

## DETECTIVE HOUNDED PRETTY GIRL

Seattle Star Oct., 1903

Miss Violet V. Ball declares that private detectives have followed her night and day for 10 months: that her health has been shattered and her life made a burden by their rudeness and their untiring attention.

Yesterday she found she could stand it no more, and led the man who was follow-

ing her to police headquarters. When he found himself in the hands of a real detective he nearly fainted, but refused to talk. His name is J.B. Barger.

Miss Ball is named as the co-respondent in the recent divorce proceedings against C.B. Bussell, instituted by his wife.

Miss Ball says these detec-

tives were set to watch her long before the divorce suit was begun, and now are still hounding her, though the suit is practically over. She says there is scarcely a moment during the 24 hours of the day when she can step outside the door without being followed, or look out of the window without seeing one of them standing across the street. She

says they follow her on the street cars, to the matinee, into every shop, and even traveled with her to Portland.

The alleged detective refused to talk and was placed in a cell while the detective procured a warrant charging him with assaulting Miss Ball and conducting himself in a way to provoke assault from her.

## SEATTLE PATIENT CLUBBED TO DEATH

Seattle Star Oct., 1901

Henry Williams, 39, of Seattle, an inmate of the insane asylum at Steilacom, was stabbed to death on Wednesday morning by another inmate, John Sherland, 40, also of Seattle.

Both men were mopping the floor of their ward when Williams accidentally bumped

into Sherland. Sherland, who is a veritable fiend when aroused, immediately attacked Williams with his mop and knocking him down, beat his brains out on the floor.

The act was so quickly done that the attendants in the next room were unaware of the horrible deed until they found Williams' brains oozing out on the floor.

Sherland was at once placed in irons. The coroner of this country was notified and went at once to the scene.

Both men were inmates of the ward for the violently insane.

## THE NEWTONS WERE POOR

Seattle Star, 1901

Coroner Hoye today received a letter from W.C. Forde, postmaster of Eccles, Santa Cruz county, California, concerning the identity of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Newton, whose bodies were found in Green Lake several days ago.

Mr. Forde is confident that the two committed suicide. The 20 cents found on them he thinks is all that they had.

Mr. and Mrs. Newton rented a chicken ranch from him in California before they came here. They were peculiar people and seldom if ever spoke to their neighbors. While not crazy they were always rated "peculiar" by all who knew them. They left California after losing all of their property and were apparently despondent when they started for Seattle. The report that they had \$5,000, Mr. Forde says, is erroneous.

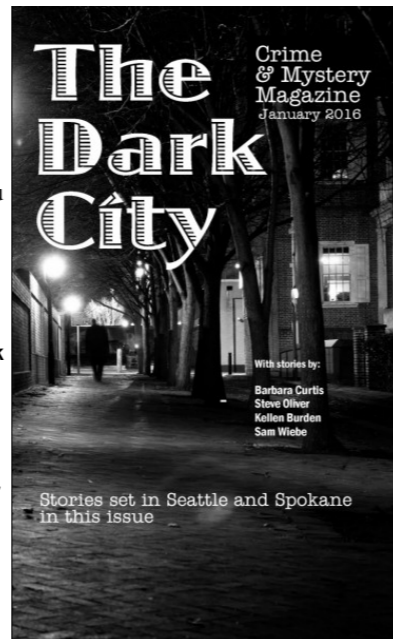
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# The Dark City

Crime  
Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 2

January, 2016

## Wrathy Italians Try to Annihilate Each Other

Seattle Star June., 1905

Detective Barbee and Officer Hughett on Tuesday night stopped a sanguinary fight between five Italians at Fourteenth and Jackson, arriving upon the scene of battle just in time to prevent what might have been a murder.

The Italians were beating and cutting each other in a frightful manner. Armed with knives, clubs, stones and cursing at the top of their voices, the five husky Romans were doing their best to kill one another.

In the vicinity of Fourteenth and Jackson are several Italian families, and many fights

take place in the neighborhood. Last night's slashing match, however, was one of the worst that has taken place for a long while.

What the real nature of the fight was is not known. Two of the men were knocked senseless and another had his throat and face badly cut. When the prisoners were searched at the police station a bloody dagger, an old razor and several handkerchiefs with large rocks tied in them were found.

No Charges have yet been placed against the men. They will be tried on Wednesday afternoon.

CRIME NEWS—Past and Present

## WINTER ISSUE DUKE DEATHRIDGE'S NIGHT OF CRIMES

Spokane Press, 1903

### Sensational String of Robberies Traced to Him—Is Under Arrest

Daring depredations of Duke Deathridge in the darkness of last night were followed by summary swiftness on the part of the police and deputy Sheriff Jim Hone this morning, and Duke is in the toils of Marshal Dale of Rearden to be returned to this city by Deputy

Sheriffs Pugh and Butler.

Duke ran a Kaleidoscopic gamut of crime and did stunts after midnight which would credit a lightning change artist.

