

EXCLUDE ALL REPORTERS SAYS JEROME

Mrs. Thaw Testifies Everybody Will Hear Testimony, Although Jerome Objects.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—When the Thaw trial was resumed this morning Evelyn Thaw was called to the stand to repeat her story of a year ago. District Attorney Jerome immediately renewed his motion to exclude the public, including newspaper representatives, from the courtroom. Justice Dowling denied the motion and witness proceeded with her story of her alleged terrible experiences with Stanford White and of her recital of her life after she met White and her meeting with Harry Thaw in Paris in 1903, with the latter asked her to become his wife. Jerome objected to a recital of the events of the years before the homicide, but was not sustained. Evelyn, who is suffering from a bad cold, coughed fitfully while testifying. Jerome interposed constant objections, destroying the effectiveness of her recital, but the young woman told her story today exactly as she told it a year ago. Her voice broke when she told of all that had happened when she went to her first luncheon with White. Thaw broke down completely and wept as her pitiful tale unfolded. She told of the effect the story had on Thaw and how he said he did not care—he wanted her to marry him anyhow. Just before luncheon Evelyn reached the story of Thaw's attempt to take his life by drinking laudanum at Monte Carlo in 1904. Earlier in that year he threatened to do the same thing in New York and wanted her to join him. She humored him and diverted his attention. When he swallowed the poison at Monte Carlo he was alone. Jerome commenced cross-examination of Evelyn Thaw at 3:05.

THOSE WANTING RAILROAD LAND GET NO HELP

Attorney-General Bonaparte has received a number of letters relating to the status of lands held under railroad and wagon road grants in Oregon, which have not been disposed of by the grantees, and asking if the present holders of such land have to sell the same to actual settlers only at a rate not exceeding \$2.50 an acre.

The purpose of the inquiry made is to determine whether persons cannot secure the right to purchase such lands, the value of which is in most instances in excess of the price named. The attorney-general has made a general reply as follows:

"Inquiring as to the sale of lands now sold by the Southern Pacific under grants from the United States, you are respectfully informed that proceedings will shortly be taken to determine the rights and responsibilities of the railroad companies holding the title to the lands mentioned in your letter. Further than this I am not authorized by law and the practice of the department to advise you on the project, but recommend that you take no steps involving expense to yourself in connection with this matter, except the advice of counsel of unblemished reputation and high standing and well known to you."

TWO GOOD CITIZENS GONE TO THEIR REWARD

Bartlett Obenrath Obenrath, one of the earliest pioneers of the Rogue River valley, died at Central Point Sunday morning, and his remains will be laid to rest in the Central Point cemetery Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Elliott was at the time of his death in his 63d year, and was highly respected by all who knew him.

Mr. Obenrath was 84 years old and a good man in every sense of the term. A wife and several grown sons and daughters survive him. Mizzett Elliott, a veteran of the civil war, died at Central Point Sunday morning, and his remains will be laid to rest in the Central Point cemetery Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Elliott was at the time of his death in his 63d year, and was highly respected by all who knew him.

ATLANTA, Jan. 20.—Four men were killed and a number were injured in a wreck on the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic railroad near Spauldin, Ga., to day.

MORE WARSHIPS TO BE READY

South Dakota Being Coaled at Vallejo—Paul Jones Overhauling—Prometheus Building—All Are to Be Ready Soon.

VALLEJO, Jan. 20.—Work of coaling the cruiser South Dakota is proceeding at Mare Island navy yard, preparatory to placing the ship in commission, and a crew is being made up. The ship will carry 800 men. Overhauling of the torpedo-boat destroyer Paul Jones at a cost of \$23,000 has been authorized and the work is under way. The collier Prometheus is under construction at Mare Island and work is being rushed, being one-fifth completed.

