

MURDERER OF TWO FROM OREGON CITY

THOMAS HARDIN IS KNOWN BY
LOCAL OFFICERS AND HAS
COURT RECORD HERE

ENGAGED IN FIGHT IN SALOON

Plead Guilty in Circuit Court of Cut-
ting Fred Hoffman in Brail—
Jumped Bail of \$1000
After Arrest

That Thomas Hardin, the man who murdered two persons, shot his wife, and then killed himself at Chehalis Wednesday night, was a former resident of Oregon City and had a record in the local courts, were developments of the case which were revealed Thursday evening in this city.

On Labor Day, 1911, Hardin engaged in a quarrel with Frederick Hoffman at a saloon located on the corner of Eighth and Main streets and was arrested by Sheriff Mass. Hoffman was badly cut about the face and hands and although the wounds did not result seriously, permanent scars were left.

Placed on Bail.

Hardin was taken before the justice court a few days later for his preliminary hearing, the city through Recorder Stipp having waived all rights in the matter. Hardin was bound over to the grand jury and placed under bail of \$1,000. A few days after the hearing Hardin disappeared and after notifying the police of the various cities throughout the northwest, the man was located at Chehalis, Wash., Sheriff Mass made the trip to the Washington city and returned with Hardin who remained in the county jail until his trial.

Early in the winter, the case was taken before the circuit court and Hardin plead guilty. Judge Campbell sentenced him to an intermediate term of from six months to two years but suspended the sentence on account of his family.

Came From Virginia.

Hardin came to Oregon from Virginia with his family shortly before the trouble in the local saloon. He lived in the country a short distance from town and was employed cutting wood. His reputation around the city is said not to have been the best, and had been arrested by the police officials several times previous to the quarrel with Hoffman. The date of his leaving this city for Chehalis is not known here.

Tragedy Occurs at Chehalis.

The triple tragedy occurred at the Hagerman home on lower Pacific avenue, Chehalis.

Mrs. Hardin is lying at the point of death at a Chehalis hospital and is not expected to recover.

The shooting was the outcome of domestic troubles, Hardin resenting the present of his wife in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hagerman, who had given her refuge.

Two Others Narrowly Escape.

Bud Stoddard, a neighbor of the Hagermans, and Florence Smith, a daughter of Mrs. Hagerman by a previous marriage, escaped with their lives by fleeing from Hardin through a bedroom window.

Wednesday evening to Sheriff Foster, Coroner Newell and Attorney Cunningham, of Chehalis, Bud Stoddard related the story of the triple murder and suicide. The Hagerman family was at supper, when one of the children reported that Hardin had been seen in the street outside.

Saturday Hardin had been put under bond to keep the peace, after having made threats against his victims of tonight. Sunday he professed religion at a revival meeting, testifying to the peace within his soul.

Wednesday within a moment after the family had pulled down a window blind after his present outside was reported a noise was heard at the kitchen door of the Hagerman home.

Mrs. Hardin passed out of the dining-room and met Hardin, who shot her through the abdomen. She fell near the doorway of the dining-room.

Mrs. Hagerman was the next victim. She stepped into the kitchen, Hardin shooting her in the back of the head as she started to run from him. She fell inside the dining-room.

Mr. Hagerman started to rise from his chair when Hardin, who had by this time entered the dining-room, fired two shots into his body, one entering the left side of his head and coming out of the cheek on opposite side, the other entering his right breast.