

WORK ON EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD LINE TO BEGIN SOON

The Willamette Valley Company, of which Addison Welch is president, and E. Rhodes, Sinkler & Butcher, of Philadelphia, are eastern financial backers, is making an investment of \$1,500,000 in the Willamette valley in development of electric light, power, water, gas and street railway industries, says Wednesday's Portland Journal. They have purchased properties at Dallas, Eugene, Monmouth, Independence, Albany and Corvallis, and are securing franchises for street cars at Springfield and Eugene. Mr. Welch, who has been confined to a Portland hospital several weeks following a surgical operation, was expected to leave the hospital today and to take up his quarters at the Oregon Hotel.

"The Willamette valley looks good for us," he said, "and we believe it is a safe place for investment and development of great industrial possibilities. It will have a large population and continue to be a prosperous section of Oregon."

Mr. Welch said the Willamette Valley Company has just purchased the Dallas Electric Light and Independence Light & Power Companies, including the Monmouth equipment, valued at about \$100,000, and will expend \$1,000,000 in improvements. The Dallas plant, from which electric current will be supplied, will have a boiler capacity of 600 horsepower and dynamo capacity of 450 kilowatts.

IMPROVEMENTS UNDER WAY.

Electric power pumps and Roberts pumps with capacity of 500,000 gallons every 24 hours will be installed at the Independence waterworks. Large improvements are also under way at the Eugene waterworks. The company is constructing a 1,500,000 gallon reservoir at Eugene and a 1,000,000 gallon reservoir at Independence. These will be filled by electric pumps drawing water from large wells.

EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD LINE.

We expect to complete the Eugene and Springfield water-works in about six weeks. Help is scarce and hard to get in the interior towns," said Mr. Welch. "As soon as this work is done we will begin construction of the Eugene-Springfield car line."

REBUILDING GAS PLANT.

The company is also building at Eugene a coal gas plant, which will be finished in about two months. The plant will have a capacity of 65,000 cubic feet daily, but the retorts are built for double that output for the future growth of the city. At Eugene a water-power plant is being constructed for furnishing light and power for Albany and Corvallis. Power is secured from the company's main ditch connecting with the Columbia.

New wheels are being put in at Albany and a fine power plant will be installed. The Albany waterworks have been purchased by the Willamette Valley Company and improvements are being made. The company, it is said, expended \$800,000 in purchasing old plants, and is putting nearly \$1,000,000 into improvements. The Eugene-Springfield electric road will cost \$250,000 and this will bring the company's valley investments up to a figure close to \$1,500,000.

YOUNG, ESCAPED CONVICT, RECAPTURED

The following is a press dispatch from Vancouver, Wash., concerning James Young, who was sentenced to the penitentiary at Salem from Lane county four years ago and who escaped recently:

William Thomas, alias Thomas Young, captured by Sheriff Kirby, of Clatsop county, and sent to this city in charge of horse stealing, supposed to have stolen the horse and buggy of W. S. Miller's stable, today confessed the crime to prosecuting attorney W. W. Sparks. He announced his intention to plead guilty in the court, and accordingly his name was entered and he was sentenced to fourteen years in the state penitentiary.

Thomas also stated that he was an escaped convict, having escaped some time ago from Salem, Or., where he was confined under the name of James Young.

Since his escape at horse stealing he has committed the crime of burglary in Clatsop county. In speaking of this latter crime he said that he was driven to a home hunger. He said his intention was to steal the horse and buggy to aid him in getting beyond the Columbia line.

The summer normal school being conducted at the high school now has students.

METHOD OF SELECTING PUBLIC BUILDING SITE

In view of the erection of a government postoffice building in Eugene, the sum of \$50,000 for that purpose having been recently appropriated by congress, the method employed by the treasury department in securing a site for the building is set forth in the following from Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, just received by Postmaster J. L. Page:

Whenever an act of congress authorizes the acquisition of a site for a proposed public building—whether by purchase or gift—the treasury department invites, through an advertisement inserted in a local newspaper, bids for the sale, or propositions of donation, and directs that the same be submitted to the secretary of the treasury at Washington. This advertisement gives such information as to the approximate requirements as will enable intelligent preparation and submission of bids or offers.

