

OREGON CITY COURIER

34th Year

OREGON CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1916

Number 30

SAD END WRITTEN IN LIFE TRAGEDY

WOULD REPLACE WOMAN AS ADMINISTRATRIX OF ERNEST CASE, KILLED BY BROTHER

SAY COUPLE IS NOT MARRIED

Case Family, Ties Shattered by Feud, Brings Pictures of Grave to County Court Room

A concluding chapter is being written to the sad life dramas of the Case families as they have been told and retold in Clackamas county within the past year, or since the killing at Parkplace on October 3, 1915, of Ernest R. Case by his brother Sam. An echo of that feudal climax resounded in the probate court before Judge H. S. Anderson here on Monday. Meanwhile the wee daughter of the dead man climbed about the benches and giggled in babyish glee as she found some new sight to attract her eyes and center her attention, taking it away from the harsh banter of hateful sisters and the lawyers whose legal talents sought to untangle the threads that are adding to the tragedy which caused the death of Ernest Case and which is now causing a fight of hate to be waged among those of the family still living.

On Monday, County Judge Anderson considered evidence presented with a petition to remove Leona Charters, known here as the wife of Ernest R. Case, as administratrix of the estate of Ernest Case, on the ground that the couple was not legally married. The petition was filed some time ago by Mrs. Ralph Smith, widow of Sam Case, and Cassius M. C. Case, her brother-in-law.

It was alleged in the courtroom that no marriage ceremony was ever performed to bind Leona Charters and Ernest R. Case, although a mock ceremony for her benefit of the woman was admitted. Attorneys brought could not show the tears that had bespoken a wedding ceremony—evidence that, at any rate, the couple lived under contract marriage vows.

Pictures of the simple headstone that sets apart the grave in Riverview cemetery of little Thelma Case, another daughter of the murdered man and Leona Charters, were produced as sadly silent witnesses testifying to a marriage. The pictures were wanting, though, for they did not—they could not—show the tears that had fallen from a mother's eyes on that grave—the tears of a mother-love that vainly wept and prayed that life might be restored to the little body of her first born; a body and soul snatched from a world that proved cruelly cold to the mother, who, though she may not have walked circumspectly, seemed always to follow in the path of the love that bound her to her husband and to her children. The simple headstone did not show the tears. It did show the inornate inscription, "Thelma Case," and an undertaker testified that the name had been placed there at the order of Ernest Case, the father, and the man whose name his own brother and sister-in-law would deny, by means of the august statutes of the state, to little Thelma, sleeping these many months in her quiet grave, and to the tiny two-year-old tot who clambered about the benches in the court room Monday, all unmindful of the story that was being told to Judge Anderson.

Sam Case, who killed his brother a few days more than a year ago, died following an operation a brief month after the tragedy. His widow, before the legal interval had elapsed, married Ralph Smith at Hillsboro. Smith had been a bartender in the employ of Ernest Case in the days before Oregon City's prohibition laws were made.

Investigation has revealed no record of a marriage ceremony and attorneys in the case liken it to the circumstances in the recent Ford trial at Portland. The opinion is that the couple married by contract and as a precedent the local court will have the Ford action and the decision, which declared a contract marriage legal. Although the women in this action are sisters, they are bitter enemies as a result of the feud between their husbands, who were brothers, and they are pulling at every legal possibility to write a final chapter in what is declared to be one of the saddest stories of tangled lives and hearts ever aired in Clackamas county.

Socialists Rally

Under the auspices of the Socialist county committee candidates for office nominated by that party will hold a meeting on Saturday evening at Beaver Creek and on Monday evening will meet at Molalla. P. W. Meredith, candidate for the legislature, and other county candidates will speak.

Marriage License

A marriage license was issued here Monday by County Clerk Harrington to Rachael Rebecca Rueck and Lois F. Killing, Aurora, route 1.

JOHNSON RECORD IS BUILT ON SERVICE

CANDIDATE HAS REVISED TAX BOOKS OF TWO COUNTIES. IN WORK MANY YEARS

At Wilsonville last night George F. Johnson, democratic candidate for assessor, opened the eyes of a large number of taxpayers to the importance of competence in that office and laid before them for their approval a record of continuous service in one branch of business that speaks volumes for the ability of the man. Mr. Johnson was one of the speakers at the democratic precinct meeting at Wilsonville. Other county candidates won stirring applause from a good audience.



