

THE PUTNAM LIBEL CASE

(Continued from page 1)

hence I do not assume that it will be denied.

The editor was indicted on a Saturday afternoon, he knew of his indictment and that the warrant of arrest was out and heard of it an hour before the train left Medford for the north. He traveled on the train in company with a young man, now at Medford, and who if necessary, can be called upon to verify the statement that the editor expected to be arrested and taken off the train and was welcoming such conditions. I have been vilified all over the state for having dragged the editor off the train at Roseburg, and causing him to be put in jail. The fact is I was sick the afternoon the indictment was returned and went home at the request of the court. I knew nothing of the arrest until I saw one of the editor's attorneys ready to go on the train, on the Monday following, with a handful of the editor's papers to distribute along the line to Grants Pass, the same being filled with the story of the outrage perpetrated upon him by his arrest. My brother the Deputy, learned of the arrest on Sunday, on his way to California; he it was who caused the Sheriff to send a telegram arranging for bail by wire. After a misinformed public had gotten through with blaming the Reames family for the arrest, they began upon the Sheriff and the Sheriff was 40 miles from the county seat when the indictment was returned and knew nothing of it or of the arrest until some day afterwards. The case has since followed the usual course; a bench warrant was issued, the deputy Sheriff went to serve it, found the defendant had taken the train and wired ahead. This is exactly the same treatment that would have been accorded to any other person under arrest and leaving on the train.

It was particularly wrong to blame any of the parties mentioned for this arrest, for, in the first place, the arrest was courted by the defendant for advertising purposes. In the second place, it was the usual course of procedure; in the third place it was not done by design, and in the fourth place both the District Attorney and his deputy, and especially the District Attorney, were friendly with the defendant, so far as personal relations go. The District Attorney had known him before he became the editor of the paper and would gladly have tendered his services for his defense and in any just cause, without compensation. The fact of the District Attorney and his deputy being adverse were mere circumstances forced by position. The editor, however, knowing that the papers throughout the state were particularly anxious to get news, and knowing how to get news to them, at once sent out to your paper, and to the proper agencies for the dissemination of news over the state, his advertising story—he was writing from "behind the bars," he was surrounded, of course by poor tramps and vermin; he was unused to such harsh conditions. He had been dragged off the train at midnight when he was rushing to see his mother. These things were printed in his graphic language and furnished large daily headlines for his paper. I do not blame the press for believing his statements, but I am going to take this one chance of resenting continuous misrepresentations. The editor, from the beginning of the matter, through the whole affair, has continuously inserted in his paper what the press said about him, from every nook and corner of the state; if however, the press would stop to look over the issues of other Southern Oregon papers, it would be found that like criticisms were not there. The editor knew how to get the news out and the papers were glad to get it, relied upon it and of course formed their conclusions accordingly.

Now, as to the grand jury, the law requires the court, when it empanels a grand jury, to read to it a particular clause of the statute, which provides that it is the duty of the grand jury to prosecute any case of libel, whether complaint is made by anyone or not, and it expressly makes it the duty of the District Attorney to do likewise. When the grand jury had returned not a true bill in Barnum's case, this libelous statement came out in the editor's paper in big, glaring headlines. The grand jury asked the opinion of the District Attorney and his deputy as to the application of the statute, which the court had read. The statute was then shown to the grand jury and they

were left to form their own conclusions. The District Attorney and his deputy declined to give counsel, as the Deputy District Attorney was included in the article. Without using names, the grand jury then presented to the court the facts and asked if they constituted a crime, and the court expressed the opinion that if they were untrue they were libelous. Under their oaths and with this plain statute they saw nothing to do but to return an indictment. They, however, asked whether they had to return an indictment, but as we were interested, we did not advise. Not a single member of the grand jury desired to return an indictment; not a single one had the slightest ill-feeling over the article. All regarded it as a little advertising with big lines and red ink. However, under the statute, and considering the untruthfulness of the publication, there was nothing else to do but to indict.

