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BLANCH LAMONT MURDER

DURANT FORMALY CHARGED

The Inquest Will Begin as Soon as the Williams Case is Concluded. Gibson's Handwriting.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.—Theodore Durrant was taken from his cell this morning and formally charged with the murder of Blanch Lamont. The prisoner was very surly. As he was being booked for the second murder, he said to Detective Seymour: "How many more crimes are you going to charge against me?" The inquest on Blanche Lamont will begin as soon as the preliminary examination of Durrant in the police court for the murder of Minnie Williams is concluded, probably on Tuesday afternoon.

The court proceedings were continued from Friday to Tuesday. In the superior court, Durrant will first be tried for the Lamont murder if held for both crimes.

A fight to have the Durrant case dismissed in the police court now seems probable. It is known that the attorneys for Durrant are working on Dr. Gibson's handwriting, and General Dickliss has asked that some of witnesses already examined be brought back to court for further questioning. Among the witnesses he has asked for are the young ladies who saw Durrant in Alameda talking to Minnie Williams. Durrant's attorneys will not say at this time what they propose doing. The prosecution feels that it has already produced sufficient testimony to insure the prisoner being held for trial.

Stanford University.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 29.—The Bulletin says the teachers at Stanford university are looking for positions in other universities on the impression that the university founded by Leland Stanford will soon close its doors. They fear that the college will close because there is no money in the Stanford estate to pay for its maintenance, the estate being tangled up in the suit with the United States. Meanwhile all expenses of the university are being defrayed from the private income of Mrs. Stanford. Just as the Stanford properties were being put on a first-class business basis, United States Attorney-General Olney, started his big suit for \$15,000,000 against the Stanford estate. When asked as to this matter, Mr. Lathrop said:

"It is all this government suit. If it succeeds it seems inevitable that the university must be closed. As it is, it has tied the estate up in probate and prevented the distribution of the estate so that it may seriously embarrass us. We are pressing the suit and wish to have it determined as early as possible. The university cannot pay its own expenses, for tuition is absolutely free. The boarding department manages to pay its own expenses, but that has nothing to do with paying the professors. There is now somewhere near 1100 students connected with the university and about seventy-five men in the faculty.

Northern Pacific Hold-up.

TACOMA, April 27.—Six highwaymen flagged the overland Northern Pacific express train just east of the Cascade mountain tunnel last night. The railroad company had been given the tip and captured two of them. They expected that the express car would carry \$40,000 in gold to pay off the Roalyn coal miners, and for over a month had planned for the hold-up. One of their pals weakened early in the plot, and notified Superintendent Joseph McCabe, of the Pacific division of the road. He in turn put the case in charge of a detective.

The officials were notified yesterday that the highwaymen would hold up the overland this morning. They had planned to flag the train at Nelson, and then unpebble the express car from the body of the train, and without molesting the passengers, take the engine and express car away for a while, and then loot the express safe. Instead of stopping at the station, the engineer allowed it to run past two lengths, thus frustrating the robbers, who departed in surrounding the train before an alarm could be given. They therefore did not count

near the train, and the engineer pulled out leaving his rear flagman behind. The robbers fired a few shots in the air, and disappeared. Later two of them had planned to blow up the express car, and at that point a posse was in hiding and arrested them. They are Hank Harrington, alias Harry Lavel of Stillacom, an ex-convict, and Booch Harrison, a rancher living near Easton. He planned the robbery. Officers found eight sticks of dynamite, a quantity of powder, steel drills and shotgun shells in which the \$40,000 was to be carried away.

The captured robbers were taken to Ellensburg. A posse of twelve, including all the best gun fighters in the city, participated in the capture. Ex-Chief of Police Davis, ex-Captain Duffield and Cass Viant were among the number.

Three Lives Taken.

BAKER CITY, April 27.—News of an awful double murder and suicide reached this city this evening. The tragedy was enacted near the town of Sumpter, twenty-five miles from this city, the principals being a woman and her two children. At an early hour this morning the dead bodies of Mrs. Earnest Maywald and her two children, aged 2 and 15 months respectively, were found in the Powder river. They were laid out yesterday afternoon, and were missed at seven o'clock in the evening. A search party was organized, and was out all night, before making the horrible discovery this morning. It is said the woman was driven to desperation by the ill-treatment of her husband, who drank to excess, and while in his cups was cruel and abusive. She chose death to such a life, and took her two babes with her to a watery grave. The coroner left today to hold an inquest on the bodies.

