

MYSTERY SURROUNDS SUDDEN DEATH OF A YOUNG WOMAN.

Doctor Testifies That She Died From Poison—McAlpin Alleges He Was Not Aware of Woman's Condition

Some suspicion was created on Sunday when it became known that a young married woman, by the name of Mrs. Mary Ellis Dickens had died suddenly at the home of C. E. McAlpin, who is a horse trader and resides near the railroad depot. There is some doubt as to whether McAlpin told the whole truth in regard to the woman's death, and the real cause that led up to it, although in other respects he seemed to have told a straight story in regard to his relations with Mrs. Dickens previous and since his residence in this county. There is no doubt but what the young woman died from taking some drug, either with suicidal intent or to bring about other results. This is the point where McAlpin's lips are closed and where his evidence is open to doubt, but will be investigated, by the grand jury.

McAlpin's account of the death is that they had decided to go horse back riding on Sunday afternoon between two and three o'clock. He drove in the horses and Mrs. Dickens went into the house to put on her riding habit. When he went into the house he found her dead at the top of the stairs and he carried her down to the room below.

McAlpin and Mrs. Dickens came to Tillamook county about nine months since, and occupied the same house and bedroom for the first week or so, and since then have been living together in the same house near the depot. When McAlpin introduced Mrs. Dickens as his sister some of the citizens had their suspicion that the woman was McAlpin's affinity and in this respect they guessed correctly, for Mrs. Dickens was a married woman, and so was McAlpin with a divorced wife and family, while Mrs. Dickens had applied for a divorce. They had been going together for about three years, and according to McAlpin he was going to marry her as soon as she obtained her divorce.

With these suspicious circumstances being known it was thought proper to hold an inquest on the body and Coroner Hawk was called for that purpose.

At the inquest on Tuesday the first witness was C. E. McAlpin, and he was asked by the coroner to give a little history in regard to the deceased's health. He replied by saying that she had been feeling fine most of the time but her heart bothered her some. When asked whether Mrs. Dickens was his sister he said: "No, she is not." He did not know what happened to cause her death. The witness was quite agitated when asked if he had any idea what caused her death, "I have not. Gentlemen, I guess my case is hard and I might as well tell you all I know about it. It is hard." Asked by Attorney Johnson what brought on the death of Mrs. Dickens, witness said:

"At the present time we have been so happy here together—always been happy together. I got up Sunday morning at 4:30 to get the chores done so we could take a ride in the afternoon. About noon she had dinner ready. Some of the horses came up. I went out to get the horses and she said she would take her bath, and when I got back she had on a tea gown and had dinner, and after dinner she straightened things away. She always put things away so nice. After she put everything away she spoke about watering down the barn, and went out there and went to sprinkling, and after we got it sprinkled she stepped up to the front there, in front of the barn, and she said you drive the horses back across the road and I will turn the water off as I go in, and she says I will get on my riding clothes, and we will both go for a ride—you drive the horses in and we will take a ride. I drove the horses back. It didn't seem like I was gone over 10 or 15 minutes. I drove the horses across the road and back to the barn and hollered to her. She spoke before of her horse having a cold and I thought maybe she did not care to take the other horse. I asked her which horse she wanted and she didn't answer. I came into the house. I walked in through that door and back through this way, and when I went through I didn't notice her anywhere. I noticed the front door open, and I thought she might have gone out on the steps. I started there to watch me drive the horses. I started up the steps, and when I got up the steps she was lying with her feet in the hall and her body just inside the door and her mouth was saliva. There didn't seem any life in her. I took her up and carried her down and laid her on the lounge in the other room and phoned for doctors. I went back and got on a horse then and went across the way to Pangborn's and they came right away, and we tried then to get doctors, and I

believe that is the doctor who came, and said there was no hope for her. And then later on I went to send some messages to her sister, and I didn't know only the one address, and I sent a message to her, and I tried to find some envelopes, and Mr. Everson came down to get my mail, and I went there to the drawer to the cabinet to get the tablet there so he could write down the number of my box, and there is the paper. I found that door open; that door was open."

