

## FRENCH HAS MISSED CELL

EX-COUNTY JUDGE NOT PUT IN PRISON.

Governor West Pardoned Him Before He Got to Penitentiary.

A dispatch from Salem states that J. A. French, ex-county judge of Wallowa county, convicted of robbing the widows' pension fund of his county, and sentenced to serve from one to five years in the penitentiary, through the clemency of ex-Governor West, was never placed behind prison bars, and virtually was given his freedom upon his arrival in Salem, was the amazing discovery made by W. Al Jones, representative in the legislature from Wallowa.

Mr. Jones said the people of his county, until a day or two ago, had been under the impression that French was behind the bars serving his sentence.

Hearing a report that he had been pardoned, prominent men of Enterprise, the county seat, asked the legislator to make an investigation, which reveals that French was received at the prison December 14 last, measured and photographed and upon instruction of Governor West was assigned to work at the Feeble-Minded Institute. There he became for a time, practically the guest of the superintendent to the extent of eating at his own table and later at the mess of the employees.

### Conditional Pardon Given.

Mr. French was given a conditional pardon by the governor January 11, his last day in office, it being understood that he was to make restitution of the money—about \$2800, which he was charged with taking dishonestly. Another alleged extenuating circumstance was poor health and statements by physicians that prison life would kill the ex-county judge. A petition for his pardon was signed by less than 80 persons and according to Mr. Jones all but a few of them live in Enterprise, which was the home of the erring county judge.

The legislator also called attention to the fact that Mr. French is a democrat, is one of Senator Chamberlain's staunchest political friends, and has been a county official for about 15 years. Senator Chamberlain obtained for Mr. French's son appointment as cadet at Annapolis Naval academy, according to the Wallowa county representative.

"I believe the people of my county will see to it that this man is properly punished," declared Mr. Jones. "He was sentenced to serve from one to five years in the Penitentiary and that is where he should be. They thought he was there until a day or two ago and now I find he has never been behind the prison bars. It is an outrage that we will

not tolerate if there is anything that can be done and I think there is. French was convicted upon only one indictment and there were four. The pardon, of course, cannot be revoked but I am certain he may be tried upon another of the indictments. That would be the easiest way out of it. He took money from the widows' pension fund through Jane Doe tactics, saying that he had been asked by widows in remote parts of the county for money for them. He even went so far as to forge signatures to the vouchers to cash them at the banks. He also got money from the road fund."

### Judge Knows Positive.

Circuit Judge Knowles in sentencing French, according to Mr. Jones, informed his attorneys that it would not make any difference if every man, woman and child in Wallowa county signed a petition asking him not to sentence the man to a prison term, upon the face of things he would have to do it.

French was employed at the Feeble-minded Institute until January 11, 1915, at which time Governor West personally showed Dr. Thompson French's pardon and French was set at liberty. The last heard from him he was in Portland and it is rumored that he is now in Corvallis.

Records in the governor's office reveal that J. A. Burleigh and Dan Boyd, lawyers for the ex-county judge, were active in obtaining the pardon. They presented the petition and affidavits of physicians that the man's health was poor and confinement probably would result in his death.

Among the scores who received pardons at the hands of Ex-Governor West during that official's last few days in office were: Charles Webb, of Union, who was serving from 5 to 15 years for burglary; Terry Holson, of Union county, serving 3 to 20 years, for felonious assault and Louis Tatalonici, of Union county, serving a term for assault and robbery.

## GYM RULES PROMULGATED

Mechanics, painters and the secretaries are busy at the new Y. M. C. A. building today and will probably burn the midnight oil in order that the building may be ready for the visiting public tomorrow. The public has been kept from the building today and will be until one o'clock Tuesday, the time set for the opening. A visit to the building convinced a reporter for the Observer that more was being offered the membership than was at first expected. The south side of the main lobby has been fitted up for the boys, with shuffle-board, reading tables and checker tables. A splendid list of magazines has been ordered for both men and boys but none of the numbers may arrive in time for use the first few days. The equipment for the men's side will be of a similar nature with the addition of a piano and the cheerful fireplace.

The gymnasium floor will be ready for use the middle of the week. The floor has been lined for basketball, volleyball and indoor base-ball and over all a good coat of hot linseed oil, making a splendid floor.