That Shortage Inquiry.

CARSON, Nev., April 29.—Ex-Superintendent of the Mint Hofer was placed on the stand in the Jones examination today. He showed the books of the Bullion and Exchange bank, of which he is cashier, and proved by them that Jones had at least \$20,000 before the mint shortage occurred. H. H. Beck, of the Reno reduction works, testified that J. Henry, a former employe in the mint but whom detectives cannot now find, had at several times given him amalgam to cast into bars. Amalgam resembled the granulations of the mint refining room. He represented to Beck that he was one of the four handlers of a mine, and they did not want the owner to know how it was. Mr. Beck sold nearly \$12,000 worth of this bullion to the Bank of California and the Sibby company, of San Francisco, and there was more that he disposed of himself. Beck does not connect Jones with Henry's transactions.

The Swartz Murder Trial.

SALEM, April 27.—Alonso Swartz was brought before Judge Johnson this afternoon for his preliminary examination, charged with the murder of the son Edward about one month ago. Swartz entered the courtroom looking pale and haggard. His month's confinement has worked greatly upon the old man. Evidence of a very damaging nature was given by his two children, Maith and Walter Swartz. They both testified that their father rushed upon his son and stabbed him several times without any provocation whatever, and that the father threatened to kill their mother. The courtroom was crowded with a jostling throng of curiosity-seekers. The murderer was held to appear before the grand jury without bail. It was an affecting sight to see two small children testifying against their father who is upon trial for his life.

Astoria's Water Bonds.

ASTORIA, April 29.—The water commission today signed \$75,000 bonds of the sum of \$100 each, being the first payment to be made by Kleybulte & Co., of Cincinnati, on the \$200,000 of water bonds purchased by that firm some months ago. The treasurer, whose bonds were raised to \$100,000, was instructed to draw on the purchasers for \$75,000, together with accrued interests. Contractors will now be instructed to proceed with the work on the new water-works system and push it to completion as rapidly as possible.

Movements of War Vessels.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—It is stated the Olympia will relieve the Philadelphia at Honolulu sometime during the month of May.

The Petrel has arrived at Shanghai. The flagship Baltimore left Nagasaki for Yokohama yesterday.

A MILD COURT SENSATION

DAVENPORT PLEADS GUILTY

Gives Reasons for Doing So. Investigated to Commit the Crime by a Man Employed by a Government Official.

When "Doc" Davenport, the counterfeit, came into the United States court this morning to plead to the indictment against him, he created a stir. When asked whether or not he was guilty of having molds in his possession, which constitutes one charge against him, and of coining spurious dollars, he acknowledged that he had done both.

No one expected him to plead guilty. It was supposed that he would stand trial, but he had something to say. When Judge Bellinger formally asked him if he desired to make a statement before sentence was passed, he walked to the witness stand unfolded a tale that aroused the ire of the judge.

"Last December," said Davenport, "a man giving his name as Charles French call at my house on the farm, and said that he would like to remain there several weeks trapping. He had traps, and he set them. One day he asked me how to make counterfeit dollars, knowing I understood the business because I had served a term for the offense eight years ago. He gave me 50 cents with which I bought plaster and solder. I made the molds, and a few coins with them.

"French told me that he only wanted to learn out of curiosity, and I did not see any harm in showing him. But, soon afterward, I was arrested on this charge. Now that man French was simply employed by Special Agent of the Treasury N. R. Harris to corner me."

As it is a well settled principle of criminal law that a man cannot be held for a crime when investigated to it by detectives, Judge Bellinger demanded an explanation from District Attorney Murphy. He arose, and said that French had not investigated Davenport; that he had simply caught Davenport in the act.

But this explanation did not satisfy Judge Bellinger at all. "You may sit down," said he to Davenport. "I will investigate this matter. Sentence will not be passed at this time. Detectives of the government have no right to aid in the commission of crime, and thus come into this court to ask that the criminal be punished. I want it understood that persons who go about investigating will not find their business successful in this court."

