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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1905

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

The Oregonian was sorry to see the defendants—in the cases prosecuted by the United States against distinguished persons in Oregon—interposing pleas in abatement. What they need and must have is vindication on the testimony. But in presentation of their obstructive pleas they were within their legal rights, and The Oregonian could have nothing to say.

But now it congratulates the distinguished defendants on the fact that full opportunity for vindication on the testimony is to be afforded. That is all they can require.

The Oregonian says these things because it knows that the accused, from the very first, desired the speediest and fullest investigation. They said so.

Of course a newspaper is not authority in law. But Judge Bellinger is. He is a lawyer and a judge. Upon precedents and decisions he finds that the trials must proceed. It is a case wherein the precedents of law and the usages of the courts fall in with the desire of the defendants, frequently expressed, for speedy trial, on the law and facts.

All that can be necessary is production of the testimony. Grave accusations have been made. Nothing less than production of the whole testimony on which they rest can satisfy public opinion. Nothing less can do justice to the defendants. Such opportunity for vindication is seldom afforded. The Oregonian will print an exact verbatim report. Every plea of the prosecution and of the defense; every allegation made by the prosecution; every statement made in reply; every interrogation made by the court; every question put to the men summoned as jurors and every answer they may make; every question put to a witness and the answer he may make to it; every word of the arguments of the prosecution and of counsel for the defense; every document submitted in testimony, and the charge of the Judge in full to the jury—all will appear verbatim in the columns of The Oregonian, one day after another, during the trial or trials.

It is not only these defendants who are on trial here. The National Administration is on trial also. Both parties are to be congratulated on the decision that enables them to join issue on the facts, the law and the evidence. Among those not versed in the law there was some apprehension lest it might not be lawful to go on with these trials and bring out the facts. But it is lawful. On the points at issue the defendants were entitled to a decision. It has been rendered; the trials will proceed; the opportunity for the vindication they called for will not be denied them, and the whole public is to be taken into the confidence of both parties—the prosecution and the defense. All's well that ends well.

LET THE BOXES GO.

The Supreme Court of Oregon declines to interfere with the reasonable discretion of the municipal authorities of the City of Portland in controlling the surroundings of the liquor traffic in saloons and restaurants. That is the short statement of the opinion which was delivered two days ago as to the legality of the box ordinance. If the Council thought the sale of liquor in booths and boxes, from the contiguous saloon, was conducive to vice, it had the right, and the duty rested upon it, to stop the practice, notwithstanding profits of the license-holder were thereby diminished.

Without such authority, control of the liquor traffic, as conferred by the city charter, would be a farce. A plain exercise of the police power is involved, and nothing else.

Doubtless evasion of the ordinance will be attempted often, for lawbreaking that yields revenue of its workers is hardest to put down. The action of the police will be carefully watched, especially under existing conditions. As the law is aimed at things, not people, and as whether or not boxes and booths exist in saloons is a matter of eyesight and not discretion or argument, enforcement may follow in due time.

WAITING POLICY OF THE WAR.

The naval strategy of Japan, it seems, is to be steadily directed to the effort to lead the Russian fleet as far as possible toward the north, at greatest distance from available bases of supply. Coal is the energy of the war vessel; without coal the most powerful armament is comparatively useless. Colliers must attend the Russian fleet; and of these the Japanese have already picked up a large number.

A fleet so far from home as the Russian, and without ports of its own, is tremendously handicapped; and the Japanese will endeavor to lead the Russian fleet further and further away—weakening it with every day's run by forcing consumption of coal. For the colliers and transport vessels must burn coal, too.

Hence for the Russian armada a great supply fleet is indispensable; and this has been the main reason why its movement has been so slow.

All this was foreseen by Japan. That nation knew Russia could not get into Oriental waters speedily, with a fleet powerful enough to cope with her own; and she reckoned therefore on taking Port Arthur and probably Vladivostok before a Russian fleet strong enough to meet her own could arrive. She reckoned, too, on the difficulty Russia would encounter in supplying the necessities of naval warfare in seas where she has no ports; and it was on these calculations that Japan ventured to make war.

