

## BULLETS AND BLOOD IN PLEASANT VALLEY

Residents Engage in Gun Fight Over Disputed Ownership.

### ONE MAN WAS SHOT TO DEATH

The Survivor, with a Bullet Hole in His Face, is Arrested, Together with An Alleged Accessory--Both Are in Kalispell Jail Charged with Murder

News was received in Kalispell Saturday morning of a bloody gun fight in Pleasant Valley between Otto Theirsch and John Zewadke, resulting in the death of the former and the slight wounding of the latter, who is now in jail in this city. There are several different stories of the affair but the truth will probably be brought out at the trial.

The trouble was over 80 acres of land, belonging to the Northern Pacific railway, which both parties were trying to secure. The land joins that owned by Zewadke, and he was desirous of purchasing it in order to make a larger range for his stock.

Theirsch, however, had commenced to fence the property first, and when Zewadke learned of this he and some of his friends who had rails already cut, drew them to the land and fenced it in, with a portion of Theirsch's land in the fence.

In order to build his fence the latter was compelled to tear down a panel of the fence owned by Zewadke for a gate, and this led to the fatal affray of Saturday.

When he first commenced to go through the fence, Zewadke was working at the Merrifield ranch and was not aware of the trespass until told by one of his friends. Late Friday night he went to the ranch of William Gheller, near the disputed land, and asked him to go with him the next morning to repair the break in the fence and keep Theirsch out. Very early Saturday morning the two men saw Theirsch and a young man named Paul, Friedensburg driving toward the fence, and they left to head them off. Zewadke was ahead of Gheller, and the latter was in the center of the disputed land when Theirsch entered. Zewadke had gone straight to the panel used as a gate and was there when Theirsch entered.

In regards to what happened afterward, stories differ. The story of the killing and the events that led up to it are as follows:

Zewadke was desirous of obtaining the land and was negotiating for it through the Northern Pacific land offices in St. Paul, and while doing so had fenced in a portion of it. Theirsch, he claims, had gotten ahead of him by dealing with the Northern Pacific land agent in Helena, and had secured a lease on the property. The fore part of last week, Theirsch had notified him to remove his fencing and had served the regulation thirty days' notice, as required by law. He was going to obey the notice, but was first desirous of obtaining proof that Theirsch really had the authority to order him off, and for several days he made no move in the matter.

Friday afternoon, according to Zewadke's story, Theirsch, with his hired man, Friedensburg, had gone to work and torn down several panels of his fence and his neighbor Gheller had come to the Merrifield ranch, where he was working, and notified him. The two men left immediately for Gheller's ranch, where they spent the night, and the next morning early they went to the place where the fence had been torn down, and shortly afterward Theirsch and Friedensburg appeared. The former was in his wagon while the latter was on horseback some distance behind.

Zewadke says that he then stopped Theirsch after he had entered the field and asked him why he did not wait a few days before taking decisive measures, and that he was going to remove the fence without any trouble. There were a few more words when suddenly Theirsch stooped down and picked up a revolver and commenced shooting at him. He was armed with a six-shooter, 44-caliber, and returned the fire. After four shots were fired Theirsch fell from the wagon, and he went to where he was lying and picked up his gun. He saw, so he claims, that the man was seriously wounded, and after a short delay he went at once to Pleasant Valley and surrendered himself, told what he had done and waited there

a day for the coming of an officer from Kalispell.

Gheller's story is practically the same, except that both men had their guns in their hands before the shooting commenced. He substantiates Zewadke's story about Theirsch firing the first shot, and that he made no attempt to get away.

The story as told by Friedensburg is entirely different from the others, and if it is true it is a case of murder and not self defense, as claimed. He says that on the fatal morning Theirsch and himself had gone to work in the field to build a fence belonging to the former. As the fence built by Zewadke encircled the place where they were working, it was necessary to cut through one panel of the fence to use as a gate. This they had done the day before, but had always been careful to replace the bars to keep out the cattle.

On the morning in question the two men went to their work, Theirsch in the wagon, while he followed on horseback. He had but entered the field when he was halted by Gheller with his Winchester, who demanded to know "Why in h—l he couldn't leave the man's fence alone and keep his hands off." Friedensburg told him he was only working for Theirsch and knew nothing about the trouble.

