

SIXTEENTH YEAR

CONVICTS ESCAPE FROM PEN

OFFICERS MEET WITH THRILLING ADVENTURES.

Floyd Williams, Harold Fitchard and Marshal Feagles of This City Make Final Capture of Last Two of the Five Fugitives.

Geo. Wright, alias Carter, killed; Albert Ferris, seriously if not fatally through the body, death resulting since from the shot; Mike Nitchotch shot twice, and Albert Murray captured, was the fate of the quintet of convicts who escaped from the feeble minded school trusty gang last Friday afternoon.

The big man hunt is over and will pass down into history as one of the things that has been. Little did the citizens of Independence think that the first few days of the hunting season, which opened last Friday, would develop into one of the most exciting man hunts in the history of Polk county in which almost every one who could scare up a shooting iron of any description, took part.

To the officers and citizens of Polk county is largely due the capture of the convicts. While the state officials and Marion county officers were the first on the ground, it was left to Sheriff Grant of this county, City Marshal Feagles, Floyd Williams and Harold Fitchard, of Independence, to deliver the goods.

Notwithstanding the fact that Meyers, the man who shot the Salem policeman recently, was allowed to escape, in this day and age of telegraphic, rural telephone and automobile service it is almost impossible for a criminal to escape. The news of the escape of the convicts was at once telephoned or wired to every possible place where they could cross the Willamette both north and south from Salem. Between two and three o'clock Saturday afternoon the convicts crossed the Willamette at Wells' crossing about six miles south of this city, and, following the main road, were working their way toward Buena Vista. They had not gone far before they were discovered by Mr. Bundy, who resides in that vicinity. Having no telephone he informed Floyd Woodward, who lives about a mile north of him and who happened to be on his way home from Buena Vista, that the escaped convicts had crossed the river and were a short distance down the road and requested him to notify the authorities at the penitentiary. Woodward hurried home as fast as possible and on his arrival telephoned Superintendent James of the penitentiary that the convicts were in that vicinity and at the same time phoned City Marshal Feagles of this city to secure a posse and come out.

In just fifty-five minutes from the time the word was received at the penitentiary, Superintendent James, Warden Curtis, guards Mussick, Gage, Bailey and Hinton and Deputy Sheriff Walter Johnson, of Marion county, arrived at the Woodward place in an automobile and in less than one hour and a half the convicts had been located and a thrilling battle was in progress in which Walter Johnson was shot through the leg by a bullet from one of the guns held by the convicts and Geo. Duncan was shot through the body by a bullet from the gun of Johnson.

The scene of the shooting was about 300 yards south of Buena Vista where the convicts were located by Walter Johnson and Duncan Ross while the balance of the party were eating their supper. The convicts were standing in a path by the side of the road. When within about twenty-five feet of them Johnson said, "Hello, boys, I want to speak to you a minute."

The words had hardly left his mouth when the convicts, three of whom were armed with automatic revolvers, opened fire. With the first volley one of the shots hit Johnson in the shin of the right leg, the bullet missing the bone, however, and passing through the leg came out at the rear of the calf. After Johnson was shot he emptied his revolver and opened fire with his rifle at the convicts who were making a get-away. Ross, who was a little behind Johnson when the firing began, jumped

behind a culvert which they had just crossed and opened fire also. In all, between thirty and forty shots are said to have been exchanged. The convicts jumped over the fence and took toward the river going south.

About this time Sheriff Grant of this county and City Marshal Feagles of Independence arrived on the scene. They, in company with the guards from the penitentiary and a posse of citizens of Buena Vista, followed the convicts toward the river, where a second battle took place, but as far as is known, no one was hurt.

Johnson was put into an automobile and brought to this city. Dr. Butler was called and dressed his wound and he was then sent to his home at Salem.

Every available citizen of Buena Vista was sworn in as a deputy and every avenue of escape was guarded. Just as soon as it was light enough to see, the chase, which had been abandoned the night before, was again taken up by the officers and the posse. The brush between Buena Vista and Wells' crossing, a distance of one and one-half miles, was searched without result. The party then returned to Buena Vista where Sheriff Grant, Marshal Feagles, Warden Curtis, Constable Hamilton, Chief of Police Gibson, Sheriff Minto, Elmer "Cherokee" James and one or two others took automobiles and were driven to the mouth of the Luckiamute river, to the farm of James Irathher, arriving there about 9:30 a. m. The party followed the river up to the log boom, which is about 600 yards from the mouth of the river, where they left their automobiles. The autos were sent around to the Vanderpool place where it was arranged for the party to come out after beating the brush between the two points.

The posse then divided into two parties, one in charge of Sheriff Minto of Marion county, and the other in charge of Sheriff Grant of this

(Continued on last page.)

OBITUARY OF JOSEPH MOORE

Died at his home in Highland, two and one-half miles south of Independence, Polk county, Oregon, at 3:00 o'clock a. m., Tuesday, October 12, 1909, Joseph A. Moore.

Mr. Moore was born in Belmont county, Ohio, on the 11 of April, 1844. Here he spent the first seventeen years of his life and in 1861 moved to Peoria, Ill. While living at that place he met Miss Mary Gentle to whom he was married in 1870. Their union was blessed with five children. After his wife's death, which occurred in 1881, he removed to South Dakota, where in 1884 he married Mrs. Hattie M. Featherstone. To them one child was born.

Mr. Moore and family moved from South Dakota to Oregon in 1888, where he has since resided. He joined the Presbyterian church while quite young and remained faithful to the end. Mr. Moore leaves a widow and six children to mourn his death. The body was taken to Wilsonville, Clackamas county, where it was interred beside that of his son.

Mr. Moore was a beloved and loving husband and father and his death is a great loss to his family.