G. F. Johnson

In his talk Mr. Johnson, who has been chief deputy assessor here for the past eight years, recited his career in tax assessment work and left for his audience to decide the question of his qualification for the position, and his ability to hold it down more successfully than any other candidate who has appeared thus far in Clackamas county.

Mr. Johnson entered the tax assessor's office of Umatilla county under his father, Burr Johnson, a pioneer Oregonian, at a very early age and he has not been out of that line of work for long since that time. After serving with his father for a number of years Mr. Johnson became chief deputy in the assessor's office of Baker county, where he served from 1902 until 1906. During that time Mr. Johnson entirely revised the methods of work in the office and the new system which he installed is in use today. Mr. Johnson is a native of Yamhill county, born in 1864, and is now a resident of Oregon City, where his two fine children, a son and a daughter, are high school pupils. He and Assessor Jack are alone responsible for the splendid system in use in the Clackamas county office now and have eliminated much of the former bunglesome work.

Those who have visited the office during Mr. Johnson's tenure there, and that has been throughout the past eight years, can best testify to the character of his work and his ability to take up the position vacated by Mr. Jack. In addition to being thoroughly familiar with every detail of the office work, Mr. Johnson is a draftsman and has saved the county many hundreds of dollars in the past eight years by eliminating the expense of hiring a draftsman, which has been found such a burden in other counties. He has personally platted and mapped every tract and piece of land in Clackamas county, most of them several times. And for this work he has not accepted one cent above his usual salary. He has also made maps of every road and school district and every voting precinct in the county. He has checked every item of work in and out of the office and knows every tract of property in the county.

In his interesting address at Wilsonville last night, Mr. Johnson said: "The greatest asset an assessor can have is the inclination and desire to be fair and equitable. He should never get the idea that he is the 'whole show.' In the course of time many knotty problems are thrust upon the assessor—problems which only one experienced in the work can hope to solve. The assessor must be fair and square and must always combine his best judgment with good common sense."

Mr. Johnson is conducting a clean campaign and is hopeful of election. He stands solely on his record of the past eight years and is right in believing that there is probably not another assessor or candidate in the state of Oregon whose qualifications will compare with his. He has been a very careful student of tax problems all his life and from the time he completed his education in the schools of eastern Oregon he has been engaged in assessment work. Mr. Johnson's ability cannot be questioned and his candidacy is to be a prime test of the consistency of the voters of the county. Voters have prayed, year in and year out, for capable officials, men capable of handling the work of the offices they seek. If Mr. Johnson is not elected it will look greatly as if the voters enjoy being fooled and that they no longer care how and for what service their money is spent. Mr. Johnson's service is offered Clackamas county at a bargain, considering the capability of the man.

Admitted to Probate

A petition to admit to probate the will of Mrs. Julia Ann Mumpower, who died a Stone on October 2, was filed in the county court by Lorenzo D. Mumpower, a son of Gladstone. The estate comprises 112 acres of land at Stone, originally the Horace Baker donation land claim, and valued at \$5000. The principal heir and husband of the deceased, Joseph L. Mumpower, is a patient at the state hospital at Salem.

Mr. Hughes has yet to define firm Americanism.

ROADS CONGRESS LIVE WIRE PLAN

IDEA IS TO COOPERATE WITH COUNTY COURT TO BRING GREATEST PROGRESS

HOLMAN SCORES PAVEMENT

Next Meeting Will be "Bee" for Political Discussion. County and City Problems Presented

A good roads congress is planned for the near future by the Live Wires of the Commercial club and a report presented at the meeting on Tuesday by a roads committee was adopted with this congress in view. It is the idea of the committee to hold a two-day program at which good roads will be the only topic and when a plan of co-operation with the county court and other development agencies can be outlined. The committee recommends that all district supervisors attend the congress. A detailed program will be prepared, and the meeting will probably be held soon after the general election.