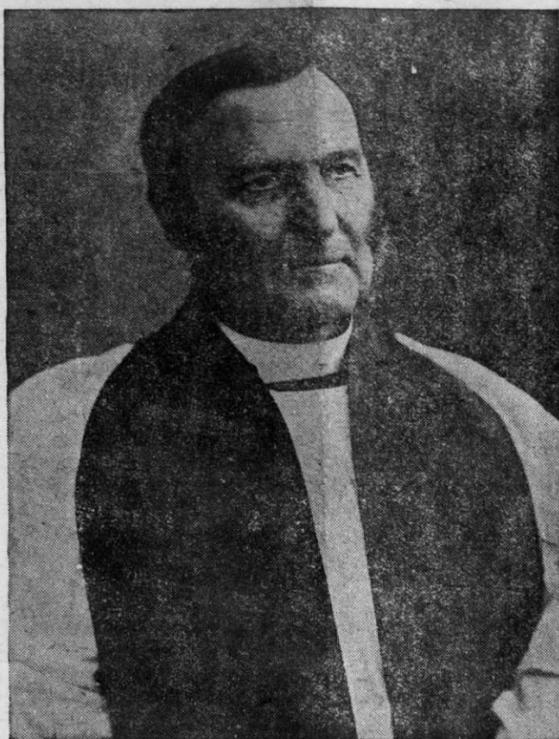
When Theirsch entered the field, Zewadke was in the bushes beside the gate and followed him in with his gun in his hand, and pointing it at him cursed him and told him to throw up his hands. Shortly afterward he shot at Theirsch, but missed him, and the latter stooped and with one hand took his revolver from the bottom of his dinner pail and returned the fire. Zewadke was on the ground and ran up close to the wagon and shot Theirsch in the side. The wound caused him to stagger and bend forward, when Zewadke fired another shot, the bullet striking him in the forehead and coming out at the back of his head. While shooting, Theirsch was standing in the wagon, holding the lines in one hand and his revolver in the other. The team was wild and every time a shot was fired they would jump. This placed him at a great disadvantage and made accurate shooting an impossibility. When he fell out of the wagon the team ran away.

Friedensburg says that when he saw Theirsch fall he ran to where he was and attempted to aid him, but Gheller and Zewadke would not allow him to do so. The latter came up to him and, thrusting his revolver in his face made him say that Theirsch fired the first shot. They then at the point of their guns made him start after the team and attempt to catch it. He went, but after going a short distance he struck through the woods and notified Mrs. Theirsch of what had happened. He then rode to the ranch of W. H. Orr and told him, and was there told to go Pleasant Valley station and telegraph to Kalispell for a doctor and an officer. He also swears that Gheller, after stopping him when he entered the field, went up to the wagon and threw a shell in his rifle and stood with it in readiness to fire.

Theirsch lived for about two hours after being shot, but died while being taken to his home.

The news of the tragedy was received in Kalispell early Saturday morning, but it was 1 o'clock before any train left for the west. At that time Dr. Macdonald and Under Sheriff Charles Theriault left on a freight and on arrival at Pleasant Valley found Zewadke there. Jack Dolan was deputized to bring the prisoner to Kalispell and arrived here on No. 4 Saturday night. As the scene of the shooting was 10 miles from Pleasant Valley station, and no other news had been received, the officials left for that place before telegraphing to Kalispell for the coroner. On arrival they found the man dead and at once sent a messenger

(Continued on Page 8.)



DR. TEMPLE, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, WHO OFFICIATES AT THE CORONATION.

The one important clerical personage in the ceremony of crowning Edward VII. is Dr. Temple, the archbishop of Canterbury, who officiates. He is a very dignified old gentleman of kindly face, and he possesses a rich, deep voice. In his canonical robes he is a very impressive personage.

### WANT BRYAN FOR GOVERNOR

Democrats and Populists of Nebraska Will Have No Other.

#### NEBRASKA STATE CONVENTION

Ready to Acclaim the Nomination of the Silver Champion for State Executive. Delegates Number 2,400. All Hoping to Persuade Mr. Bryan to Accept.

Grand Island, Neb., June 23.—Delegates to the populist and democratic state conventions, which will be held tomorrow, began pouring in this afternoon to the city. More than 1,200 delegates are accredited to each convention, and it is still the unanimous opinion that if Mr. Bryan will accept the nomination for governor there will be but little else to do but to divide the rest of the ticket.

### UNDERRATES THE STRIKERS

Millionaire Mine Owner Discounts President Mitchell's Influence.