In regard to the work of the gymnasium Secretary Rudd said: "The standard suit required for those using the gymnasium will be an all white outfit consisting of running pants and sleeveless shirt. No requirements as to color of shoes but they must be rubber soled. I understand that several merchants have these supplies on hand. The Y. M. C. A. will not handle these articles. Those members wishing to use the privileges of the gymnasium and swimming pool will be asked to take a physical examination. These examinations will be under the direction of Dr. H. L. Underwood, probably assisted by other physicians, on the request of the party to be examined. The report of the examining physician will besides weight etc., contain recommendation as to the nature of exercise needed and caution for those with weak hearts or other defects of the body. The regular schedule for class work will not begin until next week so I would suggest that all might secure their memberships during this week and get their physical examination out of the way so that no time may be lost and that they may get right in at the start on class work. Another thing: I just want to tell the busy business men that the work which is to be put on for their classes will put them in fine shape for their strenuous brain work. If you have never been in such a class get busy and join this week."

### University Helps Farmer's Wife, Too.

Moscow, Idaho, Jan. 25.—The farmer and his wife are students of the University of Idaho today at the annual "Farmers' and Housekeepers' Conference." He will study the problems of dairying, horticulture, poultry and bee raising; she will study culinary art and meat cutting.

## WAGE HEARING IS ADVANCING

RAILROADS TO HAVE INNING THIS WEEK.

Review Shows Much Was Presented by Enginemen Witnesses.

(By Engineer and Firemen's Com'ts.)

Chicago, Jan. 25.—A review of the features of the engineers and firemen's rate hearing in Chicago last week, shows the following developments:

Failure of Mr. Sheehan of the companies to cause W. Jett Lauck, expert statistician of the brotherhoods, to admit that the increase of wages in 1910 in any respect had offset recent gains in productive efficiency of the men.

The settlement of 1910 for firemen was unsatisfactory and the small increase of wages then was based entirely upon the higher cost of living; the engineers' settlement was entirely through mediation and amounted to little.

Western roads have accumulated a credit of over \$700,000,000 in recent years with which to reward the increased efficiency of engineers and firemen.

A. H. Hawley, Grand Secretary and Treasurer of the firemen's brotherhood, declared that 47 per cent of the firemen die with their boots on and that 57 per cent of the disability claims of the brotherhood paid since 1904 were the result of blindness and amputations caused by railroad accidents.

Dr. Henry J. Harris, of Washington, D. C., widely known as a statistical expert, said that the working life of an engineer is between eleven and twelve years.

Dr. W. B. Cory, general medical examiner of the firemen's brotherhood, testified that virtually all the ills to which a man falls heir are the result of his arduous labor and that firemen and engineers are "extra hazardous risks" and are barred by nearly all insurance companies.

The working life of a fireman is barely six years.

There is great distress among firemen in Western territory, reports having been received in the last two weeks by the Chicago headquarters that 4,312 firemen have been cut off the employment list.

D. B. Robertson, vice-president of the firemen's brotherhood, quoted prominent railway officials, experts and organs to the effect that they recognized the increased productive efficiency of enginemen; among the experts quoted was W. L. Park, an arbitrator, vice president of the Illinois Central railroad.

Y. J. Merriman, a North Western engineer, residing in Chicago, said he was opposed to the electrification ordinance of the Chicago city council and dwelt on the increased dangers to employees by reason of electrifying terminals.

It is expected that the brotherhoods will complete their direct testimony Monday and that the railroads will then go to the bat. It is reported the railroads have accumulated a vast amount of data and will occupy at least a month in presenting their side. Rebuttal by the brotherhoods will then follow.

### ADDITIONAL PERSONALS.

A. E. Wilson, of Echo, is a business visitor in the city today stopping at the Sommer.

Mrs. J. R. Mills returned to her home in Spokane this morning after a visit in this city with her sister, Mrs. J. A. Ralph.

Sam Wade and wife were in the city this morning on their way to their home in Enterprise after a visit in the North Powder country with Chas. Mays and family. Mr. Wade is president of the Enterprise State Bank and owns extensive property interests in Wallowa county.

School tablets, school supplies, school books, ledgers, journals and all kinds of blank books, initial paper in boxes, initial correspondence cards. All these may be found in large quantities and reasonable prices at Silverthorn's family drug store. — wkly 1 29 6t.

### Corporation Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Riverside Fruit Association of La Grande, Oregon, has filed its supplementary Articles of incorporation, the object of which is to increase its capital stock and to engage in the manufacture and sale of vinegar, cider, canned and evaporated fruits and vegetables.

Riverside Fruit Association.  
wk Jan 15-22 1

## "Stone Age Stuff"

IS THE BUYING OF GOODS AT ALL SO-CALLED SALES THAT ARE OF YEARS GONE BY AND WORN OUT FROM HANDLING ON SHELVES;—WORN FROM PACKING FROM CITY TO CITY AND HANDLED AS DRUMMER'S SAMPLES ARE.

