

ALLEGED DYNAMITER ONCE A GRESHAM MAN

DISAPPEARED SUDDENLY BEFORE TRAGEDY

A press dispatch from New York on Sunday, announcing the arrest of Matthew A. Schmidt who is alleged to have been one of the dynamiters of the Los Angeles Times building, has a touch of local color because he was at one time a resident of this vicinity.

Those who recall the destruction of the Times newspaper office on October 1, 1910 will remember that two of the supposed conspirators were never caught and that they were being looked for all over the country. The confession of J. B. McNamara implicated a man named Schmidt, but up to Saturday last he has remained at large although detectives have been looking for him ever since.

Another man named David Caplan is still at large and the arrest of Schmidt was delayed several days after he was located in New York in the hope that the two might come together.

Once a Gresham Man.

Matthew A. Schmidt was for several months a resident on one of the rural routes leading out of Gresham. He worked for a prominent farmer and was described as steady and industrious but nixer sociable. He was about 30 years of age at the time, which was just five years ago, his age now being about 35.

About two weeks before the fearful tragedy at Los Angeles he disappeared rather mysteriously and when his name was mentioned it was recalled that he had been in correspondence with some persons who were mentioned in connection with the disaster. Besides, he was known to be a radical socialist and possibly an anarchist. This fact was plain from the papers he received regularly by mail which were delivered to his address.

His Actions Suspicious.

His actions while here were suspicious to his employer, who noticed that he was secretly engaged in some kind of employment in his room when not otherwise engaged. One particular that attracted attention to his actions was his professed ignorance of how to handle giant powder in clearing land. He seemed to have a great horror of explosions and asked to be excused from blasting stumps.

Before he left, however, his employer became so suspicious of his actions in his room and from other little details, that he found a way to examine his belongings and was fortunate enough to find an unlocked trunk in which were the "makings" of bombs and other infernal devices used by anarchists in their nefarious work.

Nothing was said to Schmidt about these discoveries, but he evidently knew that he was being watched and finally left suddenly for parts unknown, having collected the wages due him.

Here in Hiding.

It was supposed at the time of the Los Angeles tragedy that Schmidt was here in hiding, awaiting the call that would take him to California for his part in the scheme of destruction that was carried out so successfully. The only astonishing feature about the whole affair is that he retained his own name. As he kept out of sight of the public while here he was barely known to anyone except his employer and a few near neighbors. He would occasionally buy stamps from the letter carrier, but his mail was handled through the rural letter box without any attempt at secrecy. It was addressed to the box number, with his full name or initials on the wrappers or envelopes.

Helped Buy Dynamite.

Schmidt's part in the conspiracy to destroy the Times building was to buy powder for the purpose. The confession afterwards made by McNamara involved Schmidt and Caplan in that feature of the scheme. They accomplished their work and were a long ways off when the explosion occurred.

It is believed that Schmidt went direct from here to California at the behest of his superiors. Events have proved that the conspiracy was a long time in its formation, and its actors were assembled from all parts of the country when needed. Schmidt was here, the others were somewhere else.

WOMEN TEACHERS GET MEN'S WAGES

Governor Withycombe, on Saturday afternoon last, signed a bill providing pay for women teachers equal to that paid to men for the same service. The bill is a just one, as there has never been any adequate reason why the pay for men and women teachers, doing the same work, should not be the same.

There is one contingency, however, that seems to have been overlooked: With the growing demand for teachers it is possible that many districts will now prefer men as instructors if they are obliged to pay men or women the same salaries.

More men will take up the profession of teaching if there is a demand for them, thus crowding the women to competition against them.

AMERICAN FLAG CALLS OUT FIREMEN

Probably but once since Freedom unfurled her standard to the air has the American flag been taken for a barn on fire. Probably in no other town in the United States but Gresham could such a thing have happened, but it did happen and happened here.