The Tuesday meeting was addressed by Rufus C. Holman, Multnomah county commissioner and prominent in the good roads movement in Oregon. The hour was devoted to the discussion of roads topics and to arrangements for the next meeting, which is to take the form of a political "bee" and will be held next Wednesday evening at the club rooms. At this time the various measures before the voters will be discussed from all angles and civic organizations will be introduced. The organization will probably take some action with regard to the city park question.

Good roads sentiment among the members made another advance step at the meeting Tuesday, when Mr. Holman dealt with road building facts and theories in a very interesting talk. Mr. Holman laid special emphasis upon the failure of the plan of appointing county road supervisors and expecting from them construction of good roads. These men, said the speaker, are usually without training, and are almost invariably appointed either for political reasons or because of their affability, while their capabilities are entirely overlooked.

"The supervisor plan," Mr. Holman said, "is as preposterous as would be a plan to call these same men into your home to set a broken arm or cure a fever. They are, in a majority of cases, utterly without training in road work and the result of the system is that the roads we require are not being built. It takes as much training to build a road properly as it does to erect a building."

"There is one way to correct some of the shortcomings in the road programs of the county courts of Oregon. That is, to elect to office men who do not care a snap for re-election and will, therefore, bend every effort toward doing their work without fear or favor."

The speaker stated that not one per cent of the roads of any county in Oregon, unless it be Multnomah, would be hard surfaced within the next decade. He pointed out that his experience had shown drainage of highways to rank with hard surfacing in importance and said that earth roads were in many cases very serviceable where proper attention had been paid to drainage. He commended the program of the Clackamas county court, although he personally denounced the type of surface applied here. He said, however, that proof of the value of this type at the cost at which it has been laid, would be one of the greatest steps ever made in road development in Oregon.

Mr. Holman has found, he says, a hearty co-operative spirit in the matter of road development in the state and especially in connection with the construction of the West Side highway from Portland to Corvallis. He pledged the support of Multnomah county to any program outlined by the Clackamas county court or any other, and promised that any road built to the Multnomah county line from Clackamas county would find a highway of the very highest type to join it and run into Multnomah county and Portland. Mr. Holman suggested the importance of the county budget meeting and pointed to the importance of a general interest in the preparation of the budget.

BOY THIEVES FREED

Trio Gets Heavy Sentence if Boys Fail to Make Good

Sentenced to serve from two to five years in the penitentiary and pay the costs of action, Edgar Conboy, August Prury and Ray Pietzold, indicted and tried on a charge of burglary, were paroled Tuesday by Judge J. U. Campbell. The boys were found guilty of a series of thefts in the northern part of the county. The parole issued by the judge requires that the youths report in writing twice each month to Sheriff Wilson and that, if they lose employment, they are to report the condition immediately.

NOT GUILTY PLEA IS MADE FOR WILBUR

FRIAR'S CLUB MANAGER TO BE TRIED BY CAMPBELL ON NOVEMBER 9

Not guilty, was the plea entered before Judge J. U. Campbell on Monday by Julius Wilbur, indicted secretly by the grand jury last week on a charge of violating the prohibition laws. Louis Rosenfeld, waiter, and Tommy Nishioka, Japanese porter, indicted with Wilbur on the same charge, entered similar pleas through their attorney, ex-Senator Charles W. Fulton of Portland. Judge Campbell set the trial of Wilbur, on the indictment returned against him singly, for November 9 and on the following day Wilbur, Rosenfeld and Nishioka, indicted jointly, will be tried.

Wilbur is at liberty under \$2000 bonds, an increase of half over the bond that was exacted at first. Rosenfeld and Nishioka are out under \$1000 bail and Casey Jones, musician and Wilbur's chief roustabout, who is held as a witness, is free under \$500 bail. In each case the bail was provided by prominent Milwaukie and Portland men.

At the hearing on Monday a demurrer to the indictments was presented by Attorney Fulton, who held that the charge of selling intoxicants was not sufficient cause for action, because it did not name purchasers. The demurrer was overruled by Judge Campbell, who advised the ex-senator and defender of the notorious Wilbur to read the prohibition laws. The law, pointed out Judge Campbell, made it unnecessary to give the names of purchasers. District Attorney Hedges requested that the trials be set for the earliest possible date so that the cases might be promptly disposed of. In compliance with this request Judge Campbell named November 9 and 10.