Questioned further by the coroner as to whether Mrs. Dickens was his sister, he said:

"No. I can explain to you gentlemen if you want to know why. She could not be classed as a sister. She is supposed to have her divorce the 22nd of June last, and we were to be married and were waiting to hear whether she had her divorce or not. They had their property settlement papers, and her husband is suing for a divorce. We had the papers in the house for the property settlement, and to be together did not cause any disturbance, and we could be everything to each other while we lived together as brother and sister, and we have ever since. I have a letter here. I suppose she had written to see whether her divorce was granted or not. She spoke to me a time or two before she had written but could not get an answer. She had written before this and her husband's attorney said she would have her divorce on the 22nd of June, that is what he said—he would have her divorce, and she wrote several times afterward to see whether she had the divorce, and never heard from him. I just got this letter. Sam Pettis brought this up since she passed away. He brought this up."

A slip of paper was introduced which had been taken from a drawer of the cabinet, with this written on it in Mrs. Dickens' handwriting "C. E. McAlpin, Tillamook, Oregon, Box 261. The way of this life varies."

When asked by the coroner whether he knew of the actual condition of Mrs. Dickens, he said he did not, but admitted that she complained of not feeling good.

Witness said he came to Tillamook in August of last year. He had been acquainted with deceased between three and four years, and he denied they had lived together as man and wife. When further questioned as to Mrs. Dickens' condition he again stated that he did not have the least idea. He was questioned as to whether the deceased took poison, witness stated that there was lots of poison about the place if she wanted to take it. She had been melancholy for several days and appeared as though something was worrying her.

Deceased had separated from her husband about a year ago. Her mother wanted her to marry this man who was 15 years older, and who did not show her any happiness. Deceased was a nurse before her marriage, and witness said, "I expected to marry this woman just as soon as she could find she was free." Previous to coming to Tillamook they lived in Portland for seven months. Witness admitted living in the same house, but each had their own rooms, and did not live together as man and wife. When questioned whether there had been improper relations between them witness admitted there had. Questioned further as to the time of the death of Mrs. Dickens, witness thought it was somewhere around 2:30 and 3:30. She was a trained nurse and new more about it than witness did. Deceased never spoke after witness picked her up. Asked whether he had ever had any difference with her, witness replied by saying, "nothing that amounted to anything. I am quick tempered, and she always tried to soothe me and tell me to let everything go. Never any quarreling."

During the inquest several times McAlpin was greatly distressed, once almost collapsing. He testified several times how he loved Mrs. Dickens.

Dr. R. T. Boals stated that he and Dr. McGee and Mr. Hinkle had made an autopsy of the body that morning, and it was his opinion that deceased had died from corrosive poison, which would be determined by an analysis of the stomach. He also testified to other conditions they found, which was of about five months' duration, when making the post mortem examination of the body. The doctor was out of town when he was called to visit the sick woman.

McAlpin gave some further testimony in regard to Mrs. Dickens' husband and the property. He also stated that he and Mrs. Dickens had their banking account together in one of the banks of this city.

Dr. McGee and Mr. Hinkle were also witnesses but their evidence was a repetition of that already given.

The jury brought in a verdict that the deceased came to her death from some unknown cause.

Attorney H. T. Botts acted in the capacity of district attorney and Attorney Johnson appeared for McAlpin.



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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th,
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Saturday and Sunday, September 5th and 6th,
Afternoon and Evening.
Closing Dances of Season.

LAMAR'S VARIETY STORE,
TILLAMOOK, OREGON.
"Drop in and Look Around."

School Opens Monday.

The Tillamook public school will open for registration Monday morning. As soon as the pupils are enrolled and a list of the books they need is given them, they will be dismissed until Tuesday morning, when the work of the year will begin in earnest.

Karl W. Onthank, the new superintendent arrived the first of the week and has been busy since arranging for the opening of school. He desires to meet every student who is entering the high school this year at his office in the high school building Friday or Saturday afternoon of this week, to advise in regard to courses to select. Under the new elective system in the high school work, it is necessary for students to select the lines of work they desire to follow through the courses on entering the high school. Students who are in doubt as to the work they desire to take this year should consent Mr. Onthank before the opening of school, because it will be difficult to change courses later.

