

BERGER SHOT OSWALD

A Murder Tragedy Enacted Near the Town of St. John.

John Berger Ends John Oswald's Life With a Shot From a Small Calibre Revolver.

Friday afternoon John Berger shot and instantly killed John Oswald at the ranch of Lee Black, four miles south of St. John, the affair originating over a misunderstanding between the two men. It appears that Berger and Oswald worked on adjoining ranches and had been batching together for about three years. On Friday Berger came to his dinner a little late and Oswald remonstrated with him. The remonstrance turned into a quarrel and Berger claims that Oswald said he would "lick him." Berger asserts that during the quarrel a small can or stick was used and that Oswald picked up a meat board and attacked him with it. As Oswald was about to strike Berger with the meat board, Berger picked up a revolver, which he alleges was lying on the table, and shot Oswald, the ball entering the upper corner of the right eye near the bridge of the nose, passing directly into the brain, causing almost instant death.

After Berger saw what he had done, he immediately started for St. John, where he surrendered himself to Leonard McKinley, the constable for that precinct, and that officer brought the man to Colfax, arriving about nine o'clock Friday evening, and turned him over to the sheriff's office. Berger was laboring under considerable excitement when he arrived at the sheriff's office, but told his story to the sheriff and constable. The prisoner claims that he acted only in self defense and that he did not have any intention of shooting the man. He said that when he got the revolver he did so more for the purpose of frightening Oswald than for anything else. The gun used is an awkward little thing, being only of 32 caliber. It is a single action, rim fire weapon and appears to be perfectly harmless, although the ball which it carries would be sufficient to kill a beef. Upon examination the weapon is found to be a dangerous one and little wonder is expressed that it caused instant death.

Coroner Shaw, Sheriff Canutt and Prosecuting Attorney Hanna went to the scene of the tragedy Saturday morning and considerable excitement was necessary, in view of the fact that the manner of Oswald's death was so plain, and also in view of the fact that Berger had admitted the killing. The appearances of the premises did not indicate that a struggle of any description had taken place. Oswald's body was found lying just inside of the house door and a dish towel was thrown across his arm just as it would naturally be had Oswald just stepped out toward the door. Lee Black, the owner of the ranch at which the tragedy occurred, said that a few days prior to the shooting Berger and Oswald had had words regarding Berger coming to his meals so irregularly and that Oswald had told Berger that he had better find another boarding place. That on the day of the shooting Berger had been away with his team and came to the ranch about 10 o'clock and that he finished his dinner and that Oswald was washing the dinner dishes. Berger turned his team out and went to the barn yard and started to haul a load of manure into a field. He says that he saw Berger enter the house and afterward return to the outside, and a little later he heard a shot and saw the smoke from the revolver. Black also says that Berger walked out toward where he was working and told him that he had shot Oswald. The two returned to the house and found Oswald dead. Mr. Black advised Berger that the best thing he could do was to go to St. John and give himself up to the authorities, which Berger did, starting almost immediately. There is nothing to indicate that Berger was at any time in danger of his life, for the man who shot him alleges Oswald attempted to strike him with, is not a dangerous weapon. According to the evidences around the premises and the story of Mr. Black, Oswald was standing just inside of his door and Berger just on the outside. The ball struck in the corner of the right eye near the nose, ranging upward through the brain, showing that Oswald must have been in a position of composure, for he fell inside the house instead of falling directly across the doorway.

John Oswald and his slayer, John Berger came to the United States from Switzerland about 14 years ago and have been friends all of that time. The murdered man was well thought of in the vicinity of St. John, where he has lived for a number of years. He was a quiet, unassuming man about 40 years of age, and considered perfectly honest and honorable. John Berger was also well thought of in the country surrounding St. John, where he has lived since coming to this country. The people in the vicinity regret the tragedy very much, but no extreme excitement prevails. Both men possessed some property, although neither of them were considered wealthy. Berger is the owner of some stock, farm implements and has a piece of land.

