

A STARTLING STORY

Prisoner Tells Who Killed "Shorty" Davis.

LIVELY TIMES AT PRINEVILLE

Rumored That Confession Involves a Number of Prominent County Seat Men—More Arrests.

Are the hidden facts in regard to the long list of crime, midnight murders, shootings and lynchings that were so common around Prineville some 10 or 20 years ago about to be told and given the light of publicity? And are the men who were responsible for those crimes about to receive the punishment to which their dastardly deeds of former years have entitled them? These are the questions that are paramount in the minds of all those who have heard the latest developments in a case of lawlessness in the vicinity of Prineville.

It is reported that Larkin K. Elliott, who is under arrest and confined in the county jail for complicity in the burning of the J. N. Williamson shearing plant and the cutting of a mile and a half of Williamson's wire fence, has "peached" on his confederates not only in this last deed, but has also told the authorities who were the murderers of "Shorty" Davis, a wealthy sheep man who disappeared some eight or nine years ago and of whom not a trace has been found from that day to this. Elliott, so it is reported, has told who did the deed and offered to take the authorities to the place where Davis' body and that of his horse are buried. The developments leading up to this denouement are interesting and are as follows.

Destroy Property of Sheep Men.

On March 28 the shearing plant and corrals together with other buildings belonging to J. N. Williamson were burned. A few days prior to that event a sheep camp on a tributary of the Ochoco about 15 miles east of Prineville, also owned by Williamson, was likewise destroyed. On Tuesday night of last week a mile and a half of wire fence belonging to Williamson was cut so badly as to completely destroy it. The fence carried four wires tightly stretched on posts a rod apart with staves between each post. Those who did the work rode along the fence and cut the wires on both sides of each post.

About a month ago a sheep camp, a large amount of hay, and two houses belonging to the McIntosh Livestock Company at Paulina were burned, and at about the same time a fence belonging to George Russell at Post was badly cut. These depredations committed against the property of sheep men indicate that the bitter range war that was waged so fiercely a few years ago between cattle and sheep men has not entirely died out.

Sheriff Finds a Clue.

Williamson hired a detective and put him to work to find the guilty parties. Sheriff Elkins also went to the scene of the fire at the shearing plant and began to look for evidence. There they found part of a bridle hanging to a post, as though a horse had been tied there and had broken loose. Tracks about the place indicated that more than one horseman was present at the setting of the fire. After collecting what evidence he could find Sheriff Elkins started to town, taking with him the broken bridle. As he stopped at the ranch of Larkin Elliott, Elliott's little boy saw the broken bridle and exclaimed, "Why that's my papa's bridle." One report is to the effect that Sheriff Elkins replied, "Is that so? Well, sonny, you run and get the other part of it and we will see if we can fix it." The little chap ran to the barn and returned with the missing part of the bridle. The sheriff im-

mediately arrested Elliott and took him to Prineville.

Since being confined in jail Elliott has confessed to setting the fire and cutting the fence on the Williamson place, stating that he was hired by C. Sam Smith, the ex-sheriff, and that Smith and his son were present and had a hand in the deed. Smith and his son were promptly arrested and are now in jail.

There Are Other Criminals.

After disclosing these interesting facts it is reported that Elliott also said, "Well, I'm not the only criminal in Crook county. There are a lot others. I can tell you who killed 'Shorty' Davis and can take you to where his body is buried." What other disclosures he made is not known, but it is reported that he has implicated 22 persons living at Prineville and vicinity, some of them prominent business men and stockraisers.

It is known, however, that Sheriff Elkins and District Attorney Menefee took Elliott and drove out



H. M. CAKE
Who Defeated Charles W. Fulton for the Republican Nomination for United States Senator.

into the country. When they returned they refused to talk and would not say whether or not they had found Davis' remains or anything to substantiate Elliott's story. Their silence would indicate that their search had not been in vain. Prineville is on the keen edge of excitement as to what will follow.

Dynamite Plot Frustrated.

Another report is to the effect that Smith has confessed everything and has owned up to a plot in which he and Elliott were to have dynamited Williamson's house while he was asleep. This report is not generally believed, however. Sheriff Elkins and District Attorney Menefee hint that more arrests will follow, and the sheriff is reported to have said, "There will be bell popping next week."

