



## A SUICIDE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

### JOHN TAYLOR ENDS LIFE BY SHOOTING HIMSELF IN HEAD

After Fourteen Hours of Intense Suffering Well Known Barber of Independence Passes Into The Great Unknown Resulting From Self Inflicted Wound. Funeral and Interment Yesterday.

Grieved and remorseful because of being reprimanded by his mother for indulging in the use of liquor, John Taylor brought sorrow into the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Taylor, Christmas Eve, by ending his life with a revolver.

Taylor, it is claimed, had been drinking some during the day and when he went home a little before six o'clock his mother rebuked him for his conduct. Without his supper John started to leave the house again, but the parent objected. He was finally persuaded to remain at home and went into his room saying he would kill himself. Stepping into the room he took a revolver from a bureau drawer and sent a bullet through his head. The rash deed was committed so suddenly that nothing could be done to prevent it.

His brother, Asa, when he heard the lock turn in the door, immediately forced entrance to the room, but too late. The young man had taken a sudden plunge into the great unknown. Instantly, as the door lock yielded under the strength of Mr. Taylor, John placed the gun to his head and fired the fatal shot which sent him reeling into his brother's arms.

The bullet entered the right side of his head and made its exit on the other side. It was a terrible sight to behold. With parts of his brain visible and blood flowing profusely from the wound, the unfortunate victim of his own folly was placed upon the bed where he suffered for fourteen hours, passing away at about eight o'clock Wednesday morning without scarcely moving a muscle after he was shot.

Physicians were called promptly, and everything possible was done to resuscitate him, but all to no avail.

So serious was the wound that it seems remarkable that life was prolonged until morning.

No direct cause can be assigned for the rash act. When he went home that evening John seemed to be in perfect peace of mind. Roscoe Staats walked to the house with him and as Taylor stepped to the door he said: "Good night, I'll see you after supper." From this it is evident that he had no intention of taking his life until after he reached home that evening. Mr. Staats was with John most of the afternoon. He said the young man drank but little. Others, however, who claim to have seen him on the way home, say he appeared to be considerably under the influence of liquor.

Several of Taylor's friends believe that a love affair may have been the immediate cause of his suicide, although nothing of the kind had ever been intimated by him. It is said he kept company with a former Independence girl for some time, who recently married a man from Portland. John met the young lady and her husband on the street, Tuesday, the first time since her marriage, and it was not long after the meeting that he sent a bullet through his head. With past experiences invigorated in his memory by the young lady's visit to the city, comp-

led with the rebuke of his mother, it is possible that he became enraged, or his mind temporarily deranged, and took his life without a thought of the awful deed he was committing. If he suffered mental anguish over the love affair he did so without ever mentioning the matter to one member of the family or his closest friends. But John was far from being an insane man. He seemed to be always happy and contented. He was in perfect health and mind when he was last seen upon the streets of Independence, and it is natural to presume that he had suffered in mind more than anyone had imagined.

John Taylor was well known in this part of Oregon, having lived in and near Independence most of his life. He was born on a farm near here about 21 years ago, and moved here with his parents when a small boy. After reaching maturity he learned the barber trade and for a year or more past, worked for his brother, D. O. Taylor, almost continuously. He also worked in Portland some time ago. He was a boy of many friends, and this entire community was sorely shocked when word passed from lip to lip Tuesday evening that he had committed suicide. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have the sympathy of everyone in this sad period of their lives.

Brief funeral services were held in Oddfellows Hall, conducted by Dr. Dunsmore, pastor of the Presbyterian church, and interment was made in the I. O. O. F. cemetery.

#### BICE CUTS DOWN

#### OLD LAND MARI

W. L. Bice changed his vocation temporarily one day last week and with the assistance of substantial help, ropes, etc., cut down a monstrous oak tree at the place he recently purchased in the south-western part of the city. The tree was nearly four feet thick at the bottom and will probably make five cords of wood.

Clyde E. Carlos, who manipulated the ropes and pulleys in bringing the tree to the ground, estimates its age at 258 years, basing the estimate upon the number of rings it contained. This tree and one of about the same proportion west of the Nelson place are said to be two of the oldest trees in Oregon, and are remembered by the pioneers in this section.

#### CHRISTMAS WEDDING

#### AT HIGH NOON

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Montgomery was the scene of a very pretty wedding Christmas day when their daughter, Miss Lillie, was married to Glen Stewart, a prominent young man of McCoy. The ceremony was performed at noon by Dr. H. C. Dunsmore, pastor of the Presbyterian church, after which the wedding dinner was served. After dinner the happy couple departed for a brief wedding tour.

Only relatives and a few intimate friends of the family were present. After a few days' honeymoon they will be at home at McCoy.

For Sale—Bungalow, 5 rooms and bath, fire place, beam ceiling, paneled walls and buffet in dining room. Cabinet kitchen. Walls tinted. On easy terms. Inquire of K. C. Eldridge at Creamery office.

