

THE BEND BULLETIN.

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MURDER ENDS FEUD

S. H. Dorrance Killed by Harrison Melvin.

SHOT THROUGH ABDOMEN

Result of a Bitter Quarrel Caused by Business Troubles—Melvin Surrounded Himself to Sheriff.

S. H. Dorrance was shot and killed last Sunday by Harrison Melvin on the Melvin ranch, which is in the region between the Tumalo postoffice and Sisters. The shooting took place about 10:35 o'clock in the morning, and is the outcome of a very bitter feud between the two men growing out of business troubles. Dorrance died Sunday night at 10:30 o'clock. Monday morning Melvin went to Prineville and gave himself up to the sheriff. He is now in the county jail awaiting preliminary examination which is set for 1 o'clock today.

There were no witnesses to the shooting and the stories told by the two principals in this fatal tragedy are conflicting. Hence it is impossible to know positively the facts in the case. The account of the affair told by Melvin is substantially as follows, as told to The Bulletin by Deputy Sheriff Combs of Prineville.

The Story Told by Melvin.

Melvin says that Dorrance came to his place, carrying a shot-gun and evidently looking for him. Melvin kept out of his way, took a rifle, and started away from Dorrance toward a place where Melvin had been working. Dorrance soon caught sight of him and started toward him. Whereupon Melvin warned him several times not to come any nearer. Dorrance then raised his shot-gun and fired two shots at Melvin, the shot striking him in the chest and on the hat. When Dorrance opened fire Melvin answered with the rifle he had with him, a 30-30 Winchester. He hit Dorrance, who then gave up the fight and started for home. The deputy sheriff said that Melvin had one shot imbedded in his hand and another in his chest. Another story states that none of the shot took effect, but that there are dents from two shots on Melvin's hat. The distance between the two men was about 150 yards.

Dorrance's Version.

Dr. M. V. Turley, who was called to attend Dorrance, gave The Bulletin the account told him by Dorrance before he died. Dorrance said that he went to open the headgate that supplies his mill pond with water. (This headgate belongs to Melvin and is on his land, Dorrance using it under contract.) As he was at the headgate, Melvin appeared in an open field nearby and opened fire on Dorrance. The first shot struck him in the abdomen near the navel and passed clear through him. Dorrance thereupon replied, firing two shots from a repeating shot-gun. Melvin's second shot missed. His third shot struck Dorrance on the hand and tore away part of the mechanism of his gun. Dorrance then ran into the timber, which was near, and made his way home, walking from one-quarter to one-third of a mile.

A Badly Wounded Man.

Dr. Turley was immediately called and reached the Dorrance home about half an hour after the shooting occurred. Dorrance told him the above story in short, disjointed sentences. The doctor did all he could for the wounded man and operated upon him, but the wound was too serious and he died that night at 10:30 o'clock. Dr. Turley was of the opinion that the shooting took place about 10:35 Sunday morning, as Dorrance's watch was stopped at that time, presumably by a shot from Melvin's rifle. The doctor said that Melvin probably fired five shots, judging

from marks on Dorrance's clothes. Dorrance's gun also had a loaded shell in position for firing, which shows that he had thrown a third shell into place before the gun was disabled.

The Bulletin, in an attempt to get an impartial statement of the whole trouble, finds the general opinion to be that Melvin was justified in the shooting and undoubtedly did it in self defense. There has been trouble between the two men for some time and Dorrance, a great, husky, heavy six-footer, just in his prime, has repeatedly maltreated and shamefully beaten Melvin, a man some 60 years of age and rather small physically.

The Cause of the Trouble.

The trouble grew out of a contract entered into by the two men. About 18 months ago Dorrance started a sawmill in that vicinity and contracted with Melvin for an amount of water sufficient for Dorrance's mill pond and for use in the steam boiler at the mill. This water was to come through an irrigating ditch and a headgate built by Melvin. Dorrance was to cut Melvin's timber, scale it and pay him for it at stated times. According to Melvin's story told to Bend men, Dorrance had violated this contract in a most outrageous and abusive fashion. First, he insisted on taking all the water that the ditch would carry, letting what overflowed the mill pond run away and waste. Melvin was thus deprived of water with which to irrigate his ranch. This matter was taken into court and Dorrance was enjoined from using more than a certain amount of water. This injunction he boldly disregarded. He would cut Melvin's timber, take only the clear logs and let the rest go to waste. Occasionally as the fit took him, he would give Melvin \$25 or \$50 and tell him that was all that was coming to him. He repeatedly tore down Melvin's fences and drove his logging wagons across Melvin's alfalfa fields. At other times he turned his cattle into Melvin's fields and insisted that they be left there. When the old man objected he would give him a severe and brutal beating, threatening to kill him. About a month ago Melvin was in Bend to give evidence regarding land matters before U. S. Commissioner Ellis. At that time his face was beaten to a jelly, and one coat sleeve showed evidence of having been drenched with blood from a time when Dorrance had brutally assaulted the old man. At another time Dorrance forced a man by the name of McCall, a friend of Melvin, to build fence for Dorrance while Dorrance stood guard with a gun. The stories also relate that Dorrance had repeatedly threatened to kill Melvin.

