

If you want to Mine, Saw Lumber, Raise Fruit, Grow Stock or do most anything else you will find your opportunity here THE MAIL tells about it

DANGER OF PEAR BLIGHT

Last week an article appeared in The Mail setting forth the danger of the introduction of "pear or fire blight" into Southern Oregon by importing trees from infected sections.

"I have been acquainted with the pear, or fire, blight, as it is variously called, for thirty-seven years," said Mr. Boyd, "and I know just what it is. The blight was introduced into the southern part of Ohio in 1868 or 1869 by an uncle of mine and came from an importation of trees from the east, for his nursery, one of the largest in that part of the state.

"The great danger in this disease lies in the fact that it is impossible to detect it in the embryo state, by the most careful inspection. It gives no sign until conditions are favorable then it acts with a suddenness and virulence that precludes all chance of stopping it, and there has never been found a remedy for it. It is not an insect, but seems to be a kind of virus. It will first attack a tree at the fork of a limb, preferably near a bud.

"Inspection, however rigid, will not keep it out for the above reason. The only way in which we can protect ourselves fully is to establish and maintain a strict quarantine against trees from any other locality, no matter where. This valley is as well adapted to the nursery business as any other section on earth and by confining our purchases to trees raised here we will be reasonable sure of escaping the blight for many years to come.

"Some people claim to believe that this section is immune, but they are mistaken. California growers held the same belief for many years and now they have the blight. That is the reason California nurseries are sending their men all over Oregon selling trees. There is no market for them in California. Planting has practically ceased, because it's no use to plant new orchards. I have seen acres and acres of orchards in the east that looked as if a fire had run through them from the effects of this disease.

"There is only one way to check the ravages of the blight and that requires heroic measures and even then will likely be without avail unless every orchardman co-operates. Keep a close watch of your trees and the first one you find affected dig it up and burn it, not the limb alone which is diseased, but the whole tree. Then watch even more carefully and whenever the blight appears, destroy the tree at once. Its only way, but if your neighbor does not do likewise it is useless.

"In conclusion I wish to say that the sooner our orchardmen acquire a wholesome fear of the pear blight and act accordingly the better they will be off, and so far as I can say the only remedy is as I have outlined above."

Direct Primary Law.

The new primary law will be generally applied in the state of Oregon in the selection of officers next year and also in making nominations for the city officers in the ensuing elections in cities having 2000 or more inhabitants.

All nominations will be made by the direct primary method, including those for governor, the legislature and other officers in the state, and for county officers throughout Oregon. The nominating election will be the first general test of the direct primary law.

Section 2 of the primary law provides that on the forty-fifth day preceding any election (except special elections to fill vacancies, presidential elections, municipal elections in towns or cities having a population of less than two thousand and school elections) at which public officers in this state and in any district or county, and in any city having a population of two thousand or more

at which public officers are to be elected, a primary nominating election shall be held, which shall be known as the primary nominating election.

Section 6 prescribes the duties of the recorder, clerks, etc., in preparation for the primary. For all elections, except in cities, the primary must be held forty-five days before the election.

Candidates for a given nomination must have their names placed on the primary ballot, on petition of at least two per cent of their respective party vote last cast for representative in congress in their electoral district, and the one who shall receive the highest number of votes in the primary will be the nominee of his party for the office, and will be voted on in the usual manner in the June election.

The number of signers required on a Republican primary petition for a state nomination will be 1000, the maximum required by law; on a Democratic petition, 500. Candidates for a Republican nomination in the First Congressional District must each secure 479 signatures, and in the Second District 543. Candidates for the Democratic nomination must each obtain 313 signatures in the First District and 255 in the Second. These numbers are based on the vote of each party a year ago for representative.

As to county and state nominations which are to be made next April, the following is the number of signers required in counties of Southern Oregon: Jackson, Republican signatures, 35; Democratic signatures, 27; Josephine, Republican signatures, 18; Democratic signatures, 14; Klamath, sign Republican signatures, 11; Democratic signatures, 9; Democratic signatures, 5; Douglas, Republican signatures, 43; Democratic signatures, 32.

