OREGON'S SOLDIERS

Adjutant-General's Report to Governor Geer.

LARGER APPROPRIATION ASKED

Land and Naval Forces Should Have Annual Instruction—Oregon Has 1308 Men in National Guard and 124 in Naval Militia.

Brigadier-General C. U. Gantenbein, Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, makes the following recommendations in his report to Governor Geer:

First—Indorsement of legislation by Congress looking to uniformity of organization, armament, equipment, discipline and instruction of the guard throughtout the Union.

Second—More accurate enrollment of persons subject to military duty.

Third—Increase of annual company allowance from $300 to $500, and cavalry and batteries from $300 to $700.

Fourth—Reasonable allowance to officers to assist them in uniforming and equipping themselves.

Fifth—Increase the annual appropriation so as to permit a camp of instruction or practice march for all the land forces and a cruise of the Naval Batallion once a year.

Sixth—Print 500 copies of the muster-in and muster-out rolls of the Second Oregon.

Seventh—Simplify the procedure of military courts.

Eighth—Define more clearly the rights and duties of civil and military officers in the event of a call for troops.

Ninth—Pass the proposed new military law.

Following is a full text of the recommendations:

"I would earnestly solicit the support of the Oregon delegagtion in Congress, the Oregogn press and the people of the state generally in behalf of the efforts of the Interstate National Guard Association to secure legislation from Congress that will result in uniformity of organization, armament, equipment, discipline and instruction of the guard throughout the Union, and that will make it National in fact, and not in name only. A meeting of the association will be held in Washington, February 4, 1901, at which a bill will be prepared and introduced with this object in view. A bill of this character deserves the support of every citizen who has the welfare of his country at heart and believes that war is possible at any time. The National Guard must be made an effective reserve to the regular Army, and not merely a state police force. Uniformity in essentials in the various state organizations is absolutely necessary to this end. The status of the Guard should be clearly defined in the event of a call for troops, both as a matter of justice to the individual members composing it and to the Federal Government.

Military Enumeration.

"There has been considerable criticism from time to time of the method and expense of preparing the military list for this state. I have written to the various county Assessors for a statement of the expenses incurred in their respective counties in preparing this list, and for such suggestions as they might make with a view to amending the present law. The total cost of preparing this list appears to be about $4000 a year. This sum could be saved the state by adopting the law recently enacted in Wisconsin, and providing that when the census is taken in the year 1905, and every 10 years thereafter, the seven officers required by law to enumerate the inhabitants shall also carefully enroll all able-bodied male citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 years, specifying their names, residence, age and occupation, who shall reside in the territory in which they make such enumeration. Authority should also be given the Governor of the state, whenever he deems it necessary, to order an enrollment of all persons liable to military duty, and provision should be made for claiming exemption on the part of persons entitled thereto. The object of this military enumeration is to provide a list of persons available for military draft. The adoption of the Wisconsin law would secure a more accurate enrollment, and would save $4000 a year, which could be used to far better advantage in promoting the efficiency of the National Guard.

"There is now paid to each company, troop, battery and naval division annually the sum of $300 for necessary current expenses, including rent of armory. This is entirely inadequate, and these organizations are frequently obliged to resort to renting their quarters for other than military purposes, giving entertainments, collecting dues and levying assessments upon their members. A very large proportion of company dissensions result from the means necessarily resorted to in order to raise funds to meet the expenses of rent and maintenance. This annual allowance should be increased from $300 to $500 for companies and naval divisions, and from $300 to $700 for each of the two troops of cavalry and the light battery. A comparison with the practice of other states will show that this suggested increase is a very reasonable allowance.

"Every noncommissioned officer and private, under the existing military code, is furnished his uniform and equipment at the expense of the state, while every commissioned officer is required to provide himself with a suitable uniform, arms and equipment. This entails an expense of $75 to $125, often works a hardship on officers, and frequently prevents the most competent enlisted men from accepting promotion, as they feel they cannot afford equipping themselves in addition to other expenses incident to holding a commission. This is recognized in states having the most efficient National Guard organizations, and officers are reimbursed for this necessary outlay. I therefore recommend a reasonable allowance to officers to assist them in uniforming and equipping themselves, provided they shall have served as such a calendar year, and that they shall furnish a certificate of an Inspector showing that they are uniformed, armed and equipped as required by law.

