

Lacks June 5, 19, 26.  
SEP - 7 1909

PUBLISHED IN THE GREATEST MINING REGION IN THE WORLD

# THE PIOCHE RECORD

VOL. XXXIX

PIOCHE, NEVADA, SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1909.

No. 37

## ONEOTA SCENE OF A SERIOUS SHOOTING

### MYSTERY SURROUNDS THIS CASE

The Discovery of Body of Charles Todd in Well at Bristol Gives Suspicion of Foul Play.

JULIUS WEIR JR.  
JULIUS WEIR SR.  
MRS. KATE WEIR.

Are the above named persons responsible for the death of Charles Todd, whose body was found in the water at the bottom of the well at a point known as Bristol-Wells last Monday? That is a question which the peace officers of Lincoln county propose to find out. At a meeting of the special grand jury a few evenings ago, the matter was discussed, and since then, it is alleged, sufficient incriminating evidence has been obtained to warrant the making of arrests. Accordingly, acting on instructions from the office of district Attorney Breeze, Deputy Sheriff James Small left for the scene at an early hour this morning to place the Weirs in custody.

The last seen of Todd alive was on May 14th. He was then at the Weir camp at Bristol, whence he went about the date stated in company with William Blackwell.

It will be remembered that warrants were issued from Justice Perkins' court charging Blackwell and Todd with the crime of horse stealing. Mrs. Blackwell who had a few days previous filed suit for divorce, being the complainant.

Blackwell and Todd were traced to Bristol and Walker Lee was deputized to go after them. He found his men, but for some reason, never fully explained, he left Todd at Bristol, bringing Blackwell and the horses back to Pioche. Strange to say, nothing more was heard about the case. No return was made to Perkins' court.

Todd suddenly dropped out of sight and the Weir's claim they missed him, yet admit that no attempt was made to spread the alarm until after the discovery of the body in the well near their premises last Monday by Angelo Bissio and William H. Garton.

The actions of the Weirs at the coroners' inquest aroused the suspicions of the officers and it is alleged that the stories told by members of the Weir family do not altogether tally. An examination of the body after its recovery from the well displayed evidences of foul play. The case is shrouded in mystery, but the officers believe they will be able to clear it up. The Weirs say Todd was drunk on May 14 and aver that while in that condition must have tumbled into the well.

The Weirs have been working a lease at Bristol and have followed the vocation of mining for several years.

Ainslee Campbell Here.  
Ainslee Campbell, son of Dr. Campbell, has returned from Berkeley, Calif., where he has been attending school.

## Elmer Davis Meets His Death At the Hands of Ernest Dupont

Murderer Now Locked Up In County Jail To Await Trial In District Court—Tragedy the Result of a Drunken Brawl—Justice Perkins Holds Inquest at Agricultural Town Today—Slayer Has Lived In This Region For Some Time.

Oneota, the new town out in the northern part of the county which came into existence a few months ago as a result of the G. G. Davis reclamation project, has had its first killing.

Late Wednesday night, Elmer Davis a nephew of G. G. Davis, was shot and mortally wounded by Ernest Dupont. Davis lived about one hour. His slayer was brought to Pioche and now languishes in the county jail facing a charge of murder in the first degree.

According to information brought to the Record today, by a person who was at Oneota at the time, the tragedy is the result of a drunken brawl in which both Davis and Dupont were participants.

They had been friends and companions; but when the desert whiskey began getting in its work, a dispute arose and then—the gun play, with all the terrible consequences.

The trouble began, it is said, in the tent occupied by Rone Thompson. Du-

point and Davis engaged in an exchange of vile language until Nellie Thompson, ordered Dupont from the premises at the same time telling Davis to remain, entertaining the belief that if she could separate them the difficulty would be ended. But instead, Dupont obtained a gun and returned, when the quarrel was revived. Dupont called Davis a coward, "that he was afraid to come outside," at the same time brandished his weapon and otherwise terrorizing the occupants of the Thompson home. Davis, however, notwithstanding protests from the Thompsons, got up and went out, grappled with Dupont for possession of the gun and was shot in the mix-up. The bullet, 32 calibre, entered Davis' body at the base of the breast bone and emerged just to the left of the spine.

Walter Davis, a brother of the dead man, who was in a tent about 100 yards away, heard the trouble and went out to ascertain the cause; but the tragedy had been enacted when he

arrived on the scene. Dupont tried to shoot him too, but the gun failed to discharge which is probably all that prevented a double murder. Walter Davis, who is described as being fearless in time of danger, made for Dupont hitting him a hard blow on the head with his fist. Dupont was knocked senseless in which condition he remained for some little time; but while those about were directing their attention to the injured man, recovered and made his way through the darkness to a tent recently vacated by a family by the name of Wall, where he secreted himself until the following morning, when he was discovered, brought to Pioche and turned over to Undersheriff Fitzgerald for safe keeping.

Justice of the Peace, Alfred Perkins left for Oneota yesterday morning to preside at an inquest to be held today. Dupont has been in this region practically all his life. His mother is said to reside at Pocatello, Idaho.

### GOLD BUTTE RAPIDLY COMING TO THE FRONT.

(Special Correspondence.)

Gold Butte, Nev., June 8—The first meeting of the Gold Butte Mercantile, Townsite & Mining company, was held May 1st. The directors and officers of which are: J. A. Enger, president; Brig. Whitmore, vice-president; W. E. Sharpe, secretary and treasurer; who, with Harry Gentry, C. F. Feldt, are directors. The principal office of the company will be at Gold Butte. The capitalization is \$500,000, divided into an equal number of shares.