The signers of a state petition must represent at least one-tenth of the precincts in each of at least seven counties in the state, and the signers of a congressional petition must represent at least one-tenth of the precincts in each of at least one-fourth of the counties in the district. A petition for a county nomination must contain electors residing in at least one-fifth of the precincts in the county. In a district comprising more than one county, the signers must represent at least one-eighth of the precincts in each of at least two counties in the district.

A Splendid Performance.

The presentation of Acts I and III of the opera, "Martha," at Wilson's opera house Friday night was the musical event of the season, and that Medford people appreciated the fact in advance was shown by the crowded house. A short program was rendered before the curtain rose upon the opera. Miller's orchestra played the overture, which was followed by the "Brother Duet" by Messrs. Barton and Andrews, which was heartily enjoyed. Miss Mabel Jones' reception in her contralto solo was all that could be desired. Miss Jones' voice and execution have improved greatly under instruction in the east. Miss Irene Brown favored the audience with a piano solo, in which she demonstrated her exceptional talent as a musician. Mr. Andrews' topical song was encouraged again and again. Mr. Gunson sang a tenor solo in a finished and artistic manner. During the intermission, T. A. Marshall, the well-known sportsman, was called to the stage and delivered a short speech of thanks to the people for their entertainment of the visiting shooters.

In the opera the soprano and contralto roles were assumed by Mrs. Hazelrigge and Miss Jones. Mr. Gunson sang the tenor part and Mr. Andrews and Mr. Withington the baritone. The rendition of the scores was such as is very seldom heard here. It is almost unnecessary to say anything about Mrs. Hazelrigge's singing among Medford people who have had the pleasure of hearing her at different times. Her magnificent, cultured voice and her brilliant execution are familiar to our people, and Friday night she was even better than ever. The opera was under the direction of Mr. Hazelrigge, who played the accompaniments in his usual finished style. The receipts of the evening were \$180.25.

Hermann's Trial Delayed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—No arrangements whatever have yet been made for the trial of Representative Blinger Hermann in the Federal court in this city on the indictment returned against him last March, charging him with destroying thirty-five letter-press copybooks when retiring from the land office.

It was expected at the time the indictment was returned that his trial would come up early in October, but it now seems probable that it will be allowed to wait at least until Mr. Hermann has been tried on several indictments in Oregon. Mr. Hermann's attorney has heard nothing as to the plans of the government. It seems quite probable that the trial in Washington may be postponed until some time after congress meets.

—Dr. Goble's office is in Butler's jewelry store, where he may be found every Saturday.

BLUE LEDGE ALL RIGHT

It is reported upon reliable authority that a strike has been made on the Blue Ledge copper mine that proves beyond cavil that the mine is destined to be one of the greatest copper mines in the United States.

For some time what is known as the "Harvey tunnel" has been driven further into the mountain by Supt. E. L. Jones and recently the developments have been such as to equal, if not exceed, the most sanguine expectations of the operators. The mouth of the tunnel is 2000 feet below the summit of the mountain into which it is driven. All the way to the summit copper float and outcroppings are found. At a depth of fifty feet cross cutting was commenced and now the tunnel has reached a depth of 280 feet.

There is now exposed a ledge comprising three feet of first-class copper ore and ten feet of second grade ore and eight feet where the native copper shows plainly. This would indicate a mountain of as rich copper ore as was ever found.

At the time Patsy Clark, of Montana, had a bond on the property and prospected it with diamond drills, it was estimated by his assayers and engineers that there was \$1,500,000 worth of copper ore in sight. Now with further development, the amount in sight has at least doubled. In other words there is nearly enough ore in sight now with what might be called simply prospect work to build a road to the mines and equip it with machinery for real work.

We believe that not the least of Southern Oregon's mineral wealth will be found in its copper deposits. The copper belt is well defined for many miles north and west from the California line and all along excellent prospects have been found. For several years more or less development work has been done, but lack of capital and transportation facilities have handicapped the full exploitation of this source of mineral wealth. Now, however, with a practical demonstration that a vast body of copper ore is to be found in the Blue Ledge, one that can be mined at a small cost, and which only needs a short stretch of road to connect with the markets of the world, it will not be long until the roar of the furnace and rumbling of ore cars will waken the echoes of the gloomy mountain which for countless centuries has kept watch and ward over the store of wealth concealed within it.

