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JACKSON, AMADOR COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1909.

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TERRIBLE TRAGEDY
NEAR CLINTON.Mrs. Lintillac Shot, and
Dangerously Wounded.Would-Be Murderer Takes the
Poison Route.

A terrible affair happened on the Lintillac ranch shortly after noon on Monday. The Lintillac ranch is commonly known as the Douet place, and is located near Clinton, seven miles east of Jackson. Lintillac bought the place about seven years ago, and with his family, consisting of a wife and one child, has occupied the place ever since, cultivating the vineyard, and making wine and brandy.

Lintillac employed a farm hand named Joseph Choalich. He was employed steadily, so it is claimed, at so much per day the year round. It was owing to a dispute about his wages that the tragedy occurred. Choalich contended that a sum of \$52 was due him, less \$2 for liquor. Mrs. Lintillac transacted the business of keeping books and settling with the employes. She claimed that there was only \$7.50 coming to Choalich. The latter quit and seems to have brooded over the matter. Last week he came to Jackson and consulted an attorney in regard to the collection of the sum alleged to be due him, and he left the account in the hands of C. P. Vicini, who promised to try and settle it amicably.

On the other side, it is said that he was employed at odd times, when there was work to do. There was no steady employment. That he claimed there was \$25 due him, and they contended they owed him only \$7.50. On Monday about, two o'clock, Mrs. Lintillac, was standing a short distance front the kitchen door, when Choalich came along, and again started a conversation in regard to wages. He carried a double barrel shot gun, although this would not ordinarily create alarm. Mrs. Lintillac referred him to her husband—to go and see him about it. Thereupon Choalich, raised his gun and fired both barrels in quick succession. He evidently aimed to cripple his victim, as each charge took effect in the lower part of the limbs. The weapon was loaded with B shot. One charge took effect in the left leg, midway between the knee and ankle, shattering the bone in a terrible manner. The other charge took effect in the right foot, carrying away the heel and around the ankle. At the time she was wearing heavy French boots, with wood soles, and the heel of the shoe was shot away.

After doing this terrible work, Choalich fled, and it was surmised that his object was to escape.

An Italian living on the Lagomarsino place hastened to Jackson for medical aid. At the same time another left for the Tabeau reservoir to summon a doctor by telephone. The man on horseback got the news to town. He made the trip in an incredibly short time. It was perhaps a matter of life or death, and he did not spare horse flesh. Galloping into Main street, without hat, with the animal he bestrode panting and foaming, he dismounted at the Spagnoli drug store, and entered. Every one on the street knew that something unusual had happened. He told the story of the shooting. Dr. Endicott, accompanied by S. N. Spagnoli, at once started for the scene.

Shortly thereafter sheriff Gregory and constable Laverone started out to look after the shooter, who it was reported had escaped.

Choalich, however, judging from the sequel, was not intent on escaping in the general acceptance of the term. He came on to Jackson, and reached here shortly after 5 o'clock. Whether he came to surrender himself or to end his existence in the sensational way he took can never be known. It was Washington's birthday and a holiday. The court house was deserted. Moreover, it was past business hours any way when he got here. It appears he passed by the court house and went to the nearest store—that of W. Schroeder—only a few steps away, and purchased a couple of oranges. He then went back and took a seat on the cement curbing around the grass plot in front of the court house, and commenced peeling an orange. Thos. Lemiu, who is attending the saloon opposite the court house, noticed the man sitting there, but did not know him and there was nothing strange about his conduct to attract particular attention. He noticed there was

something in his hand besides the orange. He noticed he spit out the first mouthful. In a few minutes Lemiu heard a peculiar cry coming from the man and turning to see, the man threw out his hands and fell backwards. He rushed up to him, took him by the arm and told him to get up. He was as rigid as iron, and frothing at the mouth. He told him to get up, and attempted to assist him. The man said, "Too late." These were the last and only words he spoke after taking the poisoned dose. In less than fifteen minutes after taking his seat on the curbing, he was dead.

