

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

STANFORD MURDER MYSTERY

All Employees at Mansion Are Closely Watched

Report That Private Secretary Berner Will Make Important Disclosures

San Francisco, March 3.—With the rest over the remains of Mrs. Stanford only a few hours away, the police have a net around every person in the city connected with the Stanford case. Employees in the Stanford mansion are practically prisoners. Detectives are constantly on the watch, and no movement of the servants escapes them. The home of Albert Beverly, formerly private secretary, with whose family Elizabeth Stanford, Mrs. Stanford's former maid, is stopping, is also under close surveillance. At Palo Alto, where Mrs. Stanford's private secretary resides, detectives are on guard to prevent Miss Berner from telling what she knows until the proper time comes. Meanwhile the detectives are working on the first poisoning case, working diligently with the city chemists, and before the day is over developments are promised, and may materialize. These developments, while they may not come in the form of a report, are expected to shed much light on the great mystery. Upon the answer and inquest, however, rest the most importance, and word from Honolulu is awaited with intense interest. There can be no doubt the coroner's jury will find that Mrs. Stanford came to her death from strychnine poisoning, but what will be the official finding, tending to show responsibility, if any will be the point of paramount consequence. While the police here claim to have no information of the evidence gathered by the Honolulu police, there is an impression that Miss Berner has told something, or will tell something at the inquest that will serve to clear up in a measure the mystery.

The report circulated last night that Miss Berner had directly accused Ah Wing, the Chinese cook at the Stanford mansion, of having placed strychnine in the bottle of bicarbonate of soda, and that upon this information she will be arrested. The police deny that Ah Wing is under arrest any more, and any other member of the household is under arrest, and claim to have official advice to the effect that Miss Berner is under accusation. Vigorous search is being prosecuted today at Palo Alto for further clues that might lead to a former employe at the Stanford mansion upon whom suspicion rests. This man is said to have purchased there, through another man,

quantities of strychnine at various times, but this is not yet verified. The police and private detectives claim to have every line well in hand, and that if murder was done the murderer cannot escape. The theory advanced last night, following the erroneous report of finding another bottle of strychnine in Mrs. Stanford's trunk, that Mrs. Stanford had been taking the poison as medicine, and accidentally swallowed an overdose is scouted by the police and others directly interested in the case.

It is learned that Mrs. Stanford's attorney secretly communicated the contents of Mrs. Stanford's will to the police and private detectives. Information contained in the document proved valuable, even if there is no clause making provision for any of the servants, as it will effectually dispel the belief that cupidty was the cause of the supposed murder, and leaves only the theory of revenge as a motive, if murder was really done. The attorney and detectives refuse to state whether or not the will provides for any of the servants under suspicion.

Attorney Wilson announced this morning that the will may be filed within a few days, or as soon as it is no longer necessary to keep its contents secret. Under the law he has 30 days in which to file, but he believes it will expedite the investigation to have the document on record. He denied that he has revealed all the contents of the will.

The chief of a private detective agency is working on the case. Chief of Police Spillane and Chief of Detectives Burnett had a protracted conference, and, as a result of this conference, it was agreed that all radical action will be postponed until the chemists' report is received from Honolulu. It was stated after the conference that the officials were not prepared to say that they suspected any particular person.

A representative of the detective agency called upon attorney Wilson this afternoon, and arranged for a meeting of Mrs. Stanford's relatives to discuss the advisability of filing the will, and also plans for pushing the investigation of Mrs. Stanford's death. As the meeting is set for a late hour today, it is unlikely any conclusion therein will be given out before tonight or tomorrow.

Honolulu, March 3.—The Stanford inquest has been postponed, the analysis of the contents of Mrs. Stanford's stomach being incomplete. Miss Berner and May Hunt are being rigidly examined by the police, who are taking a stenographic report of their statements.

San Francisco, March 3.—It is authoritatively stated this afternoon that Captain of Detectives Burnett has in his possession information that he believes will lead to a solution of the mystery, and that the motive for the murder was the immediate requirement of a legacy, and that the finger of suspicion points to one in a high position, and that an arrest will follow as soon as the information is thoroughly inquired into, and that there is no danger of the suspected person getting away.

(Continued on page 2.)

REFERENDUM IMPRACTICAL AS A REMEDY

Will Not Accomplish the Objects That Are Aimed at in Oregon

Certificates of Indebtedness Will Pile Up and Be Paid With Interest for All Institutions

The cooler thinking business men of the state are coming to see that the invocation of the referendum to defeat the general appropriation bill passed by the last legislature will not accomplish the end desired. It will take 4500 names to petitions to tie up that bill, carrying over \$1,000,000 of appropriation, and then it will be submitted to the 100,000 voters of Oregon two years hence. The result of the direct vote on the bill is not a matter of doubt. The reaction and excitement having passed away, the majority of the voters would simply be for the bill, as the thinking taxpayers would not repudiate legitimate claims for the current expenses of the state, that under the constitution, they could not escape paying. That was determined when the hold-up legislature six years ago failed to make appropriations, and all the institutions were carried on under the decision of the supreme court. Even the educational institution, so much harped about, got its bills allowed, and would again, referendum or no referendum.