John Berger was formally arrested Monday, a warrant charging premeditated murder being read to him in the county jail by Sheriff Canutt. The prisoner did not show much sign of emotion and listened to the reading of the warrant without uttering a word. He maintains his composure well and does not talk much regarding the crime which he has committed. The prosecuting attorney and the sheriff are very doubtful regarding the story which Berger told them when he gave himself up to the authorities. They seem to think that the crime is far more serious than was at first supposed. They gathered much information from various witnesses who were present when the officers went to conduct the inquest, but refuse to discuss their information.

I will buy or sell your land right now, if your price is right. Write me at once. H. L. Moody, Box 1074, Spokane, Wash.

Lost—A large red leather pocketbook containing stamps and envelopes. Finder please leave at postoffice. Suitable reward. L. N. Boyd, mail carrier.

No experimenting—Wakelee's Squirrel Poison—the kind you know is good—never fails. Elk Drug Store.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

R. H. Kipp has been appointed a deputy organizer for the order of Eagles and went to Moscow yesterday to institute a lodge at that place. He was accompanied by the working team of the Colfax lodge, who put on the work for the Moscow Eagles.

A large two-story frame building is being erected on the west hillside. It is reported that some of the denizens of the red light district are building it and that as soon as the structure is completed it will be occupied. Since the restraining orders were issued to prevent them from occupying their old quarters they have been seeking new locations.

Work has been suspended on the Schmuck-Brickner block owing to the inability of the contractors to secure brick and lumber. They are confident, however, that these materials will be at hand next week so that the construction can be resumed. The delay will be only temporary.

Colvin Bros of Colfax have been awarded the contract for building a \$4500 dwelling for L. W. Carson, at Garfield.

The management of the Ridgeway theater has placed a large, almost life-size portrait of Miss Katherine Ridgeway Hogan in the foyer of the theater. The picture was furnished by Miss Hogan, she having sat for the portrait while in the east. The picture was framed by A. E. King.

The R. C. U. R. club has announced a ball for the Armory this evening. Dancing will commence at 9:30 and continue until 12 o'clock. Music will be furnished by the Colfax orchestra.

Councilman Dumdi has been around this week with a petition to the property owners on Mill street asking that the street be improved. He met with very little encouragement and has given up the project for the present. There is no question but that the street should be improved. If this matter is to be taken up this year the property owners would do well to look into the matter early, so that the work can be finished before winter.

The Methodist Episcopal church was crowded last Sunday at both the morning and evening services, being the first time that Rev. U. F. Hawk has occupied the pulpit since his return from the east. Six new members were admitted to the church on that day.

B. Berger, a brother of John Berger, the slayer of John Oswald, arrived in Colfax yesterday from Sandpoint, Idaho, to consult with the accused man and his attorney regarding the case. Attorney M. O. Reed will defend the prisoner.

Mrs. J. Ruble was brought to the hospital from Winona Saturday and died in that institution on Sunday. She was suffering from a complication of diseases and it is thought that the trip was too much for her weakened condition.

A special civil service examiner was in Colfax Tuesday examining the applicants for the position of carrier on rural free delivery route No. 2. There were a number of applications for the position. The one standing highest in the examination will receive the appointment, providing he can comply with the other requirements of the government.

Will Be Taken to Prison.

The clerk of the superior court of Whitman county received the remittitur from the supreme court of the state of Washington in the C. G. Raby case yesterday morning and Sheriff Canutt will take the prisoner to the penitentiary at Walla Walla Saturday. C. G. Raby was convicted of grand larceny by the superior court of this county last July and sentenced by Judge Chadwick to eight years at hard labor in the state prison. An appeal was taken to the supreme court of the state and that court affirmed the decision of the lower court. Since the decision of the supreme court, Raby has been very anxious to be taken to Walla Walla so that he might begin the service of his long term. He has been a model prisoner since being confined in the county jail and has made no trouble for the jailor or any of the keepers. At the penitentiary he will be credited with the time which he has spent in the Whitman county jail since sentence was passed upon him.

Water in the North End.

Contractor File has finished the contract of laying 1400 feet of four inch water mains from the Main street line just this side of the O. R. & N. depot to a point in the north end. Fair weather has prevailed and the work was not hindered in any manner. Workmen were easy to secure and everything moved off smoothly. The people in that portion of Colfax are greatly pleased over the finishing of the work, as they have long been without city water or fire protection. The trenches were filled this week after the pipes had been tested and found to be working in first class shape. The street committee of the city council has accepted the work.