At 2 o'clock this morning word reached the police station that two saddles had been stolen from the Klondike stables, First and Jefferson, a few minutes before. At 3 o'clock word came that Deathridge had been surprised

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## FAKE ALARMS KEEP POLICE ON THE RUN

Seattle Star Jan., 1901

An hysterical alarmist or malicious disturber of the city's peace has roused no end of trouble among Chief Delaney's sleuths of late. False alarms of murder, fire and accident have been sent to the police for investigation within the past few days.

The police believe that it is an enemy of the department and have risked their lives in hair-raising runs to places about the city, only to return in disgust a few minutes later filled with bitter feelings against the perpetrator.

Dire threats to straighten out the individual's neck if he can be found are rife at headquarters.

Thursday noon a hurry call came in from somewhere over the 'phone graphically

detailing a murder at Railroad and King.

"A man has shot a woman, but we have him and will hold him until you get here," was the message received by Clerk Kent, who lost no time in sending the patrol wagon to the scene.

Chief Delaney, City Detectives Birnes and Wappenstein, Jailer Corning and Driver Weeden hastened to the place, expecting a struggle and a weary hunt for evidence, only to meet with an absolute denial by the rabble that gathered around the wagon upon its arrival. Thinking that the clerk had made a mistake the patrol wagon hurried to Fifth and king, but the patrolmen on that beat said that there was

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# RALPH ROSS IN JAIL

Seattle Star, 1905

**Young Man of Excellent Advantages Succumbs to temptation, Gambles and Becomes a Defaulter**

Yesterday, Collector of Internal Revenue Dunne of Portland swore out a warrant before United States Commissioner Clifford of Tacoma for the arrest of Ralph L. Ross of this city, and the young man spent last night in the county jail. The charge is the embezzlement of United

States Internal Revenue funds. Ross, who has many friends here, had held the position of stamp deputy for more than a year and had always been considered trustworthy by his employers. Unfortunately, however, he was led into gambling, and to satisfy his appetite for it appropriated some \$3750 of government money. When the shortage was made known to Internal Revenue Commissioner Dunne, the latter came at once

**Mrs. Gilson Gives Bonds**

Seattle Star, 1905

Mrs. Alice W. Gilson, for whom a warrant was issued yesterday on the charge of selling liquor without a license, was arrested by Detective Jack Barck on that charge today. She was released on \$10 bonds and will be tried next Tuesday.

**Charles Bayard Dead**

Charles Bayard, aged 50 years, died at Providence hospital last evening. The body is at Bonney & Stewart's.

to this city, and the young man shortly afterwards was arrested. On account of it being Sunday, bonds could not be secured, but Mr. Ross' friends are confident of raising today the \$7500 which U.S. Commissioner Bowman says is necessary. The government is protected from loss by a \$20,000 surety bond, given by the Baltimore Trust and Surety Co. Ross is very anxious for a speedy trial, and Judge Hanford has been asked to try the case at once if U.S. Attorney Gay can arrange it.

Before he left for home yesterday Collector Dunne formally removed Ross from his position, but who will be his successor is not known.

Judge Thomas Burke will defend Ross. His arraignment was set for 4 o'clock this afternoon before commissioner Bowman. Judge Burke stated that Ross would waive preliminary hearing. An effort will be made to secure the \$7,500 fixed by the commissioner so that Ross may be released from jail.

## DUKE DEATHRIDGE'S NIGHT OF CRIMES

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at the First avenue livery stables while he was trying to steal a horse, that he had run, leaving behind a strange saddle. The saddle was identified today as the property of the Klondike stable. At daybreak a report came that a bicycle had been stolen after midnight from the home of R. Kohn, a merchant living on Third avenue. Smith's grocery store in Hangman creek village, reported this morning that a horse and a single buggy had been stolen during the night, and a bicycle left by the thief. The bicycle was identified as belonging to Kohn.

Those were the facts which Deputy Hone learned when he opened Sheriff Doust's office at 8 o'clock this morning. Hone hustled and did stunts which speedily overhauled the fleeing Duke. A Hazlewood dairyman, hurrying with milk to the city, saw the outfit of Duke traveling along the Deep creek road, 16 miles from the

city, at 3 o'clock. Hone took a hint of the direction of his man and learned from Deep creek that Duke had passed that settlement soon after 5. Hone's warning got to Reardan about 8:40 and in a few moments Marshal Dale reported Deathridge's capture while footing it through Reardan just prior to the top of 9.

With the arrest of Duke last night both of the terrible Deathridge twins, who have caused so much trouble for the officials of this and neighboring counties, are in jail with a penitentiary charge hanging over their heads.

Louis, the other twin, is in jail in Lincoln county on the charge of arson. He was locked in the jail at Harrington, and told the town marshal he would burn down the jail if he were not released. That night the jail was burned.

It is the belief of the police that each of the twins will be sent to Walla Walla penitentiary at about the same time.