### Be One of the Wide Awakes

DON'T THROW YOUR MONEY AWAY—BUY AT THE STORE THAT GIVES YOU THIS SEASON'S GOODS AT ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.

|                    |                   |                            |               |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Ladies' Coats      | \$7.90 \$9.90     | Men's Suits                | \$7.90 \$9.90 |
| Children's Coats   | \$2.98 \$3.98     | Boys' Overcoats            | \$2.98 \$3.98 |
| Ladies' Gowns      | 49¢ 98¢           | Little Gents' Mackinaws    | \$3.98        |
| Children's Gowns   | 49¢               | Men's Mackinaws            | \$3.98 \$4.98 |
| Sweaters for all   | 98¢ \$1.49 \$1.98 | Men's Wool Mix Sox, 2 pair | 25¢           |
| Blankets           | 49¢ 98¢           | Men's Heavy Wool Sox       | 25¢           |
| Comforts           | 98¢ \$1.49        | Men's Wool Shirts          | 98¢           |
| Unions, Fleece     | 49¢ 69¢ 98¢       | Men's Dress Hats           | 98¢           |
| Fleece Hose        | 15¢               | Boys' Caps                 | 25¢           |
| Wool Hose          | 25¢               | Men's Blanket Lined Coats  | \$1.49        |
| Infants' Wool Hose | 19¢               | Fleece Unions              | 98¢           |
| Infants' Gowns     | 25¢               | Winter Pacs—Hoods first    | \$2.69        |
| Men's Gloves       | 25¢               | German Sox                 | 79¢           |

YOU CAN ALWAYS DO BETTER AT **The UNITED STORE** 70 BIG BUSY STORES  
J. C. PENNEY Co.

## NEW TAXROLL IS COMPLETE

BOOKS TURNED OVER TO TREASURER TODAY.

Mr. Frawley to Collect \$387,000—Assessments to Begin.

County Assessor U. G. Couch today turned over to County Treasurer John Frawley the tax roll for the current year. By the stipulations of the roll Treasurer Frawley is supposed to collect \$387,000.00 during the coming year. Taxes will be received at any time now.

With the roll out of the way, the assessor's office is ready to begin assessments for 1915.

"Any taxpayer who feels that he is not assessed equitably, will be welcomed in my office to talk the matter over," said Assessor Couch today. "It often happens that misunderstandings lead to what some think is inequitable assessments and if the taxpayers would feel free to discuss the matter with this office, much good would no doubt result from it."

## RECITAL TOMORROW BIG FEATURE

If ever there is a time when La and are so desirous to see free from Grande should turn out a large audience to an entertainment it is Tuesday evening to hear Miss Maud Goodwin's recital for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. The services of this talented young lady are donated free to this worthy cause that we all love.

Recital begins promptly at 8:15. Recital begins promptly at 8:15 and seats will be sold under the direction of the Junior Y. M. C. A. board and are on sale at the Red Cross drug store. The program is:

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Liesbesied                       | Dvorak    |
| Will niemand singen              | Hildach   |
| Si mes vers auaient des ailes    | Hahn      |
| Le Nil (with violin)             | Lerouz    |
| Aria from the Huguenots          | Meyerbeer |
| Serenade                         | Tierne    |
| Mr. G. H. Armstrong              |           |
| The Green is on the Grass Again  | Willeby   |
| I Am Thy Harp                    | Woodman   |
| Thy Beaming Eyes                 | MacDowell |
| A Plaint                         | Brown     |
| The Conspirators                 | Engel     |
| Since You Went Away (By request) | Johnson   |
| Roses in June (with violin)      | German    |

## Circus Day at The Arcade

See the most novel film we have shown

### "The Circus Man"

A Paramount Picture From Lasky Studio

Lasky's Players traveled with Barnum & Bailey's Circus for two weeks to get the settings for this wonderful picture.

See The Daily Life of Circus Folks  
TODAY - AND - TOMORROW

Next Friday and Saturday

The Famous Society Drama

### "ARISTOCRACY"

A Study of Society and it's Shams. Beautiful Gowns, Handsome Womes, Magnificent Settings, American Plot

A Strong arrangement of present day society in millionaire circles

The Famous Dramatic Star **TYRONE POWER**

Plays the part of a man of and for the people. Among others in the cast are Edna Mayo, Marguerite

Skirvin, Ida Waterman and that good

looking villain Arthur Hoops

A Famous Player Production

10c - The Arcade - 10c  
THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

We don't work for nothing, but—

### Our Taxi Service

Is the service that saves you money. See us for rates on all auto livery.

### Foley Hotel Taxi Service

Foley & Rogers



MODART CORSETS  
Front Laced  
\$3.50 and up

Pauline Lederle

Red 3141, Next Door to Western Union.