That is the account of the story as told by residents of that vicinity. Before starting his mill Dorrance worked in Bend at the P. B. D. Co.'s sawmill and Bend men who are acquainted with him say that he was a large, powerful bully with brutal instincts. People living in the vicinity of his mill report that the whole neighborhood has been afraid of him and that people breathe easier now that he is removed.

The dead man was some 40 or 45 years of age, has a young son and daughter, and a wife who is in the insane asylum.

Later—Dr. Coe returned yesterday evening from a professional visit in the vicinity of the tragedy and adds further particulars to the affair. He was told that Dorrance was about 200 yards distant from Melvin when he saw him. He walked directly toward Melvin to within 150 yards, raised his shot gun and fired. Melvin then raised his rifle and fired, his shot and Dorrance's second shot ringing out almost simultaneously. This was told by John Edwards, who heard the shots from an adjoining ranch. Dorrance told his brother, when he reached home, that Melvin had "got him" and that he would die, but stated that he had "first got two shots in on Melvin." Dr. Coe reports that the sympathy of the entire community is with Melvin.

VERY QUIET ELECTION

Small Vote Cast and Not Much Interest Shown.

FOUR NEW ALDERMEN CHOSEN

Only Contest of Any Importance Was Over Control of City Council and That a Slight One.

For Alderman, two years—
Jos. H. O'Neill 36
C. S. Benson 32
John H. Wenyandy 32
R. A. Sather 31
Arnt Anne 30
Hugh O'Kane 27
A. B. Estebenet 1

For Alderman, one year—
H. P. J. McDonald 62

For Recorder—
H. C. Ellis 45
W. S. Nichol 15

For Marshal—
Wm. Hollinshead 31
Sid Nichol 4
O. S. Crocker 2
Anton Anne 2
George Gottlieb 1
A. H. Grant 1
A. C. Lucas 1

* Elected
The above figures tell the whole story regarding the municipal election Tuesday. It was a calm and sleepy affair. Very little interest was taken in it and the only contest that developed was a tame one for control of the city council, and also on the recordership. There were 63 votes cast. Some of the electors were out of town and others failed to vote.

Three tickets were in the field, as follows:

MUNICIPAL TICKET.
Alderman for two years—Jos. H. O'Neill, C. S. Benson, John H. Wenyandy.
Alderman for one year—H. P. J. McDonald.
For Recorder—H. C. Ellis.

CITIZENS' TICKET.
Alderman for two years—Jos. H. O'Neill, Hugh O'Kane, R. A. Sather.
Alderman for one year—H. P. J. McDonald.
For Recorder—H. C. Ellis.
For Marshal—Wm. Hollinshead.

THE THIRD TICKET.
Alderman for two years—Arnt Anne, C. S. Benson, John H. Wenyandy.
Alderman for one year—H. P. J. McDonald.
For Recorder—W. S. Nichol.

The scattering vote for marshal was on account of there being but one ticket with a regular candidate for that office. The vote for marshal shows that all the humorists have not left Bend.
A. C. Lucas, R. D. Wickham and Chas. D. Rowe acted as judges and E. J. Wright and P. L. Tompkins as clerks of election.

The membership of the new council will be as follows: S. C. Caldwell, Frank Stroud, Jos. H. O'Neill, C. S. Benson and John H. Wenyandy. The retiring members are J. I. West, E. A. Sather, John H. Overturf and George W. Whitsett, Sr.

Petition Sent In.

The petition praying for the new mail route has been sent into the postoffice department. It was very generously signed, four of the towns—Madras, Redmond, Laidlaw and Bend—furnishing over 600 signers. It is undoubtedly the largest petition ever sent from Crook county. Many more signers could have been obtained if there had been time to make a thorough canvass of the territory to be affected by the proposed change.

OPTION NOT TAKEN UP.

Ditch Company Does Not Buy Out Drake Interests.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 5.—It is pretty well understood—indeed it is admitted by John Steidl himself—that the option on all the Drake and Pilot Butte interests has not been taken up. The option will expire tomorrow. No fault was found with the price named, but

certain conditions have developed that indicate strongly that the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company will not buy the Drake interests.