Let the time come. The sooner the better. It will enrich this valley in more ways than one—bring in more people with more money, create a greater market for our surplus at better prices, give us greater opportunities and greater ideas, until finally we want care whether the Drain Nonpareil builds the Southern Pacific main line down the coast or not—we will have money enough to build a railroad of our own.

Fruit Prospects.

The apple crop is not a large one, but gives promise of being of good quality as a general thing, which somewhat compensates the shortage in quantity.

This week the Rogue River Fruit Growers' Union will ship some Winter Nallis pears and a couple of carloads or more of Jonathons, Hovers and other early fall apples.

Manager Perry, of the Fruit Growers' Union, said to a Mail reporter: "I was a little bit surprised here lately in taking a look around through the various orchards to find so many nice apples, but I want to tell you that there is quite a lot of pretty fine fruit this year. Now those apples in that box were picked from an orchard which I didn't think a few weeks ago would produce any good apples at all. Those are not selected as the best, but are a fair sample of the whole orchard. The color, size and everything is good, and the only thing that mars them in any way is the scar made by hail striking them last spring.

Not on the Program.

A special train of Sacramento valley people passed through the valley going to Portland Sunday and a stop was made at the Ray dam to give the passengers an opportunity to view the works. At the same time T. M. Reid, Judge Purdin, Jinks McCown and Messrs. Hollings and Hoyt, of San Francisco, were fishing below the bridge. Just as the California people were crossing, Reid hooked a big steel head and the crowd stopped and looked until the fish was landed. Before they got back to their train he had another and once more the center of attraction, and cheers and waving of handkerchiefs greeted each of the fishermen's successful effort. Nor was that all. As the train started to pull out another big trout took the hook. In an instant every window was crowded and the engineer obligingly slowed down until the fish was landed. It was an entertainment not down on

THE SHOOT A SUCCESS

The first annual tournament of the Medford Gun Club was held Sept. 22d and 23d, and was an unqualified success in every way. Fifty shooters were present, including some of the crack shots of the world. There were W. F. Crosby, of O'Fallon, Ill., Fred Gilbert, of Spirit Lake, Iowa, Rollo Heikes, of Dayton, Ohio, H. C. Hirsch, of Minneapolis, Minn., J. S. Fanning, of New York, Tom Marshall, of Keittsburg, Ill., all top notchers in the professional division, C. Powers, the champion amateur, who always gives the professionals a run for their money, and C. Plank, the youngest professional in the business.

JURY FOUND THEM GUILTY.

Congressman Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner and Commissioner Biggs were found guilty of subornation of perjury in the U. S. Federal court at Portland Thursday of this week.

The case was given to the jury at 3 o'clock Wednesday and a verdict Thursday forenoon.

This is the third trial these persons have been given. In the two former trials the jury disagreed.

Attempted Suicide.

John G. Norton, formerly of Medford, and one of the well-known farmers of the valley, made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide Friday morning last at the Cove ranch, above Ashland, by shooting himself through the body just above the heart with a 22-caliber revolver. The causes leading up to the act are stated to be as follows: Some months ago Mr. Norton exchanged property near Medford for the Cove ranch, belonging to Barneburg Bros., obliging himself at the same time for a large sum, representing the difference in value between the two properties. His object in making the exchange was to start his two sons in business, and relied upon them working the ranch in partnership. Soon after taking possession the two young men quarrelled and one of them left the ranch. The failure of his plans for his family, the obligation hanging over him and the fact that he could not carry on the ranch successfully alone, evidently preyed upon Mr. Norton's mind to such an extent that he attempted to kill himself.

When a physician arrived Mr. Norton was reluctant to have anything done for him, and expressed the wish that he had succeeded in his attempt. Saturday an attorney was called and a will made and again he expressed the same opinion. Dr. Shaw, of Ashland, the attending physician, is confident the chances are very good for recovery.

The many friends of Mr. Norton in Medford and vicinity will learn with regret of his act. His long and honorable career in this valley has won for him the respect of all who knew him, and they all regret that he should attempt to end his own life.

Now We'll All Be Good.

