

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY, SALEM, OREGON, BY

## Capital Journal Ptg. Co., Inc.

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
Daily by carrier, per year \$5.00 Per month .45c  
Daily by mail, per year 3.00 Per month .35c

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### THE JENNINGS MURDER

George A. Thacher, president of the Oregon Prisoners' Aid Society, has written two very thoughtful articles for the Oregonian concerning the Jennings murder. Each of these is a purely theoretical examination into the circumstances surrounding the murder so far as they are known. There is no attempt to fasten the crime on Thompson or any other person, only a discussion as to the probable murderer. In his last article he arrives at the conclusion that the blow that killed Mrs. Jennings was struck by a left handed man, drawing this conclusion from the position of the body and the direction taken by the hammer as it fell, judging this from the shape and place of the wound that caused her death.

There are several circumstances not brought out that it would seem should have considerable bearing on the matter. One of these is the Ristman murder. If Thompson or anyone who committed the murder could drive a car, as the murderer evidently could, why did he hire Ristman? Why did he hire a car at all, and thus take a greater risk of discovery than was necessary? He could easily have stolen a car. Is it not possible then that the original intent was to get Ristman to drive him to the Jennings place with the purpose of fixing the crime on him? Might not he have learned on the way to the Jennings house that Ristman recognized him and that his murder was due to this? Does not this indicate the murderer lived in the Jennings' neighborhood? Would even the most hardened criminal have deliberately committed an unnecessary murder in order to commit a robbery? It would hardly seem so. If not, then the person who killed Mrs. Jennings went to her house not for the purpose of robbery, but with the intent of killing the woman. There are two possible reasons why the person would murder the woman. One to protect himself from danger for some previous crime, of which Mrs. Jennings knew, and which he feared she might tell; and the other the motive for countless thousands of murders, jealousy. If the motive was not robbery it is safe to say it was one or the other of these motives. It is preposterous to suppose one contemplating a robbery would deliberately commit murder for no other purpose than to get to the scene of the intended robbery.

Is it not more plausible to suppose that not Thompson, but someone living nearer the Jennings home planned the murder, hired Ristman to take him to the scene for the purpose of throwing suspicion on some Portland person, and being recognized was compelled, in order to protect himself, to put him out of the way? True he could have delayed, and put the execution of the crime off, but had he done so, when the murder was at last committed, Ristman's evidence of this trip would have thrown suspicion on him. Being recognized it was a case of kill Ristman or forego his intent of killing the woman.

It is not intended to intimate that Thompson is either guilty or innocent, but only to call attention to this phase of the matter.

A poll of the New York delegation to the republican national convention, it is stated shows a clear majority for Hughes, notwithstanding the delegation's high regard for the state's favorite son, Root. A letter signed by William Barnes, a republican delegate, says there will be a meeting of the New York delegation the evening of June sixth for the purpose of organizing. It is claimed this is done for the purpose of arriving at an understanding as to the delegation's choice, and also to try and reach an agreement to deliver the state's vote solidly at least on the first ballot.

Gertrude Lamson, whose testimony sent Rev. Madison Slaughter to prison, is still in the hands of the law. Her mother wants the court to permit her to return home, but that the court refuses to do, remembering how her mother was against her in the trial, and also that she made the remark that "there is a day of settlement coming." The court realizing that a settlement is the last thing she law desires will try and find a home for the girl and not aid her family in having the settlement the mother hinted at.

### THE COLONEL'S CHICAGO ROUND-UP

With the progressive national convention in Chicago, doing business at the same time the republicans are there, it causes some wonderment as to which party the Colonel has opened his headquarters for. His act is one of the boldest threats ever made at a political nomination convention. It is a bare assertion, "nominate me or take the consequences."

If the Colonel cannot get the republican nomination he can make the race again as a progressive, and this is what he is impressing on his erstwhile republican friends. The question is which convention will nominate first. If the republicans do so, it will show more plainly than before that the progressive convention is determined to force their hand and failing in that to nominate Roosevelt anyway. It is probable they will do this should he fail, even against his objections. As Defoe in Robinson Crusoe so succinctly said when describing a battle with the natives, who being naked, the sailors had repulsed by throwing hot pitch, with which they were calking their ship, on them: There is "H—I to pay and no pitch hot."

Colonel Roosevelt was given a royal welcome at Kansas City yesterday morning; thirty thousand, the dispatches said, lining the streets from the depot to the hotel. Another crowd of five thousand waited at the hotel and refused to leave until he made them a speech. It is needless to say their wishes were gratified, for the Colonel is always loaded.

The Giants found Decoration Day an unlucky one, for after winning 17 straight they fell down yesterday, and Matty lost out in his attempt to break the record held by the White Sox, of a straight 19, although someone comes to the front with the books showing the real record is 20, made by Providence in 1884.

Carranza is learning from the hated gringos. He openly charges that the border troubles were stirred up by politicians who wanted to use them for campaign purposes. He must receive some of the American newspapers and read the arguments for and against preparedness.

The English Derby, was run yesterday as usual, but there was none of the old time attendance. Only a few professional horsemen saw it where before the war all England that was anybody, turned out. The king had a horse entered, but he did not start.

Waite says he does not want his case appealed, but his family are one and all determined to appeal it anyway. He should be allowed to have his way about it as it is none of the families business. It is strictly speaking "none of their funeral."