And a stillness that was embarrassing reigned for a moment.

"Why then did you plead guilty?" asked the judge, suddenly turning to Davenport.

"Well, what else was I going to do? I supposed that they had me, and I've got no money for lawyers."

The judge then asked for French but he was not present. He announced that he would look into the matter and learn the truth. Should he find that Special Agent Harris did employ French to trap Davenport in this way the counterfeit may get off.

Judge Bellinger is very positive in the matter. He has a great antipathy to detective work of this class, believing that it is not the business of the government officials to create cases. Davenport's record as a counterfeiter will likely injure his chances of being credited, but the methods employed in working up the case are very likely to influence the judge in giving sentence, should he decide to pass sentence at all.—Portland Telegram.

It is the general opinion around here that the above statement of "Doc" Davenport is true and that some of the so called detectives around Lebanon took this plan of making money out of the government at Davenport's expense. If we are cor-

rectly informed, A. F. Stowe had as much to do with it, as any one else, if not more; he being the one that bought the trapping outfit for French, when he went to Davenport's home to board.

Old Gold Diggings Reopened.

California is being literally swarmed for gold just now. Not only are the old diggings in Calaveras and a score of other counties worked over for the precious metal, but the very shore along the ocean in sight of San Francisco is being searched for it. The black sand undoubtedly contains particles of gold, but the problem hitherto has been to hit on a device that would separate or extract the minute grain from the mass of sand. A new machine which is called the "amalgamator"—it is the invention of a Bohemian—does this. Two camps are already using the amalgamator within a few miles of Suto Heights, and it is working so satisfactorily that all San Francisco has caught the new gold fever, and it is said that the whole ocean front for miles up and down will soon be dotted with mining "outfits." An expert reports that the sand pays \$2.50 a ton.

One party of eight men with an amalgamator extracted about \$400 worth of gold in as many days' labor, and another camp had done still better, having realized nearly \$1000 in two weeks. The amalgamator in which results are obtained is an odd-looking contrivance built of wood, 7 or 8 feet long and scarcely more than 3 feet high. The sand is fed into a hopper, in a revolving cylinder, with a number of catch-pockets attached to it. Under the cylinder quick-silver attracts the gold, and leading away from it are plates of silver, over which the water and pulp sand is carried. The "pulp" sand is the detritus or that from which the gold has been extracted. Only a small force of men is required to set up an amalgamator camp; two to shovel and wheel the sand, two to look after the machine and one to cook. Water for washing the sand is pumped up from the sea by an electrical engine. The whole outfit costs about \$500.

Counterfeiters are Indicted.

The Sunday Oregonian of April 28, says: "The United States grand jury yesterday returned an indictment against William J. ('Doc') Davenport. It charges that Davenport, on January 4, 1895, unlawfully, knowingly and feloniously had in his possession, without authority of the secretary of the treasury of the United States, or other proper officer, four molds of plaster. In likeness and similitude they were of the same design and inscription upon dies, hubs and molds designated for the coining and making of genuine silver dollars. He feloniously used the same in making and counterfeiting dollar pieces of large number.

Frank Jennings and Luke Jennings are indicted for the same offense, committed February 12, 1894.

Davenport has previously been in the penitentiary for counterfeiting. He has lived at Albany and various parts of Linn county. By profession he is a druggist, and, at the time of his last arrest, was engaged in keeping a pharmacy at Tangent. He stoutly professes his innocence of the charge. The Jennings boys were born and raised in Oregon, and are well known throughout the valley towns, especially in Linn and Lane counties. They were arrested at Lebanon. The Jennings brothers are claimed to have circulated counterfeit \$5 and \$10 gold pieces, as well as silver dollars, out no molds for making the coins were found by the officers.

Frank Jennings was recently taken to Reno, Nev., in company with Frank Ross and D. S. Richardson, to answer an indictment for counterfeiting returned against the trio in that state.

Ladies, if you want a good cheap shoe for yourself, don't forget to go to Baker's or send for his \$90, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 or \$2.50, the best in the world for the money. His motto is, never to under be sold.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

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