

SEEK AN EXPERT

Bridge Investigators Need Assistance.

OFFICIAL INQUIRY BEGUN

Grand Jury Also Takes Up Tanner-Creek Scandal.

WITNESS THOMAS IS MISSING

Mass of Testimony Concerning Sewer Contract is Taken—Contractor Riner Holds Conference With City Engineer and Mayor.

HELP WANTED—MALE.

WANTED—EXPERT ON STEEL BRIDGES. Must know all about Cooper's specifications. Sixty strands of City Engineer's department need apply. Apply bridge investigation committee of Council, City Hall.

NEW TODAY.

FOR A LIMITED TIME THE GRAND JURY will continue its investigation of the Tanner-Creek sewer case, begun yesterday.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—ONE WALTER THOMAS, WANTED as witness in sewer case. Height, 5 feet, weight, 135 pounds, red hair, blue eyes; minor by occupation. Apply Grand Jury Courtroom. Reward.

A start on the investigation of the bridges was made at 6 o'clock yesterday when the special investigation committee of the Council held its first session. It was an informal meeting and the fact quickly developed that little could be done until the services of some man who knew all about steel bridges could be obtained.

C. E. Rumelin, the chairman, knows all worth knowing about lending money. Dr. Whiting can show out an appendix as well as the best of 'em, and Matt Foeller is an authority on modern cigars. But steel bridges?

From the City Auditor's office came a copy of the specifications for the Balch's Gulch bridge, the contract for which was let to J. C. B. Lockwood on March 4, his bid being \$23,284. Owing to the constant rush of business in the Auditor's office, the desired information about the other structures in question has not yet been compiled. All such bridges are built according to regulation specifications prepared by one Cooper, who is a recognized authority on the subject. So an interpreter of Cooper's specifications is badly needed by the committee.

The committee authorized Chairman Rumelin to employ such a man. A number of experienced bridgemen had been suggested to the committee, but almost invariably they admitted that they were better acquainted with wooden bridges than with steel structures. But the cost of securing the right man is to be no hindrance. If he can't be found in Portland he will be imported from the East.

Grand Jury Takes Up Sewer Case.

Yesterday the grand jury began on the Tanner-Creek sewer case. All the proceedings are shrouded with the mystery becoming those of a grand jury, but it is known that a mass of testimony on contracts and acceptances was taken. Everybody concerned with the case was present yesterday. City Engineer Elliott and R. M. Riner, the official builder of the Tanner-Creek sewer, were seen together in Mayor Williams' office during the day. The result of the conference is not known.

Meanwhile those interested in the sewer case are hunting for one of the most important witnesses. Walter Thomas, the night foreman on the sewer, who testified at a committee meeting that he had been paid \$70 to make hidden defects in the sewer, has not been seen for several days and he is badly wanted by both sides. The Riners and their attorney, A. R. Mendonhall, want him to show that influences were at work to injure the Riners in every way. Thomas' testimony was not entirely credited by those present at the committee meeting, as he was disappointingly indefinite at critical moments. But he is a very important witness, nevertheless. Mayor Williams does not believe that much will come of the grand jury's inquiries. "I do not see how they can hold any

one guilty unless it is proved that some city official took a bribe," said he yesterday. "I do not know of a statute under which a man can be convicted for taking money to neglect his work."

Woes of Property-Owners. With complaint against the City Engineer's Department being made officially by the Council, property-owners are bringing in all their woes to the City Hall. Several remonstrances are now on file for the Council's consideration. Property-owners on Alhambra avenue remonstrance against the assessment for the improvement of that street. Last year a hard gravel improvement was made on that portion of the street leading to the east landing of the Alhambra ferry.

This year the gravel foundation, which was an excellent pavement for all purposes, was blown up with dynamite and the street cut down to the soft earth. A new grade was then established, but contrary to the regular order for such proceedings. The remonstrance further states that no shunting property except that of the O. R. & N. Company was benefited by the new grade, for which all are assessed.

UNDER WEATHER BUREAU.

Wireless Telegraph Stations of Navy Department Are Transferred.