The bids and offers obtained in this way are opened at the treasury department in Washington at the time stated in the advertisement, and as soon thereafter as practicable an agent of the department is sent to make a personal examination of the properties offered, and upon this report, together with representations in writing from other sources, the department makes selection, conditioned, nevertheless, that the title to the property be approved by the attorney general. When the land is thus acquired on which buildings are situated which are reserved by the party selling, notice to remove the same is given after the land has been actually acquired and title approved.

Whenever the department is unable to obtain an acceptable site at a reasonable price in the manner above outlined, it frequently makes selection and authorizes the department of justice to begin and prosecute condemnation proceedings in which the price to be paid is judicially determined.

As soon as practicable after the acquisition of the site, plans for the proposed building are prepared and a contract let for the construction thereof.

NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH TO BE ERECTED AT ONCE

Plans for the new Catholic church to be erected in Eugene this summer have been accepted and the contract for the work will be let probably within two weeks. Archbishop Christie came up from Portland yesterday to confer with Father O'Farrell in regard to selecting the plans and it was agreed to accept those drawn by Architect John Hanzicker, of this city. Specifications are now being prepared and they will be ready for the contractors to figure on about a week from next Monday.

The new house of worship, which will be located on the site of the old building at the corner of Eleventh and Willamette streets, will cost when completed in the neighborhood of \$7000. The building will be Gothic in style, with the spire in the center of the front. The dimensions will be 44x100, with a full basement, and the front entrance will be on Willamette street.

The auditorium will seat 420 persons and the gallery 100 more, making a total seating capacity of over 500. Besides the auditorium there will be a sacristy, a vestry room and all other modern appointments. The ceiling in the auditorium will be 28 feet high and the whole room will be handsomely decorated. The building will be heated with hot air furnaces located in the basement.

The old building, which has been in use many years, and is far too small to accommodate the growing congregation of the local parish, will at once be moved to the rear of the academy building in the same lot and will be fitted up as additional classrooms. The work of moving it will commence early next week.

The new building will be an ornament to that part of the city. Already on three opposite corners are the high school, the Carnegie library and the Christian church. The new church will complete a quartet of handsome edifices.

Forepaugh & Sells circus will be in the valley in about a month, an agent now being in the state arranging for dates. Eugene will no doubt get it.

The correct scores made by the members of Company A's rifle team are as follows: Maxwell, 230, receiving a bronze medal; Perdue, 198; McCormack, 193; Furnish, 187; Robbe, 156.

PUTTING STATE FAIR GROUNDS, IN READINESS

More activity is in evidence on the state fair grounds at Salem than has ever been seen before since the organization of the Oregon State Agricultural Commission. There are more race horses on the grounds being trained and exercised than ever before, and the race meet promises to be the biggest and best ever held on the Pacific coast.

A large gang of prisoners from the state penitentiary are at work on the grounds and will be kept there until the entire premises are in perfect condition. New fences are being built from the Southern Pacific railroad almost to the opposite side of the enclosure, and these, as well as all the buildings, pavilions, etc. will be painted. All the stables and cattle sheds are receiving a coat of whitewash, and the trees in the park are being treated in the same manner.

The commissioners have reason to believe that the different counties in the state are going to send more and larger exhibits of their products than they have been doing on former occasions, and the aggregation of livestock and farm products will be the best ever seen in the state.

Exhibitors in the different counties have been notified that it will be advisable to send in all exhibits that are not perishable, with the end in view that they may be sent to the Jamestown exposition, and this will be the cause of great care taken in arranging some of the exhibits.—Salem Journal.

NEWS ITEMS FROM COTTAGE GROVE

Mrs. Sarah Duncanson aged 70, died rather suddenly this week and was buried Wednesday. The deceased has been a resident of Cottage Grove for several years but had no relatives near here except her niece and her husband. Mrs. Duncanson was apparently in usual health last Sunday, but a few hours later her heart failed and the dread reaper came only a few hours later. Her husband, who was a member of the Grand army, died about four years ago.

