

## ROB SAFE AT NIGHT

Cracksmen Secure \$8000 in a Lebanon Bank.

## NOBODY IN TOWN AWAKENED

Railroad Tricycle Stolen From Tailman Is Found in Santiam Canal, Near Lebanon—At Least Three Men in Gang.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special.)—The bank of P. M. Scroggin & Co., at Lebanon, was robbed of more than \$8000 last night. The robbers entered the building, blew open the safe, took all the money in the bank and then effected their escape without awakening anyone in the town. The robbery was not discovered until this morning.

No clue whatever was left in Lebanon, but the officers here believe the robbers came to Albany on a railroad tricycle and boarded the northbound Overland, which passes the city at 4:25 in the morning. About noon today a railroad tricycle was found in the Santiam Canal near where it is crossed by the main line of the Southern Pacific on the southern outskirts of Albany. Tracks showed where several men, probably three or four, had lifted the car off the railroad, carried it over to a fence and then lifted it over the fence into a field. They then carried it down to the canal and dumped it in, far enough up the stream so that it could not be seen from the railroad where it crosses the canal.

The railroad tricycle found in the canal was stolen last night at Lebanon, where it is used by a Southern Pacific section gang.

The robbery was a bold one, well executed. The robbers took the trouble to carry a large quantity of chittim bark from the storehouse of Dr. J. A. Lamberson, more than a block distant, to the bank, so as to drown the sound of the explosion when the safe was blown open. About a hundred bunches of the bark were piled about the safe. People sleeping in a building only two doors away did not hear the explosion.

The robbers entered the bank building through the office of Dr. J. C. Booth, in the rear of the building. They forced through the outer safe and then cracked the inner safe wide open and took all its contents. It is supposed that they went from the bank to the railroad and boarded the handcar which they had in waiting for this city. There are no indications that they had any horses or other means of escape anywhere near the bank.

The robbers secured between \$5000 and \$8000. The bank was insured against robbery, however, and will not suffer a permanent loss because of the robbery, though it will be temporarily embarrassed. It must have taken considerable time to convey the chittim bark from the storehouse to the bank and it seems strange that the robbers were not seen, as they had to cross a street to reach the bank after going the entire length of an alley and the bank is located in the center of the business part of the town. Lebanon has no night watch, however, and the work was probably done very late at night.

The Lebanon bank was robbed in sensational style about 15 years ago. At that time suspicion was fixed on local parties but they were never convicted. When the robbery was first discovered this morning Lebanon people thought it might have been done by outsiders, but when it was found that the indications are that the robbery is the work of experienced safecrackers, probably an organized gang, the belief is general here that the robbers are the same crowd that has been operating in other small towns in Oregon the past year.

## HOW SENATORS WERE BRIBED

Go-Between Testifies at the California Investigation.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 8.—In the Senatorial bribery investigation Joseph S. Jordan, who was accused of having been the agent of the four accused Senators, took the witness stand and testified that he had been a go-between in his testimony said that he was employed by Clarence Grange, of the Phoenix Building & Loan Association, and was asked if he could go to any of the Senators and make a money proposition to them for their protection in any investigation likely to be held.

Jordan then mentioned the four Senators accused, as he said to see Senator Jordan and asked him if he cared to "do business."

Bunkers said he would see Senator French. The next day Bunkers said he had not seen French, and Jordan asked Bunkers if \$500 would be enough for each Senator's help. Bunkers said he thought it would. Grange then said he would see Jordan to see French, who agreed to \$300. Bunkers wanted \$500 for three companies, this amount to go to each of the four Senators.

Jordan said Detective Tichenor gave him the four rolls of greenbacks, containing \$500 each, at Jordan's room, and then Jordan walked up to a saloon in town Senator Emmott. Taking a roll of greenbacks, \$500 in all, from his pocket, he shook hands with Emmott, leaving the roll in Emmott's hand. Emmott put the roll in his pocket.

He said he dropped a \$500 roll in Senator Bunkers' overcoat pocket on Eighth street and then shook hands with Bunkers. Jordan testified that he paid Senator French by passing his hand, containing the roll of greenbacks, across French's chest. French, he said, put the money in his pocket.

