

INQUEST PROVES MERRILL'S IDENTITY

Chehalis Excited Over Finding Convict's Body—Tracy Holds Up Another Family.

(Journal Special Service.)
CHEHALIS, July 16.—The inquest held this morning on the body found near Chehalis leaves no doubt in the minds of the officers that the body is that of Merrill.

Merrill's brother, Ben Merrill, who has been working in a livery barn here for two weeks, was at the inquest. He is fully satisfied that the body is that of Dave Merrill. J. W. Studebaker, a well-known citizen of Castle Rock, was here at the inquest today, and he is also satisfied of the identity. He has known Dave Merrill for a number of years. Warden James, of the Oregon penitentiary, is here, and he is satisfied as to the identity, and the careful checking up of the scars on the body is adding to the proof.

Merrill's effects consisted of a briar pipe, a sack of tobacco, seven 30-30 cartridges and an upper set of four false teeth.

The body was in a horrible state, at least so far as the head and face were concerned. They were badly decomposed. Parts that had been protected by clothing were in better condition. The inquest developed that Tracy's first bullet struck Merrill almost squarely in the middle of the back. It passed through the body, and made a large gap in the front side of his throat. The second shot was probably fired while Merrill was lying on his right side. It passed through his stomach from side to side, going clear through the body. The third shot was fired into his head.

The coroner's jury was composed of J. E. Leonard, F. Donahoe, J. Y. Coffman, T. W. Newland, John Goff and L. J. Sticklin. All are well-known men.

There is great excitement in the city on account of the find. Hundreds of people have viewed the remains. Many outsiders have come to Chehalis to take a look, and more are expected this afternoon.

FINDING OF MERRILL'S BODY

Details Brought Out by Mrs. Waggoner at the Inquest.

CHEHALIS, Wash., July 16.—The details of the finding of Convict Merrill's body were given at the coroner's inquest today by Mrs. Mary Waggoner, of Napevina, who said that about 9 o'clock Monday morning she was on her way from her home to visit her daughter whose home is about a mile from the county poor farm, and about five miles south of Chehalis. Mrs. Waggoner took her 12-year-old son, George, along, and on the way they stopped to pick huckleberries. While passing along an unfrequented road through the timber they noticed a bad

smell coming from an old cedar log lying to the east of the roadside. First thought suggested that it was a rabbit or some other dead animal, but when they looked down into the brush which partially projected over the log and saw a shoe sole, the thought that they had found Merrill dawned on both.

Hurriedly they went to Mrs. Seeley's home, where the daughter and the members of the family were apprised of the find. They discussed the matter and after taking into consideration certain contingencies that might arise to make things unpleasant if the news were given out too soon, concluded to notify but a very few, including Sheriff Deggeler to whom Mrs. Waggoner came direct with her story, Mr. Deggeler's attorney, Mrs. Waggoner's attorney and one other.

The officials at the Oregon penitentiary were wired as to the conditions of the reward and answered that the terms of the reward would govern, but that a good price would be paid for the return of the body at any rate.

Sheriff Deggeler and a press correspondent sat up all night with the late Mr. Merrill, but each was provided with a gun. It was intended that if anyone found the way out there who was not wanted and who had no business there, trouble would follow.

The finding of Merrill's body bears out Tracy's story of the duel in every part. The roadway where the tragedy occurred is along the side of a hill about 200 yards east of the Northern Pacific main line, and about two and a half miles north and east of Napevina.

There is a house about 300 yards from where Tracy killed Merrill, but it is occupied by a Bohemian, Frank Vrba, and his wife. They know little or no English and do not read the local or state papers. Consequently they knew but little of Tracy or Merrill and their escapades, excepting such as their Bohemian neighbors had told them of it.