SPECIAL CITY AND SCHOOL TAX LEVIES REPORTED

In addition to the tax levy of 7 mills made by the county court for state, school and county purposes, the following special levies have been reported by school districts and municipalities for 1908:

- School district No. 1, Jacksonville, 10 mills; No. 4, Phoenix, 2 mills; No. 5, Asland, 4 1/2 mills; No. 6, Central Point, 6 mills; No. 7, Neil Creek, 1 1/2 mills; No. 9, Eagle Point, 3 mills; No. 10, Medford precinct, 1 1/2 mills; No. 11, Beagle, 2 1/2 mills; No. 16, Central Point precinct, 5 mills; No. 19, Lake Creek, 2 mills; No. 20, Gold Hill precinct, 3 mills; No. 22, Talent, 1 mill; No. 24, Phoenix, 2 mills; No. 25, Rock Point, 3 mills; No. 26, Woodville precinct, 5 mills; No. 29, Medford precinct, 5 mills; No. 30, Provoit, 10 mills; No. 31, Eagle Point precinct, 5 mills; No. 32, Gold Hill precinct, 2 1/2 mills; No. 34, Applegate, 2 mills; No. 35, Woodville, 3 mills; No. 44, Table Rock, 1 1/2 mills; No. 45, Trail, 4 mills; No. 46, Asbestos, 3 mills; No. 49, Medford city, 7 mills; No. 39, Brownsboro, 5 mills; No. 52, Central Point, 5 mills; No. 55, Trail, 1 mill; No. 56, Wagner Creek, 1 mill; No. 57, Gold Hill, 10 mills; No. 58, Steamboat, 5 mills; No. 59, Prospect, 1 mill; No. 60, Soda Springs, 1/2 mill; No. 61, Gold Hill precinct, 3 mills; No. 65, Brownsboro, 3 mills; No. 66, Peyton, 5 mills; No. 67, Climax, 3 mills; No. 68, Watkins, 1 1/2 mills; No. 70, Butte Falls, 1 mill; No. 1, Derby, 8 mills; No. 76, Wellen, 3 mills; No. 78, Trail, 2 mills; No. 79, Wimer, 1 mill; No. 80, Persist, 2 mills; No. 81, Climax, 2 1/2 mills; No. 84, Trail, 2 mills; No. 85, Butte Falls, 1 mill; No. 86, Derby, 2 mills; No. 87, Buncom, 2 mills; No. 88, Gold Hill precinct, 4 mills; No. 91, Butte Falls, 20 mills; No. 93, Prospect, 5 mills. Special municipal levies—Ashland, 6 mills; Central Point, 2 1/2 mills; Medford, 14 mills; Jacksonville, 4 mills.

TWO ALLEGED CRIMINALS SENT TO INSANE ASYLUM

C. L. Hammersly and August Buccione, who were to be tried at the present session of the circuit court for Josephine county, for forgery and murder, respectively, were examined for insanity before being tried for their alleged crimes and pronounced insane. They were both committed to the asylum at Salem.

Buccione, who is a Dago, assaulted one of his fellow-laborers while at work for the Southern Pacific company on the Siskiyou, who subsequently died at a hospital in Portland from his injuries. He jumped to California, where he was arrested and brought to Jacksonville. He has been a great care to the officers during his incarceration in the county jail.

Hammersly passed a worthless check on L. P. Orr of Ashland, a druggist. His attorney sprung a demurrer on the prosecution, alleging that indictment was void, on the ground that it did not state sufficient facts to constitute a crime—in other words, that merely signing one's own name to a check and getting another to cash it without making any statements that he has money in the bank to meet it, is not a crime. The demurrer was argued and submitted and sustained by the judge. Hammersly in the meantime has been adjudged insane, but the indictment against him was dismissed.

MORE MONEY NEEDED TO RUN STATE GOVERNMENT

The amount of money to be raised by the several counties for state purposes in 1908 by direct taxation is \$1,150,000. This is shown by the actual estimate of expenditures, which have been completed by the state board of levy, and is \$125,000 more than the amount raised by the counties in 1907, and \$525,000 more than was raised in 1906. The total expense for the state for 1908 is estimated at \$1,875,750.14, of which amount \$489,350.14 will be covered by direct taxes and is covered by taxes already levied but not expended.

PLOT TO BLOW BATTLESHIPS IS CREDITED

Reported Conspiracy to Destroy American Fleet Seems to Have Foundation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—A reported plot to blow up one or more of the Atlantic fleet at Rio Janeiro is regarded at the White House as a repetition of one of many schemes which are constantly being presented to the secret service by persons who claim to possess information which they are willing to part with for a consideration. No credence is given here of the existence of an actual plot. It is understood that the information originated in Paris, from which point it was communicated to the secret service bureau and through that medium to Admiral Evans and the authorities of South American countries.