Charley's Aunt and Jane

reaped a rich harvest from their American tour and certainly took their audience by storm. There seems to be more faith in comedies written by English authors. And, by the way, "A Wise Woman" was first produced at the Strand theater, London, where it had a phenomenal run of 238 nights, and was the hit of the season. They come high, but we must have them.

Guild Sale and Exchange.

On Wednesday, April 8, the Women's Guild of the Church of the Good Samaritan will hold a sale of useful and fancy articles in the Gazette office, from two until six. You will find all sorts of good things to eat on the exchange table. If you want something pretty for Easter gifts, you can get it there. Wednesday, the 8th, at the Gazette office. Don't forget.

The Heritage Lady Quartette will be at Colfax Methodist church Monday evening, April 6. All are invited to come and enjoy the evening's entertainment. Admission 50c for adults, children under twelve years, 25c. Entertainment given under the auspices of the Young Men's Missionary club.

Situation wanted by a competent young man as bookkeeper or clerk in store or office. Recommendations. Inquire at Gazette office.

For Sale—Eight or ten hives of bees. Apply to A. Stoneberger, at Colfax or Riverside.

Look out! Yolande's coming.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE

Representative Gathering of Whitman Educators.

Much Interest is Manifest and the Attendance Large—List of Institute Instructors.

The twenty-second annual session of the Whitman county teachers' institute is being held in Colfax this week. The attendance is excellent, over 240 teachers being present. The forenoon sessions have been held in the high school building in South Colfax and the afternoon and evening sessions in the courthouse. Much interest has been manifested and Superintendent McCroskey feels jubilant over the success. The institute has been directed by able instructors and educators brought from various parts of the state.

The instructors are O. L. Waller, professor of mathematics and civil engineering, W. A. C.; J. L. Dumas, principal of the Pullman public schools; H. C. Blair, president of the Blair business college, Spokane; W. G. Beach, professor of economic science and history, W. A. C.; Lewis B. Alger, principal of the state normal, Cheney; C. V. Piper, professor of botany and zoology, W. A. C.; Edward T. Mathes, principal of the state normal, Watcom; Miss Florence Bosworth, Oakesdale public schools; N. D. Showalter, principal of Farmington public schools; Miss Cora Goodnight, Rosalia public schools; Miss Mabel E. Bray, drawing, Cheney normal; Miss L. L. West, principal of the Rosalia public schools and Mrs. E. C. Morgan, primary teacher, Colfax public schools.

The sessions Monday forenoon and afternoon were in line with the program work. Monday evening a reception was tendered the teachers in the superior courtroom at the courthouse and a large number were present. About an hour was spent by the teachers in becoming better acquainted and the introduction and reception committees were busy. The reception was not long drawn out because of the fact that many of the teachers desired to witness the production of "Faust" at the Ridgeway. The reception was a very pleasant affair and all seemed to enjoy the occasion very much.

Tuesday witnessed the enrollment greatly increased. Much interest is manifested and the teachers enter into the discussion of the various subjects and papers with a vim and enthusiasm rarely seen in gatherings of this description. The subjects handled during the forenoon session were "Child Study," "Physiology," "Nature Study," "Arithmetic" and "Penmanship." Professor O. L. Waller of the Agricultural college and Professor H. C. Blair of the Blair business college, Spokane, gave talks, which were full of interest and instruction. In the afternoon "Thoroughness and How to Reach It," "Arithmetic" and "School Management," were the subjects discussed by the institute. President E. A. Bryan of the Agricultural college was to have delivered a lecture in the evening, but was unable to be present, so no meeting of any kind was held.

Prof. W. G. Beach of the Agricultural college, delivered a lecture before the teachers in the court house Wednesday evening upon the "Anthracite Strike." Prof. Beach spoke at length and devoted himself to almost every phase of the situation. The lecture was well received, Prof. Beach being a most entertaining and interesting talker. Much of his information and knowledge of this subject has been gathered by personal investigation, he having lived in the anthracite regions for a number of years. Many questions regarding the subject were discussed which were entirely new to his hearers.

