

TORSO, HANDLESS ARMS OF WOMAN FOUND IN RIVER

Willamette Yields Ghastly
Murder Mystery — Cloth-
ing Only Clues

Portland, Ore., April 13—(UP)—The wisdom light murder victim was identified tonight as a woman past 50 years old, five feet two inches to five feet four inches tall and weighing 140 to 150 pounds. Identification was made by W. C. Hunter, University of Oregon pathologist.

Hunter said the torso, which was found in the whirling eddy of the Willamette river last night, showed no evidence of criminal assault.

He further identified the torso as having had brown hair—probably streaked with grey.

The identification was made at a preliminary coroner's examination following the finding earlier today of the victim's handless arms and parts of one leg, wrapped in burlap sack, approximately six miles from where the torso was found.

At first, the parts were reported as legs but Hunter said a closer examination revealed that they were handless arms and the thigh of the right leg, cut off at the knee.

Five Willamette river boatmen found the burlap package, tied with telephone wire and weighted down with sack weights above the head of the Willamette Falls.

The boatmen said they noticed the object at the river's edge at least 30 days ago, but paid no attention to it until they read of the unidentified woman's torso found by fishermen last night.

Finding of the second package spurred efforts of authorities to identify the woman's clothing—sole clue so far to one of Oregon's most baffling murder cases.

A check of missing persons at nearby Oregon City momentarily held a glimmer of light on the mystery, but Sheriff Fred Reaksecker announced, "the one missing woman we had a record on evidently isn't the one."

One "crank" was arrested in a pay booth as he telephoned state police that he "knew all about the mystery," but state police said he was merely "seeking publicity."

Sheriff Reaksecker believed the torso had been in the river "not more than 36 hours before it was discovered by three fishermen who thought the burlap-wrapped package was a sack of drowned kittens."

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