RIO JANEIRO, Jan. 20.—Several arrests in connection with the alleged plot to destroy the American fleet now in the harbor have been made. A band, presumably organized to carry out the plot, consisting of five Italians, one Canadian and two Germans, have been arrested. It is believed that other members of the band are in custody at San Paulo. The members of the band counted on assistance of a Spaniard named Rochero, who has lived in this city a long time. He went insane a year ago, however, and is shut up in a sanitarium at Montevideo.

FIRST POULTRY SHOW IN ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

The Pacific Outlook says that preparations are now well under way for the first annual Rogue River valley poultry show, that is to be held in Grants Pass under the auspices of the Grants Pass Poultry-Keepers' association on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 30, 31 and February 1. The association has issued a premium list in neat pamphlet form that is being distributed in Josephine and Jackson counties. This being the first show, and the association having limited means, it will give only handsome ribbon awards, but through the public spirit of many of the business men of Grants Pass and of Portland and other places, the association is enabled to offer a number of valuable premiums that are well worth competing for by the poultry fanciers. The premium list also contains the rules and regulations that will govern the show. Copies may be had of A. T. Marshall, secretary of the association.

The show will be under the general superintendency of President John Summers, and he will be assisted by an executive committee composed of George P. Cramer, Charles Kingwell and J. F. Fryer. The judge will be Elmer Dixon of Oregon City. He is licensed by the American Poultry association and he will do the judging by the rules of that association and by the score-card system. Mr. Dixon is one of the most noted poultry judges of the Pacific Coast and this winter and past seasons he has judged poultry at the big shows held in Portland, Spokane, Seattle, Victoria and other coast cities.

The arranging of the exhibits will be under the direction of James Dryden of the department of poultry of the Oregon Agricultural college. Professor Dryden came from the east last year and he has the standing both there and on this coast of being an expert in all that pertains to poultry raising. He will be present during the fair, and those interested in the poultry industry will be free to ask him any questions they may desire to have information on.

The show will be open only to birds owned in Rogue River valley, and from the interest that the poultry raisers of the valley are taking in the undertaking this show will be quite the equal of those held in other sections of the Pacific coast, where such exhibitions have been held annually for years past.

HEINZE TRIAL HAS BEEN POSTPONED

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—Hearing of the case against F. Augustus Heinze, charged with securing fictitious checks, was postponed until January 27.

WANTED To rent a small house, close to the city hall on R. E. Main. If

LITTLE STAMFLING IN THE MALL CASE

Prosecution's Testimony Not Sensational So Far—Interesting Developments Promised Soon—Foundation Is Being Laid.

PORTLAND, Jan. 20.—In the trial of Hall and Mays today the entire morning session was devoted to the testimony of several witnesses, who related threats and schemes of the Butte Creek company to obtain possession of claims.

LAW SHOULD BE CHANGED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

The delinquent tax list for 1907 will not be advertised, but the sheriff, upon instructions from the county court and District Attorney Reames, who rendered a written opinion upon the matter, will proceed to collect these taxes under the new law, which does away with advertising the list.

The court several months ago decided to work the 1907 list off under the old law and asked for bids from the newspapers for publishing the same. Meantime, however, the governor's prolonged holiday season came on and stopped the proceedings, until taken up again after the new year began, when the new course was determined upon, says the Tidings.

This law, which was passed by the last legislature, should be repealed at the first opportunity. It allows those who are looking for soft snaps to obtain title to property unawares to the owner.

Under the old procedure, public notice was given through a newspaper that so much tax was due the county and alower persons not aware of their delinquency to save their property from virtual confiscation.

WILL OPERATE MAYBELLE MINE AT GOLD HILL

The Maybelle mine, located in the Blackwell district, near Gold Hill, is being placed in shape for extensive development. W. B. Pearson, who represents a party of Portland capitalists, is now in Gold Hill, devoting his time to this property. The Maybelle was at one time one of the best ore producers in the district, but after a stormy career in the courts, the stamp mill and other improvements were torn down and removed. The new company will probably install a new mill, as they feel confident that they have a good proposition and one that will pay well under conservative management.