Bootlegging seems to be one of the principal occupations in Seattle, warrants being issued yesterday for fifteen druggists of that city, for selling liquors in violation of law, and it is said twenty more warrants were to be issued today.

Yesterday the weather man laid off having a holiday. From the result it might be well to have him jump the job permanently, for it was the finest day of the month, or for that matter, the winter.

The Austrians continue pushing the Italians back, in their attempt to capture Vicenza. The fighting has been fierce, but so far has all been in the Austrian's favor.



### THE SPRING DAY

The skies are blue, and, good as new, the sun jogs on its ancient way; no cloud in sight, the world is bright, it is a calm and perfect day. I take a book to my old nook beneath the figtree and the vine; "and here," I say, "a while I'll stay, that on my bones the sun may shine." Then comes a guy with fishy eye, who says, "Good morning, Mr. Hick; I have, old chap, the greatest snap, for folks who wish to get rich quick." I turn him down, with weary frown, and then another gent appears, to put me wise to some great prize, the biggest in a thousand years. They'd sink my roll in mines where coal and gold and zinc and cheese are found; they talk of shafts and kindred grafts, and rich deposits under ground. The mining sharks seek easy marks whenever spring is in the air; they spoil the day that seemed so gay, and drive me from my easy chair. Of hop-joint dreams and gaudy schemes they tell until my heart is sore, and so, to block their tireless talk, I hide behind the cellar door.

### Some Zephyr Reported Off the Farallones

San Francisco, May 31.—A northwestern gale off the Golden Gate blew two weeks out of the lives of sailors aboard the windjammer Harold Blakum which reached port today. A fortnight ago the vessel passed the Farallones and headed straight for sight. Up popped Old Man Bores and turned loose a breeze that almost scalped the helmsman. He called the skipper and when that dignitary got on deck the gale died away but land was nowhere in sight, and the mariners vow it took them two weeks to sail back to the Farallones. Some zephyr! Estabrook headquarters in Chicago have been closed, indicating that the pen is not mightier than the politician's sword.

HE'S TRIED BOTH OF 'EM  
BOLIVER HEDGE SAYS IF YOU WANT TO LEARN TO SWIM IN ONE LESSON—TRY PADDLING A YOUNG AND GIDDY CANOE. HE ALSO SAYS IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SMOKE, DON'T TRY A



### STATE NEWS

Baker's latest innovation, as described by the Herald: "The cry of a banshee, the blast of a fog horn and the lamentation of a lost soul many times magnified, were mingled in a terrific blast of sound which startled the city this morning. Rising and falling, but mostly rising, it penetrated to every corner of Baker. It was not the heralding of the millennium. It was merely the city's new compressed air fire siren which was given its first tryout."

Albany Democrat: Joe Gudney, of Foster, was walking along the road near his home Tuesday evening and met two large cougars, a male and a female. He shot them both last night, brought their skins to the office of County Clerk Russell, received \$20 bounty and \$20 in warrants on the state. With a bob cut skin for which he received \$2, he received a total of \$42. He will also realize a good price for the skins.

Polk County Observer: While blasting rock at the quarry of the Oregon Portland Cement company the other day, a perfect petrified fish was found in the solid rock. Just what kind of a fish it was, cannot be determined by those who have seen the specimen, but its appearance is that of a gold fish. Geo. Stewart, foreman at the quarry, has placed it among his curios. When time permits he will have it surveyed, and if his surmise is correct, may have it mounted.

Medford Mail: A ton of very attractive copper ore arrived this morning from the Great Eastern mine, in the Squaw creek district, having been hauled down by team. This mine, a recent discovery, is located on the Oregon side of the Blue Ledge district, and is owned by Bruce Buck and associates. A ton of the ore is being shipped to the U. S. Smelter at Kennett, Cal., to be tested as to values. Local miners pronounce it rich ore.

A report comes from southern Oregon that an appeal may be made to Governor Withycombe to establish a state park along the Pacific highway to prevent the bringing of intoxicating liquors into the state from California. It is feared that many automobile accidents will result this summer unless precautions are taken to cut down the traffic over the highway from Hornbrook.

Medford Mail: Peter H. Harmon, of the Applegate district, is in the city today for an over Sunday visit. Mr. Harmon says there will be greater activity in placer mining in his district this year than for a great many seasons, where water is available. A number of people interested in good placer ground are awaiting with a degree of interest the trial of the dry land dredge soon to be installed in that territory. It is proved a success—and not many doubt that it will—there will be a good deal of work done in that line as soon as another dredge can be installed.

A recent issue of the Roseburg Review contained a comprehensive article, written by Dr. E. Bywater telling what had happened to Grants Pass since the voting of the \$200,000 bond issue for the starting of the railroad toward the coast. The doctor detailed all the various industries and enterprises that had come to the city since the voting of the bonds upon the strength of the new railroad, and the article was used

as campaign thunder by the friends of the Roseburg bond issue.—Grants Pass Courier.  
Bandon's Commercial club, long dormant, has been reorganized. "Instead of the old plan of having a president and secretary, on whom all of the work falls, as has been the experience in the past," says the Recorder, "a board of five directors will have complete charge of the executive work of the body."  
Roseburg Review's view of the lumber situation: "That lumber is in great

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