The transfer of all United States wireless telegraph stations to the Navy Department and the work of ocean meteorology to the Weather Bureau will begin today. Heretofore experimental and actual work has been done in wireless telegraphy by three branches of the Government, the Navy, Army and Weather Bureau. A board was appointed recently to make recommendations for the benefit of this service, and it was decided and inter-ordered that all work along these lines shall be done hereafter under the supervision of the Navy Department. This department will take up the work of co-ordinate communication, and furnish all information to the Weather Bureau.

It was decided also to give the work of ocean meteorology to the Weather Bureau. The hydrographic office has had this work in charge, but it was felt that better results could be obtained through the Weather Bureau.

It will be the duty of the bureau now to take a transcript of the log of each vessel entering harbors, in so far as it covers the weather at sea. This will all be charted, and it is expected that a great deal of new information will be learned regarding the character and behavior of storms at sea.

"This will be of advantage to the Pacific Coast, since no warnings can be given at present of ocean storms until they approach the shore. With a clear knowledge of characteristics of such storms some better forecast will be made in advance of their coming."

TRIED TO LEAP INTO BEAR PIT

John Dingmore Says Evil Spirits Prompted Him to Rash Act.

While violently insane, John Dingmore last night made a desperate effort to leap into the bear pit in the City Park, but was restrained by three stalwart Deputy Sheriffs, on duty there. It is believed that the man's life was saved, as the bears are very savage, when molested by strangers, and would probably have attacked and killed him.

A call to police headquarters caused Captain Moore to dispatch a patrol wagon, in charge of Policemen Isaacs and Lillie. When they reached the park, Dingmore was lying on the ground, tied fast by ropes. His hands and feet were bound, but in his insane desire to get loose he was still striving to break his fetters, but was unable.

Dingmore was removed to headquarters, where Dr. Samuel C. Slocum examined him and pronounced him to be undoubtedly insane. He will be taken before County Judge Webster for examination.

Dingmore went to the City Park because, as he stated last night, he was told to do so by an evil spirit. He said the spirit wanted to meet him there and engage him to be one of the chief lumps of purgatory, but that he wanted to get into the bear pit and escape the spirit.

OFFICERS STUDY TACTICS.

National Guardsmen Are Instructed in School of the Squad.

The weekly officers' school of the Third Regiment Infantry, O. N. G., was held last night, the school of the squad being the topic. The new regulations contain so many revisions and changes that the officers feel the necessity of much study. Consequently these schools are well attended and a great deal of conscientious work is going through. Their resulting benefit is already to be seen and this regiment is still maintaining the reputation made in the maneuvers of last summer.

Kaiser to Cruise in Mediterranean.

BERLIN, Nov. 25.—Dispatches from Kiel advise that Emperor William will cruise in the Mediterranean in the Spring. The Hohenzollern has been refitted, and is ordered to be ready for sea February 28.

S. A. D. PUTER, ONE OF THE DEFENDANTS, AND OTHER FIGURES AT THE LAND-FRAUD TRIAL.



STUDY OF S. A. D. PUTER, AS HE LISTENS TO TESTIMONY.

L. PUTER, BROTHER AND COUNSEL OF DEFENDANT.

CHAS. A. HARDY, OF DEFENSE INTERESTED IN A FINE POINT OF LAW.

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KNOWS THE FIREBUG

Fred Westenfelder Keeps Name Secret.

Other arrests may be made in connection with the fire alleged to have been set in the building used as a lodging-house and owned by Fred Westenfelder, at 353 Fifth street, as he declares he is in possession of the name of the person who set the fire. That occurred about one month ago. No action was taken by the officials at that time, because, after learning who did the deed, Mr. Westenfelder adjusted the matter and kept the secret. This he stated to a reporter last night.

"But this last piece of work was too strong," said Mr. Westenfelder, "and I shall prosecute it hard. The other time my insurance men advised me to keep quiet, and although I knew the name of the person who set the fire I did not say anything."

A. R. Coon, Barney Miller and J. B.

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WHISKY FOR BOYS

Saloonkeepers Arrested on Youngsters' Evidence.