Thus far Japan's success has been great. She has succeeded in everything thus far, but the capture of Vladivostok. Admiral Togo evidently intends to keep between the Russian fleet and that port, and hopes to be able to maneuver so as to make the Russian fleet burn its coal.

Situations like this have long been anticipated by naval experts. Our war with Spain gave some little experience in it. But now the actual test of a greater war amply demonstrates the difficulty of supplying a war fleet at a distance from a nation's own ports. It demonstrates also the necessity for large fleets of colliers, supply vessels and transports, as well as hospital ships; and no well-regulated naval establishment can afford for the future to be without these auxiliaries.

And even with them no important fleet can hope to operate far from home, or far from bases of its own, unless the hospitality of neutrals is imposed on, or unfair help given by neutrals, such as France has been permitting to Russia. We may suppose that favors to such extent will not be allowed in our ports in the Philippines, or at British ports in China.

A pitched battle with the Russian fleet will hardly be the policy of Japan, now or soon, because Japan greatly increases her chances by waiting. In the narrower waters nearer home she can more readily supply her own vessels, while the difficulty of the Russians in supplying theirs will constantly increase. Their attendant fleet of supply ships will be exposed to increasing hazard of capture; the Japanese can operate torpedoes and torpedo-boats with greater facility in the straits and bays towards the north, make their attacks and their run to places of safety.

It opens a view of possible repetition of some of the features of the attack of Drake and Hawkins and Frobisher on the Spanish armada, and of their discomfiture and virtual destruction of that great armament. Possibly, however, the Russians do not seriously intend to push far into the difficulties and dangers which they cannot but foresee. If on the one side Japan's policy is a waiting one, on the other, Russia's policy does not appear to be a very active or aggressive one.

WISDOM'S PART IN ERRING YOUTH.

The Chehalis boy and girl, aged 19 and 16, respectively, who ran away and got married a day or two ago, have started in quest of trouble very early in life. Their parents should be lenient with them. They have a great deal to learn, and the school of experience, which they have entered, is a hard one and many tutors are employed. They will need encouragement to overcome failures, and should not be unduly censured because of them.

Parental wisdom is perhaps never more severely taxed nor parental patience more sorely tried than in a case of this kind. The first impulse of fathers and mothers toward willful children, early stricken with an uncontrollable desire to 'get married," is that of anger; the next a determination to let the precious young fools shift for themselves.

But anger soon cools in the parental breast when nothing more serious than this type of immature folly has aroused it, and by the time—usually within a year—that the young people are in straits for help with the baby, and for money to pay the doctor, both father and mother relent and "come to the rescue."

And in this they show good common sense. The only wise thing to do in a case of this kind is to accept the situation and make the best of it, throwing the young people on their own resources as much as possible, but helping them, when necessary, to help themselves. The one thing that, for the benefit of all concerned, should be insisted upon is that they set up and maintain, with only such assistance as is absolutely necessary, a separate home. It will not hurt them to practice small and even pinching economies.

There are those (Benjamin Franklin in his time, was one of them) who believe that there are greater possibilities of happiness in a very early marriage than in a very late one. The very unsophistication of the youthful husband and wife, the fact that they have to learn together the commonplace lessons of everyday life, gives promise of harmony in thought and conclusions later on; whereas the mature man and woman, set in his and her way, and having been taught in separate and distinct schools of experience, are more than likely to hold stubbornly to their own opinions.

This was one of the reasons assigned by Franklin, in support of his contention for early marriage. Another, as expressed by the blunt old philosopher, was: "Persons who marry early can have more children than those who marry late—a distinct gain to the state and a factor in human responsibility that should not be overlooked."

It is not to be supposed that the boy and girl who set out early in life together will appreciate this argument. Fortunately, the realization of the fact will come to them by degrees, and they will accept it without argument. In the meantime, wisdom counsels the parents to let them alone, welcome the grandchildren, and learn to be thankful that the headstrong boy and girl did nothing worse than marry in their childhood, and in their inexperience set up a home and found a family.