HORSETHIEF GETS INDETERMINATE SENTENCE

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 20.—Ralph McBain, the self-confessed horsethief, has been given an indeterminate sentence in the penitentiary. Owing to the previous good reputation of the young man, who was born and raised in this county, a strong effort was made to have him pardoned. The offense, however, was somewhat of an aggravated nature, since he not only branded colts, but changed the brands on older horses. His attorney and friends hope to secure a pardon at the expiration of one year, the minimum sentence.

STORE FIRST ROBBED THEN SET ON FIRE

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Jan. 20.—The jewelry store of County Treasurer L. Viva Lewis was destroyed by fire at 3 o'clock Saturday morning. The loss on stock is \$1500; insurance, \$500. It appears the fire was of incendiary origin to cover a robbery. There is evidence that the job was done by an Indian. Pitch and candles were found, indicating that they had been used to start the fire. The flames had made great headway when discovered.

TEN DOLLARS A BOX FOR PRIZE APPLES

Ten dollars a box was asked and paid for Oregon apples at the exhibition of the State Horticultural society at Portland. Winter Harbans apples, which will cost 25 cents apiece were purchased and agents for New York and Philadelphia houses contracted for many of the prize boxes at fabulous prices.

According to the representatives of the eastern houses who have been looking over the display, Oregon's apples are unrivaled by those of any other state. They can't get enough of them at any price to satisfy the demand for them from the New York markets and the fruit dealers who enter to the best class of eastern trade.

PRORATE

Ordinance of Rebecca M. Miller, Judge Order made, James M. Cronin, Sheriff, J. F. Miller and Charles W. Wingo, Justices

CURLY BOSS HAS ANGERED PROSECUTION

Ruef Charged With Not Living Up to Contract—Immunity to Be Withheld.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—Emphasizing the break that has occurred between the prosecution and Abraham Ruef in the graft cases, because of the latter's alleged failure to live up to an immunity contract signed last May, the prosecution today made its first move to place Ruef on trial on one of the 117 indictments returned against him. When the cases of Patrick Callahan, Tiry L. Ford, Thornwall Mulhally, Eugene E. Schmitz and Ruef in the matter of the trolley franchises came up before Superior Judge Lawlor today, District Attorney Langdon asked that all cases be continued until January 28, and announced: "On that day we will proceed with the trial of Abraham Ruef."

THE CITY COUNCIL IN SPECIAL SESSION

There was a special meeting of the city council Saturday night for the purpose of canvassing the vote cast at the recent election. F. E. Merrick, H. G. Wortman and W. W. Eifert were declared elected councilmen for the first, second and third wards; B. M. Collins, city reorganizer, and L. L. Jacobs, city treasurer, all for the term of two years. The council will meet next Tuesday night for the purpose of dissolving the old council and organizing the new, at which time a city attorney, street commissioner and other officers will be appointed for the ensuing year by Mayor Reddy, subject to confirmation by the council.

JOSEPHINE COUNTY MAN INVENTS CONCRETE BLOCK

A. T. Lewis, a Grants Pass photographer, after much careful work and diligent study, and as a diversion from his studio labors, has perfected and patented a ventilated concrete block and tie which he claims is the best thing of its sort ever devised. Thomas Edison's cement houses not excepted. The excellent features of this new block, as claimed by the inventor, are that it can be manufactured at a saving of 20 per cent in cost of raw material, can be molded in any concrete block machine with slight change, and a house built with the blocks requires no laths or furring.

These blocks also allow a dead or alive air space between walls, through which all wiring, pipes and heating apparatus is run. The ties for the blocks are hollow, and the inventor claims they are absolutely moisture, frost and heat proof. Another thing claimed for these blocks is that any boy can manufacture them with ease and rapidity.

