco county in the face of the strong opposition from the old county seat which had spent much money in vain to stay this march of progress in eastern Oregon and invariably these new counties had forged ahead rapidly and at the same time taxes had been reduced in every case.

F. W. Osburn of Eugene spoke briefly in opposition to division concluding with the old chestnut, "the time is not ripe for such a step."

S. H. Friendly of Eugene complimented Col. Veatch upon his courteous and able address and declared that division or no division they would remain friends. He said the promotion department of the club is using money to advertise all Lane county and now is the time for all to stick together instead of separating. He said \$500 had been set aside to advertise south Lane. Think of this generosity, in comparison with the thousands of dollars paid into Eugene's coffers every year by our people.

E. O. Potter endeavored to show from the map that Lane county would be left in bad condition by the division, having territory east and west for 80 miles sparsely settled, while Nesmith would take the cream of the south.

D. A. Paine said Nesmith county took the meat in the cocoanut and left us the shell. Paine then moved that it is the sense of the Eugene Commercial club that it go on record as opposed to county division. Some little time elapsed before a weak second was heard, when the motion was put and carried only part of the club voting. Dr. Paine's frank admission that Cottage Grove and vicinity constituted the meat of the cocoanut, made it quite apparent why Eugene is so reluctant about giving us up. It is this meat they are after in the way of a big annual tax.

It is evident to every citizen of south Lane where Eugene now stands on this question and it is up to us to not only organize, plan and work diligently for carrying out county division, despite their opposition, but also in the meantime, see to it that all party lines are obliterated locally and that we work in one common cause—a full share of representation in the county government and a just and liberal share of county funds for public improvements. Other new counties have won out over the opposition of the old county seat rings. We can do likewise.

LEGISLATURE CONVENES AND EFFECTS PROMPT ORGANIZATION

Session Opened in a Business Like Manner---Bowerman Elected President of the Senate, McArthur Elected Speaker

Salem, Jan. 11.—Senator Guy Bowerman, of Gilliam, and C. N. McArthur, of Multnomah-Clackamas, were this morning unanimously nominated president of the senate and speaker of the house at caucuses held this morning.

These presiding officers of the two houses, together with the subordinate officers, were elected at 2 o'clock this afternoon. In the senate caucus, which was attended by 22 of the 23 republican senators, Selling, of Multnomah, who had not arrived, being the only absentee, Bowerman was nominated by acclamation.

The statement people at the house caucus nominated Patton, of Marion, for the speakership, but the Marion county man declined and made McArthur's nomination unanimous. There were 50 republican representatives in attendance at the house caucus. Libby, statement member from Marion, refused to participate, while Farrell, of Multnomah, the other republican member of the house, was excused by reason of the sudden death of his father, Hon. Sylvester Farrell, of Portland.

In the organization of the two houses Lane county captured two of the subordinate offices. Elbert Warford was elected as member

clerk of the senate, while W. H. Luckey was made doorkeeper of the house by a vote of 33 against 13 for his nearest opponent, J. S. Singer, of Multnomah.

In the appointment of preliminary committees in the house, Eaton, of Lane, was made chairman of the committee on order of business.

The caucus nomination of the two houses were ratified by election at two o'clock this afternoon.

The senate officers are as follows: President, Jay Bowerman, of Gilliam; chief clerk, W. H. Barry, of Multnomah; assistant chief clerk, John P. Hunt, of Marion; reading clerk, Frank Motter, of Multnomah; calendar clerk, Roy V. Ritner, of Umatilla; mailing clerk Elbert Warford, of Lane; doorkeeper, George E. Waggoner, of Benton; sergeant-at-arms, William H. Harrison, of Wasco.

The officers of the house are: Speaker, C. N. McArthur, of Multnomah; chief clerk, George Neuner, of Douglas, elected without opposition; reading clerk, John Withycombe, of Benton; calendar clerk, John Latourette, of Multnomah; sergeant-at-arms, D. E. Ely, of Morrow; doorkeeper, W. H. Luckey, of Lane; mailing clerk W. E. McAdams, of Polk.

GARDINER PEOPLE WANT A NEW COAST COUNTY CREATED

"The people of Gardiner, Douglas county," remarked a traveling man here last night, "want a county of their own, as well as Drain and Cottage Grove. They think that Western Lane and Western Douglas might combine to the betterment of the two sections, which are now entirely un-der different organizations."

"Gardiner" he continued, "is the seaport of Douglas county and Florence of Lane county. The character of both towns is about the same and the sections surrounding each other are also very similar. Neither section has any vital interest in common with any of the interior points of either Douglas or Lane county, and another coast county similar to Coos would surely be more satisfactory to the

people of both districts." A bystander wondered what the population of such a county would be, and the visitor admitted that it would be small. However, he thought by taking in Drain and that section on one side, and drawing the line in Lane county east of Mapleton some distance, the property valuation would be equal to over one-half of that of the whole of Douglas county at present.

Gardiner would be the logical county seat. That port would be near Florence and Siuslaw districts and not far from upriver section in Douglas county. A name for the new county might be Umpqua, Siuslaw, Coast, or the name of some famous man, as Applegate or McLaughlin, who are so closely connected with Oregon history.—Guard.

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