How It Would Operate.
Let us suppose the 4500 petitioners can be secured to invoke the referendum on the general appropriation bill, and then its payment will be stopped. In the meantime the taxes are levied, and will have to be paid, and will pile up in the state treasury. The asylum, penitentiary and all the departments of state government would have to run along, and certificates of indebtedness would have to be issued for all these claims against the state. Those certificates have been held by the courts to be legal evidence of debt on the part of the state, and would have to be paid.

Cannot Strike Out Items.
In the opinion of the governor and other state officials the referendum cannot be taken on items of the appropriation bill, but must be taken as to the whole, or not at all. For instance, the appropriations for the normal schools cannot be attacked alone. As the whole proceeding is to be under the initiative and referendum amendment of the constitution, it would be held by the courts that the normal schools could not be singled out alone to be held up, and their appropriations would probably be recognized as legal as any, and they would be warranted in asking for certificates for claims, and would run just the same as any other institution. That would be followed by litigation that might result in giving

them a legal status that they are not entitled to, and defeat the very object the present agitation is directed against. A movement by the initiative to abolish two of the normal schools, and put the other two under one board of regents would stand a far better chance of accomplishing results than the present referendum of the whole appropriation bill. Hanging up the whole bill to punish the normal schools is too much like burning down the house to get rid of an undesirable tenant.

The Schools Will Stand.
Even if 4500 names can be got to the petitions to refer the whole bill, it is very uncertain whether the bill would not be held up by the people. A campaign would be made and the number of men who would attack educational appropriations on the stump before the people is very small. It would be shown that even little Idaho is paying more for her educational institutions than Oregon, that California has six normal and technical training schools, and that Washington gives her three normal schools \$125,000 each, or more than Oregon gives for support for all four, voters will consider that this state is getting off cheaply, and will vote for the bill. The campaign of those who would advocate abolishing all normal schools would not get very far as it is contrary to all good sound judgment in educational matters. There is not a state in the Union but supports normal schools and supports them more liberally than Oregon for the training of the common school teachers. The common schools can only be weakened, crippled and rendered inefficient by cutting off the normal schools and when the matter is fully threshed out the people will never consent to their abolition. The people of Oregon will never deliberately get in a class by themselves as opposed to schools.

The Financial Aspect
Taking the referendum on the general appropriation bill would not only tend to put Oregon on the back seat among commonwealths, but would result in a gigantic financial graft. The state tax levy for 1905 and 1906 would be made just the same and a million dollars would accumulate in the state treasury. This money would have to be held in state banks for the treasurer and these same banks would buy the certificates for claims against the state at a discount and as they are negotiable, make the interest and dis-

count and carry on the whole business with the people's taxes—or state money. It is not assumed that this would be in violation of state laws, as the state treasurer could not be expected to hold all this money in the vaults of the state as he gives bonds for only \$500,000, and if one of these banks failed in the mean time the bank would not lose the money, but the treasurer. Those who, for political effect, agitate for the referendum, knowing that they cannot defeat the payment of these claims and accumulated interest, are resorting to a specious sort of demagoguery that will come high for the taxpayer and accomplish no reform whatever. On the other hand they are encouraging speculation in the fixed charges of the state with state funds in violation of the constitution. What good will result?

HEAVY CANNON EMPLOYED

Advancing Inch by Inch on Doomed City of Mukden

Sak He Tan, Manchuria, March 3.—The Japanese today made two stubborn attacks on Putloff Hill, but were repulsed. Stubborn fighting was in progress all day. The bombardment of Putloff has been resumed. The Japanese attacked two points of the Russian extreme left wing early this morning. The Russians retook the fortifications at Guato Pass, previously abandoned. The Japanese next attempted an advance on the left bank of the Hun river, meeting with stubborn resistance. Four Japanese divisions today reached Saw Nipu, 11 miles west of Mukden, but their advance was checked by Russian reinforcements. General Nogi's Port Arthur veterans are participating in today's fighting. The losses on both sides are heavy. The revolt among the Russians is indelusive. The report that Japanese cavalry have appeared at Sin Min Tin is confirmed.

Russian Guns Silenced.
Tokio, March 3.—Oku's report of yesterday's date shows that the Japanese opened a terrific bombardment along the entire line. The heaviest guns ever used in the field did great damage to the Russian defenses. One hundred guns of all sizes were employed. The Russian guns were quiet, and evidently unable to reply. The Japanese left has completely blocked the Russian attempt to effect a turning movement.

Russians Make Gains.
Tokio, March 3.—A report is current that the Japanese have almost reached Mukden. The battle is still raging fiercely. The Russians have recaptured several points which they lost the past few days.