### MAYOR ELDRIDGE PUTS ON THE LID

Independence Pool Rooms Quit Games On Sunday.—May Withdraw Suit.

The "lid" was on comparatively tight in Independence last Sunday, the result of a crusade started several days ago against the Sunday opening of pool halls. R. L. Gains closed his place all day and Davis and Sons' place was closed most of the day. No games were allowed at either place, and it is understood both houses will abandon Sunday games in the future, but expect to be allowed the privilege of selling confectionery and tobaccos the same as other places. Mr. Davis stated to a representative of the Enterprise this week that he would be glad to close his doors all day Sundays if others handling his line of goods will do the same thing. It does seem that if the Sunday law is to be enforced in one or two cases it should be enforced in all cases.

Mrs. Jas. Morgan and Mrs. Peter Kurze signed the complaints sent her last week but up to this writing no arrests have been made. The object of the crusade, as stated in our last issue, is to stop Sunday games and prevent the boys from loitering in resorts of this class. Now that the desire seems to have been reached it is more than probable that the matter will rest here indefinitely.

#### CONTRACT FOR NORMAL SCHOOL BUILDING LET

Contracts aggregating \$1025 were awarded by the board of regents of the Mouth Normal School Monday forenoon at Salem.

For the improvements President Ackerman recommended an appropriation of \$15,000.

The contracts awarded Monday were for a power plant, a laundry for the institution, a girls' dormitory and a refrigerator plant.

#### HOME TEAM WINS FROM NORMAL SCHOOL TEAM

The Independence High School basket ball team played the Mouth Normal team here Saturday, resulting in a victory for the home team. The score was 29 to 5.

The Independence boys are doing excellent work this season and they have yet to lose a game.

#### GREASED PIG RACE ON ROLLER SKATES

Claude Oviatt expects to put on an entertainment at the rink in a few weeks that promises to be of unusual interest. The idea is a greased pig race on skates. This will doubtless prove to be a great attraction.

#### Famous Stage Beauties

look with horror on Skin Eruptions, Bloches, Sores or Pimples. They don't have them, nor will anyone who uses Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It glorifies the face. It cures sore lips, chapped hands, chilblains; heals all burns, cuts and bruises. Unequaled for piles. Only 25c at all druggists.

After January 1, 1913, I will place my business upon a strictly cash basis. In doing this I feel that it will enable me to sell cheaper to the trade. I will also put on a special delivery, and meat will be delivered at your door promptly, but C. O. D.

A. Nelson, Proprietor.

Mr. Dahlgren of Portland, has leased the upper part of the Whiteaker building on Main street and will fit it up for a photograph gallery. This is an enterprise that has been needed in Independence for a long time, and will be welcomed by all.

The basket ball team left on the boat Tuesday evening for Albany and from there went to Brownsville to play foot ball in the afternoon and basket ball in the evening.

## CONTEST STARTS WITH A RUSH

### MANY YOUNG LADIES OUT AFTER THE PIANO PRIZES

Mammoth Contest Inaugurated Jointly By The Enterprise and Conkey & Walker Assumes Vast Proportions and Promises To Grow.—Everybody Enthusiastic Over The Possibilities.

#### CIRCULATION GROWS

Nothing has ever been started to increase the circulation of this paper that has met with such immediate success as the Piano Contest just started. Nearly FIFTY NEW SUBSCRIBERS were enrolled upon our list within two days after the first announcement was made in The Enterprise.

Some time ago The Enterprise and Messrs. Conkey & Walker were among those who signed an agreement with Mr. Ingram to inaugurate a piano contest. Notice of this was published in The Enterprise some time ago. Certain conditions then existing made it necessary for some of the firms to withdraw from the proposition, and it was entirely abandoned. But the enterprising firm above mentioned has consented to share the responsibilities with us and we are now in the midst of the greatest campaign of the kind that was ever undertaken in Polk county. The firm of Casey & Water want new patrons and the Enterprise wants new subscribers—and are determined to get them—hence The Enterprise and Conkey & Walker's joint prize offer of \$1,350—five fine pianos—for the five most popular ladies in Polk county. It is now in full swing and votes are coming in at a rapid rate although the contestants have not fairly started in the work. The first two days of the contest brought to our list nearly 50 new subscribers.

Now is the time to name your candidate for popularity honors and incidentally put her in line for a standard piano. Absolutely no cost to you or the young lady you nominate. The coupon appearing elsewhere in this issue will put the lady of your choice in line with 1000 votes to her credit. Suppose you do it now.

There are 200 young ladies in Polk county possessing exceptional musical ability which must remain undeveloped because they lack a good piano. Don't this give you an idea? You can put some friend of yours in line by writing her name on the coupon and mailing it to this office, and you can keep her in line by clipping the coupons that will appear in every issue of the paper. Watch for them and get your friends to do likewise.

