

Medford Daily Tribune

A Live Paper in a Live Town.

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G. PUTNAM, Editor and Manager.

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COBBY AND UNFAIR COURT DECISIONS.

(From the Eugene Guard, Jan. 13.) The conviction of Editor Putnam of the Medford Tribune of criminal libel was an outrage against public decency and fair play.

This farce of a trial is largely the outgrowth of the law enacted a few years ago at the behest of the prosecuting attorneys' lobby, abolishing the grand jury system, except in special instances at the discretion of the prosecutor.

Judge Hanna's rulings in the case are a surprise only to those who do not know his record, since unexpected and unique decisions have characterized his long career on the bench.

There is everywhere accumulating evidence that the courts have been and are tainted with the prevailing political corruption of the times.

PRESUMPTION OF A COW COUNTRY COURT.

(From the Portland Telegram, Jan. 13.) There appears to be an epidemic of queer court rulings in decisions of late. The latest, that of Judge Hanna at Jackson, in the trial of Editor George Putnam for libel, is perhaps the most marvellous.

Editor Putnam criticized the district attorney and the grand jury for failing to find an individual in an alleged assault case, where one person had attempted to dominate another with an ax.

All evidence offered during this case was rejected by the court, and among other instructions which the court gave to the jury was the following: "You have nothing to do with what happened between W. S. Ellison and Dr. Roddy on December 11, 1907, when it is claimed that Barron assaulted Roddy."

Here is another case where the language of the statute and the meaning thereof are not liable to misinterpretation. Don't you see how the court? It is doubtful if a single man on that trial jury who had ever read the statute believed that the instruction given by the court was the law.

The grand jury "is presumed to determine the matter rightly." Yes, indeed! So is a judge presumed to be able to read and understand simple English. Whether the grand jury did things rightly or wrongly, whether Editor Putnam could prove the truth of his assertions or not, are not matters of knowledge nor perhaps of particular concern outside of that immediate neighborhood. But that the entire had

a right, as a defendant in a libel suit, to prove the truth of those assertions, if he could, and that right was denied, is a matter of significant import, in the event that there is the slightest prospect of such ruling being upheld.

GAG LAW.

(From the Portland Journal, Jan. 13.) It is the inalienable right of a newspaper to criticize any person holding public office or performing public duties, if that person is derelict or untrue to the trust reposed in him.

In the performance of what he deemed his duty to the people of his community, George Putnam, editor of the Medford Tribune, criticized a local grand jury and the district attorney for failing to indict a man who had been guilty of a murderous assault.

Putnam desired to prove that the murderous assault was committed. This he had to do in order to show that the grand jury failed in its duty when it omitted to indict the man guilty of the assault, and that his editorial criticism was consequently justified.

It would be difficult to conceive of any more perilous or more dangerous judicial decision than this. It aims a direct blow at the freedom of speech, which is guaranteed by our constitution, and it places a grand jury beyond the reach of censure or criticism.

A DISPUTABLE PRESUMPTION.

(From The Oregonian, Jan. 14.) In denying George Putnam the right to prove the truth of his publications regarding the attitude of the grand jury to the Barnum assault case, Judge Hanna apparently ignored two plain provisions of the statutes of this state. One of these provisions, quoted in these columns Sunday, is contained in section 2179 of the code, and declares that the defendant in a criminal prosecution for libel may show the truth of his statements.

The grand jury is an official body and had official duty to perform. It is a presumption that it did perform its duty, but that presumption is a disputable one, and section 788 expressly declares that "it may be controverted with other evidence."

If Judge Hanna's ruling is correct, then there are two sections of the statutes of this state that might as well be repealed. They have, in fact, been abrogated by judicial decision, if the ruling of Judge Hanna shall stand.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

- Wm. H. Shelton to Melissa H. Shelton, power of attorney.
Walter R. Pease to William H. Wood, Banche, mining claim in section 24, township 35, range 2 W.
Oliver B. Burdman to W. L. Elmendorf, 100 acres in township 12, north of, range 2 E.
E. H. Hayes, trustee, to P. D. Nicholas, lots 1 and 2, block 9, north side.
John Davidson to Thomas J. Davidson, north 1/2 of lot 30, block 1, addition.
P. W. Edwards to G. B. Carey, 90 acres in section 1, township 35, range 2 W.
W. W. Knowles to W. J. Warner, 10 acres in section 1, township 35, range 2 W.
United States to Frederick W. Knecht, 50 acres in township 35, range 2 W.
James Coffman to Martha P. Sturges, property in Brodbeck Reserve.
Jacob Thompson to Henry J. Eastman, lot 1, block 3, first subdivision, Medford.
Thomas E. Pollett to Lillian M. Grosser, property in Wooden Addition, Ashland.

