

# The Daily Capital Journal

VOL. XIX. SALEM, OREGON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1909. NO. 236.

## TAFT IS LACKING IN TACT

Speaks in Texas to Texans About Her Fight Against Obstacles of Climate and Soil.

## WHEN THEY BELIEVE

IT HAS THE ONLY CLIMATE ON EARTH AND THE ONLY SOIL THAT WILL RAISE A MORTGAGE, BUT THEY DIDN'T SHOOT HIM.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 18.—The heroism of Texas of the past and the pluck of those who are today fighting their battle against almost insurmountable obstacles of climate and soil, was the subject of an address delivered at noon today by President Taft in the shadow of the famous Alamo.

The space in front of the historic building was thronged with a crowd that filled the square. After the meeting Taft rode to Fort Sam Houston, where he held a brief reception and reviewed the troops stationed at the post.

## THE SMITH TRIAL IS UNDER WAY

At 1 o'clock this afternoon the jury which is to find A. B. Smith guilty or not guilty of the crime of assault with intent to rob were empaneled and up to the time this paper went to press examination of the jurors was still being carried on.

The crime for which Smith is being tried was committed in this city several months ago. He walked into the Hinges jewelry store on Commercial street and pointing a revolver at Clerk Carl Neugebauer told him to hand out the diamonds. The clerk was unable to do this owing to the jewels being locked up in the store safety vault, and Smith then told him to get the trays out of the window and hand out the cash drawer. Neugebauer was in the act of turning over the diamond trays to Smith when the proprietor of the store, Chas. Hinges, stepped in. Smith turned the gun on him and made his way out the door on to the street and ran south to State street, down State to the alley, from where he ran north up the alley to Court street, where he was captured by two local citizens.

The selecting of a jury will take sometime, no doubt, owing to Smith being so well known in this community and the crime having been committed so long ago that everyone, more or less, has heard and talked about it.

Attorneys C. L. McNary and George G. Bligham are representing the state, while Kaiser & Pogue and J. A. Carson are counsel for Smith.

Has the dairy been inspected that furnishes the lactical fluid for the milk's way?

## ONE OF THE ESCAPED CONVICTS IS DEAD AND TWO OTHERS WOUNDED

Story Told by Walter Johnson, Who Made the First Battle With the Escapes at Buena Vista—They Opened Fire on Him the Minute He Hailed Them, and Then It Was Give and Take Between the Officers and Prisoners.

## BOTH CONVICTS WILL PROBABLY DIE

AFTER THAT THE CHASE IS TAKEN UP AND THE CONVICTS SURROUNDED BY POSSE AND CARTER IS KILLED—FERRIS HAS TERRIFIC WOUND IN THE BREAST AND DUNCAN HAS A SHOT THROUGH THE STOMACH FROM JOHNSON'S AUTOMATIC.

Standing in the public road a short distance north of Buena Vista, facing three escaped convicts armed with automatic revolvers which they used with murderous intent, was the experience of Walter Johnson, the brave man who probably enabled the posse to capture the fugitives shortly after the pitched battle occurred at 8 o'clock Saturday evening.

Walter Johnson's life was spared by good fortune Saturday night when he so bravely stood up in front of the three convicts, who were pulling the triggers of their revolvers as fast as possible, and Johnson returning the fire with a 38-calibre revolver and a Winchester rifle. Following is the story as told by Mr. Johnson yesterday afternoon to a Journal reporter, who called at his home and found him lying in bed suffering greatly from the painful wound in his leg:

"I was first notified by the penitentiary officials that my help was wanted in rounding up the three convicts who escaped while working near the School for the Feeble Minded. In company with Superintendent James and a prison guard, Duncan Ross, I left this city about 5 o'clock Saturday evening for Buena Vista because word had been received that the five escapes were seen around a camp fire located a short distance from Buena Vista in the river bottoms. We arrived in Buena Vista and found the streets so full of people that we asked all those who did not desire to take a hand in the chase, to get inside, as there was danger of someone getting shot if a mix up occurred.