It will be remembered that "Shorty" Davis was a wealthy sheep man living southeast of Prineville who mysteriously disappeared about eight years ago. No trace of him has ever been found and it has been generally believed he was murdered. At the term of court last May a brother from Greece appeared, proved his relationship to Davis, and the property was surrendered to him. Davis is the man whom Elliott says the cattle men killed. Cattle men hate with a dire hatred all sheep and sheep men and if Davis was killed it was in order to rid the range of his sheep. The recent depredations committed against Williamson and other sheep men are undoubtedly intended to produce the same result. The question now in the minds of everyone is whether the cat has not at last been let out of the bag by one of the crowd confessing and whether the gang that carried things with such a high hand a few years ago are not about to receive the long delayed but just desserts for the crimes they committed when the country was so new that law and order could not be enforced.

Investigate The Bulletin's clubbing offers. It will pay you.

THE OFFICIAL COUNT

Gives Ellis a Majority of 82 Votes.

CAKE VICTOR OVER FULTON

Bulletin's Report of Last Week Unchanged by Complete Returns. Statement No. 1 a Winner.

The official count of the primary election returns in Crook county shows that Ellis won over Blanchard for county judge by 82 votes, Ellis polling 405 and Blanchard 323. King, for treasurer, has a strong lead over Johnson, King's vote being 430 and Johnson's 294. For assessor Dayton defeated Jones by 48 votes, while in the race for school superintendent Ford won over Lehman by only 40. For sheriff Elkins polled 616, having no opposition. Congleton received the democratic nomination for sheriff, polling 175 to Stroud's 123. Rice won over May for the republican nomination for surveyor, and Huston over Giddings for the democratic.

In this senatorial district, the 17th, Merryman has won the republican nomination and Springer the democratic. In the legislative district Belknap and Brattain have captured the republican nomination. With nearly all the returns in from the state Cake wins the republican nomination for U. S. senator by a lead of 2286 votes over Fulton. His victory is accredited largely to Statement No. 1, as Statement No. 1 candidates have made a sweeping victory over the entire state. For U. S. representative Ellis has a strong lead over both Geer and Shepherd. Wilson has won the republican nomination for district attorney over Myers but by what majority is not yet known.

Following is the official count, in totals, for Crook county:

For County Judge—	
Ellis, Rep.	405
Blanchard, Rep.	323
Wright, Dem.	149
For Sheriff—	
Elkins, Rep.	616
Congleton, Dem.	175
Stroud, Dem.	123
For Clerk—	
Brown, Dem.	391
For Treasurer—	
King, Rep.	430
Johnson, Rep.	294
McFarland, Dem.	250
For School Superintendent—	
Ford, Rep.	370
Lehman, Rep.	330
Cook, Dem.	244
For Assessor—	
Jones, Rep.	294
Dayton, Rep.	342
Lafollette, Dem.	162
For Surveyor—	
May, Rep.	398
Rice, Rep.	370
Giddings, Dem.	82
Huston, Dem.	187
For Commissioner—	
Rice, Rep.	417
For U. S. Senator—	
Fulton, Rep.	241
Cake, Rep.	2286
Chamberlain, Dem.	81

Just a Little Shop Talk.

A NEWSPAPER that is a newspaper—one that is alive, energetic and active—is always anxious to be the first to report any important item of news. By doing so continuously a paper works up the reputation for itself of being a newsy paper, an interesting publication, and the best one in its field. In line with this statement, THE BULLETIN wishes to call the attention of the public to the very evident fact that it was the first paper to report the returns of the primary election of last week. By delaying the issue a few hours, this paper was able to give the returns from enough precincts to determine who had received the nominations for the various county offices. That was the biggest item of news of the week, and THE BULLETIN gave it to its readers just one week before any of the other Crook county papers.

That THE BULLETIN is recognized as the leading news gatherer of the county is shown by the fact that candidates from Redmond and Laidlaw repeatedly phoned to this office to get the returns. In this issue we follow up the good work of last week by printing in tabulated form the official count, by precinct, of the complete returns of the county.

Two years ago THE BULLETIN secured a similar "scoop" on its contemporaries in reporting the returns of the general election, and at that time inaugurated in Crook county the plan of giving the complete official count by precinct. On various other occasions this paper has been the first to chronicle an important news item, as for example, the time when the two youthful horse thieves and highwaymen were arrested by Sheriff Elkins at Sisters.

Which only goes to show that if you want the news when it is news, you should be a regular reader of THE BULLETIN.

