

## WIFE 65, ACCUSED OF POISON ATTEMPT

**Dog Dies After Eating Food Left for Her Husband—Money Dispute.**

Roseburg.—Charged with an attempt to murder her 72-year-old husband in order that she might name her nephew as heir to property amounting in value to around \$10,000, Mrs. Amanda McConnell, 65, was arrested here and was bound over to the grand jury. James McConnell, the officers said, wanted to make his nephew heir to the property and this led to a quarrel which caused the woman to attempt to poison her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. McConnell were married in Whitman county, Washington, in 1883, and since that time have made their home in Roseburg where they are well known. They had four sons, three of them now dead.

The fourth, Doran, was sent to the reform school in 1917 and has been missing since his release. One of the sons, Roy McConnell, a disabled world war veteran, died last month at the veteran's hospital in Walla Walla, leaving an insurance policy of \$2000 due to his mother, together with about \$900 in cash. The division of the money immediately led to domestic trouble, the officers were informed. The question also came up of the matter of a will and the naming of the persons to receive the property belonging to Mr. and Mrs. McConnell. The husband wanted to leave the property, the officers were told, to his nephew, Rev. Carl McConnell of Walla Walla, and the wife favored her nephew, Dee Adams of Dixonville, near Roseburg.

Last week Mrs. McConnell saw in an Astoria paper a picture of a man sent to the penitentiary at Salem and found in the picture a resemblance to their missing son Doran, according to the statement received from both Mr. and Mrs. McConnell by the officers. Mrs. McConnell insisted upon going to Salem, although her husband opposed the trip. As Mr. McConnell refused to go, she called in her nephew. Last Sunday morning she prepared an early breakfast, leaving Mr. McConnell in bed, as he was not feeling well.

The statements of both the husband and wife agree that Mrs. McConnell prepared some biscuits and having a small amount of dough remaining, baked one large biscuit separately, and left it for her husband, after which she and Mr. Adams took a stage for Salem.

Mr. McConnell, in his statement to the officers, said that he attempted to eat the biscuit but found it bitter, and, not feeling well decided not to eat breakfast, so scraped the food that she left for him into a plate and set it outside for the dog. Within a few minutes the dog went into convulsions and died.

Becoming suspicious, Mr. McConnell went back to the kitchen and there found two bottles on the table, one partially filled with strychnine and the other with a harmless medicine. As his glasses were missing, he was unable to read the labels on the bottles, and so took them to his doctor, who, after hearing the man's story called Sheriff Webb to investigate the case.

Mrs. McConnell on her return from Salem, where she found that the prisoner was not her son, was questioned by the officers. She stated that the two bottles had been in a pocketbook in a room adjoining the kitchen. She had bundled some papers and pictures to be used in her attempt to identify her son and as these did not fit her regular pocketbook, she took the other, and dumped the articles in it on the table. The dog followed Mrs. McConnell, she said, as she left the home, and she told the officers she believed it must have eaten poison away from the house. She also has advanced the story that her husband poisoned the dog to cast discredit on her so that she would be stopped from having a part in distributing the money.

It is now stated that McConnell refuses to testify against his wife and has employed an attorney to defend her.

Bill Wheatley has gone to Phillipsburg, Montana, where he will be employed on the F. S. LeGrow cattle ranch.

## McNary-Haugen Bill Upheld as Basis for Relief.

Washington, D. C.—The much-discussed equalization fee of the McNary-Haugen bill was upheld as a basis for a permanent farm relief system before the house agriculture committee by Chester H. Gray of the American Farm Bureau federation, with the opening of hearings on means of remedying the agricultural situation.

Representing farmers' organizations throughout the middle west and west, Gray advocated the passage of the remodeled McNary-Haugen bill on the ground that it represented the best legislation obtainable. He suggested one important amendment, creation of advisory councils in each of the 12 federal land bank districts, in place of commodity advisory councils to be established at the discretion of the federal farm board.

This would mean, he said, that emergency situations in all commodities in the regions would be met and dealt with by councils of the respective regions. Under the present plan separate councils are required as situations arise respecting any one commodity.

Gray told the committee this charge would be in the farmers' interest and would be a concession to them to make up for revoking the power which they had in the previous bill to stimulate in general the membership of the federal farm board.

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## TOO MUCH LABOR SUPPLY ON COAST

**Small Demand Reported In Oregon and Washington By Agency.**

A general decrease in employment, and surplus of labor in the Pacific coast states during December, is reported by the United States employment service.

In California, a report says, a winter surplus of labor exists throughout the state. It is particularly noticeable in southern California where workers seeking employment continue to arrive in unusually large numbers from every state. A large over-supply of farm help is reported in practically all districts. Lumber mills are all in operation, but with reduced forces. A large volume of building is in progress in the larger cities, but a surplus of building craftsmen exists.

All outdoor industries in Oregon are employing fewer men, the service finds. The lumber industry will be compelled to work below normal for the next 60 to 90 days, while in eastern Oregon, a large number of Pine mills that usually operate all winter have been closed for indefinite periods.

Usually shutdowns in logging camps and mills for holiday repair periods occurred in Washington during December. The number employed in outdoor activities decreased noticeably, while all districts along the coast report a surplus of men.

There are virtually no demands for help from agricultural or general construction sources.

**Rusty Hands**

Alice, a high-school student, came home from school one afternoon and when she walked in her bedroom she found her little sister evidently trying to conceal the fact that she had been playing with her big sister's cosmetics. She hastily picked up the bottle of hand lotion, which she had often been permitted to use, and remarked casually: "I just thought that I would use some of this on my hands, they are so rusty."

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