While standing near the Buena Vista store formulating a plan by which we could organize posses and get to work as soon as possible, Warden Curtis and his men arrived and having had no supper, Curtis and Superintendent James walked up the street with the intention of getting something to eat, Duncan Ross and myself remaining near the store. We had concluded to walk down the road a piece and had not proceeded far when I noticed three men walking north. I walked back to the store as quickly as possible and inquired of the bystanders if they knew who the three strangers were, who were walking down the road, and was told by one that they were brothers of his (the informant's) going down to milk the cows. I asked them if they knew this to be them, when another man standing by said he was sure they were the man's brothers whom I first addressed. I then asked the men if their brothers would naturally walk down the center of the road when sidewalks were on either side, and they told me they did not think they would. I told Ross to follow as quickly as possible and we started to investigate. I was in front and could faintly hear them walking ahead of me but could not see owing to the darkness. I would run a few feet and stop to listen. After traveling in this manner for about a yard from the business center of town, I crossed a culvert and had just started on another little jaunt when looking up I saw the three men standing on a trail beside the road about six feet above me. I don't think I was more than thirty feet from them when I stopped. Although my honest opinion was that these were three of the convicts, I did not want to shoot for fear they were the brothers of the man, as he told me, and said to them 'Hello, boys.' The words had scarcely left my mouth when I saw three spurts of flame shoot toward me and then realized that I was face to face with three of the escapes. The lead flew around me like hail as the three fellows on the bank kept up pumping their guns as fast as they could. I had in my right hand a 38-calibre gun and started to work also. I had shot seven shots from my revolver before they got me in the leg. I felt the bullet strike me, but thinking every minute that I would be bored full of holes, I began using the Winchester rifle I had carried along. I had four shells in the rifle and had shot three of them, but could not manage to pull the trigger the fourth time owing to my leg giving out and I fell in the road and rolled to one side in the ditch. There must have been at least 28 shots

fired altogether. I know that I shot nine times before going down, and the volley which the convicts sent into me sounded like a Fourth of July celebration. What Ross did I do not know, but I think he shot a few times also, although he was at a considerable distance behind me. The convicts could be plainly heard making attempts to scale the fence after I was down, but for the smoke and darkness I could not tell just where they went.

"Before the rest of the men could arrive from the store, an auto whizzed up with Sheriff Grant, of Polk county, and I told him which way I thought the three men headed for, and he at once went in pursuit.

"I was treated like a prince by Warden Curtis and Superintendent James when they arrived. I was lifted in a big auto and whirled into Independence where a doctor dressed my leg, and was then sent on home in another auto. If I had been armed with a good shotgun loaded with buck shot, those three gentlemen would not have left that bank with whole hides, but darkness was on hand, and that combined with the smoke from our guns, made accurate shooting impossible."

Dr. O. B. Miles was called upon as soon as the injured man arrived here and made him as easy as possible. The bullet which struck Walter Johnson entered between the shin bone and the large muscles and after going downward for eight inches, came out on the back part of the leg. The wound is a very painful one, and yesterday Mr. Johnson suffered greatly.

After the shooting took place which crippled Walter Johnson, the posse redoubled their efforts. Darkness had now completely shut out all view of the surrounding country, and it was impossible for the men to make an intelligent search of the convicts until morning. Headed by Superintendent James and Warden Curtis, groups of men in two, were stationed in different localities to guard all possible chance of exit from the river bottom, into which the three convicts ran after the battle in the road. Headquarters were made at the store at Buena Vista and from time to time the guards were relieved every few hours. This watch was kept up until daylight, when the guards were called in and steps were taken toward organizing posses and beat the surrounding country.

The posses were arranged separately as follows: Sheriff Harry Minto, Emory James, Chief of Police Gibson and Ray Welch in one posse; Sheriff Grant of Polk county, Marshall Thomas of Independence, in the second posse; and a third posse composed of Warden Curtis, Guard Busie and Ira Hamilton. These bunches of men beat the timber and brush a mile to the south of Buena Vista, returning as far as town with no results. They then spread out in a long line and walked through a large oval stretch of underbrush and timber north of Buena Vista on the river bank, but with no sign of the fugitives. After talking the matter over, it was decided to travel down the river south about five miles, and make a return search toward Buena Vista north, and Hamilton, Welch, James and Grant got into Sol Anderson's auto while Sheriff Minto and Chief of Police Gibson followed in Ralph Swartz's machine. The parties arrived at the Prather farm, about five miles south of Buena Vista, where they found Mr. Prather prepared to go on a drive. The officers informed him what their business was and asked him to pilot them through the timber in the vicinity of the river. Mr. Prather at once hitched up his team, grabbed his hat, and left with the authorities in shirt sleeves, a willing guide for a good cause.

Before entering the timber, however, Sheriff Harry Minto, Chief of Police Gibson, Warden Curtis, and Ray Welch, walked back north a few rods before going in, while Sheriff Grant, Ira Hamilton, Emory James, Guard Busie and Mr. Prather went directly into the brush on the east side of the road and, after making their way up the river bank, started south. This posse had proceeded but a short distance when Constable Hamilton discovered footprints in the damp earth which led on south, and then the man hunters grew alert. They followed these marks until coming to a foot log across the Luckiamute river, but whether or not the parties making the prints had crossed to the other side of the stream, the posse was undecided, and while looking for further signs, Emory

## FIEND SETS NEW PACE IN CRIME

He Cuts Woman's Throat as She Sleeps Beside Her Little Twelve-Year-Old Girl.