I am not anxious to be construed as criticizing the Supreme Court for the opinion rendered, and I have not had an opportunity to read it in full; however, it is only fair to Judge Hanna to say that the case was not presented to the Supreme Court as any criminal case would ordinarily be presented. The District Attorney had shortly before entered upon the duties of his office. When he presented the case he had not had time to make or file his brief or to even read the bill of exceptions. He did not file any brief until a few days before the opinion was rendered, when a brief composing about a page and without the citation of authorities was presented. I am not offering this as any criticism upon the official acts of the District Attorney because the case was new to him.

Now, the case has been reversed and the editor's big headlines have said that the Supreme Court "exonerated him." However, the Supreme Court has ordered a new trial, and it will be up to the District Attorney to try this case anew. There seems to be some discussion as to whether it will be tried again. If the evidence is not at hand a retrial could not be had, but as it is all at hand the case will be retried, I assume. Hence it should not be expected that Judge Hanna is in a position to express his views and I am writing this without consulting him and not intending to submit it to him, but entirely upon my own account. However, since the case is out of my hands, I am venturing the suggestion that since the editor has charged corruption, and since he desires to prove the truthfulness of his charge, if the case depends upon his proof, he will be convicted again. This is one of the penalties that follows a libelous falsehood. If he did not mean corruption he should not have charged it. He has charged something he cannot prove, hence the truthfulness of his article will be no more of an issue now than it was then.

I will say at this time that during the eight years I filled the District Attorney's office, I took any personal criticism that came from the press without comment. I was never looking for the implements which the law might furnish to suppress free speech. The statements that I have attempted to curb the legitimate freedom of the press are based upon misstatements of fact. I believe in the freedom of the press, and will offer my professional services in defense of an editor wrongfully charged, as quickly as I will for any other purpose. There must be limits, however, and the press for its own dignity, does not ask that vilification of public officials be permitted simply because it is heaped upon public servants. There is one class of editor's so-called, who use methods for advertising and to endeavor to cow the public and public officials, by a lash administered through large type and red ink. I do not expect again to have to bear the burdens of a public office, but should this condition recur, I desire to announce now to this class of advertisers, that I would not be among that class of public officials who hesitate to perform a public duty for fear of giving offence or drawing criticism.

As to the editor who was prosecuted, I desire to say that, while the advertising matter which he sent out in the form of news and self-praise, could not easily be recognized as applying to the facts in his case, yet before this difficulty, as now, we have been friendly, and I would defend him, if charged wrongfully with an offence, without asking or wishing to receive any compensation; especially would I do this if he were wrongfully charged, in a case which appeared to have for its object the muzzling of the press. I think I agree with the almost universal opinion that the freedom of the press should be maintained, and while I have used some strong language, I have selected as delicate words as were applicable to the case and desire to make it clear that this article was not written with any malice toward the defendant in the criminal case, but rather to announce that the time had certainly come when there should be at least one person who would attempt to state the facts as they were.

A. E. REAMES.

WANTED—A girl to assist in a restaurant. Apply to Mrs. C. L. Grant.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Cities and Towns of Oregon Make Gratifying Reports—Corvallis Star's Progressive Movement—Salem's Record.

(Special Correspondence.)

Corvallis beat all records for enthusiasm when she inaugurated her progressive movement on St. Patrick's Day with two bands playing, hundreds of school children marching, flags flying, banners waving, every place of business closed, and a genuine old-time Fourth of July sentiment prevailing everywhere. On the lapel of every coat was a tag bearing the message "Be a Booster", while delivery wagons carried the same message in box-car letters. There was a card in every show window and when the subscription paper was opened two banks led with \$350 each and in a few minutes \$3500 was subscribed and this means not less than a six thousand dollar fund.

Mr. John T. Burns, Secretary-Treasurer of the Dry Farming Congress, which will hold its fourth session in Billings, Montana, is making a tour of Oregon and delivered an address today to the business men of Portland at the Commercial Club.

Milton and Freewater are going some in an advertising way. They have raised a total sum of \$2580 for this purpose, Milton \$1550 and Freewater \$900. When they started out they hoped to be able to raise \$1500. Salem built 333 houses in 1903.

The Executive Committee of the Albany Commercial Club have determined to discontinue their advertising and when one visits that city, which is now active and growing in the daytime and illuminated at night with hundreds of incandescent lights, it is easy to realize that advertising is a good investment.