Old Glory, the innocent cause of a long run by the fire department and a hundred others, was floating idly to the breeze over Ed. Schiller's dwelling in the southern part of the city on Saturday last. It had proudly waved in honor of the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln, and was still on duty about Saturday noon when Richard Jennings, one of the members of the Gresham fire department, cast his weather eye in that direction and saw something.

The roof of a big barn just beyond the flag formed a dark background for the flag, and as it rose and fell in the fitful gusts of air its bright red stripes gave the appearance of a fire in the roof of the barn. It was nearly a mile away but the illusion was so complete that it was taken for a blaze and the department was called out. It went and a big crowd went with it. Those who remained on the sidewalks were completely fooled as well, until a pair of sharp eyes saw the difference and the mistake was discovered.

The department was gone for nearly an hour, being unable to discover any fire, and only on their return were firemen and their followers aware of the cause of the mistake.

FISHER FARMHOUSE DESTROYED YESTERDAY

Fire destroyed the old Fisher farmhouse, about three hundred feet west of No. 7 schoolhouse, yesterday afternoon. The building and a well-filled woodshed were a total loss. Only a small portion of the furniture was saved. The fire was supposed to have started from sparks falling on the roof.

The house was occupied by Paul Fisher, who had but recently moved into it with his family. As the building was somewhat isolated the only help available was from the school children. Insurance was \$1250.

Carl Schram, who was living with the Fishers, lost all his belongings except what he had on, including a new shotgun and camera.

Ed. Wilkes had one of his hands badly cut while helping to remove the furniture.

The Fisher farm is well known to everyone in this section. The house was about 25 years old, but was a good one. When built it was rather in advance of country residences.

The family has taken up residence in the old schoolhouse where they will remain until a new home is built, which will be commenced at once.

HOOD RIVER GAME DATE IS CHANGED

By request of the Hood River girls' basketball manager the proposed game between the high school teams of that place and Gresham will be played here on March 5. It was originally scheduled for the twelfth.

The only other game to be played this season will be with the Silverton girls on February 27. They are both return games.

It's a good time to brighten up your automobile with a coat of Chlameis auto paint at Sterling & Kilders.

JUNIOR CLASS DRAMA NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT

The annual Junior play of the Gresham High School will be given next Saturday evening at Regner's Opera House. It is entitled "Are You a Mason?" and is to be produced under the direction of M. B. Collins of the Baker Stock company. Daily rehearsals are being conducted, which give promise of an excellent rendition of the drama. Following is the cast of characters:

George Fisher, stock broker, formerly an actor..... Frederic Honey
Frank Perry, his friend..... Keith Lyman
Amos Bloodgood, of Rockford, Ill., Perry's father-in-law..... Stanley Stinsman
John Halton, a gentleman farmer from up state..... Roy Gibbs
Ernest Morrison, a young architect..... Leslie St. Clair
Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood..... Hester Thorpe
Eva Bloodgood..... Marguerite Volbrecht
Annie Bloodgood..... Anna Brugger
Lulu Bloodgood..... Olive Merrill
Mrs. Halton..... Francis Bliss
Lottie, cook of the Perry's..... Florence Towle
Franche, a cloak model..... Florence Wilhelm

TIME—The Present.

ACT 1.—Friday at noon; scene Perry's house in New York.

ACTS 2 and 3.—Saturday afternoon; scenes the same.

TRAGEDY VICTIM MAY NOT RECOVER

A shooting scrape, which may yet have a fatal ending, took place on Saturday evening on the farm of Paul Bliss about four miles southwest of Gresham.

Three natives of Montenegro were engaged in clearing land for Mr. Bliss and one of them had gone to the cabin to prepare supper. His name is Pete Mitrovick. He was followed by Mike Melick and a few minutes later the third man Mar Wikalich heard four reports of a revolver.

Wikalich hastened to the cabin and found Mitrovick lying outside wounded in four places. The man who did the shooting was seen hastening away, and at last reports had not been captured.

The wounded man was shot from behind, one ball entering his right lung; another ball pierced his right shoulder, a third his right leg while the fourth wound was a mere scratch on his right shoulder.