ONE YEAR IN PENITENTIARY FOR TWO YOUNG ROBBERS

Irwin Medley and Ed Wetzel, the two young men who recently robbed Steve Beers of Wimer, whom they took to a hotel at Grants Pass in a drunken condition, pleaded guilty in the circuit court for Josephine county and each was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

This light sentence was imposed because both boys were drunk, and were furnished liquor by Beers, the old man having taken them out to "have a buzz." The boys put him to bed and extracted \$110 from his clothes, thinking the old man was too drunk to miss it.

WILL AGAIN BE HOME OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SANTA FE, N. M., Jan. 20.—After 15 years New Mexico's oldest and most historic building, the old Governor's Palace, in this city, is to become again the home of the territorial executive. The building, which is in a fine state of preservation, despite the fact that it is over 100 years old, was for over 100 years the official residence of the governors of the territory under both Spanish, Mexican and civil regimes. It is the largest and finest building in the Santa Fe city. It is now being repaired and will be ready for occupancy by the new chief executive in the spring.

COLONIST RATES HAVE BEEN GIVEN

Railroad Prevalence to Grace Low Rates During the Year 1908—Slightly Higher Than Given Before—Big Immigration Is Expected.

Colonist rates from the middle west to the Pacific northwest will again prevail this year. Effective from March 1 to April 30, colonist travel will have rates of \$50 from Missouri river territory, \$35.50 from St. Louis and \$38 from Chicago common points. That the rate this year, while \$5 higher than last year, will have no serious effect in reducing the volume of the homeseeker movement to the Pacific northwest, is the belief of men who are engaged in exploitation work in Oregon.

It had been voted by the Transcontinental Passenger association to grant no homeseeker rates for this year. The low rates of previous colonist seasons were opposed by the eastern lines, in an effort to retaliate against the public for two-cent fare laws. The issue was forced by the Union Pacific system, which has signed individual notice of colonist rates to be put into effect next March and April. The result was that the signatures of the Burlington, the Rock Island and the Santa Fe were added to the notice.

NEWS NOTES FROM STATE NORMAL AT ASHLAND

Charles Plumb of Igera, Cal., entered school last week. Owing to the change in the chapel hour from 8:30 to 10:30, there is a full attendance every morning. The Y. W. C. A. is doing better work this year than ever before, and the membership is growing. Miss Case spoke in chapel Wednesday on the subject, "My Visit to Ellis Island."

The Athena will soon give its exhibition on art. The members of the Athena have put a great deal of preparation on this and it will be a good exhibit. The faculty is holding frequent meetings, a fact which occasions much speculation on the part of the students. The programme is being made out for the next semester, which begins February 3.

About midnight one night last week the people on the campus were aroused from their slumbers by the startling news that burglars were after them, but a few flourishes of a shotgun soon convinced the intruders that more profitable places could be found.

The joint meeting of the congressional and Athena Literary societies was held Saturday night, and was well attended. A good programme was given, consisting of music, readings, orations and a debate.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF JACKSON COUNTY BOY

The body of James Horn, who came to his death at Weed, Cal., recently was brought home for burial in the Rock Point cemetery.

The News says the death of this young man, who was a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Horn, is fraught with mystery, and though his friends and relatives have made efforts to ascertain the real facts, they have been unable to do so. He met his death from gunshot wounds in the abdomen, there being four wounds plainly discernible, which the California authorities pronounced as being self-inflicted. But to people who have known the young man from boyhood this story seems rather incredible, as his nature was not a morbid one, and he would hardly have taken such a horrible method of self-destruction. There are many circumstances that point directly to the fact that a hand other than his own fired the shots.

MEDFORD IN DANGER OF JAPANESE INVASION

To the Editor: The city council recently renamed the county road, A street, and called it Riverside road, thereby renouncing Bear creek to the dignity of a river. It is currently reported that the Japs have been taking soundings of Bear River and making a chart of the river in contemplation of an invasion by the Japanese fleet. Think of our own waterworks being bombarded by the Japs! AN ANXIOUS CITIZEN.

HEAVY FINE IMPOSED ON BLIND PIG OPERATOR

Charles A. Case has pleaded guilty to sock of four counts, charging him with conducting a "blind pig" at Cottage Grove, and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and to serve 60 days in jail. He states he will serve the entire sentence in jail, which means imprisonment for 250 days.