Wilbur and his accomplices were arrested on Sunday morning, October 1, when Sheriff W. J. Wilson and a party of deputies surprised revelers at the infamous Friar's club at Milwaukie and confiscated 70 quarts of miscellaneous intoxicants. Thirty-five of the half-drunk merry-makers who were enjoying their money foolishly for tiny glasses of his well-known "ginger ale," were brought to Oregon City and their testimony taken. Much of this is of a certain incriminating character and an exceptionally strong case has been developed around Wilbur and his helpers by District Attorney Hedges and Sheriff Wilson.

EX-GOVERNOR HERE

Oswald West, former governor of Oregon, will address a public meeting of voters at Seventh and Main streets, Oregon City, on Monday evening. The former executive, an able orator and a thoroughly advised man, will discuss the political issues of the day. He speaks at 7:30 in the evening under the auspices of the Clackamas county democratic central committee.

YOUNG ROD-RIDER HELD

With Letter From Mother Boy Escapes From Training School

With fifteen cents in one pocket and a much thumbed letter from his mother in another, Lacey Oliver, a 15 year old lad, was arrested in the Southern Pacific yards here last night and slept in the city jail in place of on the brake beams of a south bound freight train as he had expected. The boy escaped from the Washington State Training school on Tuesday and boarded a freight train for Portland. He had just completed a walk from Portland to Oregon City when arrested by Night Officers Woodward and French.

The letter in the boy's pocket was from his mother, Mrs. J. K. Oliver of Ashland. In part it said: "May God guide you and keep you and bring you home to me in His own good time." "His own good time" was interpreted as the present by the boy and he was making all haste toward Ashland.

Several weeks ago the boy went from Ashland to Sunnyside, Wash., to visit an uncle, and from that place was committed to the training school. He was sent from the school to a dentist, but started on his long journey instead of seeing the dentist. Training school authorities have been notified.

LISTS BURNED GOODS

Mrs. Mary C. Wells, acquitted some time ago on a charge of arson in connection with the destruction by fire of her houses at Oswego, has filed an amended answer in her suit against the Firemen's Insurance company of New York, through which she seeks to recover insurance on her burned buildings. The new complaint is not different from the original, except in that it lists the contents of the house at the time of its destruction. The original complaint was filed on August 17.

HONESTY IS BIG PLANK FOR JACK

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE ROUSES MANY AT BIG DEMOCRATIC RALLY AT MOLALLA

ADVOCATES TAX LIMITATIONS

Candidate is Son of Pioneer Oregonians. Says Too Much Time is Spent on New Laws



J. E. JACK

Tax limitation, fewer laws, economy rightly placed with rigid honesty are the planks in the platform of promise upon which J. E. Jack, present county assessor, stands as a candidate for the state legislature from Clackamas county. Mr. Jack, as county assessor during the past eight years, has seen the thorough value of honesty in and out of office and during the years of his life he has practiced that honesty to the last letter. Mr. Jack makes honesty a strong point in his campaign arguments.

At the big democratic rally at Molalla on Saturday Mr. Jack was one of the principal speakers. He told a large audience there that the paramount qualification of any officer is honesty, and that a man who is not honest and whose character, therefore, is in disrepute, should be automatically disqualified to fill any office within the gift of the people. Mr. Jack earnestly requested his auditors to investigate the record of all candidates for office and to use their best endeavor to vote honest men into office, regardless of politics.

"I believe that in former years our legislature has had too many professional politicians, who work more for their personal interests than for the interests of the people. "As to tax limitation I am convinced that it is the right thing. We have laws limiting the taxation in cities, counties, road and school districts. They have been successful. Why cannot they be applied to the state with the same measure of success? I favor tax limitation legislation, not radical but legislation with a purpose for the good of the state, and I shall, if elected, work to accomplish such a purpose.

"If our state legislature devoted more time to the consideration of appropriations, through which the taxpayer's money is spent, and less time to the passing of new and usually very unnecessary laws, the people would be better served. I do not believe in the present plan of devoting 99 days to passing laws when we have so little need for additional laws and only one day to the consideration of appropriations and the expenditure of the people's money. If I am elected I propose to devote the major portion of my time to an attempt at the consideration of appropriations and only time enough to additional legislation as good and needed laws require.