The new home of the Bank of Cottage Grove is now rapidly nearing completion. The brick work is now completed, and in a few days more the building will be in readiness for the inside finishing. The heavy plate glass has been shipped, and next week the front will be put in. The building is planned especially for the banking business, and will be one of the most substantial and convenient in Western Oregon.

Barton C. Y. Brown who has been with Western Oregon for the past year has purchased the Yoncalla independent plant and next week will commence the publication of a new paper at that thriving city. Mr. Brown is a good newspaper man and printer and will give the people of that section a good newsy paper.—Western Oregon.

400 BARRELS OF COCKTAIL CHERRIES

At the Allen cannery there are 400 barrels of preserved Royal Ann cherries for shipment to the east. These cherries bring a fancy price in the Eastern markets and are used principally in cocktails and other fancy drinks. The Allen company has been shipping the cherries in this shape for several years and has built up a splendid trade.

About a dozen men and 35 women and girls are busy in the canning department. The crop of cherries this year is immense, and the run at the cannery will be longer than usual.

Some raspberries are now coming in at the cannery and they will be worked on from now until they are gone.

HOFFER WANTS TO BE CUSTOMS COLLECTOR

Portland Telegram: A slight ripple has been caused to wave across the situation in the fight for collector of customs to succeed L. L. Patterson by the announcement that E. Hofer, of Salem, has shied his castor into the ring and become a candidate for the place already sought by G. A. Westgate, of Albany; P. S. Malcolm, of Portland, and J. M. Shelley, of Eugene.

You are often out of sorts, your body lacks energy, your nerves are weak, and taste in your mouth; why not help nature by taking Hoister's Rocky Mountain Tea. Tea or tablets. 30 cents.

Linn Drug Co.

AT WORK ON THE VALLEY TROLLEY LINE

Work on the new line of the Willamette Valley Traction Company, between Salem and Portland, has actually begun, and there seems to be little doubt that cars will be running between Salem and the Indian training school at Chemawa by the opening of the state fair, September 10th. A considerable number of men and teams were put to work Wednesday on Broadway, in North Salem, and Thursday morning the number of men and teams was augmented by several additional gangs.

Contractor Tiffany is giving employment to all the laborers he can procure, and is hiring all the teams he can. Owing to the scarcity of teams, he put a ten-horsepower traction engine into commission yesterday to drag a scraper. If a sufficient number of men cannot be secured in this vicinity to complete the work in time, help will be brought from Portland, Seattle and San Francisco.

Just as fast as the grading is done ties are laid and the rails put in place. There has already been several hundred feet of track laid.

The traction company people say that they have no intention of quitting the work when the line to Chemawa is complete, but the work will be rapidly pushed until cars are running all the way from Salem to Portland.—Salem Journal.

TRIED TO SUICIDE BECAUSE HIS WIFE LEFT HIM

Frank B. Miller who married a Waltherville, Lane county, girl made an unsuccessful attempt at suicide at Marshfield Sunday. He swallowed laudanum but the dose was too heavy and he vomited it up, thereby saving his life. The reason for his rash act is that his wife left him and returned to her home at Waltherville. The following letter was found in Miller's room:

To My Wife, Eva Miller, Waltherville, Oregon.

Dearest Eva—Since you have left me, there is nothing in life for me. I love you too dearly to give you up. I cannot live without you, so tonight I will take my life and be done with this dark and cruel world.

So farewell, darling; just give me a thought sometimes in your happiness or your sorrow, whichever it may be, and remember your old sweetheart and husband, and know that he is still the same, even in death. Love never dies.

Bye bye, sweetheart, with happiness to you, and may God bless my dear little wife, for such you are until the end of my time.

Farewell, sweetheart. From your loving Frank, who is now cold in death.

FRANK B. MILLER.