Annual Instruction.

"The martial spirit of our people is unquestionable. The time, energy and money devoted to the National Guard by its members clearly prove it. But zeal, courage and physical strength do not of themselves make a soldier fit for active service, not even when supplemented by drill in the manual of arms and cramped movements in an armory. He must know how to take care of himself in camp and on the march, what to do, and what not to do, in order to keep out of the hospital. He must understand his weapon, and must learn its use and care, as well as that of all his other belongings. The importance of practical experience in camp, field or cruise duty cannot be overestimated. This duty should be annual, and should continue for a period of at least 10 days. Though the most expensive feature of the maintenance of the National Guard, the result justifies the outlay. The annual appropriation should, therefore, be sufficiently increased to permit a camp of instruction or practice march for all the land forces and a cruise for the Naval Battalion once a year.

"The records of the Indian War Veterans are incomplete and it is often impossible to furnish information requested. I am informed that many of these missing records were abstracted by pension agents a number of years ago, and cannot be replaced. The records of the Oregon Volunteers during the Spanish-American War are now complete, and are on file in the Adjutant-General's office. Frequent reference is made to them, and they are becoming considerably worn. For the purpose of preventing their destruction or removal, I recommend that the Legislative Assembly, at its coming session, authorize the Adjutant-General, at the expense of the state, to cause 500 copies of the muster-in and muster-out rolls of these volunteers to be printed by the State Printer, bound in proper form, and distributed in such manner as your Excellency may direct.

Simplify Military Courts.

"Discipline is the soul of a military organization; it is indispensable to its existence. The means of enforcing an unhesitating obedience to orders, and a prompt and proper performance of military duty, should be plain, speedy and effective. Our present system and procedure of military courts are complex and expensive, and are capable of material improvement. After a careful comparison of the codes of 10 of the most important states, I recommend the adoption of the chapter on military courts in the New York code, recently enacted, so far as it may be applicable to the conditions of this state. The rank and file of the National Guard are men of military instinct, and want to see discipline enforced and the standing and efficiency of the organization raised. The more the Guard approaches the 'real thing' the more popular it will become, and the easier it will be to secure a desirable class of recruits.

"The statute of 1884, for the suppression of riots (Hill's Code of Oregon, section 1648), is still in force so far as it has not been repealed by the militia law of 1895. There is some doubt as to the respective rights and duties of the civil and military officers in the event of a call for troops in aid of the civil authorities. These rights and duties should be clearly defined. The civil authorities should be empowered to designate in general terms the particular object to be accomplished. The mode and means of execution should be left to the discretion of the commanding officer of the troops present.

New Military Bill.

"The above, with other recommendations, will probably be embodied in a bill to be introduced at the coming session of the Legislature. At its quarterly meeting, April 9, 1900, the military board, deeming a revision of our military code necessary, and following the example of other states, caused a board, composed of Brigadier-General C. U. Gantenbein, Colonel James Jackson, Inspector-General, and Major R. G. Jubitz, Third Regiment, to be appointed for this purpose, to report the result of its proceedings, December 1, 1900. At a meeting held July 11, 1900, at Camp Geer, Colonel S. C. Spencer, Judge-Advocate-General, and Colonel A. B. Gillis, Surgeon-General, were added to this board. Copies of the military codes of the states maintaining the most efficient Guards were procured and carefully examined. The bill recommended by these officers is now ready for submission to the Military Board for its examination and approval. It is the result of the thorough, painstaking and conscientious efforts of five officers representing different departments, and will, without doubt, greatly promote the efficiency of the militia. If approved by the Military Board, I earnestly recommend its passage without materi[illegible] amendment."

Subject - Military Duty.

The number of men subject to military duty in Oregon for the year 1899 was 51,332, apportioned among the counties as follows:

Baker	1,001	Linn	1,932
Benton	800	Lincoln	344
Clackamas	1,859	Malheur	586
Clatsop	1,722	Marion	3,481
Columbia	1,063	Morrow	599
Coos	1,515	Multnomah	15,760
Crook	387	Polk	1,722
Curry	229	Sherman	565
Douglas	2,191	Tillamook	589
Gilliam	661	Umatilla	996
Grant	782	Union	1,515
Harney	475	Wallowa	728
Jackson	745	Wasco	1,731
Josephine	929	Washington	786
Klamath	452	Wheeler	378
Lake	433	Yamhill	1,564
Lane	2,841		
Total			51,332

The total strength of the Oregon National Guard is 1308 men and officers, and of the Naval Militia 124.