It was the fortune of these two people to see Dave Merrill alive and they are the last people besides Tracy who did see him alive. They told Sheriff Deggeler that at about half past five o'clock Saturday morning, June 28, the two men passed their place. They were walking rapidly and nothing out of the ordinary was noticed about their action toward each other. Each man carried a gun. The Vrba describe the dress of each. Vrba stood in the garden as they passed and his wife was near the milk house. There was no salutation as the Vrba did not know the men. They did not hear the shots fired that killed Merrill a few moments later. The ducks were making a loud noise, and furthermore so many people shoot that no attention is paid to it.

Along the roadway where the shooting occurred is a pretty little stretch of road almost straight for perhaps 50 yards. A

cedar tree stands on the east side, being a medium sized one, about 18 inches in diameter. This tree must have been the starting point from which Merrill and Tracy started back to step off their paces. Nine paces away, to the north one 30-caliber cartridge, such as Tracy used in his rifle, was found. This is just as Tracy said. Ten paces away, to the south, two more cartridges, both empty, were found.

This verifies Tracy's claim that he shot Merrill from behind and then when he did not die, put two more bullets into him to get him out of his misery.

Within three or four feet of where Merrill fell lies an old cedar log, close alongside the road. A little to the east of this lies another, the ends of the two joining in a wedge shape. Over the two logs the brush had fallen, and into this brush, down under and between these two logs Tracy dumped Merrill headlong after murdering him. The body looked as though it had been stood on its head in a way, and then stamped down. The place of concealment was perfect, and different people have passed there and never had the slightest suspicion that Merrill was only two or three feet from them.

TRACY NEAR ENUMCLAW

Holds Up a Family and Compelled Boy to Shave Him.

ENUMCLAW, July 16.—The opinion is strong here that Tracy is in the immediate vicinity of the town. It has just been learned that on Sunday the outlaw took dinner at the Garner farm, three miles southeast of here. Morris Garner and his three sons, so they say, had just finished dinner at 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon when Tracy appeared and after announcing his identity in his usual style, demanded something to eat.

He was told to sit up to the table and to help himself, which he did, all the time keeping a close watch on the two oldest Garner boys whom he ordered to sit directly in front of him. The father and the youngest boy, who was shaving himself at the time of the convict's entrance, he paid but little attention to, but devoted his whole attention to his food.

ORDERED THE BOY TO SHAVE HIM.
When his hunger had been satisfied, the outlaw ordered young Garner, who still had his razor in his hand, to shave him. The boy objected, claiming that he could not use a razor well, but Tracy insisted, saying: "That's all right, I'm not so very particular. I guess if I don't have any kick coming you needn't have," on which his wishes were complied with.

After being shaved, Tracy appropriated a pair of trousers and started to go. Just as he reached the door, he turned round, and with many oaths warned the Garner to keep quiet on peril of their lives. "If you give me away I will come back and butcher every d—d one of you. You know me and you'll find out I'll keep my word," was his parting shot.

TRACY WARNED THE BOY.
Last evening at dusk the attention of many people here was attracted by a thin column of smoke rising from a depression in the hills a mile or two east of this town. A spyglass was procured and no doubt is entertained but that the smoke marks the camp of the outlaw. Some even going so far as to claim they could see a man's figure moving about the fire. Should this be correct, there is little doubt that the murderer has again been definitely located and today may see some interesting developments.

SEATTLE, July 16.—Additional details of the Garner hold-up shows that Tracy had 200 rounds of ammunition and two revolvers. He held a gun on the boy who shaved him and said: "I can shoot you before I die if you try to cut my throat."

MESSAGE TO REPORTERS.
He also said: "Tell the reporters that I am well and strong, cheerful and not worried. I could have killed a hundred deputies since I left Salem, but I didn't want to. Most of them are innocent farmers or cheap guys. I have on many occasions talked with them on the roadsides and some of them are pretty good fellows. Whenever I have seen men who looked dangerous I have simply left them alone."