The body was removed temporarily into the corridor between the jail and hall of records. Deputy sheriff Connors searched the man's pockets, and found therein a small bottle labeled "Strychnine." It was half filled with the deadly drug. Of course this was taken as the explanation of the tragic death. There was also \$1.50 found in his pockets, and a pocket knife.

Coroner Potter came over from Plymouth the following morning and impaneled a jury to inquire into the death of Choalich. The following were sworn as jurors: C. Giovannoni, S. Harris, A. Giocchio, Amber Meek, R. Webb, W. M. Perry, V. Talenti, J. Piccardo, Henry Weil, J. D. Palmer, Martin Lubenko.

The coroner afterwards found upon a thorough examination of the body the following additional articles: Declaration of intention paper, dated March 6, 1906; state poll tax for 1908, three pocket handkerchiefs, a silver watch, and a couple of lead pencils. At the inquest the witnesses examined were U. S. Gregory, Thos. Lemiu, Dr. Sprague, W. Connors and John Glavich. It was shown that deceased about two o'clock appeared at the Lintillac ranch, while Mrs. Lintillac was hanging out some clothes. He went up to where she was standing, with the gun in his hand, and said he wanted \$25.50. She replied that they did not owe him that much; that it had been raining the last month, and that he owed \$20 for hoard, and \$2 for a gallon of brandy. He told her that he would not pay for hoard. Thereupon Mrs. Lintillac referred him to her husband for a settlement. He then raised his gun and fired. She fell at once, and while she lay on the ground he discharged the second shot at his victim. French Aleck, who was working about fifty yards away, hearing the woman's screams, ran to her assistance. Choalich, after doing this fiendish deed, walked deliberately and leisurely away. He had taken dinner that day at Campanelli's place, and the weapon is believed to have been obtained from there. It was found afterwards on the premises. Before starting for Jackson, he returned to Campanelli's, and said he hadn't discharged the gun for four days, although the weapon showed every sign of having been recently discharged. It seems that he changed the blue jumper that he wore for his coat, and then set out for Jackson, reaching here shortly after five. At first he went by the M. E. church, and sat down. He threw away a whiskey bottle, containing some fluid, whether liquor or not is not known, and then went to Schroeder's store and purchased the orange. In passing up to the front of the court house, he spoke to Lemiu, saying, "Good day," as pleasantly as possible.

After hearing the evidence, the jury brought in the following verdict: "That the deceased was named Joseph Choalich, a native of Austria, aged about 42 years, that he came to his death in the city of Jackson, on the 22d day of February, 1909, from the effects of a dose of strychnine poison, administered by his own hand with suicidal intent." Deceased has been in this section for the past six or seven years. He was looked upon as not a man capable of such a murderous attack, rather weak in mental capacity, but strictly honest. He has no relatives in this country so far as known.

Mrs. Lintillac's Condition.

Dr. Endicott, on reaching the Lintillac place, found the gunshot wound of a very serious nature. He decided to amputate the left leg at once, and this was done with the assistance of Dr. Gall, at a point between the knee and ankle. It is probable that the right foot will also have to be taken off, but this was deemed inadvisable at that time. A few days may elapse before this second operation is had. Mrs. Lintillac is considered in a critical condition. The shock and the severe wounds may be more than her constitution can withstand. She is a bright, intelligent woman, and liked by all who knew her. The sympathy

of the entire community goes out toward her and her husband in this terrible calamity.

Miss Blakely, daughter of W. H. Blakely, of Drytown, who has recently graduated from the Fabiola hospital as a trained nurse, went up to the Lintillac ranch on Tuesday to nurse Mrs. Lintillac.

As soon as possible, probably tomorrow, Mrs. Lintillac will be brought to the hospital to have the amputation of the other foot performed. It was thought advisable to have the patient here, not only for the convenience of the county operating room, but also within easy distance of the attending physician. At last accounts she was doing nicely, with both pulse and temperature but a trifle above normal. Strong hopes are entertained that she will survive.