Folly presents no more ludicrous spectacle than that of an irate father pursuing a callow young married couple with threats and a gun; and simple, homely wisdom, evolved from the stress of everyday life, appears in no more admirable guise than when it places its seal upon the lips of parents whose boy and girl have eloped and been married, awaiting without unseemly demonstration the return of the errant children, helping the boy to a "job" when they get back and leaving the two to work out the problem to the solution of which they have set themselves—that of living together in love and usefulness.

OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY.

Another example of "high finance" in its most pernicious form appears in the colossal theft of Bank President Bigelow, of Milwaukee. Embezzlement of this nature, even on the magnificent scale followed by Mr. Bigelow, has many precedents, but the increasing frequency of such occurrences does not seem to lessen the shock experienced by the public.

The enormous wealth of the directors of the First National Bank of Milwaukee, and their willingness to stand in the breach made by the unfaithful head of the institution, will probably enable the bank to weather the storm that has burst upon it. For this reason there will not be so much actual suffering and misery as is usually in evidence when a dishonest bank official makes a complete wreck of an institution.

But this does not palliate the offense of the man who was responsible for the misappropriation of $1,450,000 of other people's money; it only calls attention to an apparently growing contempt for the rights of others. Wall street and the Chicago Board of Trade are charged with being the primary factors in the downfall of Mr. Bigelow. In a sense this may be true, but the thieving bank president was not bound and gagged and dragged into either Wall street or the wheat pit. The position he held is conclusive evidence that he was a man of more than ordinary ability, possessed of mental faculties sufficiently developed to enable him to distinguish right from wrong.

Had a nervy highwayman entered Mr. Bigelow's bank and at the point of a gun forced the financier to hand over even a fraction of the amount which he embezzled, the bank president would have felt justified in killing the robber on the spot. Yet the crime of the robber would have been a pardonable offense compared with that of Bigelow's.

Great financial crimes of this nature are never committed without premeditation. A feeling of revulsion must follow the first departure from the path of rectitude, but as big steals are needed to cover up small steals, the moral nature of the thief becomes callous and what all the world would call theft is, in his eyes, a loan or an overdraft. His oblique mental vision prevents him from seeing that the road he is traveling leads only to ruin. Instead he comes to view with even a mild degree of equanimity the deficit he has made in funds not his own, feeling that his next heavy plunge in Wall street or the wheat pit will enable him to replace what he has abstracted.

This loose and careless code of morals regarding "other people's money" has grown amazingly in favor of late, and if Mr. Bigelow shall get his deserts the example may be worth at least a fraction of what it has cost the directors of the bank.

The "get-rich-quick" idea is gaining too many votaries. No one believes for a moment that some of the wild schemes, like the Puget Sound fisheries combine of a few years ago and numerous similar "bubbles," could be financed unless the agents who supplied the money were paid a handsome bonus for overlooking weak spots in the scheme; and yet the collapse of every one of these schemes means a loss for confiding depositors. In these cases the title "promoter" is only another name for "thief."

Now that the end has come and Mr. Bigelow faces a felon's cell and lasting disgrace for himself and family, he undoubtedly realizes that honesty is the best policy. In a statement to the public the defaulting bank president says:

"My family have been kept in ignorance of the conditions, and their method of living is not to be laid up against them."

It is not improbable that, had the family known of the "conditions," Mr. Bigelow today would be a free man and honored in the circles in which his family moved. Pity, and not blame, will be the portion of the family whose lives have been blighted.

FAILURE OF THE CHICAGO STRIKE.

Another nail in the coffin of the sympathetic strike has been driven in Chicago. Several points in this remarkable contest deserve notice. The first is that the teamsters, having taken up the cause of the garment-workers, are suddenly left in the air by withdrawal of the garment-workers from their own strike. A plain lesson, one would think, of the folly of undertaking some one else's quarrel.

Another feature is the fearful turbulence which has disgraced the city by the lake for the past two weeks.

Previous strikes by this same Teamsters' Union have been met by police measures, attempting to deal with isolated breaches of law and order, while the union itself has stood back to negotiate with individual employers. Temporizing has been the order. But now the war is carried into Africa by the organizing of the various employers in the new Employers' Teaming Company.