Dr. Dewey of Lakeview Dead. Word has been received of the sad loss of Dr. J. S. Dewey, a prominent dentist of Lakeview. He was visiting his brother at Glendale. He joined the Elks at Ashland a few weeks ago.

GRANTS PASS AND KLAMATH WIN HIGH SCHOOL DEBATES

Oswell Hughes, Errol Kilkey and Randall Hood, Grants Pass debating team, holding the negative, defeated the Roseburg team, consisting of Carlton Spencer, Will Thornton and Ruth Gibson, on: "Resolved, That the naturalization laws of the United States should be made more stringent."

KANSAS CITY DEPOT DESTROYED BY FLAMES

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 13.—The Union station annex building adjoining the Union Railway station, was destroyed by fire early today. The Union station is one of Kansas City's landmarks and was saved after a hard fight by the firemen. The fire burned the building containing the offices of the express companies, the postoffice branch and the eating-rooms of the Y. M. C. A.

JAPAN NARROWLY AVERTS RESIGNATION OF CABINET

TOKYO, Jan. 14.—The resignation of the entire cabinet was narrowly averted today. Premier Marquis Saionji tendered his resignation to the emperor this afternoon, but his majesty declined to receive it, while the alternative resignations of the minister of finance and minister of communications were accepted.

TAFT WOULD INCREASE WIDTH OF PANAMA CANAL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Secretary Taft has written a letter to the president recommending the increase in the width of the Panama canal from 100 feet to 110 feet. The change would cost \$5,000,000 additional, but it meets the naval views as to the likelihood of the larger battleships of the future.

H. S. Busey, who has been critically ill at his home in Harrisburg, is no longer. J. H. Butler of Medford, who is a son-in-law of Mr. Busey, has been called to his bedside.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

DOONE-GRAZIER—Daniel A. Doone and Beatrice Grazier.

SALE OF MUNICIPAL BONDS.

Sealed proposals will be received by the city council of the city of Medford, Oregon, at the office of the city recorder of said city, until Friday, January 23, 1908, at 6 o'clock p. m., for the purchase of \$25,000 in ten-year, 6 per cent coupon bonds of said city, in denominations of \$500 each, interest payable semi-annually.

BENJ. M. COLLINS, City Recorder.

Buy Tickets by Wire.

"Something which is of considerable interest to the public generally and which is perhaps not generally known is the system of prepaid orders now in effect between stations of the Southern Pacific company and all points in the United States. By means of this system tickets may be purchased at Medford from any place in the United States and mailed or telegraphed direct to the party wishing to come here.

Coal for Sale.

We are now prepared to furnish hard coal at the mine, five miles west of town, in any amount desired at \$7.50 per ton.

PACIFIC COAL CO.

Important to Householders.

The city engineer will hand you in the next few days your official number for your house. Present this card to Shortly, promptly and he will sell you the 2-inch radiator at the rate of \$1.50 cents per radiator. If you have received numbers already and find they are wrong, bring them in to Shortly and he will trade you the right radiator.

The Southern Oregon State Normal School at Ashland offers special opportunities for teachers to review for the teachers' examinations in February and August, and to take work in Pedagogy and in Special Methods in teaching in the various grades of the training school. Since the public schools of Oregon are calling for teachers who can teach Manual Training, many are taking advantage of the industrial work lately installed in the school. Expenses of board and lodging and tuition nominal.

The State Normal School at Ashland is enjoying the largest appropriation of state funds ever granted a Normal school in the history of Oregon. Catalogues sent on application to the PRESIDENT.

For City Recorder
Benj. M. Collins
INCUMBENT
Candidate for ReElection.

Competent, faithful, honest. His record speaks for itself.

No Fire in the Kitchen Range No Hot Water in the House
Then is the time you appreciate the convenience of
ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS
Attach a plug to the nearest lamp socket and turn the switch
PINT, QUART, TWO QUART AND LARGER SIZES
Clean Safe Simple Durable

Coodor Water and Power Co.
Phone 885. Office on Seventh Street. Opposite the Big Electric Sign.