# TRIES TO SLAY HIS WIFE, THEN KILLS HIMSELF

Seattle Star, July 1902

The little town of Fall City was shocked last night by the commission of a terrible crime. After attempting to murder his wife, from whom he had been separated for more than a year, Iver Yates shot and fatally wounded himself. He died two hours after he had shot himself. His wife was struck with a bullet between the eyes, but the revolver was of a small caliber and the

bullet did not penetrate. It went under the skin and came out near the right temple. The skull is thought to be fractured, but Dr. Gibson of Issaquah, who is attending the woman, has hopes of her recovery. Coroner C. E. Hoye will leave Seattle tonight on the 4 o'clock train to take charge of the body and thoroughly investigate the case. The little 18-months old daughter of the unhappy couple was in the house when the tragedy occurred. The

child is now being cared for by neighbors.

Iver Yates formerly lived at O'Brien. About three years ago he was married to the woman who now is at death's door, the result of his murderous assault. Soon after their marriage they moved to Fall City. A child was born to them. About a year ago Yates and his wife quarreled. They separated and since have not lived together. Yates has been engaged in work in Seattle and at O'Brien. His mother and brother, John Yates, live at the

latter place. Yesterday Iver Yates was in Fall city and was heard to remark that he and his wife had made up and were going to live together.

Last night at 7 o'clock he went to his wife's home on the outskirts of Fall City. It is believed that a quarrel ensued and then he tried to kill her. Just how many shots were fired is not known.

When found by a man named Cowles, who happened to call at the house a few minutes later, the wounded woman was lying on the floor almost unconscious with the bullet hole in her forehead. Yates was on the other side of the house shot twice through the head, both bullets entering from the right side. Yates was still alive but unconscious. He lived until 9 o'clock when he breathed his last.

Mrs. Yates was carried to here room and is still alive.

## YOUNG ROSS APPREHENDED

Seattle Star, 1903

Young Edward Ross, the driver who last week suddenly left his job with the Adams Grocery Co., and took about \$20 of his employer's money along, was apprehended at Tacoma last night. The local police were notified this noon and an officer will be sent to bring the absconder to this city, where a charge of embezzlement awaits him.

## SMALL BOYS AS BURGLARS

**Police Believe That Many Crimes Are Done By Them**

Seattle Star, 1903

Detective Frank Kennedy believes that a large number of the small burglaries that have been committed about the city have been done by a gang of

young boys. Two of them, Cecil Butts and Willie Norton, were arrested yesterday in Olympia. Mr. Kennedy today took into custody two more boys, Willie Butts, aged nine years, a brother of the one arrested yesterday, and Carl Wolf, aged 14 years, on the charge of being in the gang. It is thought that all of the boys were implicated in a burglary recently committed at Auburn.

## "DRINK DID IT" DUKE'S DEFENSE

The Press had a long talk with Duke Dethridge this morning in the county jail, asking him for his own explanation of his life of crime. The boy is in terrible shape. His body shakes as though with palsy, his cheeks have the hue of death; he can scarcely speak above a whisper. In spite of his sufferings, Duke seemed pleased to consider his own case as follow: "What brought you to your present wrecked condition, Duck Deathridge?"

"Drink did it."

"How long have you been drinking, Duke?"

"Off and on for years."

"What do you drink, Duke?"

"Whiskey, beer, absinthe."

Absinthe? That's terrible stuff, Duke. In time it will make you 'bug.'"

"If I took the 'jag' cure, I might be a man."

"Do you really believe that, Duke?"

"Yes, but no one will give me a chance."

"You are very, very bitter against the police."

"You would, too, if you were in my place."

"You say they hound you?"

Did they ever tell you to steal?"

"I can't say that they did. I have tried to be honest."

"What sort of bringing up did you have, Duke?"

"I never got along with my stepfather."

Did he beat you?"

"No, but I ran away."

"You have broken your mother's heart, Duke. Why?"

"I don't know."

"You have thrown down your friends."

"I don't understand myself, sometimes. When I got the whisky in me I suppose I'm not responsible. I haven't a friend in the world."

"If you had someone to work for, wouldn't that help?"

"It's late not."

"Never too late. Duke, you're only 22."

"Yes, but my life is gone. Look at me. I'm a wreck. I ought to be in the hospital. I've lost my grip."

"While there's life, there's hope, Duke. You might do well in some other community. Go away, of you get the chance, get a brace on, change your name, live a new

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## FAKE ALARMS KEEP POLICE ON THE RUN

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"nothing doing."

The police believe that the man is Morris Eisbert, who is to be tried July 7 on a charge of being a disorderly person. They accuse him of acting as a panderer, and Eisbert was arrested by Patrolman McClurg while in the act of making appointments with telephone girls to meet certain men, so McClurg has stated.

Eisbert was unfortunate enough or thought himself strong enough, to be a

witness against Patrolman Herold, who arrested Mrs. Myrtle Mercer for loitering about saloons several weeks ago, and was himself taken into custody on the charge against him soon afterwards. Mrs. Mercer was dismissed at the request of the arresting officer.

While there is no law touching upon the turning in of false alarms, the police has intentions of making it a personal matter between the alarmist and themselves, and the punishment is expected to meet the emergency.