Japs Moving Forward.
Tokio, March 3.—Kuroki reports that the Japanese are pushing forward. They have now gained Opaves Takas an, surprising the Russians. A tremendous bombardment of Wan Pao San Hill is in progress. Sixty Russian guns are replying. The Japanese have just occupied Wito San.

BEEF TRUST REPORT

Shows No Great Profit to the Big Six

Some of the Packing Houses Actually Lost Money on All Cattle Butchered

Washington, March 3.—The President sent to congress today the report on the alleged beef trust, prepared by the commissioner of corporations, Garfield, according to the resolution of the house March 7th, of last year. The report covers the price of cattle, dressed beef, margins between such prices and the organization and conduct of profits of corporations engaged in the beef industry. The summarized report says that six packing companies, Armour, Swift, Morris, National Packing Co., Schwarzhild & Sulzberger, Cudahy, designated as the "big six," in the year 1903 slaughtered 45 per cent of the 12,500,000 head slaughtered in the United States. The net average profit to Armour, Swift and Schwarzhild & Sulzberger that year was 99 cents per head, not including incidental profits. The year 1902 was less profitable than usual. During some months the leading packers were actually losing money on every head slaughtered. In 1903 the price of cattle fell sharply, chiefly because of a large increase in supply. The six leading packing companies are apparently not overcapitalized. The percentage of profit on the gross volume of business is comparatively small. Swift's profits during the last three years was only 2 per cent on the total sales. Cudahy's profits last year were 1.8 per cent on the total sales. The report says the profits of private car lines in the packing industry on mileage was very liberal, being between 14 and 17 per cent. While the "big six" has control of the trade of large centers, in small cities and towns it is much less important. In fact, they handle only 45 per cent of the business of the country, which indicates an existence of active competition.

The bureau places the average cost of a refrigerator car at \$1000, the average yearly cost of maintenance at \$115; net profit for mileage alone 14 to 17 per cent. The Cudahy Co. made 22 per cent in 1902 on its cars. With the exception of the National Packing Company, which is a joint stock affair, the commissioner found no general interownership among the six principal companies.

Cottage Grove Inquest.
Cottage Grove, March 3.—(Special to Capital Journal).—A coroner's inquest is being held to determine the cause of the death of Eva Davenport, who died this morning about 3 o'clock. The evidence points strongly towards suicide by strychnine.

Chicago Market.
Chicago, March 3.—Cash wheat, 90@95%; corn 45 1/4@48%; oats, 31 1/2@31%.



Trousered Cyclones

Are what some boys are called. Can't keep still. Ever plunging, bending and wriggling. It is no matter.

The Jane Hopkins Boy Proof Clothing

Mocks at wear and tear. For school, for play, for dress, for every occasion and circumstance, they're clothes to depend upon. The fabrics are especially adapted to hard usage, and the workmanship is of the very best. Smart suits for the boys at extremely low prices.

Barnes' Cash Store
E. F. Barnes, Prop.

SALEM'S CHEAPEST ONE-PRICE CASH STORE.

KINDERGARTEN DOLLIES.
Newest ideas in stamped dollies; especially designed for kindergarten work. See these new things. Two for ... 5¢

Go's Meyers & Sons
SALEM'S GREATEST STORE
THE WHITE CORNER (TRAIL MARK)

SPRING CAPS.
The newest ideas in caps for ladies, girls and children, including the golf, auto, Lewis and Clarke and saucy Susan.
50c to \$1.50

New! Newer! Newest!
Exquisite spring wearing apparel for women keeps crowding into this suit room. Each new arrival, it would seem is more charming than the last. They're newest and smartest productions of New York's best tailors and modistes and point the way to this suit room for the latest styles in the fashionable world.
Largest line of covert jackets in this city. Values from \$10 to \$15.
New suits, skirts, waists, shirt vaist suits and all wearing apparel for women.

Hosiery
Our new spring hosiery display is second to none. Newton hosiery, plain gauze like hosiery, embroidered like hosiery, polka dots, new lace effects, novelty hosiery. Latest imported and domestic styles. All sizes. All prices.



Wash Goods
All the newest of this season's weaves and patterns, in all desirable colors. Flake Suiting, Linen Suiting, Embroidered Linen, Fancy Voiles, Novelty Mohair, Sicillians. All shades. All prices.

Viyella Flannels
Does Not Shrink.
All new shades and patterns. Inspect this fine line of flannels. 75¢

BRAIDS
New Spring Trimmings

The grandest line of trimmings and braids ever shown in this city. Usual low prices prevail throughout the assortment.
Biscuit shades, Dresden blue, champagne, Oriental, greens, browns and straws.

Spring Clothing
Price is not the measure of goodness in men's wear, though it is the only commendation you get at some stores. Our stock contains the most worthy, in making and material, that present day methods can produce.
The newest in spring SUITS AND TOP COATS. Now in and ready for your inspection. Come in and have a try on. Suits and top coats range from \$10 to \$25

Men's Shirts
Our spring line of shirts is here, and we are prepared to show everything that is newest and most desirable from the best known shirt makers.
\$1.00 to \$2.50