Ashland is showing magnificent public spirit and is raising a vast sum of money for progressive purposes during the present month.

Dallas and Independence have determined to put Old Poik County in the publicity parade.

The Western Hotel Reporter will issue a special Oregon addition April 30th.

C. T. Colt, late of LaGrande, is active as advertising director of the Roseburg Commercial Club.

Pendleton is circulating one of the most effective leaflets yet printed, in which special attention is given to the resources of the state in general.

Ione held a very successful "Get Busy" gatherings Saturday.

Ontario is enthusiastic over the prospect of early activity in the Malheur Irrigation Project, while LaGrande is greatly encouraged over an enterprise of a similar nature.

"500,000 in 1912" is popular in Portland.

OCCUPATION TAX IN GRANTS PASS

An ordinance that is causing much discussion among citizens of Grants Pass that is deriving some commendation and a great deal of criticism, according to the viewpoint, was introduced by the council at its meeting on Thursday night, and put through the first and second readings. This ordinance was made necessary by the loss of the saloon revenue and proposes to place an occupation tax upon every citizen of the city who works, no matter what his vocation or calling. Only the man who can prove that he has and intends to have nothing to do, will escape the tax levied by this new city law. The amount of taxation ranges from \$10 to \$100. The proprietors of "soft drink" establishments get at the heaviest. These will be required to pay \$100 a year.

Real estate dealers are next on the scale. Every man who "peddles land" who buys or sells dirt, or deals in real property of any kind, whether his office is one of the attractive and gaily decorated "stalls" on real estate row, or merely under his hat, must pay the city \$50 a year. The men who keep automobiles for hire must pay \$50 a year. Skating rink proprietors will pay \$50 a year, as will moving picture show managers.

The whole list of avocations and vocations is covered—doctors, lawyers, dentists, journalists, printers, merchants, electricians, surveyors, engineers, druggists, and on down to common laborers. The city solons' idea in presenting to ordinance, at least the main claim made for proposing the new law, is that "Grants Pass needs the money, and needs it bad." Many things in the matter of public improvements, especially good streets, are desired, and absolutely needed, but to have these the city must have more money. As it will fail to get the needed amount by direct taxation, this scheme of imposing a high occupation tax is proposed.

It seems quite certain that the ordi-

nance will become a law in Grants Pass but the big question yet to be decided and upon which the council entertains grave fears is, where is the man who carries a stick big enough to collect the tax?—Medford Tribune.

FAIR NOTES

Seattle, March 25.—Increasing activity is the noticeable feature among the shipping concerns of the Pacific coast, and all lines local, coastwise and foreign are augmenting their tonnage in anticipation of the great increase of passenger travel during the summer months. The opening of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition on June 1 has stimulated travel to a greater extent than any other business event for years, and all lines have found that their present passenger carrying facilities are far inadequate to the increase in passenger and tourist travel.

The Canadian Pacific has already added to its line of Princess steamers plying between Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver, the new vessel Princess Charlotte, and this addition will increase its passenger capacity about two thousand daily. The International Navigation Company has already in operation the magnificent steamers Iroquois, Chippewa and Indianapolis, and these swift vessels have a passenger capacity of more than 1000 passengers. The local domestic lines have been preparing for the inland travel rush for the last year, and Puget Sound waters today float a fleet considered ample for the accommodation of tens of thousands of exposition visitors.

The Oriental, Australian, Hawaiian and Alaskan shipping lines have all increased their tonnage extensively, and from the wonderful increase in transportation offered from those countries, the steamship companies will have use of all their passenger capacity. The advantageous rates offered visitors on all lines during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition are proving attractive, and an unusual number of tourists have already booked passage to Seattle during the summer months.

The Alaska travel will especially show a substantial increase during the fair season, and the opportunity of viewing the northern wonderland, will be widely taken advantage of by visitors from the eastern states and foreign countries.

SOMETHING ABOUT TYPEWRITERS

Why do so many people pay \$100.00 for a typewriter when they can get one just as good for about \$50.00?

We are agents for the GRADY REBUILT TYPEWRITERS and can furnish our customers with almost any machine they want. These are not second-hand machines but re-built. Webster defines the word "re-built"—"to build again"—and "repaired" as "mended".