The general conditions under which delivery of goods in Chicago has been hitherto carried on are to be entirely modified. Doubtless the enlarged association of employers will try to exclude organized labor from among its men. Drawing men to its service by high and regular pay, and favorable conditions of work, it will succeed—but for a time only. History will repeat itself, and organization among the employed will creep in. Meanwhile the familiar fights between union and nonunion teamsters will horrify the onlooker, in a seemingly endless chain of crime.

In such case, society seems to have been dissolved in original savagery. It is easy to comment on such conditions, but how about remedies? There are many, but the first need is the courageous enforcement of order. Not many years back, in the great railroad strike, Chicago saw this done. To the city, as a whole, the medicine was then very bitter; it would be so again. The substitution of rational arbitration for brutal violence can now only be secured when both parties to a trade dispute so agree. The New Zealand Arbitration Court affords a suggestion for imposing and enforcing such a settlement.

If ever there were a people and a place requiring a firmly and honestly administered law to this end, we see them in Chicago today. That great city has undertaken to prove to the world that it can adopt the most advanced ideas in its municipal undertakings. Let it make this other demonstration, and the Nation will applaud.

Representatives of the Chicago Commercial Association received a cordial welcome yesterday from the representative business men of this city. The welcome was not made less cordial by the occasional sorties of some of the men from the city by the lake into the trade fields of the Portlanders. There are numerous opportunities in the Portland trade field for Eastern capital and high-grade talent of the kind found in parties such as that which visited Portland yesterday, and a personal inspection of the field may result in some of the men's seeking a better and more lasting acquaintance with Portland. The homeseeker and the man with the hoe are assured a hearty welcome in Oregon, and the commercial man with capital and brains is none the less welcome.

Dr. Hurton, of Chicago, is in Seattle to get "dem presents back." Miss Harriet Louie Cherry, of the latter city, is the custodian of a diamond ring, a wedding gown and other articles which, in view of a broken engagement to marry, have a cash value to the doctor. So earnest was he in the purpose to repossess himself of the ante-nuptial finery bestowed by him on the charming Miss Louie, that he is now under arrest on her complaint for assault and battery. A man who makes such a spectacle of himself as this for the sake of a little trumpery is entitled to only such sympathy as folly begets. And it may be added that he receives only what is his due.

Evidence is accumulating that John W. Gates does not shoulder all the loss occasioned by the collapse of the May wheat deal. The $1,500,000 contribution of Banker Bigelow, of Milwaukee, was sufficient to satisfy at least a few of the beats. The victims of the defunct Coe Commission Company dropped something over $600,000 into the speculative hopper, and there are others who failed to get their names in the paper, but who probably lost more in proportion to the size of their bank accounts, than the redoubtable financial buccaneer whose name will last in wheat-pit history as another father of a deal that failed.

Russia's desire to whip Turkey in order to prove Muscovite prowess is a reminder of the schoolboy who, being unable to whip a comrade much smaller than himself, showed his courage by making faces at the sister of the boy who "licked him." Russia has not yet been able to whip Japan. It may not be able to do so, but it can make faces from behind the mountains at a weaker power, such as Turkey. This will be well, provided the demonstration against the Turk goes no farther. But it may be well to remember that another Nicholas tried to whip Turkey and failed.

Mr. Bigelow, of Milwaukee, has no excuse to offer. He was simply a fool, and he admits it. The American people number eighty millions, mostly fools. But acknowledgment of that fact by one and another doesn't help anything. Mr. Bigelow was a modern genius. And he "busted." But is there any way to teach in this world the honest way of old-fashioned virtues? There are get-rich-quick notions and public-utility notions and no end of other notions—all to end in bankruptcy of business and character. But the dance must go on.

The New England Passenger Association has trailed in with other railroads of the United States in offering a one-fare rate for the round trip to Portland during the Lewis and Clark Fair. Though the railroads throughout the country will undoubtedly reap larger profits by the low rate than would be possible if they restricted travel with a higher rate, enterprising members of the various passenger associations responsible for the low rate are entitled to praise for their liberal-minded policy.

The "innocent bystander" was fatally wounded at Glendive, Mont., Monday, by a bullet fired by a bad man named Homer Porter. The man with the gun explains that he fired only for the purpose of scaring another man, and that whisky spoiled his aim. If the victim dies and justice receives the satisfaction to which it is entitled, Mr. Porter will be hanged to "scare" some other bad man, whose aim might be spoiled by whisky.