Every candidate entered has five chances of winning a piano prize. Each instrument offered represents an elegant instrument. Ballot box now open and prize piano on view at Conkey & Walker's store. Your inspection and criticism invited. Votes will be counted every Wednesday.

Candidates names and their standings will appear every Friday morning in this publication.

Conkey & Walker are offering bonus votes to candidates bringing business to their store. Two hundred votes are given for each dollar purchase made from their general stock. Candidates will learn something to their advantage by calling at the store and conferring personally with the contest manager. He has plans of systematic vote collecting which will be of great advantage to the young lady candidate who means business.

Watch for the list of candidates to appear in next Friday's issue of the Enterprise. If the young lady of your choice is not entered, see to it that she is nominated. Better be sure and use the coupon today—NOW. Votes are obtained in four ways: First, by clipping and sending in the regular ballots that will appear in the Enterprise each issue. Secondly, by trading at Conkey & Walker's store and selling due bills. Thirdly,

securing prepaid new subscriptions to the Enterprise. Fourth, by turning in money on back subscriptions to the Enterprise and on back accounts at Conkey & Walker's store.

Contestants may secure subscription list, receipt books and subscription voting coupons at this office. Call now and supply yourselves.

As a special inducement to subscribers and help to contestants we have reduced the price of the Enterprise during this campaign to the nominal price of \$1.00 per year. For one week, commencing Saturday, Dec 28th, we will allow contestants 25 per cent of all money taken in on subscriptions. In addition to increasing your standing in the contest, this will enable you to earn a good week's salary. What young lady cannot go out and get 100 subscribers in one week? This will mean \$25.00 in cash for her besides 100,000 votes.

#### INSANE HOMER ESCAPES FROM THE ASYLUM

Thomas Homer, recently tried in circuit court at Dallas on a charge of assault and battery, and was later committed to the asylum in Salem, made his escape from the gang in which he was working, a few days ago and is still at large. Homer is the man who cut Wm. McDonald in the face with a knife a few weeks ago at the Wigrich hop ranch.

#### INDEPENDENCE COUPLE MARRIED AT DALLAS

Mr. Claude Cox and Miss Alice Muhleman, both well known young people of this city, were married at Dallas on Thursday, December 19. For the present they will make their home with the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Muhleman.

#### PIONEER OF POLK COUNTY PASSES AWAY AT RICKREALL

Ed Clark, a pioneer of this county, died at his home in Rickreall on Christmas day. The funeral will be held at Dallas today. Mr. Clark was well known in this vicinity and was held in high esteem.

#### A SHAPELY COLLAR



IS EVERY GENTLEMAN'S DESIRE, AND SHAPELY COLLARS ARE THE ONLY KIND WE KEEP IN STOCK. THE VERY LATEST STYLES IN DRESS SHIRTS, LINEN COLLARS, AND THE NEWEST THINGS IN NECK TIES ARE ALWAYS TO BE FOUND IN OUR STORE. THEN, AGAIN, YOU WILL FIND THAT WE SAVE YOU MONEY ON CLOTHING. MAKE THIS YOUR HEADQUARTERS FOR USEFUL XMAS PRESENTS.

YOURS TRULY,  
**O. A. KREAMER**  
Jeweler and Optician

### QUIET CHRISTMAS IN INDEPENDENCE

The Several Churches Entertain Sunday School Pupils in Usual Manner.

Christmas passed off quietly in the city this year. The day was quite pleasant, but there seemed to be little stir on the streets. Stores were closed in the afternoon and the merchants and clerks enjoyed a rest after the busy shopping period of the past several weeks.

The usual motion picture show and a dance at the opera house furnished about all the attraction.

On Christmas eve the usual Christmas tree and program was enjoyed by Sunday school pupils of the several churches, and here there was unusual enjoyment, not only for the young, but for the old as well, and at all churches where the glad time was observed, the room was well filled.

#### REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS ARE QUITE NUMEROUS

Several real estate transfers were made last week by the firm of McIntosh & Wiltse. They sold the Willis Rickman property to Wm. Daws and Mr. Daws, through their agency, sold the same property to Geo. B. Williamson.

Mr. McIntosh sold the property he recently purchased from Mrs. S. E. Warren, in North Independence, to Mr. Rickman, and he then purchased the Rice property in the South western part of the city from D. I. Hedges.

#### HELD UP AND ROBBED IN HOTEL AT SALEM

Sam Irvine claims to have been held up and robbed in bed a few days ago while in a hotel at Salem. The bold burglar is said to have entered Sam's room in the quiet of the night, without a weapon, and demanded his watch. The article was produced forthwith and the lone highwayman left the room apparently contented.

Sam immediately put an officer on his trail and within a few hours he was apprehended and lodged in jail. He had the watch in his possession.

W. W. Croft left Independence last Thursday for Oskaloosa, Iowa, to look after the settling up of an estate. He will return in two or three weeks.

#### No. 100 Breeders.

I claim to have the best Poland China boar in Oregon.—H. Laliberty.