At first the proposal was received with so much favor that it seemed to be certain the deal would go through. W. E. Guerin, jr., who, jointly with Mr. Steidl, held the option, went East three weeks ago to adjust a matter that was expected to smooth the way to a successful deal. For reasons that are not made public he has not succeeded. However, he is understood to be on his way back and more details may be available when he returns.

100 MILES OF GRADING LET

CONTRACT GIVEN TO PORTLAND FIRM

Work of Building the Roadbed for the Oregon Eastern Will Be Carried On During the Winter.

During the past week or 10 days a well authenticated report came out stating that a contract for 100 miles of grading had been let to a Portland firm, the grading to be done on the Klamath Falls end of the Harriman line from Natron to Klamath Falls. The contract has been let to Mason-Davis Co., which has had a large force of men and teams at work on the government reclamation project at the latter place. This crew will now be put onto the railroad grading.

The Weed line, which Harriman has secured, is being extended into Klamath Falls from the south and it is expected it will reach that place by next August. It is also reported that the line from Natron to Klamath Falls will be completed in 1907 to connect with the Weed extension at Klamath Falls, giving a through line into California.

The extension from Natron through the Cascades at Diamond Peak will be the first step in actual construction of the Oregon Eastern road across the state eastward. It will be remembered that this line is to extend from Natron to Ontario with a cross line from Klamath Falls northward through Bend to Madras, which will ultimately be extended to join the O. R. & N. at some point on the Columbia river.

A New Church at Laidlaw.

A new church is being built at Laidlaw by the Presbyterians. The dimensions of the main part of the building are 24x48 feet. The rear is partitioned off into a lecture room 16x24 feet separated from the main auditorium by sliding panels or doors that can be opened when desired and the lecture room and main auditorium thrown into one room.

In one side of the building there is the main entrance with portico 6x10 feet. Directly opposite this on the other side of the building there is a class room 10x10 feet. During the past week or two, the Rev. J. C. George has been hauling lumber from Bend for the building and it is hoped to have it finished in eight or ten weeks. W. H. Hall is the contractor.

More Records Broken.

The Bend postoffice is never content with past records and keeps doing more money order business from month to month. During November it broke another record in the money order business. The month's business was as follows: 302 money orders issued amounting to \$8,007.24; one international order for \$10; fees \$34. Paid 31 orders amounting to \$428.41

Laidlaw Bank Will Close.

Announcement reaches Bend that the bank at Laidlaw will close its doors on January 1, 1907, and discontinue business at that place. The reason is presumably not enough business to warrant the continuance of the bank.

A Little Mudd but Not Muddy.

Dr. U. C. Coe reports a 9-lb. baby girl born to Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Mudd at Laidlaw on last Tuesday.

WILL NOT INTERFERE

Surplus Water May Be Used for Irrigation.

NEWS FROM STATE ENGINEER

Filing by Reclamation Service on Waters of Deschutes Will Not Hinder Future Projects.

Since the announcement was made that the reclamation service had filed on all the "surplus waters" of the Deschutes river, there has been an inquiry from many as to whether this would stop the development of any irrigation projects, in the future, that would obtain their water from the Deschutes river. Therefore, the following letter from State Engineer Lewis will be of much interest, as it answers the above question. The letter was written to L. D. Wiest and, in part, is as follows:

"SALMON, Or., Nov. 23, 1906.—Mr. L. D. Wiest, Bend, Or.—Dear Sir: Your letter of the 20th, concerning further appropriation of water from the Deschutes river, is received.

"The United States reclamation service, on April 13, 1906, filed upon all the unappropriated waters of the Deschutes river below the mouth of Warm Springs river, for power purposes only, stating that rights to surplus water on any portion of the Deschutes river can be acquired for irrigation purposes."

Very respectfully,
JOHN H. LEWIS,
State Engineer."

It is thus seen that anyone desiring to appropriate water from the Deschutes for irrigation purposes will not be hindered in their work by this filing of the reclamation service. This means much to the future prosperity of Central Oregon as there are several reclamation projects yet to be developed that will reclaim many thousand acres of fertile land by using water from the Deschutes river.

A PLEASANT THANKSGIVING.

Redmond People Enjoy the Day With a Program and Spread at Night.

REDMOND, Dec. 3.—The entertainment at Redmond on the evening of Thanksgiving was a very enjoyable affair. The fore part of the evening was taken up with a literary program after which a bountiful repast of chicken, sandwiches, coffee and cake was served, then the old folks went home and left the young folks to dance themselves weary.