"Of all the thoughts of God that are Borne inward into souls afar,
Along the Psalmist's music deep,
Now tell me that if any is,
For gift of Grace, surpassing this—
'He giveth his beloved sleep.'"

TO THE PUBLIC.

Having sold our undertaking business to C. W. Henkle we take this opportunity to thank our many friends and the citizens of Independence in general, for the liberal patronage extended us during the time we were engaged in the undertaking business, and also request that they extend the same courtesies to our successor, who comes among us highly recommended as a business man and one who thoroughly understands the undertaking business in all its details. Thanking you again we remain, yours truly, Bice & Calbreath.

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WOODMEN PLAN BIG CAMPAIGN

WILL HAVE GREAT LOG ROLLING IN DECEMBER.

Committee, From Various Camps of Polk County, Held Its Meeting in This City Last Night When Final Arrangements Were Perfected.

Tuesday of last week the Woodmen of the World of this city entertained representatives from five different camps of Polk county who came here in honor of the visit to Independence of Head Consul I. A. Boak. Extravagant plans were made for the occasion, a sumptuous banquet having been laid in the Hotel Independence in the evening in honor of the visitors. The occasion of the gathering was to organize for a monster winter campaign for membership. A general committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the campaign, composed of P. M. Kirkland, H. C. Seymour of Dallas, H. Corland of Monmouth, W. S. McLain of Buena Vista and J. S. Bohannon, secretary of the committee. The committee held its first meeting after organization last Thursday at this place when final arrangements for the campaign were completed. This campaign, it is expected, will gather in a membership of one hundred candidates who will be initiated in this city early in December. It has been announced that the initiation ceremony will be conducted at the auditorium where the candidates, officers and team will be on roller skates during the initiation. The town of Independence will think a cyclone has struck her when this ceremony takes place. Special trains will be chartered from Portland, Dallas and other towns on this occasion. Many prominent Woodmen will be here on that night, including General Organizer F. B. Tichenor, Head Managers John Patterson and Congressman Hawley. District Organizer Simpson will assist the various camps of the county to secure applications.

It will be one of the biggest fraternal events ever held in Polk county. General Organizer F. B. Tichenor, who was also in Independence with Mr. Boak, had the following to say of the big campaign which is planned to take place in Independence in December:

"With the committee that has been appointed co-operating with the field force of the order I predict that the meeting on the 7 of December will be the largest gathering ever witnessed in this city. It is going to do much to advertise Independence. We will put the name of Independence

CONGRESSMAN W. C. HAWLEY



Head Manager of the Woodmen of the World, to be in Independence December 9, 1909.

dence into the homes of 1,000,000 people in the United States and Canada, as our official organs will reach that many homes. A committee has been appointed from the fourteen camps of Portland to work up an excursion from that city. I am assured of big crowds from all near-by towns. We are going to do everything in our power to make the meeting a record breaker for number of candidates and people present.

"The campaign which is now being opened in Polk county by the Woodmen of the World will be one of the

greatest novelties in the way of initiatives ever attempted in the history of the order. Every candidate, every officer, every member of the uniform rank will be on roller skates during the initiatory work. Prominent Woodmen from many sections of the Pacific jurisdiction will be present. Congressman Hawley, one of the head managers, and Hon. John Patterson, also head manager, of Spokane, Wa., will be here. Mr. Patterson will be remembered as having been the candidate on the democratic ticket for governor at the last election in that state against Cosgrove. Salem camp will charter the boat and will be here one hundred and fifty strong. It will be a big thing for your town in the way of putting you on the map."

Dr. Dunsmore and C. Purvine, as pastor and elder representing Calvary Presbyterian church of this city, attended the meeting of the Oregon Synod of the Presbyterian church at Newberg last week, returning on Friday night. There was a large attendance of the Presbyterian ministers throughout the state, most of the churches being represented either by pastor or elder, and in many instances by both. Rev. H. L. Mount, D. D., of Eugene was moderator of the meeting and Rev. E. M. Sharp of Mt. Tabor church, Portland, the clerk. Rev. Dr. MacKenzie, president of San Francisco Theological Seminary, was present and gave two very interesting addresses on the subject of "Christian Education." The reports from throughout the state show the church to be in a prosperous condition, and advances made along all lines of church work. The next meeting of the Synod will be held at Pendleton next October.

Card of Thanks.

We take this opportunity of extending our thanks to the friends and neighbors who have been so kind to us with their aid and sympathy during our bereavement.

Mrs. J. A. Moore and children.

ALBANY TAKES FOOTBALL GAME

The foot ball team of the Independence Athletic Club went down to defeat in the game played last Saturday afternoon with the team of the Alco Club of Albany, at that place. The boys are not discouraged over their defeat as they were considerably over matched, the average weight of the opposing team being about eight pounds heavier than that of the Independence team. The score was eighteen to nothing in favor of Albany, all of which was made in the first half. In the last half our boys played them to a stand still and feel confident when the game is played in this city, some time in the future, that they will be able to give them a good run for their money. In the first half the Albany team worked a couple of forward passes on the boys that they were not expecting, which shot them all to pieces and before they could get settled down the game was won. Those who went over with the Independence team say that the work of the boys showed that they have got a lot of good material that with proper coaching will be able to cope with almost any of the amateur teams of the valley.

Has Recovered from injury.

Fred Moseman was the victim of an automobile accident a few evenings ago, says the Monmouth correspondent of the Dallas Observer. While returning from Independence in his milk wagon, an automobile came tearing along at break-neck speed and collided with him. One wheel of the auto caught in the wheel of the haek and turned the vehicle over, throwing Mr. Moseman out and badly disabling his back. It is reported that the automobile carried no lights. Automobile accidents are becoming far too common and something should be done to put a stop to them.

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