About half of the teachers employed this year are local people, of the

others, several are in town already and the others will be here today or tomorrow.

Christian Church.

"The 20th Century Church" will be the theme at the Christian Church next Sunday morning, and the subject for the evening sermon will be "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's." Our Christian Endeavor reached an attendance of 62 last Sunday evening, averaging 51 for the whole month. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Service 11 a.m.; C. E. 7 p.m. Evening preaching service 8 p.m. Public invited.

H. A. VanWinkle, pastor.

The Tillamook Headlight is the only Republican newspaper in Tillamook County. The snap shot man believes that every newspaper should be on one side or the other of the political fence, and we are glad that Bro. Trombley, after beating about the bush for several years, finally landed where he belongs—in the free trade, and prohibition parties.

BOSTON BL. TO VISIT

C. I. Clough Looks Forward to Large Crowds During her Week's Stay at the Rexall Store.

Will give number of free Facial Massages and personal advice in your home by appointment.

An opportunity which is sure to prove as beneficial as it is rare will be afforded the women of Tillamook and vicinity when Miss. H. Coleman, the much talked of Beauty Specialist, now touring Oregon as representative of the United Drug Company of Boston,—creators of many Harmony Beauty Requisites and equally well-known toilet preparations, starts her public demonstrations for the week commencing Monday, Sept. 7th, as the guest of C. I. Clough, proprietor of the Rexall Store and sole distributor of the Harmony Toilet Products in Tillamook.

Miss Coleman contends that it is the privilege of every woman to take advantage of anything that will tend to lend a touch of added beauty to the skin; but, says Miss Coleman, "extreme care should be exercised to choose only such preparations that really do help nature in the beautifying of your complexion."

"Of course no one will question the assertion that the women with the clean, well-preserved skin is a much admired person anywhere," and, she continues, "if the women of today would only take the care to treat the skin to the benefits of a good massage that she takes in reading the house hold section of the paper, we would see fewer wrinkles, and more, yes, a great many more women young at fifty."

We have no doubt about Miss Coleman's ability to offer the women of Tillamook some very valuable advice, and Mr. Clough will, we feel sure, have a store full of the "fairer sex" during Miss Coleman's stay at the Rexall Store.

Mr. Clough tells us that he has a real beauty treat in store for the women of Tillamook, so you'd better get ready for Miss Coleman's arrival ladies.

Nehalem Industrial Fair.

The north end of Tillamook County turned out en masse to enjoy one of Nehalem's perfect days last Saturday at the Annual Fair and Dahlia exhibit held in the beautiful little city of Nehalem. Many citizens from Tillamook went up on trains and many in autos.

The fair was a grand exhibition of agriculture, horticulture and fine arts, chickens, geese, ducks, Indian corn 8 foot high with good ears of corn growing, smaller corn in roasting ears, as fine onions, potatoes, celery, beets as are grown any where, cabbage as large as a half bushel measure, alfalfa and grasses, bread and cakes such as only the good house-keepers of the fertile Nehalem Valley can bake, preserved fruits and jellies of all kinds, cheese and butter from our best herds of cattle, relics, covenirs and bric-a-brac of all kinds, fine laces and embroideries, beauti-

A Grave Injustice

Do those who advocate the absolute prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors realize the seriousness of the social and economic crisis that would be precipitated by such legislation? Are they aware of the fact that the heads of families aggregating probably not less than three million people would suddenly be deprived of their sole means of livelihood, and that properties valued in the aggregate at perhaps two billion dollars would as suddenly become worthless?

It is doubtful if they do fully realize this, yet these are figures given by no less a writer than Dr. Henry Smith Williams in an article in the "Ladies Home Journal," reviewing the prohibition movement. And he adds: "Personally I am at a loss to understand how anyone who has the slightest grasp of economic questions can contemplate with equanimity the anarchistic possibilities—nay, certainties—which reveal themselves through the slightest use of the imagination in connection with these figures. To me, at least, it seems obvious that the only thing which has kept the prohibition movement before the people of the United States is the simple fact that prohibition does not prohibit."