LIVE NEWS NOTES FROM SPRINGFIELD

Uncle Bob Campbell and wife and Cap Dodd left last Saturday for an extended outing at Foley Springs.

Tad Luckey and "Stub" Anderson went to St. Johns Wednesday morning where, we understand, they are contemplating permanently locating.

In a seven-inning game of ball Sunday forenoon between a country nine with Burt Harper as manager and a Springfield pickup team, the locals were defeated by the score of 15 to 14.

Paul Driver came up from Albany Sunday and is now working at Perkins & Stewart's meat market. He expects to remain in Springfield the remainder of the summer.

The News was informed this week that as soon as the telephone lines which are now under repair are completed that central would be moved from Peery's drug store into a building that will be used exclusively for the telephone exchange. The company will then send a lineman to Springfield who will do all line repairing and will also have charge of the exchange.

Geo. Willoughby, proprietor of the Springfield Bakery, sold his bakery and confectionery business to Mr. Sherwood, of Eugene, recently. Mr. Sherwood also owns the Eugene Bakery and will run his store here in connection. Mr. Willoughby does not know just what occupation he will follow in the future, but expects to move to Eugene and resume his old position with the Electric Light Company.—News.

Tangier, July 14.—The sultan of Morocco is ill with typhoid fever.

OFFICIALS FEAR SUICIDE OF DEMENTED WOMEN IN SEATTLE PRISON

Seattle, July 13.—A careful watch is being kept today over Esther Mitchell, who yesterday afternoon shot and killed her brother, George, and Mrs. Creffield, who is believed to be the chief instigator of the crime. It is feared they will commit suicide.

The police are still looking for Frank Hurt, brother of Mrs. Creffield. Hurt is believed to have had much to do with the plot to kill George Mitchell, and just now he cannot be located.

"NOT CRAZY—BUT HAPPY."

Esther Mitchell this afternoon stated that she is not insane and will go before the court and plead guilty to murder in the first degree, realizing that the gallows are before her, as she is prepared to take the consequences. She says she has no money and no friends who would help her at her trial.

Mrs. Creffield makes this statement: "I would have killed Mitchell myself if possible, and expect to be punished. I am not crazy but happy."

It developed today that the police matron knew that Mrs. Creffield and Esther Mitchell carried revolvers, but did not take the precaution to notify the police.

Further murders in connection with the case are now feared.

MRS. STARR REJOICES.

Portland, July 13.—Mrs. Burgess E. Starr, sister of Esther and George Mitchell, who left her babies and husband to follow Creffield to the wilderness, after Creffield's release from prison, where he served a term on account of his criminal intimacy with her, this morning is rejoicing over Esther's crime.

She says: "I am glad Esther did it. It was the right thing and only a just retribution."

She believes Creffield will rise from the grave, open the prison doors and set up the kingdom of Holy Rollerism on earth.

HOW KILLING OCCURRED.

Seattle, Wash., July 13.—Revenge, terrible, swift and premeditated sums up the killing of George Mitchell by his eighteen-year-old sister, Esther Mitchell, last evening. Esther Mitchell is the girl for whom George shed the blood of Franz Edmund Creffield, when he shot down the leader of the so-called "Holy Roller" in Seattle May 7th. It was because of her alleged maltreatment by the fanatical leader that Mitchell took his life and risked his own, and his own cold-blooded murder is the reward.

Mitchell was about to board the 4:30 p. m. train at the Union depot for Portland, where he was to take up his residence and begin life anew when Esther left the two others ostensibly for the purpose of bidding George goodbye, but instead, as George turned half around to greet her, she produced the revolver, hidden under a cloak hung over her arm, and fired once, the bullet entering the left ear. Mitchell fell to the ground dead and the weapon of death and destruction was wrenched from the hand of the child murderer by her brother, Fred, while another brother, Perry Mitchell, caught the trembling form of his sister in his arms, crying out: "Oh, Esther, how could you do it?"

Quickly commotion reigned in the depot and the protection of a police officer was soon afforded the girl. She submitted to arrest without protest, and when interrogated as to why she had committed the crime answered: "I was commanded to do it."