CHILD DRUNK FOR HOURS

Men's Resort Superintendent Obtains Strong Material for Case Against Three Proprietors in North Portland.

PORTLAND, Nov. 28.—(To the Editor.)—The comprehensive report of your reporter's issue of Sunday last on "The Natural Rights of Women" has brought to me, by person, post and phone, so many requests to offer a protest against one paragraph therein that I cheerfully comply. Dr. Cressley is reported as saying:

"We may safely affirm that when a large majority of women of all classes earnestly desire the privileges, there will be little disposition to probably still less ability—long to deny them. It rests for the most part with the women themselves."

While the thanks of all thinking women are due to Dr. Cressley, or any other writer who has the ear or eye of the public, for giving prominence to the fact that women are making honorable progress toward liberty (progress made only as a result of the equal suffrage movement through the past 50 years which has instigated it all) not one patriotic woman can help but be sorry that men, even when friends of their enfranchisement, so generally seek to cajole them with the gauzy sophistry that places the blame for their political classification with "idiot, insane persons, criminals, Chinamen, not native-born and Indians not taxed" upon "the women themselves."

Since when was any class of men required to secure the demand of a "large majority" of all classes of men for the ballot before it was

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was set because the witnesses are so young that they are all in school.

Warrants were issued yesterday upon the complaint of Deputy City Attorney Fitzgerald for Edward Byrne, owning a saloon at 113 North Fifth street, Felix Antich, 441 Glisan, and John Ketter, 509 Glisan street. These men were arrested and released on bail to appear Saturday.

The three saloons are in one limited district, the evidence against the proprietors having been obtained by Mr. Rae from a few boys who happened to come under his own surveillance. It is known that there are many other places where young boys can buy the liquor they want, and those promoting the crusade hope to cause the arrest of all the offenders.

In Alhambra there are two or three saloons where boys habitually buy liquor, and it is believed that there are some in the South End. But no evidence against these has yet been obtained.

At present the prosecution will be directed against the three men arrested and who are considered the worst offenders. Last Sunday one boy was found within a block or two of these places so drunk that he did not recover for hours. He was perfectly limp and helpless, and had apparently consumed considerable liquor.

The evidence having been gathered from the boys who have been buying the liquor themselves, it is feared that the saloonkeepers may seek them out and prevail on them not to appear as witnesses, but they will find it of no use. Mr. Rae and Deputy City Attorney Fitzgerald have been trying for some time to lay hands on a few guilty saloonkeepers and bring the law upon them.

May Lose Licenses. Their purpose is not to stop with a fine, but to prevent upon the City Council, if the men are found guilty, to revoke their licenses. The defense which the saloonkeepers are expected to put up is that the boys said they were sent by their parents.

"The trouble in securing convictions," said Deputy City Attorney Fitzgerald yesterday, "is that often the parents are so depraved that they will stand with the saloonkeepers and say they sent the boys even when they did not. It is hard to prove they are not telling the truth, and doubly hard to convict the saloonkeepers under these circumstances."

PLEDGES AID TO CRUSADE. Prohibition Alliance Against Liquor-Selling to Minors.

The Multnomah Prohibition Alliance last evening adopted a resolution heartily favoring the crusade against the sale of liquor to children. The alliance pledged itself "to active individual and organized support of all measures that shall be taken to arouse the public conscience and bring to justice all saloon-keepers who are so grossly violating the public sentiment and the provisions of the license laws of the state."

Pastors of churches were asked in another section of the resolution to further the crusade by speaking upon the subject next Sunday. The resolution was drawn up by Mrs. A. A. Linn and E. Lee Paget. The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Linn, 839 East Yamhill street. T. S. McDaniels presided. Remarks were made by L. D. Mahome, F. L. Pomeroy and others. F. O. Miller told of the result of the recent Prohibition election and said that where plans had miscarried it had been through the ignorance or willful neglect of county politicians rather than neglect of Prohibitionists.

THE WOMEN BLAME THE MEN Women Who Seek the Ballot Protest Against Being Blamed.

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