Spanish-American War Medals.

The medals presented by the State of Oregon, at the suggestion of Governor Geer, to the officers and men of the Second Oregon, United States Volunteer Infantry; Light Batteries A and B, United States Volunteers, and Company M, Second Regiment, United States Volunteer Engineers, were delivered to General Gantenbein for distribution July 16, 1900. They were made of bronze taken from a Spanish cannon captured at Manila and presented to the state by the United States Government. Substantial, of convenient size, and artistically designed, with the name, rank and organization of the owner neatly engraved, they are highly prized by the volunteers as invaluable reminders of the state's appreciation of their patriotic services. In all, 1672 were issued; of this number General Gantenbein has distributed to the owners 643 in person and 606 by mail, 423 not having as yet been claimed. Applications are received daily, however, and before many months the medals will all be distributed. The greatest care has been taken to insure their delivery to the persons properly entitled to receive them.

Oregon Men in the Army.

In addition to a large number of enlisted men from Oregon who are serving in the Regular Army and the United States Volunteers, the following commissioned officers, formerly members of the Second Oregon, are now in the United States service:

Herbert W. Cardwell, Major and Chief Surgeon United States Volunteers, since May 20, 1898.

James F. Case, Major Fourth Infantry, since August 17, 1898.

Austin F. Prescott, Captain Thirty-fifth Infantry, since July 5, 1899.

Eugene P. Crowne, Captain Thirty-fifth Infantry, since July 5, 1899.

Albert J. Brazee, Captain Thirty-fifth Infantry, since July 5, 1899.

Elmer O. Worrick, Captain Forty-fifth Infantry, since August 17, 1899.

Percy Willis, Captain Forty-fifth Infantry, since August 17, 1899.

George W. Povey, Captain and Assistant Quartermaster United States Volunteer Infantry, since August 28, 1899.

William H. Jordon, Jr., First Lieutenant Eighteenth Infantry, since March 2, 1899.

Rhees Jackson, Second Lieutenant Twelfth Infantry, since August 1, 1899.

Settlement of Oregon Claims.

The prospect of an early adjustment of claims against the Government growing out of the Spanish war appearing to be somewhat remote, General Gantenbein was directed by Governor Geer to proceed to Washington to explain and follow up the Oregon claim. This was not among his prescribed duties, but it was cheerfully performed without extra compensation. Most of the states have employed special agents or attorneys, some have had a number of clerks aiding the Auditor's Department in Washington. The Quartermaster-General was finally convinced that his appraisement was entirely too low, and he concluded to approve the basis of settlement suggested by Governor Geer.

Successful Encampment.

For the first time in the history of the Oregon National Guard it was practicable in July, 1900, to assemble all the land and naval forces, except separate Company A, of Marshfield, for instruction in field and cruise duty. "The results," says General Gantenbein, "were eminently satisfactory. The unusual attendance, the neatness and sanitary condition of the grounds, the military experience and excellent discipline of the men of all organizations indicate a renewed interest in the service deserving of the highest praise, especially in view of the very recent reorganization following the unsettled conditions consequent upon the outbreak of the Spanish-American War." The encampment cost $23,726 41, of which $14,218 was the pay of the guardsmen.

Preserving Flags.

A suitable oak case has been ordered for the safe preservation and proper display of the colors of the Second Oregon Volunteers and of the First, Second and Third Regiments, formerly constituting the National Guard. "These flags," says General Gantenbein, "have a sacred history, and as emblems of heroism and devotion to duty should be displayed in a conspicuous place, where they could be viewed by every visitor to the Capitol."

Guard in Good Condition.

Colonel James Jackson, Inspector-General, makes the following report:

"The National Guard of the state, though but recently reorganized, is in better condition and more fully equipped for active service than it has ever been before. Its soldierly spirit, instruction and discipline is better and the equipment more complete. There is still much to learn in the way of attention to the details of drill, the education of noncommissioned officers in the handling of squads, familiarizing officers and men with the whistle and sword signals, open order and battle formation, target practice, and in the care and accounting for state and Government property. Before another encampment the troops should be so well instructed in company drill that the whole time may be devoted to field maneuvers. Target practice is absolutely essential to a soldiers' effectiveness, and should be provided for and encouraged at the stations of the different companies. The imminence of war at any time demands that the instruction most necessary in the field be constantly imparted, and that discipline, without which no organization of troops can be efficient, be rigidly enforced.

