

Benton County Republican

CORVALLIS, OREGON

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SAFE CRACKERS IN CUSTODY

Good Work Done by Chief of Police Wells.

PARTIES HELD ON TWO COUNTS

Suspects Now on Trial Here for Blowing Court House Safe, Also implicated in Robbery at Peoria, Linn County, Oregon.

Two men, Frank Clayton and Geo. Davis, were brought up from Portland Saturday by Chief of Police J. D. Wells. These men are believed to be the ones implicated in the safe-cracking job in County Treasurer Buchanan's office at the court house on the night of March 3rd.

After the officers were convinced the men had made their escape from Corvallis by the river route to Albany, they sought for clues likely to locate the robbers and that would lead to their early discovery and arrest.

In the course of the work to uncover the safe-blowers whereabouts, Chief of Police Wells has been the most active and his success in apprehending the men now in custody and believed to be the men wanted, is little less than marvelous. At an unusual place where it was discovered parties had been sleeping, were found pawn tickets on a Portland broker's establishment. On inquiry it was found that jewelry had been stolen

from the store of U. G. Berry of Peoria, Linn County, Ore., some days prior to the safe cracking here and these pawn tickets on investigation proved to have to do with some of the articles taken from the Peoria jewelry concern.

Subsequently it developed that the men now in the custody of Corvallis and Benton County officials, were connected with these pawn tickets, and that if they were not the "crooks" who did the "blowing" of the court house safe here, they were at least under suspicion of belonging to the criminal class. In further proof of this watches and other kinds of jewelry, found on the person of Clayton, have been identified as belonging to Mr. Berry.

The men Clayton and Davis are between the ages of 35 and 39 and in bearing would hardly be taken as "crooks," but the evidence in Chief of Police Wells' hands strongly points to them being such.