Among the instructors and lecturers at the institute is Dr. Leslie R. Mutch, the noted scientist. Dr. Mutch has a national reputation as a criminologist and alienist, and has spent many years in the study of psychological subjects. He interests himself mainly in the study of child life and has traveled extensively in his researches. Some of the subjects handled by Dr. Mutch before the institute this week are: "Child nature as studied objectively," "The disposition of childhood and how to manage it," "The physical state of the child as affecting its ability," "Psychology, with reference to language," and "School management." His talks were well received by the teachers and much interest was manifested in the subjects which he handled. Dr. Mutch is a brother of Mrs. Dr. Pough of this city.

Thursday evening Edward T. Mathes, principal of the Watcom normal, delivered a lecture entitled "A problem of education," which was well received by the teachers. Mr. Mathes is an excellent educator and has the happy faculty of an easy expression. The members of the institute were greatly benefited by his talks. During the forenoon and afternoon sessions subjects were discussed by Miss L. L. West of Rosalia, J. L. Dumas of Pullman, Newton V. Rowe of Colfax, E. T. Mathes of the Whitcom normal and Lewis B. Alger of the Cheney normal.

Colfax Armory Co.

The stockholders of the above company are hereby notified that the assessment of 15 cents per share, levied by stockholders' meeting, March 2nd, 1903, is payable on or before April 15th, 1903, to Dr. Geo. A. Chapman, Treas., Colfax, Wash. DR. JOHN BENSON, Sec.

Five and Ten-Acre Tracts.

A portion of the Walters farm, west of Colfax, is offered for sale in 5 and 10-acre tracts, for orchard and garden purposes, for which the land is well adapted. For information, terms, etc., address Rev. T. W. Walters, Spokane, Wash.

For Sale.

500 head, more or less, of fine black-face sheep; 9 head of horses, wagon, plows, farming implements and sundry other articles. At private sale; property at Riverside. A. Stoneberger.

Mrs. Ellen, medium, just arrived, Room 1, Ellis Bldg. Tells past, present and future. Consult her on business affairs. Spirit manifestations, trumpet and test meetings Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 8 o'clock. Room 11, Fraternity block.

Girl Wanted—General housework. Apply to Mrs. E. E. Bellinger.

Take your poultry to Moore.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Miss Bird Price is spending the week visiting with Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Hendricson.

Chas. E. Taft was in the city during the week from Seattle.

Attorney and Mrs. M. O. Reed returned Sunday from their trip to San Francisco.

George C. Marsh of Endicott was transacting business in Colfax Monday. Ed Green left Saturday for Dallas City, Ill., where he was called by the serious illness of his mother.

Mrs. L. Schmuck is visiting with relatives and friends in Walla Walla this week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Bragg, who have been spending the winter in Portland, returned to their Colfax home Thursday. J. N. Pickrell went to Ritzville Sunday, where he was engaged in an equity case on Monday before the Adams county court.

Miss Lillian Dickens was a visitor to Garfield Sunday.

Dan Binnard returned this week from an extended trip to Walla Walla and points in Oregon.

Miss Daisy Hendricson was down from Farmington Monday visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Hendricson.

Rev. H. S. Black and daughter, Gladys, returned Tuesday from their visit to Denver and Salt Lake.

Charles Curtis, a former Colfax boy, is in the city this week from Eugene, Oregon, where he has been attending college.

LeRoy Thomas, a traveling representative of the census bureau, has been in the city this week gathering statistics and looking into the financial standing of Whitman county.

Rev. Leon D. Green of Eugene, Oregon, is in the city this week. Rev. Green is a graduate of the Eugene divinity school and may take the pastorate of the Christian church at this place.

Rev. T. W. Walters of Spokane is in Colfax this week shaking hands with his many friends.

Poster Hall of Lewiston visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wilcox early in the week.

Mrs. Ella Crane and sister, Miss Sarah Shulerud of Tekoa are in the city visiting with friends.

Mrs. Ira Shallis of Coeur d'Alene is visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. John Benson.

Charles H. Larkin left yesterday for the Potlatch country in Idaho, to look over the real estate holdings of his company.

