

Lake County Examiner

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BANDIT ESCAPES

Eludes Officers and Indian Trailers in the Wilds of Modoc County.

Murderer of Brave Bert Walker Has Probably Made Good His Escape---The Shasta Sheriff Before the Modoc Grand Jury---Bloodhounds May be Put On the Trail of the Fugitive.

A special message to Operator Burk from the operator at Adin, Modoc county, last Tuesday afternoon, announces the belief that Illingsworth, the outlaw has made good his escape from the posse that has been on his trail ever since the fight in which Officer Bert Walker and Dorland, one of the criminals, lost their lives. Illingsworth very much deceives his looks and demeanor of a harmless, easy-going individual, as he has turned out to be one of the most cunning and desperate men that ever set foot in Modoc county. He has outwitted the officers and Indian trailers at every turn, and is certainly a man of great endurance. He was believed to have been badly wounded, and doubtless was wounded, but never for a moment lost his nerve. Those who have seen him since the desperate battle in which he engaged say that he had his head bound up in a white cloth which is an indication that he was probably wounded in the head---doubtless a scalp wound. The report last week was to the effect that the fugitive was working his way across the mountains toward Surprise Valley, and it is there that he eluded the posse. He certainly must be not only a man of nerve but a sharp one at that, for at no time has there been less than ten or a dozen experienced white men and Indian trailers on his track, and most of the time as many as twenty-five.

Sheriff Behrens of Shasta, the man who fought a duel with him in the brush near Adin, has returned to Alturas in answer to a subpoena to testify before the Modoc grand jury which body will no doubt find an indictment of murder against Illingsworth, and show that he is a fugitive from Modoc county. It is said that Sheriff Behrens will again make an effort to capture the man after the grand jury releases him from duty. Several bloodhounds have been shipped to the sheriff's office at Redding and the animals may be sent to Modoc and put on the trail of the outlaw. It would appear, however, that the dogs would have a very cold trail to follow, and the scheme looks impracticable unless within a few days a fresh track is discovered.

Ever since the tragedy occurred in which brave Bert Walker lost his life while battling with the outlaws Dorland and Illingsworth, the Modoc press has been harsh in its criticism of Sheriff Behrens of Shasta for the part he took in the affair. Especially has the Alturas Plaindealer abused Behrens as severely as its editor was capable of calling names. The feeling, whether just or not, has and is still very bitter against the Shasta officer. Behrens is called a craven coward because he did not continue the search for Illingsworth after the Modoc officer fell mortally wounded---in face of the fact that the Modoc public considered him (Behrens) responsible for Walker's death. We do not consider this act on the part of Behrens cowardly; he merely protected himself in the premises---for such things have happened before that a stray bullet found its way into the heart of the man who was publicly denounced for an alleged grave offense, even while performing a public duty. Behrens may have acted cowardly, inhuman even, as they say of

him, but he certainly acted wisely in giving up the chase when those who were to accompany him were known by him to be his most bitter foes.

As to whether or not the Shasta officer deserves all the ridicule and abuse heaped upon him by the Modoc press, The Examiner is not in position to say, but the least that can be said about the tragedy is that the manouever was illy planned, judging from all reports, and that the life of a brave man was forfeited unnecessarily.

In reference to the press attacks upon him Sheriff Behrens publishes the following card in the Redding Free Press: "Not in defense, but in explanation to my friends: For a man to hold his peace under a bitter newspaper attack is a difficult thing to do, and perhaps more than ought to be expected of human nature, but the wisdom of experience shows that nothing toward the establishment of truth has ever been gained in a newspaper controversy. Rather the effect has been to cloud the issue and render doubtful what would otherwise be clear. Bearing these facts in mind, I shall not respond to an evident challenge to try facts in relation to the late affair in Modoc county. No man can regret more than I the death of the brave officer who died by a bullet aimed also at me, and there is the other death, which the natural feelings of a man forced to disagreeable necessity, prompts him not to discuss. There is this to be said in general of the stories in circulation among the papers---they are all started by persons who were not at the scene and are not likely to ever get near enough in a matter of this kind to report it correctly. With these few words, I shall let the matter rest. I should not have said so much except for the urging of friends who thought some answer to the unjust attack upon me should be made. I am confident the public in the end will truly judge and do me justice.

Respectfully,
C. H. BEHRENS."

COLUMBIA SOUTHERN.

Pressing Demand Upon Promoters to Extend the Line Far Southward From Shankio.

Now that the troubles that delayed the progress of the Columbia Southern Railroad have been settled, there is a pressing demand for the extension of its lines through the country in which surveys were made last year, says the Oregonian. The Columbia Southern projected two lines---one southward across the state to Lakeview, and the other up the John Day River to Prairie City. It was understood that plans had been made for the extensions when the dissentions arose that blocked all progress. Now the road halts at Shankio, where substantial improvements have been made by the railroad company and others, and an important trade has grown up. But the people of the interior and merchants of Portland are pressing for transportation facilities far to the southward of Shankio. Important development agencies are at work in that country, and they, too, are crying for a railroad.