HE SPOKE OF MERRILL.
"The chase doesn't bother me in the least." When he got the trousers he paid a dollar, saying, "You're a poor man so I won't rob you. I wish I could pay more. If the deputies had any money I might hold some of them-up." Tracy also said to tell the papers that they would learn if they went below Chehalis that Merrill was dead indeed.

KING IS BETTER

Edward VII Gaining Strength as Time Passes.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
COWES, Isle of Wight, July 16.—The following official bulletin regarding the King's condition was issued from the royal yacht here this morning.
"His Majesty bore the journey from London to Cowes extremely well. He suffered no inconvenience and had a good night and his general condition is excellent. The King is much gratified by the change of air and scenery. He had his couch wheel set upon the deck for two hours yesterday afternoon."

PATCHING UP THE ILLINOIS

Norwegian Divers Are Making Temporary Repairs.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
CHRISTIANA, July 16.—Divers are temporarily repairing the United States battleship Illinois, the breaking of whose steering gear caused her to go ashore on Monday evening. The Illinois will shortly go to England, where full repairs will be made.

A UNION OF CITY EMPLOYEES

Being Secretly Formed by Frisco Public Servants.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
SAN FRANCISCO, July 16.—It is reported that a number of the employees of the city will meet tonight to form a nucleus for a municipal employees' union, embracing the police and fire departments. Efforts were made to keep the secret today. It is said it is proposed to take in inspectors and laborers also. The officials are much stirred up over the report.

STEEL FOR BRIDGE

Ex-City Engineer W. B. Chase, in charge of the reconstruction of the Madison street bridge, appeared before the Board of County Commissioners this morning and asked for an order authorizing him to send East for steel rods for the two trusses. He stated that the false work and floor beams of the two new spans had been completed, and that they were now nearly ready to commence on the trusses.

TROUBLE BREWING

Unlucky Speech of Bragg Causes a Furor in Havana.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
HAVANA, July 16.—It is possible the Cuban party of extremists may force an issue in the matter of the Bragg affair. The Cuban press is using the incident to inflame the anti-American feeling among the people. Bragg's statement that the Cubans were unfit to govern themselves may yet cause trouble.

IN A COLLISION OFF QUEENSTOWN

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
SOUTHAMPTON, July 16.—A story is about here to the effect that the American liner St. Louis, which left on Saturday for New York, has been in collision off Queenstown.

A DEADLY EXPLOSION NEAR SALT LAKE CITY

Many Miners Entombed in the Daly West Mine—Loss of Life Likely to Reach One Hundred—Piteous Scenes at the Mine Head.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
SALT LAKE, July 16.—A terrific powder explosion occurred in the Daly West mine early this morning, entombing about a hundred miners, of whom 27 were taken out dead at 8 a. m. Many more bodies are in the mine, and it is feared but few of the miners escaped a fearful death.

TWO CARS OF POWDER.
The Daly West mines are located near Park City. Noxious gases from the explosion penetrated into the Ontario mine, and it is feared that many of the hundred men who are exploring there have also lost their lives. Already three bodies have been taken out of that mine. The explosion in the Daly West mine occurred in the 1200-foot level, two powder magazines containing about two cars of powder, blowing up.

TREMENDOUS SHOCK.
The shock was tremendous, being felt 10 miles away, and the force of the explosion was so great that two horses a

mile and a half away were killed. As soon as the news of the disaster reached Park City every physician and nurse in the place was rushed to the scene. Many relatives of the lost miners flocked to the mines long before daylight. Their grief was pitiable. Several members of one of the relief parties who have not been heard from it is feared have perished. Many unconscious miners are being brought to the surface. The Daly West mine was a heavy silver producer.

STORM SWEPT

Tornado Spreads Death and Ruin Throughout North Dakota.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
ST. PAUL, July 16.—The latest reports received from the storm-stricken section of North Dakota indicate that no loss of life was occasioned by the fierce tornado which early last night swept from the Canadian boundary line across the north-eastern portion of the state. The town of Bomp, on the St. Vincent line of the Great Northern Railway and the towns of Thompson and Eldorado, near Grand Forks, are in ruins. It is impossible at present to get complete reports of the calamity. There is no doubt that the loss in property will be enormous.