For U. S. Representative—	
Ellis, Rep.	405
Geer, Rep.	241
Shepherd, Rep.	81
For Justice of the Supreme Court—	
Bean, Rep.	61
For Dairy and Food Commissioner—	
Bailey, Rep.	446
Reid, Rep.	144
For Railroad Commissioner, 2nd Cong. Dist.—	
Atchison, Rep.	153
Gowan, Rep.	58
Hamilton, Rep.	53
Harburt, Rep.	120
Loucks, Rep.	28
Whiting, Rep.	13
For State Senator—	
Holgate, Rep.	215
Wittke, Rep.	211
Merryman, Rep.	174
Springer, Dem.	134
For State Representative—	
Belknap, Rep.	461
Brattain, Rep.	258
Marks, Rep.	177
For District Attorney—	
Myers, Rep.	391
Wilson, Rep.	391

CONTRACT AWARDED.

Superstructure of New Courthouse Will Cost \$57,000.

John B. Shipp has secured the contract for the completion of the new court house. The bids called for the remodeling of the basement and the work of the superstructure. The contract price for the completed structure is \$57,000. Mr. Shipp's bond was fixed at \$15,000. At least one wall of the foundation will be removed and rebuilt as it has been adjudged unsafe to put a two-story building upon it.

When completed the new court house will be entirely of gray stone of the same grade as that used in the foundation. The structure is to be completed within a year from date.

John B. Shipp bid \$57,000 for an all stone building, being range line work as basement, with galvanized iron cornice, clock and tower. This sum includes the remodeling of the basement for which purpose \$2500 was withheld from Wright & McNeely for work rejected by the county. It also includes the repointing the basement, rebuilding the steps, relaying the concrete, cleaning the yard and getting the building ready to move into.—Journal.

Preparing for County Fair.

The managers of the Crook County Fair are taking hold of the work vigorously and many improvements are being made in buildings and on the grounds. One innovation of much importance for this season's fair will be an expert to judge the livestock entered for the different prizes. The expert will be furnished by the Oregon agricultural college, and it is planned to have him, while making the awards, point out the strong and weak points of an animal. This will be a valuable lesson to stock raisers.

Yes, and a Little Better.

The Bend Commercial Club has given the printer an order for 5,000 six-page circulars which will be filled with matter describing the resources of Bend and vicinity. It is planned to scatter these among the business men and have one of them enclosed in every letter that goes out of town.—Bend Bulletin.

If Bend had a railroad it would be almost as good a town as Vale. They have the hustle over in that section of Crook county.—Vale Oriano.

LIFE IN SUNNY SICILY

A. M. Drake Writes an Interesting Letter.

NERVY BEGGERS ARE A PEST

Describes Native Life on That Historic Island—The Scene of Many Bloody Campaigns in Ancient Times.

CAPRI, Italy, March 31.—Miss Wood and I have just returned from a trip in Sicily with steamer friends, having left Mrs. Drake here in Capri during our absence. Taking the evening boat from Naples, we sailed out past Capri, remaining on deck till the last lights had faded into distance, and awoke in the morning as the boat entered the harbor at Palermo. In a few moments we had passed the custom house and were breakfasting at the Hotel Des Palmes.

The island (at one time doubtless connected with Italy and also with the African coast) was called Trinacria by the ancients because of its triangular shape, and has at each of its corners a fine harbor.

Palermo lay at the western corner, convenient to Carthage and Africa; Messina on the north east separated by a narrow strait only from the Italian mainland; and Syracuse at the southeastern corner, the nearest point to the Greek archipelago.

What the sacred mountain Fujiyama was to Japan so was Aetna to Sicily. Beautiful, majestic and even threatening, it at times destroyed large areas of fertile country with thousands of inhabitants; but on the other hand, its lava and ashes have constantly enriched the soil and the internal heat so warmed the earth that for thousands of years Sicily has been one of the gardens of the world, supporting millions of people.

The ancients believed the earthquakes and eruptions due to struggles of an immense monster or demon confined beneath the surface trying to liberate himself, hence the emblem or coat of arms of the island is the design of a figure having a central head with three legs (one for each corner of the island) sprawling out over the surface as if trying to hold down the demon imprisoned within.

Sicily abounds in history. To appreciate and understand it one must travel not only with guide books but as well with volumes of ancient and modern history, mythology, and numerous works of reference. To make the story of our trip intelligible, I will have to recount some in condensed form. Immensely fertile and almost the geographical center of the Mediterranean, its control was of imperative strategic importance to the respective powers that rose and fell on the shores of that historic sea, and its history since 1500 B. C. consequently involves that of all of the bordering nations. The battles fought there often changed the destiny of Europe and the whole world.