One case of violent insanity is reported in Seattle from the effect of the Chapman revival. The victim occupies a padded cell in the County Jail, from which he ceaselessly exhorts an imaginary audience to "flee from the wrath to come." Other cases of emotional insanity from the same cause are fortunately of a mild type, and will doubtless soon pass away.

Fate is a whimsical jade. Hundreds of fishermen for the past ten days have been risking their lives almost in the curl of the breakers at the mouth of the Columbia River, yet the first drowning accident of the season takes place in smooth water alongside of a cannery where the unfortunate fisherman is delivering his catch.

After the managers of the "dirty little cannibal" Igorrotes shall have perceived that the Lewis and Clark Fair is above their grade, they may come to terms. Let them hie away; they will come back ere long.

If we understand the position of Rev. Dr. Hill and of Rev. Dr. Brougher correctly, they believe that any candidate for the Mayoralty not personally underwritten by them should be boiled before being swallowed.

Now, since it is settled that the trials are to proceed, more men will have opportunity to come forward and, by confession, cleanse the stuffed bosom of the perilous stuff that weighs upon the heart.

"It is evident that I have been designedly tricked," says young Mr. Hyde, of the Equitable. It is also evident that the public is designedly unsympathetic.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

It is only the million-dollar thief that is allowed to issue statements explaining his motives.

Reporters in St. Petersburg have struck for 5 copecks a line. As one fair-sized Russian word makes about a line, money must come easy to the St. Petersburg reporters if they do not have to read their own proofs. If it were the custom to pay so many copecks a line in this country most paragraphs would

end

like

this.

Nan Patterson likes a jury of married men. Johann Hoch would have a jury of Germans. Little preferences of this kind should be met by the courts as far as possible. If a defendant would like a jury of red-haired men, of fat men or thin, of men that squint, of plumbers, of actors, or of any other kind or class of men, why should his wishes be coldly disregarded? It might take some time to gather 12 acceptable men with, say, wooden legs, but think how gratifying such a body of jurors would be to the person most concerned with their verdict.

Is there any definite reason for the invariable appearance of the stage reporter in a Panama hat? Such a sky-piece, with the brim pulled down over the eyes, is apparently as essential a part of the reporter's make-up as is the little morocco-covered notebook with a rubber band around it. It may be that a Panama gives the brains more freedom.

Writing to the Chester County Historical Society, President Roosevelt says: "I, myself, am of Quaker ancestry, and one of my ancestors was a prominent Friend early in the Seventeenth Century in Pennsylvania." This appears to complete the list, and the President is now able to claim kinship with the members of any audience he may address.

The United Kingdom drinks most tea, the United States coffee. Germany most beer, Russia most spirits and France most wine. Are all these oceans of drinks the result of national characteristics or the cause?

It is to be feared that when Chicago gets municipal gas, the city will blow it out.

Several of the citizens of this burg have been noticed wearing straw hats on their heads the past week. Ye scribe has not observed any wearing them on their feet.

Spain has gone back to Sunday afternoon bullfights, and the populace is once again contented enough to attend church in the morning.

The Rev. S. L. Desha, chaplain of the Hawaiian House of Representatives, is having troubles of his own since he prayed aloud in the House that God would forgive the members who had voted for the new Sunday bill and passed it over the Governor's veto. It is difficult to see any good reason for criticising the chaplain's course. If it is right to mix up politics and prayers, it is only to be expected that the preacher's own views are those which he will bring to the Lord's attention. Besides it is a Christian act to implore forgiveness for misguided sinners. If the chaplain had prayed that the members might be frizzled somewhere for their evil deed, there might have been some cause for protest.

According to the Consular Reports, the Chinese government has granted its first patent. It is, strangely enough, for an electric lamp, which the inventor has named the "bright moonlight." With a patent office established, all that China now lacks is a pension bureau.

In the daily-changing language of the street, the latest arrival is "a plea in abatement," which is attaining the dignity of a slang term. It is used on all sorts of occasions. When a man doesn't want to take a cigar, for instance, he makes a plea in abatement.