Mrs. Lintillac, who was, beside the assailant, the only witness of the shooting, says that after the first shot, when she lay helpless on the ground, she said to the shooter in an upbraiding way, "You should shoot the other leg." Thereupon Choalich raised his gun and deliberately fired the second time. Before leaving the spot he took the precaution to take out the shell from one of the barrels and replace it with a loaded shell, and then walked away.

Mr. Lintillac was half a mile away at the time. It is thought that Choalich had been hanging about the premises for some time, waiting until satisfied that no one was about the house beside Mrs. Lintillac. The husband was summoned as quickly as possible, and as soon as he arrived bandaged the limbs as best he could to staunch the flow of blood as much as possible.

SHEEP MEN WIN
A BIG VICTORY.Appellate Court Knocks out Lassen
County Tax on Sheep Grazing.

The revenue of Lassen county is dealt a severe blow in the decision handed down to-day by the district court of appeal of the third appellate district in granting the writ of habeas corpus sought by L. L. McCoy, a sheep-raiser of Red Bluff, who made a test case of the Lassen county ordinance charging a license tax of 5 cents a head on sheep and lambs grazed in that county.

In closing the lengthy opinion, presiding justice Chipman says: "The ordinance is unreasonable and was adopted for the purpose of raising revenue and was not intended to be, and is not, an ordinance adopted for regulation only, and is therefore void."

The court also declares that license taxes on lambs is burdensome, oppressive and unreasonable and, is a violation of an act of the legislature of February 26, 1903.

It is pointed out in the opinion that the assessment roll of Lassen county amounted to \$6,000,000 last year. The general fund received \$25,000 in taxes while the road fund obtained about \$24,000. The license on sheep with an assessed valuation of \$500,000 amounts to more than one-half of the general fund or road fund derived from the property tax with more than ten times the assessed valuation of sheep, says the opinion.

The appellate court decision is looked upon as a victory for the sheep men who have had trouble with county boards of supervisors charging licenses for grazing sheep.

Last August McCoy permitted himself to be arrested for violating the county ordinance which imposed the 5-cent head license on sheep and lambs raised or grazed in the county. He was released on \$100 bail and immediately began testing the case, finally appearing before the appellate court asking for a writ of habeas corpus.

The sheepman complain and the appellate justices agree with them, that sheep are taxed a property tax and grazing license in Lassen county and a license again in Plumas or Modoc counties, where they probably graze for a few months in the year. If they go into the national forest reserve they are assessed a rental of 8 cents a head by the federal government. Twenty-five per cent of this latter charge is turned over to the counties by the federal authorities. half of which is spent on county roads, which, it is held, are damaged by sheep traveling from one range to another. The justices declare that 95 per cent of the sheep pastured and taxed in Lassen county must take out a license for only a few months' stay in the county and this is not just.—Sac. Bee.



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**ROYAL IS THE ONLY BAKING POWDER
MADE FROM ROYAL GRAPE CREAM OF TARTAR**

MINING NOTES.

Argonaut.—The meeting of stockholders of the Argonaut Mining Company, which has been postponed from time to time, was held at the office of the company on Wednesday evening last. The stockholders representing the controlling interest, were present from the outside, among them being A. H. Carlyle, the president of the Argonaut Consolidated, the holding company of the Argonaut, also Jesse W. Lillienthal, E. A. Stent, and J. H. Tam of San Francisco, and John Raggio of Stockton.

Everything passed off harmoniously, without the least friction. The following board of directors was elected for the ensuing term: J. W. Lillienthal, E. A. Stent of San Francisco, John Raggio of Stockton, R. S. Rainsford and B. F. Taylor of Jackson. The board of directors afterwards organized by the election of J. W. Lillienthal as president, B. F. Taylor, vice president; and E. V. Zumbiel, secretary; R. S. Rainsford, superintendent. The stockholders from the outside arrived from San Francisco the same evening, and departed the following morning. Everything points to the harmonious and rapid development of the property from now on, and all were pleased at the prospects ahead, as well as the manner in which the mine is working out to the dividend paying stage again.