Thinking men and women who seek the truth and are unswayed by prejudice, and who give the foregoing facts the consideration they deserve cannot escape a like conclusion. —Paid Advertisement.

E. D. Ulrich, Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Oregon.

fulcushions and fancy work made by the beautiful ladies willing expert hands, the grandest of all, the splendid display of nature's smiles, beautifully grand and glorious dahlias from home gardens, home grown by amateurs, some as large around as plates some round like a big ball, some fine and small, all colors from white to scarlet, all banded at one end of the ball, showing exquisite taste in arrangement by the committee of ladies in charge.

Premiums were awarded by competent committees on all the displays. The local band assisted by Wheeler band rendered inspiring music from the balcony of the hotel, potato, fat men, sack and three legged races, young ladies' races, all were run with vim and speed to the merriment of the big crowd, an afternoon and night dance given by the band boys was well patronized and enjoyed by all. The beautiful day full of sports came all too soon to a close. Nehalem did herself proud in the Fair, the clean sports, the grand entertainment of her guests. Our own Dr. Reedy won the fat man's race and fell down closely pressed by Mr. Hare; time 5 minutes for 100 yards, oh but it was fun, Mr. and Mrs. Dunstan and Mr. Tate, president and secretary of our big county fair were busy getting exhibits for the fair. The pretty little Miss Reed, from Neah-Kah-Nie Tavern, won one of the girls races, she was as swift as one of the legendary Indian maids, that once roamed over old Neah-Kah-Nie mountains.

The noticed among others from Tillamook, Mayor and Mrs. Beals, H. Crenshaw and wife, T. H. Goynes and wife, A. H. Franklin and wife, L. V. Eberhart, Dr. and Mrs. Hewett, Dr. and Mrs. Reedy, C. R. Worrall and many others, Cal Worrall, as usual was busy boosting Tillamook and stayed over night for the dance and they tell it on him that he danced every dance and went home with "a girl" in the morning.

Tillamook Jottings.

M. J. Gersoni vs. Frank A. Rowe, A. J. Zimmerman, Alex. Anderson, Sam Lundberg, John Erickson, J. F. Bradley, I. B. Wheeler, Annie Kelly, E. A. Brenner and Ben Cox, is a suit filed in the circuit court, which is for attorney's fees. Plaintiff claims that he was retained as an attorney and counsellor to conduct the proceedings and perform such services as are necessary and required for the incorporation of the city of Wheeler, and promised to pay him reasonable worth for his services. Although plaintiff claims that he has made repeated demands for his fee, it has never been paid, amounting to \$750.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex McNair returned on Monday from visiting Mr. McNair's brothers at Bandon and Myrtle Point and Mr. and Mrs. Paine at Eugene. It is four years since Mr. McNair visited Coos county and he reports a large amount of bottom land having been cleaned up. He says Coos County is in about the same condition in regard to cheese making as this county was when several individuals owned the cheese factories. He considers, in some respects, that Coos county is ahead of this county in raising corn, and two and three crops of clover hay, but the farmers have no co-operative organizations like they have here.

At the home of the bridegroom near Tillamook, Eldee Krake and Miss Marion Keene were married in the presence of 37 guests at high noon on August 27. An elegant dinner was prepared by his brother, Albert Krake. After dinner some excellent music was rendered and nice presents were received. Beside the home folks there were present two of the bride's sisters and families of Dayton, Ore, Henry Smith and wife, of Blaine, John Blum and family, of Pleasant Valley, Mr. Charles Wilks and wife, Ron Williams, of Trask, Louis Krake and family, of Hemlock, Albert Krake and family, Mrs. Dora Young, of Beaver, officiated.

Have you a farm for sale, if so, write to R. Mills, P. O. Box No. 245 Portland, Oregon. We want to buy a farm for cash if not over \$4,000, or will pay more for a good place on terms. In answering this ad, please state number of acres cultivated, price per acre, and state what stock and machinery go with the place. Prefer cheap land at \$20 to \$60 per acre, but will consider highly improved farm at better price.

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