Sixteen-year-old girls, on marriage bent, ran away yesterday from Centralia, Wallace and Missoula. At 16 a girl is eager to elope; later she wants a wedding with bridesmaids, flowers, music and all the other frills; later still she wants a justice of the peace ceremony, no fuss, no crowd, just a plain, but absolutely secure, knot.

The President doesn't ask the people to bear with him.

Pierpont Morgan is on his way to Constantinople, where the Sultan will probably try to touch him for a small loan.

Four men were killed in a little local option meeting in Texas. As each side was represented in the death list, however, the voting was not unfairly affected.

Much activity is manifested in July wheat, but up to the present there is not much doing in 1910 wheat.

One of the most humorous bits of news from St. Petersburg is that Alexieff, formerly viceroy in Manchuria, is chairman of a committee which has just drawn up a school system for Port Arthur. If the Japanese would only be polite enough to retire and let the system be applied at once!

Russians hope to celebrate Easter, very appropriately, with an uprising.

Nan Patterson's hats are again ornamenting the press dispatches.

There is nothing so dear to man as a good bogey. When he outgrows the cannibal ogres and the shivery spooks, he frightens himself delightfully with the specter of a trust-destroyed country, a suicidal race, or the yellow peril.

WEX. J.

Young Colonels in the South.

Leslie's Weekly.

While John W. Gates was down in Florida, a few weeks ago, he met a great many people, and it seemed as though every native had a military title, such as "Major," "Captain" or "Colonel." One morning Mr. Gates said to a Southern gentleman:

"Say, Mr. Hillson, that gentleman you introduced me to last evening looked pretty young for a Colonel, don't you think?"

"Who, Colonel Leonard? Yes, he is kind of young."

"Was he in the Civil War?" inquired Mr. Gates.

"No, I don't think so."

"In the Spanish War?"

"No."

"Well, how does he get the title of 'Colonel,' then?"

"Oh, he's a Colonel by marriage. You see, he married Colonel Andrews' widow, so he's a Colonel himself now, Major."

Undreamed-Of Extravagance.

"We asked our wife the other day," writes the editor of the Hickory Ridge Missourian, "if she thought she could dress herself on $65 a year, and she turned pale and asked us if some rich uncle had died and left us an immense fortune."

PRESS TALK ON LAND FRAUD TRIALS

Abatement Plea Is Viewed by Many Oregon Newspapers as Evidence That Defendants Are Seeking Delay.

Corvallis Gazette.

Proceedings in the Federal Court at Portland indicate Senator Mitchell not to be in really feverish haste for trial of his case. The evident policy of his distinguished attorney is not to bring to the quickest possible determination that vital question, are the Government's charges true, but on the contrary, it is the apparent purpose, first, if possible, to secure delay, and second, if possible, to avoid the real issue and select one that is not the real issue to fight on. Nothing so much tends to discredit Senator Mitchell's protestations of his own virtues in the premises as do these tactics that hinder, rather than hurry.

Port Orford Tribune.

Senator Mitchell was arraigned in the United States District Court at Portland last week and pleaded "not guilty" to three of the indictments, and demurred on the fourth one, on the ground that one of the grand jurors was not a citizen of the United States; that two others were not taxpayers, and that Heney was not and did not intend to be a citizen of Oregon, and that he was therefore disqualified to act as United States District Attorney. If Judge Bellinger sustains any of these allegations it will dismiss any indictment now pending. In that case a new grand jury would be summoned and all work done over again. It would be a great setback to Mr. Heney, and would tarnish his "brilliant" reputation as a prosecutor beyond restoration.

Weston (Umatilla) Leader.

One would suppose that such innocent men as Mitchell and Hermann and their fellow-sufferers, who have been so greatly maligned by Mr. Heney and the public press, would be anxious for an early and complete investigation in the courts. Instead, we find them looking for loopholes like any common criminal.

Eugene Register.

Now that Senator Thurston has been retained as counsel for Senator Mitchell, The Oregonian cannot even refrain from taking a shot at him. It is apparent that The Oregonian considers that Heney, once held in Alaska under indictment, if reports are true, is the only lawyer in the United States of spotless reputation. The Oregonian says:

Ex-Senator John M. Thurston is not yet ready to sever his connections with the "American Maritime League," which was recently the subject of considerable unfavorable comment in the Eastern newspapers.