Mr. Muma is just back from Bend where he went the last of the week with a load of freight, and is now very busy making improvements on his residence.

A Presbyterian church was organized here Sunday, November 25, with a good membership. Rev. George of Laidlaw is the pastor and there will be regular services the first and third Sundays of each month.

Mr. Laudes made a business trip to Laidlaw and Bend Friday bringing back a load of lumber from Bend on Saturday.

The work on the Redmond well is still progressing. They are down over a hundred feet on the second hole.

Tumalo Hems.

TUMALO, Dec. 4.—The cold weather still hangs on but we predict a change soon.

Mr. Tracy, a timber estimator from Portland, was in Tumalo Sunday and Monday on business.

I. E. Wimer has gone to Post to look after cattle which he has up there.

J. B. and C. L. Wimer and Charles Spagh have been hauling straw this week from the C. S. I. Co.'s place at Laidlaw.

Mr. Lamb, with a crew which has been camped on Bull creek estimating timber for several days, will move camp to Tumalo creek tomorrow.

J. L. Keever of Bend passed through Tumalo today.

Charles and Will Brock were in Tumalo Sunday on their way to Bend from Black Butte.

Hightower & Smith Co. are running their mill steadily and are sawing considerable lumber, which is being hauled to different parts of the desert.

D. A. Findley stayed over night in

Tumalo last Friday on his way back from Squaw creek where he had purchased a Jersey cow and bull. Mr. Findley is going into the dairy business.

Alice S. Wimer was here from Laidlaw last Sunday.

Report reached us Monday of a shooting affair which took place on Harrison Melvin's place about six miles west of here Sunday between Harrison Melvin and Harve Dorrance, the outcome of previous business difficulties. Several shots were fired by both men, both being hit. Mr. Dorrance lived several hours, but died Sunday night. Mr. Melvin was not seriously injured but sustained several scars from shot fired at a distance of about 150 yards. This is a sad affair and the community is greatly shocked over it.

EXPERIMENT FARMS NEEDED

An Appropriation by the State Legislature for That Purpose Is Urged.

In a recent issue, the Bulletin urged that the state legislature make an appropriation of several thousand dollars to meet an equal appropriation by the national government, this sum to be expended in establishing experiment farms in Eastern Oregon, where farmers could see practical demonstrations by experts in irrigation methods. Recently Elwood Mead, chief of irrigation and drainage investigations of the department of agriculture, was in Portland and urged the necessity of such an appropriation by the Oregon legislature.

At Pendleton, where there has been some work done by government experts, Mr. Mead proposes to have several skilled irrigators instruct the farmers how to economize the water. Settlers are flocking into Eastern Oregon and as many of them know little or nothing about irrigation the work of the experienced irrigators would be of inestimable benefit to them. In an interview in the Oregonian Mr. Mead said:

"I hope the legislature will appropriate a sum to be expended co-operatively with us, because it is an item of considerable importance to Eastern Oregon. Eastern Oregon is in the limelight, and I believe it is entering an area of remarkably rapid development.

"Capitalists of the East have their eyes on Eastern Oregon, and they regard it as a prolific field for sound investments which heretofore has been overlooked. I know this, as at Washington we received many, many inquiries regarding that section."

More Lumber for Rosland.

Another large load of lumber left the Pilot Butte sawmill Thursday for the new hotel at Rosland. This load carried 7000 feet. The order for this hotel is for 36,000 feet of lumber and it will require two more loads to deliver it. John H. Overturf says that with the next load they will make a strenuous attempt to break all previous records, and will try to deliver 8000 feet in one load. R. B. Vaughn drove the load to Rosland yesterday.

Honesty Rewarded.

Oliver Phillips found a twenty dollar bill, lost by Dr. U. C. Coe, of Bend, last week, and brought it to the Pioneer office in response to a notice of its loss which appeared in the paper. Dr. Coe generously instructed us to present \$5 to the finder as a reward. It was fortunate that the money was picked up by a little man of fine principle, who immediately began a search for the owner of the bill.—Madras Pioneer.

Musicians Coming to Bend.

Herman Kaiser of Phillipsburg, Mont., recently wrote to John H. Wenyandy saying that he expected to come to Bend about the middle of December and make this his future home. Mr. Kaiser is a talented band instructor and all-round musician and has a family of children of whom each is a good musician. They would be a welcome addition to Bend's musical circle.

Chickens for Sale.

I have for sale some pure-bred Barred Plymouth Rock hens; also some spring chickens, fine for table use. Can deliver at Bend if desired. MRS. C. B. ALLEN,
27tf Bend, Oregon.

There's NEWS in The Bulletin.