

If you have lost or found, If you want to buy or sell, If you want work or workers, Use The News Classified Ads.

The Evening News

Fair Tonight and Saturday. Highest temp. yesterday 68. Lowest temp. last night 57.

VOL. VI. ROSEBURG, DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1915. No. 230

ROSEBURG WINS IN SUPREME COURT

CITY UPHELD IN R. R. BOND ISSUE

Every Proceeding Held To Be Regular.

OPINION WRITTEN BY JUSTICE MCBRIDE

Law of 1915 is Held to Be Antagonistic to The Constitution of The State of Oregon.

SALEM, July 30.—The supreme court this afternoon upheld the city of Roseburg in the suit brought by Harry Pearce to enjoin it from entering into a contract with the Roseburg and Eastern Railroad Company, for construction and operation of a railroad running out of Roseburg, and from issuing bonds in the sum of \$300,000 for this purpose, or from constructing same, and generally to prevent the city from in any way of participating in the construction or ownership of same. The opinion was written by Justice McBride, who finds all proceedings regular.

The Opinion. In our opinion so much of chapter 159, laws of 1915, as attempts to restrict the powers of cities or towns to levy taxes is antagonistic to Section 2, Article 11, of the constitution, which gives to cities and towns power to enact and amend their charters, subject only to the constitution and criminal laws of the state, says Justice McBride in his opinion. The evident purpose of the amendment was to prevent legislative interference with purely local and municipal matters, and to extend to voters of such municipalities the full power to regulate these subjects as they may see fit. City tax is purely and entirely a local matter with which the people of the state have no concern. The 1915 chapter referred to is the Bingham law passed last winter.

As confidently expected by the great majority of the citizens of this city the fire whistle announced the decision of the bond issue at 1:15 this afternoon, and what a welcome sound (except to a very few it was).

Form early morning the one question asked on the streets was: "Has anything been heard of the bond decision?" When told that the decision had not yet been rendered they were almost sure to ask if there was any possibility of it not being given out today. Early this morning Harry Pearce reached George Brown by telephone and was told that at the time the judges of the supreme court were working upon their decision and that it surely would be given to the waiting public today.

That the opinion of the attorney general was correct was fully attest-

ed to by the long blast of the whistle shortly after one. At the first shriek from its noisy throat other whistles in the city took up the glad refrain and for about ten minutes a stranger in our midst would have thought that the business section of the city was ablaze and a general fire alarm was being given; automobile horns on every corner joined in and added mite to the glad confusion.

A few moments later the streets which had been practically deserted of all pedestrians, were thronged with men and women, all congratulating one another over the brilliant victory. Smiles of the variety that don't come off were worn by everyone and an air of relief was felt that the battle had been won. Before the last note of the fire whistle had died away J. W. Perkins had dug out from some unknown hiding place a big bunch of giant fire crackers and he was feeling so extremely good over the whole affair that he did not object in the least when his friends helped themselves to the supply that

(Continued on page 4.)

TWO MARINES DEAD AT PORT AU PRINCE

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Two American blue jackets were killed in the fighting at Port au Prince on Thursday evening, according to advices to the navy department.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE VOSGES

PARIS, July 30.—While endeavoring to retrieve their lost positions in the "labyrinth," the Germans delivered fierce attacks against the French with hand grenades last night, precipitating a bitter engagement, the war office announced. Heavy losses were also suffered by the enemy in the Vosges where an attempt was made to regain lost ground, but the Germans were thrown back with a hot cross fire. Artillery duels are reported in progress about the Oise and the Aisne rivers.

WE KNEW OF THIS MANY HOURS AGO

SALEM, July 30.—The supreme court upheld the city of Roseburg in the suit to enjoin it from participating in the construction and operation of a railroad. The citizens recently voted \$300,000 for this purpose.

BECKER'S LIFE IS THE PENALTY

Electrocuted At Sing Sing At 5:55 This Morning.

MOST BITTER CASE IN COURT ANNALS

Influence and Pressure Brought To Bear For The Condemned Man Avail Him Nothing.

History of the Case, 1912.

July 11.—Herman Rosenthal, the gambler accused Becker publicly of grafting.

July 16.—Rosenthal shot to death as he stepped from the door of the Metropole hotel in West Forty-third street, shortly before 2 o'clock in the morning.