WHERE MINING IS PLEASANT

Senator Cameron Tells of the Simmons Placers in Josephine.

State Senator Cameron, of Jackson County, who is largely interested in Southern Oregon placer mines, is spending the legislative recess at the Imperial. He is part owner in the well-known Simmons placers near Waldo, which he says have been mining under a good head of water since early Fall. The recent snow storms on the Siskiyous will help the placer miners of that region very materially, the Senator thinks, as they have stored the moisture about the summits and thus insured a good long supply. He looks for an unusually prosperous year, although the fore part of the mining season was drier than many of the creek miners desired.

Senator Cameron has operated the Simmons placers for 15 years, although during the first three very little gold was taken out, as the gold-bearing gravel lay too low for rapid drainage, and a dump had to be provided. A huge ditch, one mile long, and 90 feet deep, had to be dug before the hydraulic pipes could be operated successfully on the benches and hillsides above. Water was taken out of the Illinois River and the force of this was brought to bear on the great banks of earth to be moved. Much good soil and many fine trees were washed off into Rogue River below, but as Mr. Cameron was not in the farming or timber business, soil and trees possessed no value to him.

Two giants have been operated night and day for eight months of each year since the tail race was constructed and no one but the owners of the big placer mine know how much gold has been taken out. The yellow metal appears in the allavial banks and about the roots of the trees, as well as in the bedrock, and occur in fine shot-like particles, which renders its saving in the riffles or in the pan, very easy.

Senator Cameron said last evening that mining is a good deal like farming or any other business, as some years a mine may not pay more than expenses, while in others enough money may be made to carry the owners over four or five years. They have over 1200 acres patented on the Simmons placers, and there is pay dirt in sight for the next 25 years. The mine is situated in Josephine County, some four miles from the California line, and adjacent to the fertile Illinois Valley, where all products of the temperate zone grow to the greatest perfection. Mining in that region is not like operating in Dawson, as all sorts of fruits and vegetables, as well as fresh meats and the products of the dairy, can be obtained with very little cost. The climate is so mild that even in the Winter time overcoats are seldom worn.

The Oregonian Is Not Informed.

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 18.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to the report of the ovation to Senator Quay, I was maintaining that he was a great corruptionist in politics and stood for the Pennsylvania Railroad and was regularly indicted; but a friend says this is the malice of hostile newspapers. Will you please give the true facts of his political history? Not opinions, but facts. Is it true he wrote a broker to get on to certain stocks and he would shake the plum tree? B.

When Lights Do Not Burn.

PORTLAND, Jan. 18.—(To the Editor.)—Please settle a dispute. A says the electric light company gets paid for city lights when they don't burn. B says it does not get paid for that night. If not, how much is deducted from its contract. T. P.

When the city lights do not burn the company makes a reduction, as is specified in its contract with the city.

STOOD THE CROSS-FIRE

THOMAS CONNELL'S DIRECT TESTIMONY NOT SHAKEN.

Reason Why Clark Was Not Prosecuted Was That Evidence Was Insufficient to Convict.

Thomas Connell, the defendant in the action of the Hartford Insurance Company to recover $2300 insurance, went through three and one-half hours of cross-fire in Judge George's department of the State Circuit Court yesterday without varying an iota from his direct testimony of Thursday. The insurance company's lawyers alleged that Connell did not tell the same story in the civil action that he did when he was on trial for arson at Stevenson, Wash., last November, and sought to prove their case on several disputed points by calling Robert F. Bell, who reported the proceedings in the Washington court. Connell admitted that he had these notes. Judge George held that as Mr. Bell was in Mr. Connell's service and was not the official court reporter, the stenographic notes were private property.

TOM CONNELL.

Attorney Bowles, for the plaintiff, questioned Connell closely in the morning about his business relations with F. B. Clark and Huff in the management of the Rock Creek saw mill. Connell admitted that there was a fire in the saw mill May 26, five weeks before the fire which destroyed the mill. Connell heard about it and questioned Clark, the lessee of the property, who told him that it had been caused by a cigarette.