## RAZOR THE WEAPON

THE LITTLE GIRL, WHO WAS SLEEPING WITH HER MOTHER, GIVES FIRST ALARM AND TELLS OF HER DISCOVERY OF THE GHASTLY DEED.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Los Angeles, Oct. 18.—Every available police detective in this city today is searching for the fiend who entered the room where Mrs. George Staehle and her 13-year-old daughter lay asleep last night and with a razor slashed the woman's throat from ear to ear, inflicting a horrible wound that the surgeons at the receiving hospital feared would prove fatal.

A white handled razor found in the bedroom is the only clue on which the officers can base their search. The blood-stained blade was found on the floor beside the bed, which was wet with the woman's blood.

Mrs. Staehle is the wife of an employe of the Maier Brewing company and her little daughter, were sleeping alone in the house when the crime was committed shortly after midnight.

The neighborhood is thickly populated by negroes, and the yards of the Staehle home was filled with them when the officers responded to a hurry call.

According to the story told by little Elsie, who was sleeping with her mother, she was awakened by Mrs. Staehle, who cried in a strange voice that she had been stabbed.

"Her nightgown and the bed clothes were dripping with blood," the little girl said. "I screamed for Mrs. Sims, a colored woman who lives next door, and then ran and told her what had happened. She telephoned for the police."

Policeman Gilpin, who arrived with the ambulance, assisted in carrying the unconscious woman to the wagon. He inserted his fingers into the gaping wound and seized the severed arteries, held them tight until the hospital was reached.

Upon investigation the police found that the would-be murderer entered the house through the bedroom window by means of a beer keg he had placed on the ground.

After being given first aid at the receiving hospital, Mrs. Staehle was removed to the West Lake hospital attendants as marvelous.

A wire received at 3:45 at the penitentiary says: "Murray is caught and locked up at Independence." Nicholich is still at large.

Business Men's League—Third annual banquet will be held Friday evening, at 9 o'clock, at the Elite Cafe. A reception will be held at the Board of Trade room from 8:15 to 9:15 prior to banquet. Affair will prove one of the most enjoyable secretary will call upon the members of the league with tickets tomorrow morning. The seating capacity is limited to 100, so those desiring to attend either see or phone the secretary at once. The program will be announced later.

If the director gowns ever become popular there will be no further need to worry about the rubber supply.

## A Great Cloak and Suit Sale

500 Cloaks and Suits bought at 50 cents on the dollar now thrown out on the counters for quick selling. We have got instructions from our buyer in New York to sell suits if we make only 50 cents to \$1.00 on each garment. We sold fifty garments on Monday and at \$1.00 profit you see we are doing well. Remember they are this season's Newest Garments.

Your dollar has double buying value at Chicago Store

### Cloaks and Suits

Now going at about half their regular value. The suits we are offering are NOT OLD and shop worn. They are like the cut here represented, all new up-to-date, fashionable garments, made of the newest materials; man-tailored and silk lined, and highly finished throughout.

Ladies' \$7.50 Coats—  
Now .....\$3.75

Ladies' \$12.50 Coats—  
Now .....\$6.75

Ladies' \$15.00 Coats—  
Now .....\$9.99

Ladies' \$18.00 Suits—  
Now .....\$10.50

Ladies' \$22.50 Suits—  
Now .....\$12.50

Ladies' \$25.00 Suits—  
Now .....\$14.99

Wonderful Values in

### Millinery

You will do yourself and your pocket book an injustice if you buy your trimmed hats ostrich Plumes, Fancy Wings, etc., elsewhere before you look through our stock and get our prices. We are doing the greatest Millinery business we ever did in the history of our store. You cannot fool the people; they know values when they see them.

\$4.50 Stylish Trimmed Hats, now ..... \$2.50

\$5.90 Stylish Trimmed Hats, now ..... \$2.90

### SALEM Dress Goods and Silk House

Never offered before such values in these goods. We show the most complete stock of fashionable Dress Goods and Silks in the Willamette valley, and we have the goods here to back this statement up all the time.

\$1.25 Moire Silks, all colors, yard ..... 85c

85c Fine Wool Dress Goods, new, yard ..... 49c

We are Salem agents for the Celebrated

### Nemo Corsets

The greatest corset on the market for Style, Comfort and Beauty. We carry all the numbers and we sell them at the same price you have to pay in Chicago or New York.

### CHICAGO STORE

SALEM, OREGON  
The Store That Saves You Money

We're offering great values in MEN'S AND BOYS CLOTHING

(Continued on page 4.)