"The state commissions are, in the majority of cases, well worth while. They serve a good purpose and are self-supporting. There are many commissions, however, and some of them are wasteful and some unnecessary. I think these should suffer investigation and I will go to the legislature, if elected, with such an undertaking in mind."

Mr. Jack, democratic candidate for representative, is without doubt as well qualified as any candidate the county could produce for that office. He is a native son of the county which he expects to represent in the next legislature. He is a son of one of the early pioneers of the state and county, his father having located on the Jeremiah Jack donation land claim near Marquam in 1847. For thirty years Mr. Jack remained on the farm and achieved notable success in that pursuit.

After leaving the farm Mr. Jack came to Oregon City and has lived here since that time. For four years he was chief deputy sheriff under J. J. Cooke and the following six years he was in the mercantile business. During that time he was one of the leading grocers of Oregon City. During the past eight years Mr. Jack has been continuously a public servant as county assessor and he bears the distinction of having occupied that office to the greatest satisfaction of the ma-

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DEMOCRATIC PARTY RALLIES ARE HELD

COUNTY CANDIDATES GREET LARGE AUDIENCES AT ALL MEETINGS.

The war horses of the democratic county campaign have put in some very busy days this week. J. E. Jack, candidate for legislative honors, C. W. Risley, who seeks the county commissionership, G. F. Johnson, the democratic choice for county assessor, and District Attorney Gilbert L. Hedges, candidate to succeed himself as district attorney, are the local politicians who are stirring things up around over the county.

Monday night the four spoke at Brown's school house at New Era. Tuesday evening, at Schuebel's hall at Beaver Creek, they addressed an interested audience. Wednesday evening they spoke at Wilsonville, and tonight they will speak at Macksburg. Friday night they appear at Barlow and Saturday evening at Clackamas, where a big program is planned.

There is a general awakening in the county to the fact that these four men are citizens of sterling qualities and that that they are to be reckoned with at the November election. On all sides a fine interest is being manifested, not only in the meeting, but in the men as well, and that "old stuff" about a strictly partisan vote is going to be badly upset next month, if the Courier is not mistaken. Next week, also, the candidates will be on the job, but their itinerary has not been made public as yet. One night only will be taken off and that will be when ex-Governor Oswald West and Senator George Chamberlain talk here in Oregon City.

The candidates are all splendidly qualified for the offices they seek. Ed Jack, who aspires for legislative honors, has been county assessor for eight years and his fairness and impartiality in conducting the office has made for him a most enviable reputation. He has served the people faithfully in the past, and this leads voters to believe he would not betray their trust in the legislature. Jack's record is without a blur.

Fred Johnson, candidate for assessor, will conduct an efficient administration. He has been in assessment work for the past fifteen years and has personally platted every piece of land in Clackamas county probably two or three times. His judgment is good and his long experience should give him an edge which the voters should not overlook.

C. W. Risley is a man who does things. He has done things all his life and today is one of Clackamas county's most prosperous and substantial citizens and a man who is respected on all sides. He promises a business administration and those who know Mr. Risley know his word is good as gold. If selected for the commissionership the taxpayers may expect the same shrewd, careful and business-like attention to county affairs that Mr. Risley has always given his own personal affairs.

Gilbert L. Hedges, who has "made good" with a vengeance, is turning his guns loose in a manner that is creating no end of comment about the county. His record of big achievements while in office has probably not been duplicated by another district attorney in the state. He has won damage cases against the county amounting to \$31,000, has won five important cases in the supreme court, secured 14 convictions out of 15 liquor cases tried, and has never drawn a faulty complaint or indictment in over 500 he has prepared since entering the office. His honesty and integrity are above reproach and there is a general knowledge among democrats and republicans alike that the legal affairs of Clackamas county, a \$30,000,000 corporation, will remain safeguarded if Mr. Hedges is kept in office. He has kept the prohibition fund intact, and a balance exists in the county's favor after all expenses, including the deputy's salary, have been paid. Hedges is tried and true and the voting public knows it.