"Did not Gofer tell you," asked Mr. Bowles, "that there had been a fire, that when it had been put out Clark saw fire in the sawdust and told the boys to go to bed, as it was none of their business?"

"No," said Connell.

"Did not Clark tell you that he suspected Stevens, and was not Stevens discharged?"

"No. He told me that Stevens was continually prowling around the mill and smoking cigarettes. For this reason I paid Stevens off and let him go."

"Did you not tell Stevens that if he would help Clark do the mill up you would give him a ticket to Nome?"

"No."

"Did you have a talk with Clark May 25 or 26 about setting a fire in a slab or edging pile?"

"No."

"Did you not point out a dry place where a fire could be started?"

"No. My aim was to prevent fires."

The affairs of the mill in the latter part of May and the early part of June were gone over again without bringing any new facts to light. Connell adhered to his previous statement that the letters he wrote were designed to make Clark work the mill. On one occasion he wrote to Clark telling him that the must do better or get out. Then Clark's arrest at Stevenson for petty larceny was taken up.

"When Clark disappeared," asked Mr. Bowles, "did you not ask Attorney La Force what had become of him?"

Connell answered in the affirmative and said that he wished to ask Clark about a claim of $106 50 which a man named Peters had put in for supplies.

"Did you not know by this time that Clark was a scoundrel?"

"Well," said Connell, smiling, "I had begun to find out that he was."

"Did you not know that Clark had stolen your lumber and chains, and that he had ordered the goods from Peters?"

"Yes."

"And yet you wanted to see him and rely on his statement in your settlement with Peters?"

Connell answered that his purpose was not to rely upon Clark's statement, but to find out what had become of the supplies ordered from Peters.

"When you were at the mill, were you not informed by the workmen that they were watching the plant to prevent its being fired before they got their money?"

"Yes; but that was after the receiver had been appointed."

The examination then reverted to Connell's meeting with Clark in Portland after the fire.

"When did Attorney La Force appear on the scene?"

"About half an hour after Clark saw me."

"Did you ask La Force if the men (Clark and Hurth) would stay bought if you should buy them?"

"La Force started in to give me advice, and in an off-hand way I asked him that question. La Force said I could trust him for that. I replied that I had never spent a cent for blackmail and that my hair was getting too gray to begin now."

"Did you say you would pay a few dollars?"

"No, sir."

"You heard what La Force said on the subject?"

"Yes. La Force is as big a liar as ever stood on two feet."

"According to your way of putting it, everybody who has testified for the plaintiff in this case is either mistaken or lying."

"La Force is not mistaken. He is lying."

Counsel for the plaintiff laid great stress on the fact that Connell did not prosecute Clark, although he had abundant evidence to convict him of grand larceny in Washington, and for bringing stolen property into Oregon. Connell said he was anxious to send Clark to the penitentiary, but he wished to prosecute on the charge of arson, and did not have evidence that would insure conviction. He admitted that he did not lay the matter before Prosecuting Attorney Bowles, of Vancouver, until after Clark had seen Bowles about prosecuting him. Another reason advanced by Connell was that he did not consider it possible to get justice in Skamania County.

"When Mr. Zenor telephoned you that the mill had been burned, did he not say that he suspected Clark?"

"He might have made such a statement, but I do not remember it."

"When did you first suspect Clark?"

"As soon as I was informed that the mill had been burned."

W. L. Chalmers, the insurance adjuster, was recalled by the plaintiff to impeach Connell's testimony as to the whereabouts of Clark after the fire. Chalmers said that previous to July 11 neither Connell nor Zenor told him that Clark had been seen in Portland, but that Connell had said that Clark had gone to British Columbia. Connell had previously testified that he told Chalmers that he met Clark in Portland July 5 or 6.

C. D. Bowles testified that he crossed the Columbia from Stevenson, Wash., to Cascades, Or., with W. T. Zenor, the morning after the fire. Asked the origin of the fire, Zenor said the mill had been burned for the insurance.

The opening arguments of counsel were made yesterday afternoon. The case will go to the jury this afternoon.

Second Verdict for $5000.