The Ashland Tidings openly avows that Medford citizens generally, and The Mail in particular, are endeavoring to create the impression that the Southern Pacific Railroad Company is going to build a cut-off through the Wagner gap and leave Ashland very properly sidetracked. In the same mention the Tidings has found time and space to say that if any cut-off is made it will be through one of the Applegate passes, in which event both Medford and Ashland would become mere cemeteries for buried hopes and ambitions.

While these little editorial courtesies are being handed back and forth between local papers of this immediate locality, the publisher of the Drain Nonpareil gets in and puts us all on a sidetrack by saying that the branch road which the Southern Pacific is building, or is going to build, from that place to the coast, is going to connect with some other line—down the line on the coast—and when this connection is made it, the Drain branch, will be made the main line of the Southern Pacific. Thus it may be seen that by a few strokes of his fabled this Drain man has virtually sidetracked, or "spurred," everything north from Sacramento to Drain.

Probate Court.

Estate and guardianship of Howard Work, a minor. Bond approved. Order appointing Henry Kerby, Andrew Torrey and Frank Snooks appraisers. Estate of Martha Coleman, deceased. Will probated. Order appointing Emma L. Anderson executrix. Estate of Granville Sears, an incompetent. Order continuing.

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The grounds were ideal for trap shooting, a grove of massive oaks affording abundant shade for spectators and shooters. The white tents scattered through the grove and the sumptuously loaded tables presided over by the "Ladies' Booster Club" made a beautiful and attractive scene, and not the least handsome feature were the ladies themselves. Special mention is due to the "Ladies' Booster Club" and the visiting sportsmen declared that never before had they been entertained in such a charming manner. Messrs. Marshall, Gilbert, Powers and several others were, by special request, duly initiated into the club, the ceremony taking place on the grounds, in view of the assembled company. It is not known that any of the gentlemen had "cold feet," but they certainly had cold hands by the time the initiation was concluded. The boys "Hoo Hoo squad" was one of the star attractions and gave some good exhibition drills.

W. F. Crosby won high average in the professional class with 394 out of 400. He also made runs of 125 and 101 without a miss. His prize was a beautifully mounted Mongolian pheasant.

Fred Gilbert was second with 392, and made runs of 118 and 154, the latter run being within three birds of the coast record made by Mr. Crosby at San Francisco.

Rollo Heikes only missed 10 and made a straight run of 117. J. A. Fanning made 381, Thos. Marshall 359 and H. C. Hirschey 361. First general average was won by C. M. Powers, of Decatur, Ill., second by M. O. Feudner, of San Francisco, and third by Mr. Varren, of Pacific Grove.

First general average for lady shooters was won by Mrs. Young, of Portland, second by Mrs. Snyder, of the same city, and third by Mrs. Holmes, of Salem.

Miss Hazel Eynart killed the first blue rock she ever shot at and retired with an average of 100 per cent. She also had the honor of killing the bear which furnished steaks for the shooters at their hotels. Mountain trout was also served.

The program was concluded early Saturday afternoon and then Messrs. Marshall, Gilbert, Heikes, Hirschey and Powers gave an exhibition shoot of 50 birds, Mr. Powers making a clean score.

F. C. Carter and W. A. Hillis, representing the Peters Cartridge Co., gave an entertaining exhibition of fancy rifle shooting.

Following is the score: Marshall, 359; Crosby, 394; Hirschey, 361; Heikes, 390; Gilbert, 392; Fanning, 312; Seaver, 357; Holling, 371; Plank, 248; Haight, 348; King, 342; Howe, 338; Carter, 346; Hoyt, 291; Wanless, 325; Powers, 380; Feudner, 393; Cooper, 370; Schultz, 338; Varren, 371; Snyder, 363; Kincaid, 303; Boyden, 315; Eynart, 339; Hafer, 329; Mrs. Young, 236; Mrs. Holmes, 150; Mrs. Snyder, 263; Hough, 221; Peyton, 35; Perry, 203; Dana, 284; Fleet, 329; Nail, 318; Wray, 341; Hillis, 355; Broderick, 344; Winters, 351; Ellis, 367; Holman, 347; Lewis, 336; Elwood, 279.

Witness Insults Court.