Mrs. Alfred Coolidge is visiting in Spokane this week.

Miss Ruth Grostein of Lewiston visited with her sister, Mrs. H. Kaminski, during the week. Mayor and Mrs. Julius Lippitt returned yesterday from an extended trip to California.

Save the Loved Ones!

Mrs. Mary A. Vliet, Newcastle, Colo., writes: "I believe Ballard's Horehound Syrup is superior to any other cough medicine, and will do all that is claimed for it, and it is so pleasant to take. My little girl wants to take it when she has no need for it." Ballard's Horehound Syrup is the great cure for all pulmonary ailments. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Elk Drug Store, Colfax.

My nursery stock has just been inspected by the county inspector and found all right in every respect. I am now ready to book and fill orders for choice fruit trees of most of the best varieties. Geo. Reedy.

House and Lot for Sale.

Good seven room house in a desirable location at a bargain. James G. Combs, Colfax, Wash.

As a spring tonic nothing equals Dr. Buck's Celery, Sarsaparilla and Dandelion. Get it at The Elk Drug Store.

Private sale of household goods in house formerly occupied by Mrs. Hoag, above hospital. Mrs. J. C. Styles.

For Sale Cheap—Ladies' wheel. Inquire Room 1, Ellis Block.

H. W. GOFF, FIRE INSURANCE.



Looks Good to Him

Our candies look good to all that see them, and are justly praised by all who use them. You will be delighted after you once taste their delicious flavor. We are sole agents for the

Celebrated Aldon Confections

made by the Aldon Candy Co., Portland, Ore. Will soon have a large and varied assortment of Easter novelties.

CHAS. KENNEL, Candy and Book Store.

OUR SEEDS

are not cheap, but they ARE the cleanest and of the highest germinating power that can be bought.

AMONG THEM WE CARRY

Utah Alfalfa, Eastern Red Clover Local and Eastern Timothy White Clover and Blue Grass Flower Seeds All kinds of Flowering Plants Garden Seeds in Bulk or Package

LACEY & SHELDON

Retail Grocers, Colfax.

Watch for next date of "KING, the OPTICIAN"

from Spokane, on page 3.

Druggists sell King's Eye Cure.

PLATT & DREGER DRY GOODS MILLINERY.

SPRING 1903 Announcement SPRING 1903

Our New Fabrics for Early Spring and Summer wear are now ready for Exhibition.

Lovely Wash Fabrics

Unique Fil De Soies, Tricote Soies, Satin Stripe Rhoddas, Windsor Papillon, Brilliant Lustro, Figured Mousselines, Novelty Tissue, Silk Tissue, Fancy Vestings, Organdies, Figured Lawns, Persian Lawns, India Linons, Dimities, Gingham, etc. These range in price from

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NEW WOOL GOODS

Voiles, Etamines, Canvas Cloths, Jacquards, Ferrettias, Silk Sublime, Scillians, Etc., in complete line of colors, cream and black.

BUY YOUR DRESS HERE! Stranger or neighbor cannot duplicate it without going to the larger cities.

Other New Arrivals

Trimming Laces, Ribbons, Embroideries, Fancy Stock Collars, Fancy Hosiery, Veilings, Chate-laines, Wrist Bags, Buttons, Belts, and Belting, Hair Ornaments, Lace Curtains, Linens, Etc.

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Now open for your inspection, a very superior collection of

Lovely Headgear

Many exclusive designs in the finer novelties, and a few lovely original creations, triumphs of the highest millinery art. Come and see them. Our Miss Lyle will be glad to show you the beauties.

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Our selection of correct clothes for sensible men, who dress well, from the best makers in the country, such as

Hart, Schaffner & Marx and B. Kuppenheimer

we can sell and recommend to you with confidence, even though our prices are lower than any other house, for the same quality.

Our line of Boys' and Children's Clothing is also equal in style and quality to the Men's. Come in and see if it isn't.

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HOTEL WHITMAN

New Throughout. Steam Heat. Electric Lights and Bells.

Commodious Sample Rooms.

Rates, \$2.00 and \$2.50.

ALLEN & LARKIN, Props.

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