For a second time a verdict for $5000 damages has been returned by a jury in the suit of William Everett Boyd by R. B. Boyd, his father, as guardian, against the Portland General Electric Company. The first verdict for $5000 in favor of Boyd was cut down to $2500, and the Supreme Court recently reversed the case and sent it back for a new trial. William Everett Boyd is a small boy about 12 years of age, and he was severely injured about the head, and his hand badly burned, by his coming in contact with a dangling electric light wire on December 7, 1897, at Woodlawn. The wire came down the night previous in the midst of a violent wind and rain storm. The company contended that there was no negligence upon its part; that it could not help the accident, and put the wire up immediately upon ascertaining that it was down. The defense was further made that the boy ought to have foreseen his danger and guarded against it. The trial of the case was begun before Judge Frazer on Tuesday morning, and the jury retired for deliberation yesterday afternoon shortly after 2 o'clock, and was out about four hours. Dufur & Menefee, of The Dalles, were counsel for the plaintiff.

On Trial for Larceny.

G. Schwartzrock, a former bartender in the Rheinpfalz Hotel saloon, was placed on trial in Judge Frazer's department yesterday afternoon on a charge of larceny by bailee of $180, the property of A. E. Bettles, a mining man from Baker City. Deputy District Attorney John Manning, and Charles J. Schnabel, counsel for the defendant, completed the selection of the jury at 4 o'clock, and the testimony for the state is about all in. Bettles testified that on November 15 he gave the money to the defendant for safe keeping, having drawn it out of the First National Bank in the city. John Matthiesen, the proprietor of the hotel, testified that he paid the defendant $20 per month and board, and that he had drawn his salary at intervals of about every 10 days. The object of this evidence was to show the impecunuosity of Schwartzrock, and was admitted contrary to the objection of defendant's attorney. Schwartzrock was arrested at San Francisco and returned here. One hundred and eighteen dollars was foud upon his person when he was taken into custody.

Court Notes.

J. A. Steiger, charged with forging an indorsement to a check for $79 and cashing the same, pleaded not guilty in the criminal court yesterday.

A second part of the suit of C. J. Reed and D. P. Thompson, as executors of the will of John Green, deceased, against B. G. Whitehouse, is on trial before Judge Cleland, and will probably last for several days.

The will of Sophia Morely was admitted to probate yesterday. One-third of the estate is devised to Sarah A. Mulligan, a niece, and the remaining two-thirds to Walter Morely, a son. He is named as executor without bonds.

H. S. Rowe yesterday filed his final report as administrator of the estate of H. M. Chase, deceased. The receipts were $12,277, and there is $3133 balance on hand, and real estate appraised at $4100. Of the disbursements, $9000 was paid to Randall Chase.

Johanna Rummelin, executrix of the estate of her husband, G. P. Rummelin, deceased, yesterday filed her final report, showing the payment of legacies of $1000 each to Philip Rummelin and Theresa Rummelin Lange. The widow is the devisee of the remainder of the estate.

Edward Cookingham, receiver of the Chamber of Commerce building, yesterday filed a report for the month of December in the Circuit Court, showing cash on hand December 1, $20,607 06; rents collected, $3962 25; wages paid to employes, $655; sundry bills, $817 32; cash on hand, $22,436 74.

Judge George yesterday refused to issue certificates of probable cause in the cases of George Dixon and James L. Warren, or to stay the order of the commitment of the defendants to the penitentiary. The cases will be appealed to the Supreme Court to have the question of the right to the issuance of certificates of probable cause decided and the attorneys for the defendants think it best to have the record appear in this manner. The men will, however, not be committed to the penitentiary now, but will remain here in jail, the matter being allowed to rest in statu quo until the Supreme Court determines the appeal as to the certificates.

Captain J. A. Sladen, Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, as special United States Commissioner, was yesterday engaged in taking testimony in some matter connected with the Tyler mine, in the Coeur d'Alene district, formerly owned by Portland people, but sold some years ago to the Last Chance Mining Company. The witnesses examined by W. B. Hepburn, of Spokane, and J. R. McBride, as counsel for the parties interested, were: Donald Mackay, J. C. Moreland and Seth L. Pope. From the drift of the questions asked the witnesses, it appears that the object of the testimony taken is to show whether a certain mortgage which was on record against the Tyler mine was a bona fide mortgage, or something of that sort.