It is highly probable that The Oregonian will create what prejudice it can against Thurston before his arrival to take part for the defense in the land fraud cases, even to giving him a newspaper indictment if possible.

Medford Mail.

The land-fraud trials commenced Monday at Portland with the argument of counsel for both sides on the plea of "abatement" entered by a number of those arraigned on indictment for defrauding or attempting to defraud the Government. The argument came up on the plea made by John H. Mitchell, and the contention of the defense is that the grand jury which found the indictments was illegal, inasmuch as some of the members were not qualified, and that District Attorney Heney was not at the time qualified to act as such, and the defense further demands that the pleas of abatement be tried before a jury.

All of the defendants have expressed their ability to triumphantly exonerate themselves from the charges brought against them, but now put in a plea of abatement on purely technical grounds, which, if they win, will not be exoneration, but like the old Scotch verdict, "not proven," be as much of a moral disgrace as a conviction, simply lacking the attendant punishment. Judge Bennett, for the defense, contends for the right to file the plea for abatement in a Federal Court, and argues that if it raises a question of fact the defendant is entitled to a trial thereof by jury; that if it does not raise a question of fact, then the issues must be decided by the court. Judge Bellinger seemed to indicate by frequent interruptions to this argument that a plea in abatement is merely a permit to challenge the grand jury where there has been no opportunity, and says the question becomes of added importance by reason of the fact that the case could never be tried on its merits if separate pleas in abatement are to be given jury trial.

Albany Democrat.

An article in an exchange is headed "The Spleen of Scott." It is undoubtedly great, but in the particular case referred to it is probably out of place. It is asserted that Harvey Scott is at the bottom of all this land fraud prosecution, that he is trying to get rid of all other Republicans in the state so he can be elected United States Senator. All of which is the worst kind of rot, and contains more spleen than Scott ever dreamed of. Secretary Hitchcock and President Roosevelt are at the bottom of the land fraud prosecutions, and Scott has had no more to do with the matter than the man in the moon.

Corvallis Times.

Proceedings in the Federal Court at Portland indicate Senator Mitchell not to be in really feverish haste for trial of his case. The evident policy of his distinguished attorney is not to bring to the quickest possible termination that vital question, are the Government's charges true, but on the contrary, it is the apparent purpose, first, if possible, to secure delay, and, second, if possible, to avoid the real issue and select one that is not the real issue to fight on. Nothing so much tends to discredit Senator Mitchell's protestations of his own virtue in the premises as do these tactics that hinder rather than hurry.

SHOULDN'T SHUN JURY DUTY

NEW YORK, April 14.—(To the Editor of the New York Times.)—It was my lot to serve upon juries in accident cases, nearly all of which were actions brought against the corporation at the present time operating the surface lines in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx.

The jurors were most carefully examined by the attorneys for both sides, and a great deal of time was invariably consumed before a jury acceptable to both sides was obtained. Each juror accepted stated unqualifiedly that he was without prejudice against the corporation.

I was amazed, when the jury adjourned to the juryroom for meditation after hearing the testimony in the first case, to hear several jurors openly advocate the following sentiments:

A man should have damages in an accident case whether fault on the part of the defendant was proved or not (in case the plaintiff was a poor man), because the corporation was rich.

Employes of the street-railway companies should never be believed, even under oath, because the street-railway companies would discharge them if they told the truth.

The Judge's charge should not be accepted as final on a question, because the Judges were corrupted and biased and fed by the large corporations for improperly charging the juries.

It being my first experience as a juror, I was dumfounded by such rank exhibitions of prejudice and anarchism. I was equally impressed with the fact, however, that enough sensible, high-class business men usually get on the juries to at least bring about a disagreement in such a case. That we do get a proportion of thinking men on the juries is the safeguard of the whole system, and although a disagreement is an expensive expedient, it often is the preventive of rank injustice.

If business men really knew the dangers that exist in their failure to do jury duty—certainly one of the most important of all civic duties and one of the last that should be shirked—they would see to it that their names were added to the list of eligible jurors.