Sheriff Hurlburt with four deputies and Coroner Dammasch were summoned. They took the wounded man to St. Vincent's hospital where he was alive at last accounts.

Melick is said to be nearly six feet tall with a scar on his right cheek. No cause has been ascribed for the shooting.



EVANGELIST T. J. COBURN.

Revival meetings continue every night at the Free Methodist church. Evangelist T. J. Coburn will speak at 2:30 in the afternoon and nightly at 7:30. A unity of effort on the part of the Christian people of Gresham is much desired, and all who come are heartily welcomed at these services.

Sale of the "Webb Cherry Farm."

One of the largest transfers in realty in eastern Multnomah county of recent date, was that of the Webb Cherry farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence R. Allen who have owned the farm since 1911, have had aspirations to possess a ranch where stock could be raised to advantage, and so decided to dispose of the place.

The new owner, O. A. Bosserman, will make his home on the Cherry farm, with his wife and daughter, and will manage the farm himself.

The Allens now own a large grain and stock ranch of 476 acres, to improve and to make a reputation for, which will be as great as that of the Webb Cherry Farm.

One freak bill has passed the senate to make all salaries of women the same as men in certain public work. As usual such a law will increase taxes and may put a lot of men and women out of work.

FAIRVIEW GLEANINGS TELL OF PROGRESS

MANY REBEKAHS OFF TO CONVENTION

The annual convention of Rebekah lodges of this district, numbering 23 lodges, will be held in Strahlman's hall at Thirteenth and Spokane streets, Sellwood, next Thursday.

There are no regularly elected delegates, as all members may attend. It is expected that several from Gresham and vicinity will be there.

Mrs. Nellie Taggart will be the presiding officer. Mrs. Kade Landon, of Marshfield, president of the State Assembly will be one of the speakers. Henry Westbrook, grand master of Oregon, will address the gathering at the evening session. Other noted speakers are expected to take a part during the day.

ASTORIA WINS BOTH DEBATES FRIDAY NIGHT

Friday evening's debate between the teams of the Astoria and Gresham high schools settled the oratorical contests in this district for the present season. Astoria won both here and at Astoria. The debate held here was spirited and given to an overflowing house, but the unanimous decision of three judges awarded the contest to Astoria. At the latter place, on the same evening Gresham was defeated two to one.

The speakers here, debating the question of government ownership of railroads were Miss Marguerite Volbrecht and Miss Mabel Shipley for the affirmative, against Miss Ruth Spande and Svere Halsan for the negative. At Astoria the Gresham negative side was defended by Frank Rogers and Miss Ellen De Haven. The Astoria affirmative were Miss Eva Bower and William Sigurdson.

After the debate on Friday evening a reception was held at the home of Kirk Thompson on West Powell street in honor of the Astoria visitors. The patronesses were the Misses Katherine Honey, Laura Davis, Della Hughes and Laura Shipley. The evening was passed in games and music. Present were: Mrs. H. A. Spande, Ruth Spande, Svere Halsan and Professor P. T. Kading, of Astoria; Miss Lillian Potter, of Portland; Mabel Shipley, Marguerite Volbrecht, Hester Thorpe, Anna Brugger, Gertrude Eastman, Laura Davis, Della Hughes, Margaret Burke, Katherine Honey, Laura Shipley, Stanley Stinsman, Emerson Brown, Frederic Honey, Wilbur Stanley, Glenwood Miller and Kirk Thompson.

BRIDE-ELECT GIVEN NUMEROUS PRESENTS

Miss Susie Stanley was the recipient of a miscellaneous shower of useful articles at the home of Mrs. John Brown on Saturday afternoon last. Miss Stanley is the bride-elect of Rudolph Kaser. The house decorations were red carnations and valentine suggestions. Various social games took up the early afternoon, the prize winners being Miss Stanley, Miss Addie Quesinberry and Mrs. William Stanley.