The hearing of the contest of the will of John W. Holman, deceased, by the second wife, Mrs. Lousetta Holman, is still in progress before Judge Cake in the County Court. Mrs. Holman avers that she and her two children did not receive a fair share of the estate, and that the most of it was granted by bill of sale and the will to the children of the first wife and others. She contends that her husband on account of sickness, was much changed, and that undue influence was exercised over his mind. This is denied by the defendants. A great many witness, friends of the deceased and his family, have testified, also numerous relatives, and some difference of opinion has been expressed as to what the condition of Mr. Holman was shortly before his death. Edward Holman, his brother, thought he was not entirely the same, and Thomas A. Jordan said he did not observe any particular difference in his actions. There has been some family discord, which was brought into the case. W. A. Cleland and C. E. S. Wood are the attorneys for the contestant, and Charles H. Carey for the other heirs.

For a Cold in the Head,
Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets.

If you have never used Carter's Little Liver Pills, go at once to the nearest drug store and get a vial. They will surely please you. Don't forget this.

GOOD CITY GOVERNMENT

"CITIZENS ARE RESPONSIBLE," SAYS MR. TEAL.

In a Social Science Lecture He Advocates Municipal Home Rule and Independent Politics.

A cultured, thoughtful audience assembled in the chapel of the Unitarian Church last night, to listen to a lecture by J. N. Teal on "Self-Government in Municipal Affairs." The lecture opened this season's social science course, and is a good augury of the intellectual good things that are to follow.

Dr. T. L. Eliot spoke a few words of welcome in introducing the lecturer, and referred to the good educative results that had followed the lectures of other Winters, in inspiring the young people to think and read for themselves. He was sure that Mr. Teal's lecture would interest them more in problems affecting civic government.

The central idea of Mr. Teal's address was the personal responsibility of the individual for the success or failure of the city government. In opening he detailed the experience of ancient cities in self-government, and then took up the problem in American cities. He vigorously advocated municipal home rule, and the separation of municipal politics from National and state issues. In part, he said:

"Generally speaking, American cities are public corporations, full or quasi, and are created by the Legislature and usually endowed with power to decide and control local matters. In a way, they are small, independent republics. It is out of this power and constant meddling of the Legislature, which grows the great question of real self-government in local affairs. Broadly speaking, the theory on which city government is based is that in local affairs the citizens of the respective cities shall control, subject only to the constitution and general laws of the state.

"It is my belief that good government in cities is not possible except under these conditions:

"First—Absolute independence of Legislative control in so far as that control touches local matters only;

"Second—A complete severance of city politics from those of the Nation and state.

"The unit of the Nation or city is the individual, and unless each individual feels a direct and personal responsibility in all governmental affairs, he is not a good citizen. Here as elsewhere in life this responsibility develops manhood, and a failure to feel or use it operates detrimentally. The usual point of departure from the principle of local self-government is generally found at the creation of the city. The breath of life is breathed into its nostrils by men unfamiliar with its wants or out of sympathy with its aspirations, the majority of whom are nonresidents. Its organic act is more often than not made the football of political factions, and its provisions framed for some possible advantage in state or National elections, instead of the city's local needs. This result necessarily follows when the Legislature is the power not only to grant the right to have a charter, but to formulate it and prescribe its terms as well. It is the necessary and natural result of such a system, and the only wonder is that people have borne with such an anachronism so long as they have.

"What greater travesty of charter-making can be found than our own experiences show? I think I am safe in saying that experience has demonstrated that the best results follow centralization of power, and making the man endowed with this power responsible for results. Can any one tell me what principle is behind the last charter? It pretends to place the responsibility in the Mayor, it pretends to put him in a position where he can enforce and carry out some policy, and yet he is practically powerless. He can appoint Police and Fire Commissioners, who have sole, exclusive charge of those two departments, but he cannot remove them. He can appoint members of the Board of Public Works, but he cannot remove them. If he makes a mistake in his appointments, he is powerless. The Chief of Police is made a perpetual member of the Commission, which is supposed to control him, and he passes in judgment and reviews his own acts. The city government is cut up into many independent commissions, some self-perpetuating and non-removable, responsible to no one, and maybe out of harmony with all, with no hope of a change, until another Legislature, in which case the needs and desires of a great city are made subordinate to the desires and wishes of some self-seeking politician. This is the latest and best fruit of the tree of charter-making in our orchard, so full of Dead Sea fruits.

"The history of the charter-making of our city for the past 15 or 20 years has been enough to make every believer in good government weary and sick at heart.