#### ARBITRATION IS DISDAINED

And Operators Declare That the Strikers Will Be Only too Glad to Return to Work in the Anthracite Coal Mines—Insolence of Capital Exemplified.

New York May 23.—H. M. Oliphant, of the Delaware and Hudson company today made the following comment upon the statement of President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America, issued in reply to the operators' statement in which the correspondence leading up to the strike was made public: "Mitchell's statement is misleading and unreliable as to facts and figures. If Mitchell proposes to call out the bituminous miners and paralyze the entire industries of the country he will find that he has taken upon his shoulders a job bigger than he is able to cope with. There will be no arbitration, that is certain. We will operate our mines again with men on a strike now. They will be only too glad to come back and no striker will be able to keep them out."

Retreat to Buzzard's Bay. Princeton, N. J., June 23.—Former President and Mrs. Cleveland and family left Princeton this afternoon for Buzzard's bay, where they will spend the summer. They will return to Princetown about October 1.

### DEFENDED HIS DEAD FRIEND

From the Insulting Remarks of an Acquaintance

#### BY THRASHING THE CULPRIT

Who Retaliated by Firing Two Bullets Into the Body of Thomas Baggs, Killing Him—James Cusick Adds Murder to Defaming the Dead Man's Friend.

Butte, June 23.—After being thrashed because of an insult he offered a dead man, James Cusick deliberately fired two bullets into the body of Thomas Baggs in front of the Elite saloon, conducted by Joe Klaffke, at 29 West Park street, a few minutes before 10 o'clock last night. Baggs died in the saloon 30 minutes later, despite the efforts of City Physician T. J. Sullivan.

### MIKE DENIES ANNIE'S CHILD

And Further Denies That He Promised to Marry the Girl.

#### SENSATIONAL DAMAGE SUIT

Brought Against Mike Mulrennan By Annie Reardon, the Charge Being Seduction Under Promise of Marriage—Butte Reputation for Unadulterated Wickedness.

Butte, June 23.—Mike Mulrennan, defendant in a breach of promise and damage suit brought a few weeks ago in the district court by Annie Reardon, yesterday makes answer to the sensational complaint. He denies in brief and general terms all the charges she makes to the effect that he promised to marry her and betrayed her under that promise. There is a child in the case and that is included in the general denial.

#### DROWNED IN RESERVOIR.

Boys Caught in Mud Like Flies in Tanglefoot. Virginia City, June 23.—Yesterday, shortly after noon as Walker McCoglin, Albert McCoglin and Lee Berger, all stepsons of Thomas Port, foreman of the Shafter mine at Summit, near the head of Alder Gulch, and eight miles south of Virginia City, were swimming in an old reservoir near town, the two last named were caught in the mud with which the bottom of the pond was covered, and before assistance could be rendered were drowned.

## MR. BRYAN BREAKS OUT AND GIBES AT GROVER

Bitterly Denounces the Appeal of the Stuffed Prophet for Unity.

### WANT NOT HARMONY BUT CONTROL

Of the Democratic Party, Which Means the Abandonment of the Party Position and Return to the Practices of Cleveland's Second Administration.

New York, June 23.—The absence of William J. Bryan from the democratic harmony dinner at New York is practically explained by a statement given out by Bryan tonight, commenting on the dinner. At the outset, Mr. Bryan says there is no such thing as democratic harmony where President Cleveland is concerned. Mr. Bryan says he will print in his paper Mr. Cleveland's speech. "To show that the reorganizers want not harmony, but control, and that their control means the abandonment of the party position and a return to the politics and practices of Mr. Cleveland's second administration." He continues: "He, Cleveland, secured his nomination in 1892 by a secret bargain with the financiers. This committee collected from the corporations and spent the largest campaign fund the party ever had. He filled his cabinet with corporation agents and placed a railroad attorney on the United States bench to look after the interests of their former

clients. He turned the treasury over to a Wall street syndicate, and the financial member of his official family went from Washington to become the private attorney of the man who forced the trade to sell him bonds at 105 and then resold them at 117. He tried to prevent the adoption of the income tax provision. He refused to sign the only tariff reform measure passed since the war; and, while thundering against the trusts in his messages, did even less than Knox has to interfere with their highhanded methods. Having debauched his party, he was offended by its efforts to reform and gave comfort to the enemy. Virginus killed his daughter to save her chastity. Cleveland stabbed his party to prevent its return to the paths of virtue, and now, still gloating over his political crimes, he invites the party to return to him and apologize for the contempt which it has expressed for him. But it will not till the principles of Jefferson are forgotten and the works of Jackson cease to inspire.