July 29.—Becker indicted. "Bald Jack" Rose, "Bridgie" Weber, and Harry Valon confess.

August 20.—"Gyp the Blood" Horowitz, "Lefty Louis" Rosenborg, "Dago Frank" Cirofici, "Whitey" Lewis, "Jack" Sullivan, and William Shapiro, indicted for murder.

October 6.—"Big Jack" Zelig, alleged to have hired the gunmen who murdered Rosenthal, shot to death in Second Avenue.

October 7.—Becker's trial begins before Justice Goff in supreme court.

October 24.—Becker convicted of murder in the first degree.

October 30.—Becker sentenced to die in Sing Sing's electric chair during week of December 9.

Nov. 19.—"Gyp, the Blood," "Lefty Louis," "Dago Frank," and "Whitey Lewis" convicted of murder in first degree and sentenced to be electrocuted.

December 1.—Becker's case appealed, the appeal acting as a stay of execution.

1914.

February 24.—Court of appeals set aside verdict on Becker and ordered new trial. Affirmed verdict in others.

April 13.—Four gunmen electrocuted at Sing Sing prison.

May 6.—Becker's new trial begins.

May 22.—Becker again convicted of murder in the first degree.

May 29.—Becker again sentenced to die in the electric chair.

1915.

May 25.—Court of appeals affirms Becker's second conviction.

June 18.—Court of Appeals denies motion to reargue appeal.

July 30.—Electrocuted.

OSSINING, July 30.—Becker elec-

trocuted at 5:55 this morning.

OSSINING, N. Y., July 30.—At peace with his maker and a prayer upon his lips, his iron will unflinching, Becker expiated the murder of Rosenthal when he was shocked to death in the electric chair at 5:55 this morning. Pinned on his shirt near his heart, Becker carried a picture of his devoted wife, and in his hand he carried a crucifix. Three shocks were required. The deadly current cut off the whisper "Jesus have mercy" on Becker's lips, as the body strained against the straps in the first shock of death. Before stepping into the death chamber, Becker turned to Father Curry, his religious advisor, and said "I am not guilty by deed, conspiracy or any other way of the death of Rosenthal. I am being sacrificed for my friends." Previously, in his dying declaration, Becker, passionately reiterated his innocence, and left as his only legacy to his wife this acknowledgment: "I declare to the world I am proud to have been the husband of the purest, noblest woman that ever lived, Helen Becker". Becker "died game, he walked unassisted to the death chamber, but made no statement in the chamber. He helped to tighten the straps which were to hold his body as he was shocked into eternity, while Father Cashin and Father Curry constantly intoned prayers. Becker's lips constantly reiterated the words "Jesus have mercy". These were his last words.

OSSINING, N. Y., July 30.—Charles Becker's three-year fight for life, which ended today when the big steel lever in Sing Sing's execution chamber crashed on the current that drove the life from his body, was the most bitterly fought in New York court annals. Twice had the convicted police (Continued on page 3.)

WARSAW TO BE EVACUATED

Russians Find They Can Not Hold Fortress.

MUST SURRENDER CITY TO SAVE ARMY

Prominent Citizens With Their Families Have Already Left the Besieged City.

LONDON, July 30.—The Russians began the evacuation of Warsaw today. They are removing the public documents and the treasures of the city. By tomorrow it is believed that Warsaw will be denuded of all government stores. The most prominent citizens and families have already left the city. For days trains have been carrying refugees out of Warsaw over the railroad lines still open to the east. Grand Duke Nicholas is concentrating troop trains for removal of the soldiers and the evacuation may soon be complete. With this information as the substance of advices reaching here, London is prepared for the fall of Warsaw any time. Petrograd dispatches brought reports that measures were being tak-

JOLLIFICATION PARADE IS HELD

Just as the paper is going to press there is a great jollification and parade passing up and down the business streets of the city. Everything has taken on life and there has not been as much stir in months. One gaily decorated auto after another is filled with joyous shouting crowds of horn-tooting men and women. In fact the lady voters of the city are about as happy as the men. Various comical floats have been fixed up on the spur of the moment and the streets are lined with cheering humanity, and the din from firecrackers, horns and every other contrivance was deafening. The parade was led by the boys band, and this was closely followed by an old dilapidated hearse in which reposed the inanimate figures of several dummies representing the obstructionists, who have met their Waterloo today in the supreme court decision. Many of the machines bore appropriate designs and all were filled to capacity. It was surely some parade to be organized so quickly and have no many people out to see it. Everybody seemed in the best of spirits and Roseburg is a gay city today.