It is the purpose of the company to perfect the title to about 200 acres of land. This accomplished, work will begin immediately on the erection of a 20-room hotel, with a 25x30 foot dining room in connection. A store building, 25x60 feet, will be constructed, in which a \$5,000 stock of merchandise will be carried. The company will also build a new post office building, and conduct a livery and freighting business. A part of the assets of the company will be seven mining claims and valuable water rights recently acquired from Mr. Sharpe.

A thrifty commercial and business center will be established in the center of the Gold Butte mining district, a section which, just now is attracting considerable attention at the hands of mining men and capitalists.

The promotion and financing of the company is in the hands of one of Wall street's most prominent bankers and promoters. It is the intention to conduct a health sanitarium at Gold Butte, and in time, this should become a popular resting place for the tourist and traveler.

The elevation of Gold Butte is 4125 feet. Conditions are ideal, and the climate is the genuine California article, without the fogs. The scenery is varied and magnificent, the air bracing and invigorating.

Gold Butte is on the line of the travel between Arizona and St. George, Utah; also, between Arizona Moapa valley, Caliente and Pioche. Considerable traffic is going on constantly between Gold Butte and St. Thomas. Moapa is the present railroad shipping point for Gold Butte.

With the successful development of the mines in and around Gold Butte it is destined to become an important factor in the commercial and mining world. The entering of eastern capital spells success for Gold Butte.

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hawkins Tenders His Resignation Which is Accepted.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of county commissioners was held last Monday, with all members present.

Bills were allowed to the amount of \$6,903.89, and are given in detail elsewhere in this paper.

Joseph Rice of Panaca, presented a petition requesting a rebate on his liquor license; but investigation proved that the license had expired a few days prior to having been revoked.

An application from the Las Vegas Land & Water company for a franchise to install and operate a water system in the town of Las Vegas, was received and given due consideration and the required notice was ordered published.

On petition of the residents of Oneota, the Oneota school district was ordered established.

The application of the Rio Virgin Telephone & Telegraph Co., for a franchise to construct and operate a telephone line from Moapa, and extending to Bunkerville and Mesquite, was granted.

An application was received from C. W. Patterson for the position of inspector of the work to be performed on the vault to be built at the court house. The matter was laid over for future action.

Engineers' license were ordered issued to W. E. Dow and A. H. Gentry.

W. E. Hawkins, chairman of the board, announced that after July 1 his residence would be in Clark county, whereupon he tendered his resignation, to take effect June 30. The resignation was accepted and it will now be the duty of the governor to appoint a successor.

The board will meet again next Monday when matters pertaining to the letting of the contract for the new court house vault will receive attention.

### VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL IN THE SAVAGE-MILLER CASE

A verdict of acquittal was rendered in the case of the State of Nevada vs. William Savage and Michael J. Miller, charged with the murder of J. Cleveland Carter, last Saturday evening.

The defense put up a strong case and the introduction of evidence to the effect that Carter did not bear a good moral reputation had a telling effect on the jury.

The freed men left camp Sunday morning for Park City, Utah, where they expect to find employment. Judge Warner, the Salt Lake attorney who, with Charles Lee Horsey of this city, conducted the defense of the men returned home on the same train.

The members of the jury were unanimous for acquittal and were out not more than 50 minutes after receiving the instructions of the court.

### ATLANTA GROUP AT SILVER PARK

This Property Has Been Bonded to Strong Syndicate Which Will Develop It—Ely Men in Deal

Through the efforts of the local firm of assayers, Marriage and Cosby, associated with R. S. Baverstock of the assaying firm of Baverstock & Staples of Los Angeles, a deal of considerable interest to the local mining community was consummated this week, the general details in connection therewith having been concluded late yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Marriage, after personally investigating the Atlanta group at Silver Park, owned by George and Belle Latimer and E. D. Stone, commenced negotiations for an option on the property. He then interested Mr. Baverstock, who made a careful investigation, Mr. Baverstock in turn, interested M. D. Rochford, a mining man who spent years in buying ores in Nevada and examining mines in Mexico and in camps throughout the west.

Mr. Rochford was so well satisfied with the outlook that he decided to join Mr. Baverstock in taking up the property, but before their negotiations were concluded, they jointly interested Elmer Bray, who won an enviable reputation as a mining man in Ely in the early days—being one of the original investors in Copper Flat, the Cumberland-Ely and other properties, now regarded to be worth millions.

Mr. Bray decided that the property invited development, it being if anything, an enormous deposit of low grade ore, which with depth, might show up streaks of better grade ore, sufficient to make the greater part of the vein a commercial undertaking.

With this in view, final negotiations were arranged and the property taken over on a bond and the consideration named therein is said to run into the six figures. Work of developing the ground will begin immediately by Mr. Bray and his company, amongst whom are some of the well known operators of Ely.

The Atlanta group has been known for 35 years, having been prospected in the early days by Jesse Knight, the well known Utah operator for silver values. The vein has been stripped in many places and the outcrop shows from 200 to 300 feet in width, most of which on the surface carries fair values in gold, and very few portions of which falls to show free gold in the pan. It is said the gold contents became first noted about 18 months ago, when the property was purchased outright by George and Belle Latimer.

Head Of Scott Mines.  
A. W. Scott, who is at the head of the Scott Mines company, was in camp this week accompanied by a Mr. Smith of Providence, R. I., who is a large shareholder in the Scott company. They left this morning for Bouse, Arizona.