THE LATEST ACCOUNT.
ST. PAUL, July 16.—Two severe storms passed over the Red River Valley in Minnesota and North Dakota last night, causing heavy damage to crops. Alarming reports were current of loss of life, but none of these has been confirmed by late advices today.

JOURNAL GIVES NEWS—NOT FAKES

While other papers were publishing columns of "rot" to the effect that Merrill was with Tracy and that they were organizing a band of desperadoes near Seattle, The Journal was giving the public only that information that had been verified from day to day. Rival Portland papers recounted at great length that Merrill had been seen with Tracy around Seattle, though there was absolutely no foundation for such wild stories. While the unfortunate Merrill's body lay decaying in the brush, certain papers were telling of his movements on the Sound and even on the very day of the finding of his body, thrilling tales of his hold-ups were published. If you want the news, and want it correct, read The Journal.

QUICK WORK IN COLORADO

Marshall Pass Robbers Rounded Up—Battle Expected.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
DENVER, July 16.—Three Sheriff's posses have surrounded the Marshall Pass train robbers near Middle Creek in Seguauche County. It is believed a battle will be fought today.

A GHASTLY FIND

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
HAVANA, July 16.—Six skeletons, which have been unearthed on an island in Havana Bay has caused a sensation. The authorities are investigating the matter. One theory is that the skeletons are those of men put to death at the order of General Weyer during the Spanish occupation.

STRIKERS ARE BEATEN

Chicago Freighthandlers Have Practically Given Up the Battle.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
CHICAGO, July 16.—At a meeting of the members of the Freighthandlers' union this morning, it was voted to return to work and to make the best terms possible with the managers, provided the Federation of Labor refused to support the strikers. As the Federation didn't sanction the strike it is not thought likely it will offer its support at this stage, and the strike is therefore virtually ended with a defeat for the freighthandlers. Before the vote was taken several hundred strikers had returned to work at their several freight houses.

LOCATION OF THE FAIR SITE

The executive committee of the Lewis and Clark Centennial will meet tomorrow afternoon to discuss and decide upon a location for the Fair in 1905. Representatives of the various sites proposed have been asked to present their claims, and this will be done. There are but two sites recommended by the sub-committee, the City Park and the Hawthorne Park. The Hawthorne Park is offered with as much of the Ladd tract as is needed for the Fair. The Peninsula site and the Knox & Abrams' tract are urged upon the committee, but the general sentiment seems to be in favor of the Hawthorne Park, now that the Ladd tract is offered practically free of expense. The good points of the Hawthorne site were outlined in yesterday's Journal. In an interview with one of the executive committee today, he said: "The enormous expense of transportation to the City Park practically puts that site out of the contest so far as I am concerned. All money is needed for buildings and exhibits and it seems unwise to detract from the merits of the Fair by spending money in cutting down the Park hills in order to get up there. The level site is the only one, and to my mind the people will only be satisfied with a selection of Hawthorne Park."

NEAR HER END

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)
BRUSSELS, July 16.—Queen Henriette, of Belgium, is worse today, and it is feared that her malady will prove fatal within a few hours.

TAFT'S ULTIMATUM

(Journal Special Service.)
ROME, July 16.—Governor Taft, of the Philippines, has presented to the Vatican what is supposed to be his final note regarding matters in the Philippines.

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WEATHER—Fair tonight and Thursday; warmer Thursday; northwesterly winds.

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Our Great Slaughter Sale

A large invoice, of MEN'S SOCKS that should have been here in April, and that we fully expected to sell at 20c pair, has just arrived and they are to be slaughtered at 7½c pair. There is a good choice in red, blue, black and brown for color and the quality is just what it should be.

All other goods sold in proportion during this sale.

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