"The next day," said Jordan, "I met Senator Bunkers and he had a kick coming. He said his roll of greenbacks was \$50 short. 'Well,' I said, 'I don't know how that is, but I will give you Senator Wright's money in my pocket. I will count that and see if there is \$50 extra in his roll.' I then counted the roll and it contained just the \$500. This was the only roll of the four that I counted. I took Tichenor's word as to the correctness of the amounts. I told Bunkers I would speak to Grange for him about the short-

age. That same day, according to Jordan, he met Senator Wright and made an appointment to meet him at a saloon and told him to go into the lavatory and he would there pass him his share of the money. Wright went into the lavatory and Jordan followed and there passed the roll of greenbacks to the Senator.

The accused Senators were ready to testify tonight, but owing to a complaint made by the District Attorney of Sacramento County, it was decided to refer the matter to the full Senate tomorrow.

The objections of the District Attorney were based on the provision of the statutes which absolved the accused Senators from criminal prosecution, should they testify under oath under the Senatorial investigation.

By testifying tonight, Joseph Jordan will escape criminal prosecution under the charges of lobbying and bribery filed against him.

FREEWATER NOT A DRY TOWN

Judge Ellis Decides Requirements of Law Were Not Carried Out.

PENDLETON, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special.)—The jury in the Circuit Court this after-

noon rendered a verdict in favor of the defendant in the case of the state against George Ireland, charged with violating the prohibition law. The defense admitted selling liquor in Freewater, which is in the subdivision of the North Milton district, where prohibition carried during the last election, but conducted its fight on the legality of the law.

Judge Ellis instructed the jury to return a verdict of acquittal, on the grounds that the requirements of the local-option law were not complied with and that the petition of the prohibitionists to include Freewater in the subdivision of the district was not properly recorded by the County Clerk.

## HAHN WILL SUE FOR LIBEL.

Charged by B. F. Allen With Offering of Bribe in Legislature.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special.)—An information sworn to by Hon. John Hahn and charging Hon. Benjamin F. Allen with criminal libel was filed in Justice Goodman's court today by the District Attorney. Allen is out of the city and will be arrested on his return.

The article on which the libel charge is based appeared in this morning's issue of the Astorian over Allen's signature. It directly charges Hahn with being a traitor to the Republican party and with offering a bribe of \$500 to vote for the late Henry C. Corbett for United States Senator during the legislative session.

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## FRAMING UP FOR M'BRIDE

SALEM NEWSPAPER'S COMMENT SHOWS HOW LAND LIES.

Collector of Customs at Portland Would Make Capital Out of the Charges Against Mitchell.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special.)—By the hand of a friend of ex-Senator George W. McBride, a knife was today stuck under the fifth rib of Senator Mitchell when the Salem Statesman used the word "White-wash" in characterizing the Legislature's endorsement of Oregon's senatorial election.

In the headlines of that paper's report of the adoption of the resolution expressing confidence in Mitchell appears the first indication of the real meaning of the change in management of the Statesman.

I. L. Patterson, Collector of Customs at Portland, has acquired an interest in the Statesman and has brought about a radical change in its political policies. Patterson is an ardent admirer of McBride and was one of the State Senators who accomplished the election of that gentleman to the United States Senate in 1895. The expressions of the Statesman today are taken to mean that McBride is pro-

posed as the successor of Senator Mitchell when his term of service may end.

Until now the Statesman has been an anti-Mitchell paper, and ex-Governor Geer, an anti-Mitchell man, was its editor. About that time I. L. Patterson and other members of the Mitchell camp put up for passage one of the pages of the document was missing, but the printed bill and the disavowal of the Statesman gave rise to a story that enemies of the measure had aimed at its destruction.

The measure was advocated by Stitz, Dobbin, McClell, Cole and Burns. No one really fought the bill on the floor of the House. The district is to bond itself for \$500,000 for purchase of water rights which are to be turned over to the reclamation service carrying out the Government's project in Malheur County.

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