The extraordinary occurrence of a witness in a Federal court turning on the judge and refusing to be silenced was what happened in the trial of Williamson, Gesner, et al, at Portland last Thursday. The witness was W. W. Brown, sheep owner, of Crook county, who had been called by the defense to testify to the good character of the defendants. This Brown did, and was then cross-examined by the prosecution. An element that entered into the examination was the fact the Brown had been compelled to tear down his fences on government land.

"You own a good many sheep, yourself, don't you?" asked Mr. Heney innocently.

"Oh, nine or ten thousand," the witness answered airily, as if such floes were every day matters up about Prineville.

cases. He had already pulled down most of his fences, he said. Besides, everybody up that way fenced in government land.

"You've been talking pretty freely against the government, haven't you?" continued Mr. Heney.

"You've been saying the government was only after the moneyed men?" The witness saw he was trapped, and at first tried to evade the question. He talked in a stork, but ex-Judge Bennett finally succeeded in getting in another objection to Mr. Heney's question and was promptly overruled. The government lawyer pressed the witness.

"Yes," Brown at last admitted; "I've said it often, and I said so this afternoon in the presence of one of your detectives. I am glad of it."

"The witness will confine himself to answering the questions asked," ordered Judge Hunt sternly. But it was in vain. Brown had got started, and he refused to be stopped. Attorney Bennett shouted out a motion to strike out all this testimony.

"No," said Judge Hunt; "Mr. Heney's questions are relevant to show the witness' bias."

URNS ON THE JUDGE.

At this word, Mr. Brown wheeled about in his chair, and facing His Honor cried fiercely:

"I ain't got no bias. That ain't so. I'm just telling the truth. The government is going after the rich and letting the poor go. It ought to get after the poor and the rich ought to go." And much more of the same sort.

"It also appears that we have here a loquacious witness," said Judge Hunt with emphasis, calling Brown to order. "I warn you again, witness, to answer counsel's questions and stop this talking. If you make any more speeches, I'll fine you for contempt of court, and I'll do it whether you are rich or poor."

This shot proved effective. The garrulous Mr. Brown subsided, answered a few more questions and meekly left the stand. The crowd in the courtroom breathed more freely.

Death of S. D. Biden.

Stuart Domer Biden, one of the respected citizens of this community, died at his home in Medford, on September 20th; aged sixty years, eleven months and fifteen days.

Mr. Biden was a native of Gosport, Hampshire, England, and came to the United States in 1880, first making his home at Chicago, Ill. In 1891 he came to Oregon and settled in Medford, where he has principally made his home.

Mr. Biden was twice married and was the father of eleven children—seven by his first wife and four by the second. Five of these children with his second wife survive him. The children are: Mrs. F. W. Southard and Victor Biden, of Chicago, Illinois; and M. S., Ernest and Violet Biden, of Medford.

He was an upright, honest man, a kind husband and father, and his death is deeply regretted by all who know him. He was a member of the Plymouth Brethren denomination and his funeral services were conducted by Brother Heney of that denomination.

W. C. T. U. Items.

The Union opened on time with the president reading the 1st Psalm; prayer by Mrs. Fielder; singing, "At the Cross." Committee showed several calls made to the sick with substantial aid. A letter was read from Mrs. Hyde, asking that the picnic be held at Phoenix October 6th. Mrs. Hoyer, a state worker, asked for a date to lecture October 22d, which was rejected. Mrs. Louise Rounds will lecture twice Sunday, 22d of October. It being Bible day, Mrs. Fielder begged to be excused as leader, on account of sickness. The Union was dismissed by all repeating the Lord's prayer, to meet at the Christian church, Sept. 28th. Suffrage day with Mrs. Day as leader. All are invited. PRESS SUPT.

M. E. Conference Appointments.

The fifty-third session of the annual Oregon Methodist conference adjourned at Albany Sunday evening.

Following are the appointments of preachers known, or will be known, more or less to our Jackson county readers: R. C. Balcwell goes to Oregon City; C. F. McPherson to Medford; Wilfred Smith to Brooks; W. B. Moore to Clackamas and Oswego; E. Gittens to Leadle church, Salem; E. F. Zimmerman to Ashland; G. L. Burbank to Central Point; E. B. Lockhart to Drain; C. O. Beckman to Grants Pass; J. H. Skidmore to Jacksonville. The presiding elder of this district is M. F. Wire. A Klamath mission district was created with R. E. Dunlap presiding elder and pastor at Klamath Falls.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our thanks for the sympathy and kindness shown us during the illness and in the bereavement of our husband and father, Mr. S. D. Biden. MRS. BIDEN and FAMILY.