The timber of the Deschutes Valley has all been secured by Minnesota and Wisconsin lumbermen. There is nearly 125,000 acres of this land, and it will yield 18,000 feet, board measure, to the acre, of fir and pine, or more than 2,300,000,000 feet of excellent lumber. Three extensive irrigation projects are also on foot.

C. W. Johnson, a banker of Chehalis, Washington, was an arrival on the Western yesterday.

BAKER CITY

Odd Fellows and Sisters There 600 Strong.

Delegates to Grand Lodge Highly Entertained by Citizens of the Queen City of Eastern Oregon.

BAKER CITY, May 23.

TO THE EXAMINER: Perhaps a few lines from this section of Oregon would be of interest to Examiner readers, inasmuch as it is the greatest mining region in this state. Baker City is unusually lively just at present, as the grand lodge of Odd Fellows have the place. Probably 600 of the three linkers are here, and are being royally entertained by Baker's citizens. The session of grand lodge and grand assembly adjourned this evening, but the entertainment continues. Tomorrow the visiting delegates will be taken to Sumpter to visit the mines, at the expense of the local lodge, and they will return to their homes feeling that they have been most highly entertained at the hands of the Baker City people. All the business houses were tastefully decorated with bunting and emblems of the order, and the word "Welcome" in large letters was over every door and in every window.

Baker is a beautiful city of nearly 7,000 inhabitants, surrounded by the snow capped Blue mountains. The famous Virtue and numerous other noted mines are near here, and the town is bustling with business, induced by the hundreds of thousands of dollars annually produced by these mines. Baker has recently been bonded for \$150,000 for a new system of water works and electric lights. There are three daily papers published here.

The Lakeview party have met a number of familiar faces, and friends have made the trip thus far very enjoyable. Marion Barnes, an old Lake county boy, is here, but will remove to Lake within a month. W. D. B. Dodson is now one of the editors of the Baker Evening Republican. Mrs. Feather Reid is here as a delegate from the Corvallis Rebekah lodge. Mrs. Reid has graduated as a pharmacist, and is now looking for a location.

The Grand Master I. O. O. F., upon recommendation of the subordinate lodge, reappointed S. F. Ahlstrom District Deputy Grand Master. F. P. Light was appointed District Deputy Grand Patriarch.

A. Y. B.

N-C-O TO KLAMATH.

"Republican" Editor Gets Late Advice By Grapevine Telegraph Regarding R. R. Move

The editor of the Klamath Falls Republican is going to have a branch of the Nevada, California & Oregon railroad built to his town. This is something new and refreshing in "railroad rumors." The Republican editor says:

In response to inquiries we have received this week from a well known and reliable resident of a neighboring county, a letter in relation to the general hope and expectation of railway connection in the near future. In his letter he advances a seemingly well founded theory, but one which we have never before heard mentioned, in regard to the N-C-O railway, which starting from Reno, Nevada, is completed in a northwesterly direction as far as Termo. From Termo it is to be extended to Alturas, Cal. At Alturas the road will divide into two branches, the construction of which will capture the entire business of Southern Oregon, and settle forever all competition over it between San Francisco and Portland.

From Alturas one branch will run due north to Lakeview and will there meet the contemplated road from Burns. Another branch from Alturas will run northwest to Klamath Falls, and thus receive the benefit and business arising from the vast forests of pine in that neighborhood. Both routes are easy, and the business which the two branches will receive by such a union, in lumber, stock, freight, passengers, etc., will at once make the N-C-O one of the best paying roads in Oregon or California.

Mart McConaughy, woolgrower of Warner, was in town yesterday.

MERCHANTS

OPPOSED

Probability of a Boycott Against the N-C-O Railway Company.

Northern Country Merchants Do Not Relish Increase in Freight Rates---Threaten to Do All Shipping by Boat to Red Bluff as of Yore---It is up to the Railroad Company for Action.

The Redding Searchlight of May 21st has the following regarding the opposition to increased freight rates on the N. C. O. Ry., by the merchants of Modoc and Lake counties:

There is promise that the bulk of the freight of Southeastern Oregon and Modoc county will again come this way instead of passing over the Nevada, California and Oregon Railroad running north from Reno. In former years this freight was teamed out of Redding and later was divided between Redding, Anderson and Red Bluff. When the Reno railroad was constructed into Lassen county the bulk of the teaming from this place northeastward dropped off, the railroad getting the lion's share of the business.