These machines are sent to the Grady factory and every movable part is taken off and sold as junk, including the type bars. All bearings are replaced with new, the machine is re-enameled and re-nickled and few of the most expert can detect the difference. Many of the rebuilt machines are equipped with the latest improvements and are guaranteed to do first-class work.

Go over these prices and see whether you can do better. Remington, models 6 and 7, price \$48 to \$60. No. 2 Remington, \$30. Each No. 2 Remington is equipped with two color ribbon permitting you to write in two colors. Smith Premier, No. 1, \$35; No. 2, \$45 to \$60. Oliver No. 3, \$50. Underwood No. 1 and 2, \$55 to \$75. We have the Monarch, Fox, Fox Visible, Densmore, Fay Sholes, New Century, Blickensderfer. The machines range in price from \$20 to \$75, just as good as new with a better guarantee.

Take one on three months trial and if not satisfactory all we ask is a small monthly rental for the use of the machine which will be applied on any other machine you may select.

Bring out the dignity of your business by using a typewriter, it is the modern way. How many letters do you receive from a business house not written on a typewriter? If you receive a letter from your wholesaler written in long hand the thought strikes you that he is not progressive and unsafe to deal with. That his goods are of an inferior grade and his price may be too high. If he does not use a typewriter he is not modern and his goods must evidently be out of date.

For Diseases of the Skin

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barbers' itch, are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by City Drug Store.

CUT FLOWERS
Cut Flowers, Funeral Remembrances, Potted Plants and Bulbs. Phone 606 Medford Greenhouses.

Painting Season

There is no better time to paint your building than at the present time and you cannot get better paint than we use.

DECORATING

There is nothing that will add more to the appearance of a house or fence than a new coat of paint. It is the foundation of all decorations.

PRESERVATIVE

Paint will not only add to the appearance of a building but will preserve the wood and prevent disease.

See
Chappell & Fick

The Boss has reduced the price on his fancy Chinaware.

WILEE IN MEDFORD

Call and see Mack in front of Wearie's for Chili Concarne and hot and cold lunch. Employment office in connection
MACK WILL GET YOU WORK

DR. T. T. SHAW

Dentist.
Office in Ryan Building, California St.,
Upstairs
JACKSONVILLE OREGON

For Paper Hanging

And Latest Styles of Wall Paper, Call on or Address
C. F. BOWMAN
Jacksonville, Oregon

ICE CREAM That Delicious Refreshing Lish
What nicer dessert could you have for Sunday dinner?
W. C. DENEFF & COMPANY

WHY Pay \$100 for a Typewriter? Why Buy a Second-Hand Machine?

No Risk. Every Machine is Fully Guaranteed. Think It Over.



Or a machine sold by a peddler, that as a rule has outlived its usefulness, or it would not be offered for sale. The ordinary second hand typewriter is only temporarily repaired and is only short lived, while we are able to offer you machines entirely rebuilt, as good as new in every respect. A product of the largest factory of the kind in the world, employing only skilled mechanics. All our machines have all the wearing parts removed and new parts substituted. The bases and frames have been re-enameled and re-nickled. They appear to be new and are as good as new. Apply at

The JACKSONVILLE POST

Charles F. Dunford
DRAYAGE
Express, Freight, General Delivery. Teaming to all Parts of the Country. Nothing too Heavy or too Light. Agents for Colestin Mineral Water.
JACKSONVILLE OREGON

The Criterion Saloon
For Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars.
DUNNINGTON & DENEFF, PROPRIETORS
Jacksonville, Oregon

Varnish! Varnish! Varnish!
A coat of varnish will improve the appearance of those old chairs, or the interior decorations.
Anyone Can Varnish, Do it Yourself
If you want to change the appearance of your chairs treat them to a coat of varnish stain. It is cheap
Fred J. Fick, Contractor and Builder.

WANTED
Furs Hides and Pelts
HUNTERS ATTENTION!
I will pay the highest market price for good Pelts and Furs
T. L. DeVore Moved to Building one door South of Dutchman Shop

LEVI STRAUSS & CO'S OVERALLS
strong, durable, comfortable garments for workmen