Food for Convalescents
Did you ever have the grip—ache all over in spots, and have your head feel as though you'd been out the night before trying to "make Milwaukee famous," when in reality you went to bed at 7:30 with an antifoaming plaster over your forehead and your system full of hot lemonade and flaxseed tea and your mouth all puckered up with quinine? Pa says there is no parting so bitter as the parting of a quinine capsule just as you are in the net of swallowing it.

MILLER & EW BANK
TIME TABLES
SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY.
Northbound.
No. 10 Oregon Express... 5:30 p. m.
No. 14 Portland Express... 9:15 a. m.
No. 225 For Ashland... 10:15 a. m.
Southbound.
No. 15 California Express... 10:25 a. m.
No. 13 San Francisco Exp. 1:50 p. m.
No. 225 From Grants Pass... 9:15 p. m.
PACIFIC & EASTERN RAILWAY.
No. 1 Leaves Medford... 8:00 a. m.
No. 3 Leaves Medford... 2:45 p. m.
No. 2 Arrives Medford... 10:10 a. m.
No. 4 Arrives Medford... 5:00 p. m.
ROGUE RIVER VALLEY RAILWAY
No. 2 Leaves Medford... 10:40 a. m.
No. 4 Leaves Medford... 5:55 p. m.
Motor Leaves Medford... 2:00 p. m.
Motor Leaves Medford... 9:00 p. m.
No. 1 Leaves Jacksonville... 9:30 a. m.
No. 3 Leaves Jacksonville... 3:30 p. m.
Motor Leaves Jacksonville... 1:00 p. m.
Motor Leaves Jacksonville... 7:30 p. m.
Special motor car trips during day, \$2.00 and upwards, according to number people. Phone Jacksonville office.

GET UNDER COVER
It's a good idea for everybody to get under cover in Medford, including the city council, and we are here to furnish you the
BEST PROPERTY IN MEDFORD
for the least money. If you are a stranger in Medford, you can't afford to lose money by boarding with your family at a hotel. The business man's way of doing is to buy a nice cheap tract and build a nice house while the present financial situation continues. It's a fact that you can build cheaper now than you could a month ago; or, better yet,
BUY A CHEAP HOME CLOSE IN TO A BUSINESS CENTER
and watch it grow into more money before spring. We are prepared to equip all homeowners with desirable homes at a low figure. Now is the time to buy, save rent and make money by the advance in price.
Rogue River Land Co.
EXHIBIT BUILDING, MEDFORD, OREGON.

The Medford National Bank
MEDFORD, OR.
CAPITAL... \$50,000
SURPLUS... 10,000
Safety Boxes to Rent. A General Banking Business Transacted. We Solicit Your Patronage.

THE SIGN OF SAFETY
1ST NATIONAL BANK OF MEDFORD
CAPITAL, \$50,000
ALWAYS CONSERVATIVE, ALWAYS SAFE
Wm. S. Crowell, President. Geo. W. Dunn, 2d Vice-President.
P. K. Deuel, Vice-President. M. L. Alvord, Cashier.
Orlo Crawford, Assistant Cashier.

Because He Paid by Check
Not long ago, a business man in this community was presented with a bill that he had already paid. He produced the paid check as voucher in evidence, and it was thus at once proven that he had paid the bill. Don't you see the importance of paying by check? This bank cordially invites your account, subject to check, and will be pleased to render you the most efficient service.
JACKSON COUNTY BANK
Established 1838 MEDFORD, OR.
Capital, Surplus and Deposits Over \$625,000

Medford Steam Bakery
HOT ROLLS FOR BREAKFAST or dainty little dinner rolls that will tempt the appetite of the most fastidious, is the kind we serve every day when ordered. Breadstuffs, light, white and delicious, is our specialty, as well as the richest, finest cakes, pastry and pies. When you want enjoy your meals, order your breadstuffs from us.

CATALOG HOUSES ARE NOT MERCHANT TAILORS
They drain the towns of money and neither give the fit, style nor distinction to your clothes that your own city tailor can.
PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY
The clothes I make are the kind that "carry distinction," that bespeak the man, that keeps your money at home and are superior in every detail to the "sweatshop" goods of catalogue houses.
KEEP YOUR MONEY HOME EIFERT FRENCH DRY CLEANING AND REPAIRING NEATLY DONE
The City Tailor Medford