Now, however, the railroad having raised its freight tariff, freighting by team will again be resorted to, but Red Bluff will be the chief beneficiary, though Redding and Anderson will doubtless get a share. Red Bluff's good fortune is due to the fact that she is at the head of river navigation.

According to H. H. Cutter, who has just returned from a trip to Lakeview, many of the heaviest mercantile firms along the line of the California and Oregon wagon road have announced their intention to quit the Reno railroad and put their teams on the road again, sending down wool and hides and returning with supplies. The change will take effect at once. It is possible, however, that the Reno railroad will checkmate this move by slashing rates, so that the change may not be permanent, but a great deal of freight will be routed this way before the railroad will have a chance to take action. Wool and hides are now being started this way from the north.

Ever since the Nevada, California and Oregon railway company found it necessary to raise the freight rates from Reno to Termo, there has been a feeling among the business men of Lakeview that the new tariff was an additional hardship, as freight rates on merchandise from San Francisco was considered a heavy drain even before the raise. Stockmen have the same feeling, and although The Examiner regrets to announce that there is any opposition whatever to the N-C-O management, it is a fact, nevertheless, that there is a mutual feeling among the business men of the northern country that something should be done for self-protection, and unless an amicable settlement can be made with the N-C-O people in a very short time there is little doubt of Red Bluff getting all the freight to and from Lake county. Already has freight been ordered from San Francisco by boat to Red Bluff by two firms in Lakeview, and the example will probably be followed by others. If the local merchants can control the wool shipment from Lake county---and they no doubt can---that commodity will be hauled to Red Bluff and shipped by boat, the teams returning here loaded from the boat landing at Red Bluff.

Sheep buyers, it is said, will drive from Lake county to either Gazelle or Montague in Siskiyou county in preference to driving to Termo and accepting the raise in N-C-O rates. Once a start is made for some other point it will soon become general, and will be difficult to stop. Teamsters dislike to go to Termo as it is said they are charged exorbitant prices for hay, and even are compelled to pay for water for their horses at the rate of 25 cents per span. This is outrageous, but we presume the N-C-O. people are not responsible for the order of things outside their own legitimate affairs.

If they are, then The Examiner does not blame the merchants and stockmen for a speedy change in shipping point.

The majority of the merchants of this section, we understand, would much prefer to do business with the N-C-O., and seem disposed to encourage that company, but they object to being "tariffed" to death. It is to be hoped that some amicable agreement can be made between the railroad and the local merchants, and that, until the railroad moves farther north, Termo will remain the general shipping point for all this northern country.

It is up to you, gentlemen of the N-C-O.

THE CIRCUIT COURT.

Important Matters Decided, Others to be Decided and Still Others New on Trial.

H. L. BENSON, JUDGE.
May 22, 1901.

Chrisman vs West---Order confirming sale of property by Sheriff approved by the court.

State of Oregon vs N. Fine and Joseph Fine---time for pleading; defendant N. Fine by his attorneys E. M. Brattain and E. V. Spencer of counsel, files demurrer to information, and ask that information be set aside and defendant be discharged from custody. Court takes matter under advisement.

State of Oregon vs Andrew J. Neilon---information for larceny. Appeared in court with his attorney C. A. Cogswell and asked to be admitted to bail. Court ordered that defendant be admitted to bail in the sum of \$6,461. Time in which defendant allowed to plead extended to May 25, 1901, at 2 p. m.

State of Oregon vs N. Fine and Jos. Fine---demurrer overruled. Defendant ordered to plead at 2 p. m. May 23d. Enters plea of "not guilty." On motion of District Attorney it is ordered that cause be dismissed without prejudice to filing of another information for the same crime and without prejudice to any future proceedings against said defendant for any and all matters connected with said cause.

State of Oregon vs A. J. Neilon---defendant represented by counsel C. A. Cogswell and A. S. Hammond appears and files demurrer to complaint. First that said information does not substantially conform to the requirements of chapter 8 of the code; second, that more than one crime is charged in this information; third, that the facts stated do not constitute a crime. Court took matter under advisement.

May 27---J. Frankl vs G. Grimes; defendant adjudged in default; ordered that plaintiff recover of and from defendant the sum of \$266.20, also \$50 counsel fees, and costs and disbursements of this action amounting to \$10.

Case of A. J. Neilon---Defendant pleads "not guilty." Case set for first day of next regular term, October 21st, 1901.

One Mile of Animated Pictures.

The Summers & Wagner consolidated show company will appear at Gunther Hall next Saturday evening, June 1st. One mile of animated pictures will be displayed---not only animated, but synchronized with sound and description. The battles just as seen in real life---the commands, the call, the musketry. Fancy colored dances, and a miscellaneous series of all kinds to please everybody. Do not fail to attend; you will be highly entertained. A 5x3 1/2 feet oil painting worth \$20 will be given free to the most popular lady in the house.

Play billiards at the Brewery saloon. 21-2