DENOUNCE LOAN PROPOSAL

Pomona Grange Meeting Yesterday Largely Attended. Spence Speaks

A well attended meeting of the Pomona Grange of Clackamas county at Parkplace yesterday went on record at being strongly against the proposed and so-called people's land and loan measure which will be upon the ballot at the November election. Resolutions were passed condemning the bill after C. Schuebel, Oregon City attorney, had denounced it as vicious legislation. Another resolution passed urged the state government to open state time deposits so that farmers can get time for their lands at cost.

C. E. Spence, master of the state grange, spoke in favor of the rural credits bill upon which voters will ballot. The grange meeting was in session throughout the day and in addition to a very interesting program of speaking and music, delegates from most of the granges of the county enjoyed a luncheon at the noon hour.

Mr. Fairbanks' active entry into the campaign put an abrupt end to the hot weather.

BALLOT MEASURES ARE BIG PROBLEM

VOTER WHO HAS NOT STUDIED IS HANDICAPPED BY CONFUSION IN TITLES

BILLS CROWDED WITH JOKERS

Peoples' Land and Loan Law Denounced as Ultra-Radical and Worthless Proposal

It is not within the province of a newspaper to attempt a dictatorial attitude in connection with a voter's action at the polls. We were granted, thanks be, by a far sighted ancestry, that wonderful liberty of voice and pen that has made America THE nation of the world and all the printer's ink in the world and all Webster's words rightly combined could not in a thousand years deprive us of that right.

Yet the newspaper fills a peculiar field in each community when it is properly provided with honest minds and motives. There are newspapers that dictate—or attempt to—but their dictation is more laughable than serviceable and their motives are too often mean. The honest press is closely in touch with the feeling of its field. It is in a far better position than the individual to gather the sentiment of the voters in its community and it is only fair to the individual that, having gathered that sentiment, the newspaper should discuss with its readers its findings.

For that reason alone and without any idea of attempting to dictate or sway the personal feelings of its readers the Courier here presents, as concisely as possible, what it feels to be the very general sentiment toward the proposed amendments and measures upon which Clackamas county people are asked to vote at the election November 7.

Oregon has in the past few years taken entirely too much advantage of its liberal privileges. It has catered to cranks and special interests in ballot hall and legislature until it is in an unenviable position as an experiment station for the analization of all the freakish and foolish brain storms of every political dreamer and schemer who cares to hoodwink the public with catch phrases and nicely worded laws, whose purposes are so different from their promises.

Eastern capital frowns upon Oregon. This is a fact, though it sours our hopes to think of it, and eastern capital refuses to consider the purchase of Oregon securities, except bonds, because eastern capital, eastern business men, are afraid of Oregon legislation and voters, they have no confidence in the future because the past has seen so much radicalism enacted within the borders of the state. This is a condition that must be remedied by the exercise of the utmost care and precaution on the part of the voters. The voter is duty bound to correct the evils that already exist and to avoid contaminating the state constitution with further scheming dreams. November 7 is the day to start the house-cleaning in Oregon that will re-establish the confidence of the nation in this great state and its voters. November 7 is the day to kill the ridiculous ambitions of those who would pollute our constitution and statute books with their damnable rot and November 7 is the day to show these triflers that the voters of Oregon are done with the degrading efforts, repeated at every election for ten years, to defile the intelligence of the people of the state.

There are several measures upon the ballot that are supported but such an evenly divided sentiment that the Courier will not attempt to discuss them. They must be decided by the individual voter after a careful study of their meanings. We have our own opinions, but every voter has his own opinion and, withal, must exercise his franchise right as that opinion dictates.

Because it appears to be the most radically vicious legislative machination that has been attempted in the history of this state, the Courier is frank in flatly denouncing the so-called people's land and loan law, or the Full Rental Value Land Tax and Homesteaders' Loan Fund amendment. Even Socialism has denounced this foul measure. It is supported by single taxers and is out-and-out single tax. Read the proposal. It spells confiscation in large and glaring letters. It takes everything and gives nothing and, according to the most capable authorities, it spells ruin for the state of Oregon if it is passed and permitted to remain on the books. It is a giant "wood pile" crowded to the edges with "niggers." Indications are that it will be voted down by a heavy majority. It is fathered by W. S. U'ren, the crank whose dreams and schemes have caused so much trouble in this state in the past. Mr. U'ren is due for a heavy setback this fall at the hands of intelligent voters who have tired of his criminality. Vote 307—No.

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