At police headquarters Chief Wapenstein questioned the girl as to her motive for the crime. "I killed him because he killed Joshua. We were commanded to do it."

Without waiting for more detailed statement Chief Wapenstein summoned detectives who were given hurried orders to locate and bring in at once the widow of the Holy Roller leader. While the officers were on the way the woman wanted notified police headquarters where she could be found and was soon in custody of the police. At headquarters she was frank as Esther Mitchell and said one of them had to kill George Mitchell. Esther was delegated to do the deed as it was thought she would have a better chance.

WOMAN TALKS FREELY.

Esther Mitchell made the following statement last evening: "Mrs. Creffield and I talked over the matter of killing Mitchell. The one who had the best chance was to do it. Mrs. Creffield bought a gun at Second avenue and Union street

We went to the room at about four o'clock this afternoon and I thought I would have a better chance to do it than Mrs. Creffield, as my brother wanted to see me, and I believed he would think nothing of my going to the depot. Then Mrs. Creffield gave me the gun and I was to do it.

"We agreed it was to be done as soon as possible. Mrs. Creffield had been out once or twice looking for George and if she got a chance she would have done it and I would have done the same. The first that got the chance was to do it. I would have done it before if I had got the chance.

"I took the gun yesterday and my brother Fred walked with me to the depot when my father went away. They wanted me to see George then and I did not want to because I couldn't get the gun unwrapped. I had the gun wrapped up and concealed, and I refused to see George. When I went home I took the gun and placed it under the mattress. Then I took it out about noon today and kept it with me.

"My brother, Fred, was up of my room today and said that Perry and George were going to Portland today at 4 o'clock. I went to the depot and saw Perry get his ticket and I followed him. At last I saw George and I shook hands with him, and I was walking to the door with him. He and Perry were walking in front and I walked behind. At that time I had the gun in my coat, having removed it from my bosom where I had it concealed. Fred offered to carry my coat and I told him all right. Then I was walking to the door and George was in front of me.

"It was just the chance I wanted and I then shot him. My brother Fred grabbed me and I sat down on his lap and put my arms about his neck. I sat there and the officer came. I do not regret doing it. I am glad I did it. I fired once and tried to fire another but there was such a loud noise made by the crowd I don't know whether I fired again or not. I shot him in the head and I know if I hit where I intended to it was sure death. I intended to follow him to Portland if I did not shoot him here."

MITCHELL MADE FRIENDS.

George Mitchell, the murdered man, made friends of nearly everybody about the jail during his confinement. He was modest and quiet.

Seattle, July 14.—The charge of murder in the first degree was today placed against Esther Mitchell, the slayer of her brother, George, and Mrs. Creffield, widow of the Holy Roller leader, who instigated the crime. An epidemic of murder here, following the killing of Creffield, has caused a cry for summary punishment to put an end to such crimes. A public subscription is being taken to send the Mitchell boys, who are destitute, home to Oregon. The father of Esther says the girl is not to blame, still being under the hypnotic influence of Creffield, which began three years ago.

It appears that Mrs. Maud Creffield and Esther Mitchell alone conspired for the assassination of George Mitchell. They plotted his death for weeks, in the event he should be acquitted by the jury, and settled upon all points. None of the other Holy Rollers in Seattle were taken into the confidence of the two women because they feared a leak if the conspiracy included too many. Mrs. Burgess E. Starr, of Portland, in particular was feared by the two women. She talks too much, they say, and that is the reason they took precautions to prevent her learning that they had planned to avenge "Joshua" Creffield's death. Neither of the two plotters doubted Mrs. Starr's loyalty to the "cause," but each feared she might let slip some hint of the plan.

"Esther kept telling me all the time that we must not tell Mrs. Starr anything about it," said Mrs. Creffield late this afternoon.

HONEST JOHN PLANS BIG STORE IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, July 14.—A deal was closed today whereby John Wanamaker of Philadelphia secures possession of the block occupied before the fire by Stignatius College, on which he will erect one of the greatest department stores in America.

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