THE NEWS FIRST AS ALWAYS

It was from the office of The Evening News that word was sent to the round house that a favorable decision of the bond issue had been received and that they should blow the whistle. Harry Pearce received a long distance phone message from Attorney General Brown at Salem that the city had been sustained and he hastened to The News office with the glad tidings, and a moment later all within hearing distance of the siren knew of the decision.

en by the press of Russia to prepare the people for the surrender of the city. The grip of the Germans about Warsaw proved too firm to break. The Russian lines must be withdrawn and the city abandoned to save the great field army.

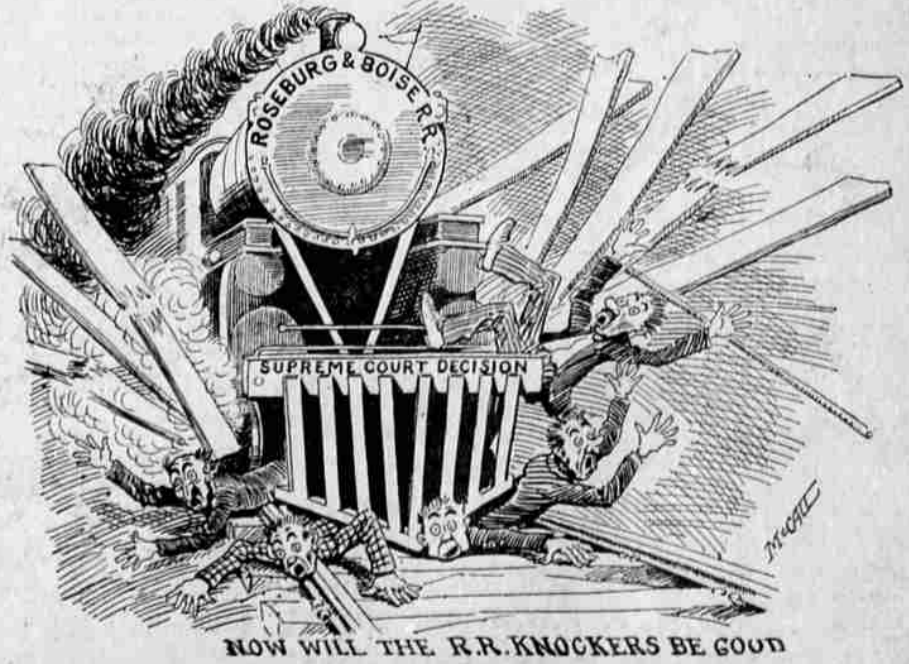
Despite this, however, Petrograd's journalistic war observers, after conversations with "competent military authorities, seemingly are preparing the Russians. They ask that the Russian readers for a new retreat by sians view the events which are about to transpire with confidence and tranquility to maintain their faith in "the glorious Russian army until such time as it shall undertake a decisive aggressive, to break, once for all, the power of the stubborn enemy."

The Reich says the Russians will retire eastward to new defensive positions along the line of the fortress of Kovno, Grodno and Brest Litovsk. These points lie just outside the Polish border on the east. Such a move if carried out, would give the Germans and Austrians full possession of 50,000 square miles of Poland and its population of more than 10,000,000. Another newspaper says that 70 German divisions, all the German cavalry and a big part of a Austro-Hungarian army are operating against Russia and urges the evacuation of the fortresses on the Narew Vistula line.

BRYAN GETS HIS USUAL RECEPTION

ALBANY, July 30.—Welcomed by a huge throng, Bryan arrived here this morning at 11 o'clock, and was met by a reception committee of one hundred who escorted him to his hotel. After he had dined, he delivered an address at the Chautauqua grounds. He leaves for Portland at 3 p. m. Mrs. Bryan did not stop off but continued on the same train to Portland.

Mrs. J. E. Wade, who has been visiting in this city, left today for her home at Boise Idaho.



NOW WILL THE R.R. KNOCKERS BE GOOD