#### NORTHWEST PACIFIC LEAGUE.

Standing of the Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Seattle	24	16	.600
Butte	23	17	.575
Portland	19	18	.513
Spokane	18	22	.450
Helena	17	21	.447
Tacoma	16	23	.410

#### Saturday's Games.

At Butte—Butte 12, Seattle 4.  
At Helena—Helena 4, Portland 0.  
At Spokane—Spokane 7, Tacoma 2.

#### Sunday's Games.

At Butte—Seattle 6, Butte 3.  
At Helena—Helena 6, Portland 5.  
At Spokane—Spokane 19, Tacoma 4.

#### CAPTAIN HALLAHAN DEAD.

Anaconda Veteran Passes Away at the Hot Springs Infirmary.

Hot Springs, Ark., June 23.—John Hallahan, 55 years of age, who was captain of Company A, First Montana volunteers, and a prominent citizen of Anaconda, died this morning at St. Joseph's infirmary of Bright's disease. Captain Hallahan was a veteran of the civil war and of the Spanish and Philippine wars. His remains will be shipped to Anaconda for interment.

#### BILLY CRUSE.

Marries a Billings Hotel Keeper's Pretty Daughter.

Billings, June 23.—The wedding of Miss Caroline Benninghoff of this city and William J. Cruse of Helena was solemnized today at the Catholic church this morning at 10:30 o'clock. The bride and bridegroom took the North Coast limited for Butte. They will go to Salt Lake and thence east for a three week's wedding trip. They will make their home in Helena.

#### INDEX OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

- Pleasant Valley Tragedy. Roast for Cleveland. Want Bryan for Governor. Disdain Arbitration. Another Butte Murder. Won't Acknowledge the Corn.
- Grain Yield of Montana. Temperance Talk. Autos Barred Out.
- Commencement Exercises. Valley of the Red River. Town Topics.
- Editorial.
- Baseball at Columbia Falls. Local Mention. Demorest Promoted.
- Short Story. Col. Dewey's Town. Pythian Knights Preparing. Farm and Garden.
- Biologists at the Lake. Election in Labor Circles. Library Meeting. Big Catch of Trout. Kalispell Briefs.

#### DEBS WILL BE HERE.

Orator and Labor Leader to Speak Sunday, July 13.

Arrangements have so far progressed as to make certain the date of the lecture by Eugene V. Debs, at Kalispell. Mr. Debs will come here by request of the unions and give a lecture on socialism or organization or both. The date arranged for is Sunday, July 13, and it is reasonably certain that the distinguished labor leader will give an open air meeting, probably at the Fair grounds in the afternoon, the directors having expressed their pleasure in tendering the Fair grounds for the occasion. Fully 2,000 people may be expected to attend the meeting, if on a fair day, and there is no hall in town large enough to accommodate half that crowd.

#### ALL KINDS OF ROYALTY.

Assembled at Windsor Castle in Honor of the Coronation.

London June 23.—King Edward and Queen Alexandra arrived in London from Windsor today. His majesty appeared to be in his usual health. With the return of the court to London from Windsor the festivities of the coronation may be said to have begun. King Edward and Queen Alexandra gave a grand dinner party tonight at Buckingham palace to 70 royal personages, who practically represented the sovereigns of all the monarchies of the world. The list of their majesties' guests was headed by the Czarevitch of Russia, who arrived in London this evening, and included an imposing array of princes and princesses and all the members of the British royal family.

#### ACCIDENT OR DESIGN.

Frank Hinds Is a Dead One, Perhaps a Suicide.

Butte, Mont., June 23.—With a bullet hole through his head, the body of Frank Hinds lies at the rooms of the Montana Undertaking company, the subject of a coroner's inquest, to be held at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Hinds was the manager of the Rocky Mountain Bottling works and was well known in Butte. Though the circumstances attending the death of Hinds would indicate self destruction, Mrs. Hinds declares her husband was the victim of an accident. She says he was loading a revolver when it was accidentally discharged.

#### WAMMOTH HOTEL.

Will Be Built at Gregson Springs, Near Anaconda.

Anaconda, June 23.—Excavation work has been well started at Gregson Springs by Con Hays for the Wammoth hotel he is to erect at that place. Mr. Hays says that he intends to push the work from this date and that this season will see it completed.