Its history begins with the Phoenicians encroaching on the native tribes. Then in 735 B. C. came settlements by Athenian Greeks, followed by Corinthians and others, more or less hostile to each other, who scattered their settlements promiscuously along the shores, driving back the Phoenicians. Then the troubles began. Carthage sent armies to assist her Phoenician relatives, Athens likewise to aid her colonists and the other Greeks theirs. For centuries these wars were waged. At times the Greek factions allied a gainst Carthage, then by turns one Greek faction fought the other, some times allied with Carthage and some times not. Later came the Romans, who likewise fought it out for centuries, now allying with one faction of the Greeks and now the other, and again against both combined until they overcome both Greeks and Carthaginians. After the Romans came Goths, Byzantines, Saracens,

Arabs, Normans, Germans, French and Spaniards, each having its day, until history becomes such a jumble that one gives up in hopeless confusion.

All this time Sicily, lying midway between the warring nations was the victim and unwilling battle ground and slaughter pen of the ages. The number of people who perished in these wars is inconceivable. Carthage alone must have sacrificed a million or more. At the single battle of Himera 480 B. C. its army of 300,000 was entirely wiped out. Hardly one of the dozen principal cities but was destroyed over and over again, only in the course of years to rise again from the ruins. To avenge the death of his grandfather at Himera, Hannibal some years later took the city with terrible slaughter. Of the surviving population he tortured to death over 3000 captives, and then overran the island, taking every city but Syracuse.

One can scarcely realize that the Greek cities in Sicily exceeded in power, wealth and population those of mother Greece herself and that Syracuse with perhaps a million and a half inhabitants, for centuries was the mistress of the world. As a result Sicily, with its warm winter climate, beautiful and picturesque scenery, with old castles and cities perched on the tops of steep hills or mountains whose rim rocks and precipitous sides largely took the place of walls, offers unusual attraction to tourists, and especially to those like ourselves, from a new country.

There is much food for moralizing. For what good all this misery and loss of life! Had the people pulled together and respected each other's rights, all would have shared a common prosperity and Sicily would have been a nation and world power today, instead of being sunk in misery, a sacrifice to the greed of man jealous of their neighbor's prosperity, and who in turn were themselves to pay the penalty.

In our two weeks we merely skimmed the surface of things of interest. Palermo, with some 350,000 people, now the principal city, lies at the mouth of a pretty valley (called the Conco d' Oro—"Golden Horn of Plenty") surrounded on three sides by mountains—in fact the whole island is but a mass of mountains.

The city today presents quite a modern appearance, though one encounters many specimens of medieval architecture and fine examples of Moslem and Byzantine art. Palermo's importance dates from A. D. 878, when the Saracens destroyed Syracuse and made Palermo their capital, because of its convenience to their African homes. Some 200 years later the Normans in turn overcame them and during their regime greatly embellished the city, utilizing the best artisans of the world, both European and Saracenic. Among the beautiful structures of this period were the great cathedral of Palermo, built in 1170, which we visited the first morning, and the old palace of King Roger with its royal chapel—the Cappella Palatina, the most beautiful church interior in the world. The walls of this are all in golden mosaic, wonderfully soft in color, depicting Bible scenes, from the creation of the world down to apostolic times. This mural picturing was so extensive that it was called King Roger's Bible. Some of the scenes are very amusing, particularly Noah pushing the animals out of the ark, and the creation of Eve as she comes forth out of Adam's side.

Another of these churches, also in similar workmanship, was the Martorana, with its beautiful tower, and famous pila lazuli altar.

In the afternoon we visited another of these churches, the cathedral at Monreale three miles out. This enormous building is finished in the same manner, having over 80,000 square feet of mosaic tile also depicting most of the Bible with all the saints added. The whole effect in rich soft colors defies description. One writer says the pictures seem as if draped with white satin hangings with embroidered silk borders; another calls them tapestries in stone; but writers and artists alike have given it up in despair, and so must I. An attempt to describe one of these buildings would require an entire chapter, and then prove a failure.

Connected with the cathedral is a large and beautiful cloister of an old monastery, surrounding about an acre of semi-tropical garden. There are 25 arches on each side supported by pairs of white marble columns with exquisitely carved capitals, the alternate columns