JACKSON COUNTY.

Ashland is now being furnished electric juice from the Ray dam.

Oscar I. Messenger, aged seventeen years, died at the home of his parents in Ashland last week of typhoid fever, which he contracted in Klamath while he was working there.

Alden Powell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Powell, of Ashland, was thrown from a horse Sunday last and rendered unconscious for a time. It is not believed that his injuries are serious.

The Golden Spike tunnel, in the Shorty Hope mine, near Ashland, is now in 1017 feet. The vein is full width of the tunnel and heavily mineralized, increasing in value as the rich ore shoot of the Shorty Hope is approached.

The beef cattle in the Dead Indian section were delivered to J. C. Mitchell, of Gazelle, Calif., last week. The cattle were weighed and delivered at Hunts, and the price paid was two cents for feeders, cows and small steers, and 1/2 to 2/3 for prime beef. Owing to the fact that the railroad company was unable to furnish cars, the stock was driven over the Siskiyou. Barron's and adjacent ranches sent out 200 head. Lindsay and Barneburg Bros. 126, and G. W. Owen and Rader Bros. 200.

A plate of "Everbearing peaches," contributed by Mrs. Max Precht, grown in the Pracht orchard at Ashland, is on exhibition there. There is also a small limb carrying some green peaches of this variety of about a month's growth. The ripe fruit is of a pinkish purple color. The tree growing this fruit was brought here from the east and is now three years old. You can see fruit on it at present in all stages of growth to ripeness and were it not for the frost it would bear the year around. That it is everbearing as its name implies.

Frank Gregory, of Ashland, a brakeman on the Southern Pacific running out of Ashland, was fatally injured at Deltz, five miles north of Sleson Sunday morning. The train broke in two between the second and third cars. Gregory was seated at the forward end of the third car from the engine when the train broke in two. The automatic brakes brought the rear cars to such a stop that he was thrown forward on the rails. Before the train came to a stop five cars passed over his legs above the knees. The injured man died almost to death before he reached the emergency hospital at Dunsuir. All possible aid was given him, but he died at 4 o'clock Monday morning. He leaves a wife and two children, who reside in Ashland.

Married-Fisk-McPherson.

At the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McPherson, on Wednesday, September 27th, at 12 o'clock noon, Mr. George Norman Fisk and Miss Lulu Blanche McPherson were united in marriage, Rev. J. Merley officiating.

The rooms were beautifully and tastefully decorated, the parlor in green and white and the dining room in red. At the appointed hour the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march the bride entered on the arm of her father, and attended by Miss Grace Lawton as maid of honor. The groom attended by Merri Minear met her under an arch and bell of ivy and roses, where the ceremony was performed, the bride's father giving the bride away. The bride was tastefully gowned in cream satin tulle and carried a bouquet of white carnations and ferns. Her maid of honor carried carnations. The bride's bouquet was caught by Misses Ida Redden and Myrtle Lawton.

After the ceremony the thirty guests present sat down to a bountiful wedding breakfast.

The bride and groom left on the evening train for Portland to attend the fair.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. John McPherson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Merley, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McPherson, Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Lawton, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Praley, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bellinger, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Wilson, Mrs. Meeker, Misses Myrtle and Grace Lawton, Maud Minear, Bertha McPherson, Nora Wilson, Lola Jones, Ida and Nola Redden; Messrs. A. W. McPherson, Merri Minear, Clarence Meeker, Floyd Fisk, Master Montrose McPherson.

Circuit Court Proceedings.

First National Bank of Medford vs. G. F. King; motion to amend granted. Frances E. Roth vs. W. L. Cameron, et al; default.

Duncan vs. Reeves. Order of confirmation. Armbrust vs. Armbrust. Decree granted.

Ingram vs. Ingram. Default entered.

F. C. Duncan vs. Mary A. Rigge et al. Order of confirmation. Fredena Wolfe vs. John Wolfe. Decree granted.

Circuit court adjourned until October 19th.