"As faction has succeeded faction, each in turn has used its legislative powers in some way through the city charter to make its power secure and its hold on the offices firmer. Portland, its civic life and development, has been bandied back and forth like a shuttlecock, the favored few only knowing what the charter was to be until the Legislature adjourns. This manner of dealing with the city has almost demoralized our people. It is based on the idea and lack of principle that the people who have made the city do not know what they want, or are not wise or virtuous enough to legislate for themselves. We have 90 members in the Legislature. A few come from Portland. Generally, they are named by a few men. The session lasts 40 days. There is neither time nor inclination to discuss city affairs. About 75 of the members neither know nor care anything about it, except in so far as threatened votes for or against the proposed charter may influence the votes of our own members. In the meantime a charter has been prepared by some individual who has more in mind his continuance in power than the good of the city. It is presented to the Legislature, given no consideration and passed, and a city of 100,000 people meekly submit to laws, duties and obligations of which they had as little knowledge, and over the passage of which as little control, as a Fiji Islander—and this is local self-government as we understand it here in Oregon at the opening of the twentieth century!

"The rights and powers of the city are curtailed, favorites rewarded, commissions and offices created, its natural aspirations and desires thwarted, even its very life threatened, and the city powerless. The only remedy, an election two years distant and—another Legislature. You ask, Is there a cure for this first and greatest evil? There is, and a simple one, and if our legislators had been as anxious for the city's welfare as they were for their political preferment, this evil would have long since been done away with. A constitutional amendment should be submitted to the people recognizing local self-government, prohibiting special legislation, granting to municipalities the right to formulate their own charters, and providing for their going into effect when ratified by the voters.

"What is wanted, what must be had if we are ever to have good government, is personal responsibility from the ground up—personal responsibility on the voter and on the official. Without it good government is hopeless. More and more instead of the 'good citizens' taking an interest in their city affairs when they should, has the habit grown to appeal to the legislature for relief until now it is a positive disease, and the system so fixed in the body politic that an appeal has become a necessity. The city should be allowed to shape its own destiny, carve out its own future. Its people should formulate and adopt its own laws suited to their desires and its conditions without the aid or consent of any other people than its own. They know its needs, opportunities, desires, and capabilities. They suffer for the mistakes. They pay the taxes. Mistakes may and will be made, but the mistakes will be corrected rectedand in the end will in themselves lead to better things. If is certain if we take no responsibility we will retrograde; if we learn to lean on others instead of ourselves dry rot and corruption will follow and when the time comes to defend our rights and liberties we will find by non-use we have practically lost the power to correct the evils of which we complain.

"It would hardly seem to need any argument to show that our city elections should be on a different date from either state or National. The questions to be passed upon are fundamentally different. Our city affairs are like those of our family, and as housekeeping on a large scale. We are constantly in touch with them. The state government is quite distinct. Washington is to all intents and purposes as far away as London. Directly as respects ourselves a good Mayor, a clean and efficient Council is vastly more important to us personally than the election of a President. Why should the tariff question, the money question, or any other question be predominant at a city election? What is wanted is clean, efficient men to fill our offices and pass on our local needs. We want wise economy practiced in city affairs. We want good streets, good water, cleanliness and healthfulness. In a word we want our local interests subserved.

"The words of Demosthenes have a fitting application:

"'If you get rid, all of you, of the spirit of evasion; if each man will show himself ready to act whenever duty calls him, and he can possibly render service to the state; if you are willing to depend on no one but yourselves, and will give up, each of you, hoping that he can remain idle while his neighbor does everything for him, then I say, you will come to your own.'"

Three Juries Busy.

Since Tuesday three juries have been engaged in the trial of cases in the State Circuit Court, constituting 36 men. The regular panel of jurors was for 42 men. On the opening day of court quite a number of jurors were excused, and a special venire to fill the panel was issued, resulting in the following additional jurors being obtained: B. L. Stone, C. Schulenberg, Joseph Marock, M. Rickert, A. H. Bell, Isaac Hill, Fred Benfield, C. P. Peniston, J. Alex De France, H. S. Stone, Jacob Johnson, L. Wilhelm, Aloys Harold.

The following jurors were yesterday excused by Judge Sears for the term, for various reasons: Peter Paulsen, Henry Roth, E. R. Bow, John M. Cress, Thomas N. Dunbar, W. W. Bretherton and James Gebbie.

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