Central Eureka.—The repair of the shaft—or more properly speaking, the reopening of the shaft—has reached to within four hundred feet of the bottom. Rapid headway is being made. The intention of the company is to develop the mine at greater depth, and they have every confidence that it will again respond in liberal dividends. The stock is selling at eight cents per share. Of course it will require two assessments to get the mine on a working basis, but the stock is considered a good gamble at the present marked price.

Kennedy.—It is pleasing to note the fact that at the 3150 level a fine ore body exists both north and south of the shaft, of large size, and all of milling value, a portion of the ledge being unusually rich. The mine is, according to current reports, yielding up to the standard of bygone bonanza days, and the outlook is as bright as at any time in the past.

Tellurium.—At this mine near Pine Grove operations are being conducted on a small scale, by W. B. Shaub and others of San Francisco. It is reported that a roller quartz mill is being made in San Francisco to be erected on this property.

Church Notes.

Order of services at the Methodist Episcopal church as follows: Sunday school at 2 p. m., preaching services every Sunday to commence at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., prayer meeting every Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

EPISCOPAL.

Regular services will be held in St. Augustine's Episcopal church as follows: 11 a. m.—First and third Sunday in each month. 7:30 p. m.—Second and fourth Sunday in each month.

PIONEER FLOUR always has been and still is the best.

Hotel Arrivals

National: Thursday—Alva R. Atwood, F. K. Crum, Stockton; Hans Nutrich, San Francisco; A. B. Russell, J. S. Linney, H. O. Willis, Sacramento.

Friday: F. J. K. Manning, San Francisco, R. M. Miller, Martells.

Saturday: F. A. Hensley, Electra; C. F. Adams, W. S. James, E. E. Thompson, San Francisco.

Sunday: J. A. French, Oakland; R. Steckel, Hamby Mine; Alfred Rowland, New York; G. L. Tufts, Berkeley; Miss Godfrey, Mr. Tass, Mr. Page, Mr. Wagonette, J. O. Connel, San Andreas.

Monday: P. W. Blazer, San Francisco; E. D. Boydston, Volcano; W. Speakman, H. E. Potter, Plymouth.

Tuesday: G. L. Price, Sacramento; Chas. Walton, Plymouth; James Keith, San Andreas; I. R. Beasley, H. G. Perry, San Francisco; W. H. Sheets, Stockton; V. G. Handel, S. Primitivi.

Wednesday: O. H. Rogers, San Jose; W. H. Bulson and wife, Electra; J. W. Lillienthal, T. H. Young, A. H. Carlyle, San Francisco; E. A. Stent, New York; F. H. Shirley, Richmond; J. Raggio, J. A. Kasper, Stockton; C. J. Hempton, J. H. Tam, W. Alexander, R. Pacheco, J. J. Conna and wife, San Francisco; W. A. Hempton, Denver; Henry Arnold, Sacramento.

Thursday: R. Boog, San Francisco.

Globe: Thursday—W. L. Rose, L. L. Cuneo, Sutter Creek; Frank Stewart, Oakland; J. W. Mitchell, Fresno; Geo. Pratt, San Francisco.

Friday: Chas. Show, Denver; S. Row, C. D. Shearer, San Francisco.

Saturday: Barnaby, San Francisco.

Sunday: Lee Willard, A. C. Fox; Miss Muney, New York; Alfred Rowland; F. M. Page; Julien M. Wagenet, Oakland.

Monday: Mr. Johnson, Sutter Creek; Sam Ryley, San Francisco; A. Toland, P. Pender.

Tuesday: W. Joost, San Francisco; J. L. Casels, Sutter Creek; W. B. Pemberton, Volcano; P. S. Westfall, Stockton; J. A. Manuel, Fred Batten, Murphys.

Wednesday: F. B. Joyce, Defender; W. Hippler, Sacramento; T. Ferrari, Pine Grove; J. Heffren, San Francisco.

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Reason Enthroned

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