Luncheon in two courses was served at the close of the afternoon, those present being Mrs. Lewis May, Mrs. Bernice Sedgast, Mrs. Watson Thacker, Mrs. Reuben Kaser, all of Portland; Mrs. William Bothe, of Cottrell; Mrs. William Stanley, Mrs. George Pullen, Mrs. E. L. Thorpe, Mrs. John Clananah, Mrs. George Kenney, Mrs. O. J. Brown, Mrs. Ross Lovelace, Mrs. John Brown, the Misses Susie Stanley, Hester Thorpe, Ebba Carlson, Effie Stanley, Addie Quesinberry, Myrtle Stanley, Mazie Schantin, Olive Merrill, Iris Gullickson, Miriam Brown and Nora Pullen.

C. M. Hall, of Gresham, is in town this week trying to place a thoroughbred stallion. He has in town at present two animals, a Percheron and a Belgian, both registered. It is his intention to organize a stock company and sell ten shares at \$300 each. He has sold a number of shares in Oakland, a couple in Yoncalla, and will try to place the remainder here. If he is successful in selling all the shares he will part with the Belgian. —Drain Herald.

Shortage of hogs and cattle as reported is prelude to raise in meat prices.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ALL NEWS

By J. H. SCHRAM.

The city council meeting of February 10, was one of interest from beginning to end. The members of the council met with an agreeable surprise on entering the council chamber. Recorder Morrison had purchased and placed in the room a beautiful black walnut table, for the exclusive use of the city council. On entering the chamber now while the dads are at work everything has the genuine appearance of business. Several new ordinances were presented, more duties were assigned our marshal and an increase of salary allowed. The most important feature of the evening was the steps taken to proceed at once to the remodeling of the store room in the city building by changing the front from First street to that facing on the county road, removing the stairway from store room and placing a fire escape on the north end of the building, and finishing up the inside ready for use as no doubt it will be occupied as soon as it is made ready. Our proposed city water works also received considerable attention. Some preliminary surveying and levels have been taken, and figures have been submitted by engineers, and price on well-drilling and no doubt the subject will be brought before the people at a special election and will probably carry. Another feature of importance is the large attendance of ladies which simply means that they are learning the ways that some may and will at our next election take seats in our council and why not? We predict that our next mayor will be a woman. A set of up-to-date codes of law was ordered for the recorder and his next step will be the fitting up of a court room with a shingle out to the east wind.

Postmistress Heslin has received quite a lengthy petition from the citizens of Park Rose district asking that the rural route be so changed as to traverse this territory more thoroughly covering several of their so-called streets, by adding some three or four more to the route. Carrier Schram says a few more additions and he will have to start out the day before. The objection to this addition is that this office lives from the percentage of cancellation. The majority of the people of Park Rose are clerks, doctors, lawyers, dressmakers and teachers. They go to the city early, taking their mail with them, and asking us to deliver letters that they may answer the same during the evening, which cuts off the revenue from this office and yet does not increase the pay of the Portland office. They want the very best service but are not willing to contribute their small mite toward making it encouraging for the postmaster and carrier to give them such. If the carrier is interested in his work and wants to make a record for his route he will do all in his power for the offices he works from, and the postmaster seeing this will aid the carrier in every way possible; but if the patrons will not assist, it is very discouraging to the postmaster and carrier. Patrons of all rural routes, remember it is a pleasure to the carrier to collect your mail as much as it is to deliver it, and the majority of offices live from the cancellation only, so mail all your letters through your carrier and make all happy in the office.

A most sociable evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Schantin on the Sandy road last Saturday evening, which was spent in music, games, bean guessing contest, and the playing of five hundred. The prizes awarded to Miss Mazie Schantin and Mr. Rau were for five hundred; the bean guessing contest prizes were won by Miss Clara Near and Mr. Rau. Dainty refreshments were served and a happy evening spent, all going home at a late hour. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Phil Schantin, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Crane, Mr. and Mrs. Wiedman and son Rudolph, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Myers and son Henry, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Spence and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Spence and son, Mrs. Maches and family, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Wahl and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wahl and family, Mr. and Mrs. Rau Mr. A. G. Schantin, Mr. and Mrs.

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