The Socialist and Anarchist is always ready to serve upon a jury, for the opportunity he gets to strike at the corporations, and it is remarkable that miscarriages of justice are not the rule rather than the exception (as they really are) under the present practice of our solid men to avoid jury duty. R. S. S.

John Paul Jones.

New York Tribune.

Few of the great men of the Revolutionary era have been so ill-treated in history as he. In popular romances he has been caricatured and lampooned, and even in serious histories, until very lately, he has been grossly misrepresented. We need not recall the monstrous epithets of pirate and adventurer which were once falsely applied to him; but it is probably within bounds to say that the pretty general impression of him in American minds has been that of a rude and somewhat unscrupulous seaman of good fortune, who fought one or two daredevil fights and ended his days under a cloud. The fact is that he was one of the men of real genius of that time, worthy of a place on the same roll with Washington, Hamilton and Greene; that he was possessed of exceptionally high culture and commanding intellectual abilities; that his personal character was marked with purity, charm and chivalry in an unusual degree, and that in his conceptions of the value of naval power and of the proper character, culture and policy of naval officers he was far in advance of his time, and set up a standard toward which the maritime powers of the world have ever since been striving, but which they have scarcely yet attained. The world can never forget and America can never cease to glory in his unrivaled sea fight off Scarborough Head; but still more precious and inspiring to remember is the spirit of the man himself.

The one episode of his life that is to be regarded with serious regret was his entry into the Russian service. But it must be remembered that there were others who bore still less patiently than he the unjust vagaries of Congress, and there have been others since then who have been equally moved by fancies of Russian affection for America. For his indiscretion he suffered in his experience of the unspeakable corruption of the Russian service, which was of a type that must have been peculiarly revolting to his high sense of honor, and for it he paid with his life.

ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION CURE

New York World.

Dr. Alfred Goss, of Adams, N. Y., has apparently cured 32 cases of tuberculosis. He has 12 cases under treatment and day by day the sputum of these patients shows a less number of tubercular bacilli.

He begins with the theory advanced by Dr. Sir Oliver Lodge and Professor J. J. Thompson, that matter is electricity, that electricity has its own unit of quantity, and that in the passage of electricity through a liquid medium the electrons of electricity and the atoms of the medium unite and at the same speed pass on together through the medium or whatever lies beyond. By accident he discovered a germicide that kills tubercular bacilli, yet does not affect the albumen of the blood. The huge static electrical machine he uses develops 35,000 volts, that after being passed through a Van Houten or Ten Broeck's high frequency apparatus, increases to supposedly 1,000,000 volts with such low amperage that when shot into the flesh through a Snow's vacuum surface electrode the patient feels no unpleasant sensations.

He smears his germicide on the patient's breast, back or sides and applies the electrode. A gas arises from the decomposition of the germicide, and its atoms uniting with the electrical electrons pass on into the lung tissue, benumbing the bacilli and leaving to the white blood corpuscles only the task of carrying off the bacilli. Thus the white corpuscles do not have to die to produce the toxin themselves, and thereby become congested in the blood vessels encysting the bacilli and preventing the swarms of corpuscles from gaining access to them.

Some time ago Dr. Goss experimented with a cadaver, and, upon dissecting it, found traces of the gas at a depth of eight inches below the surface. Patients detect the taste of the gas immediately after treatment. Dr. Goss also finds traces of the gas in the sputum of patients, proving conclusively that the electricity does carry the germicide atoms into the lung tissues. The bacilli in the sputum of patients treated by Dr. Goss can not be developed in cultures so as to reproduce. All of the 32 patients thought by Dr. Goss to be cured are free from cough, and have gained many pounds of flesh. The most rigid examination shows no traces of tubercular bacilli in their sputum.

ODD BITS OF OREGON LIFE.

Mr. Green, Where Are You?

Lakeview Examiner.

The Portland police were all treed last week by a cougar, a real live, wild cougar. They either want President Roosevelt to capture the thing or some brave cowboy to lasso him. We have some of the most daring cowboys in the world over here in Lake County. If the Portland police can't secure the services of the President, we would recommend Jim Green, foreman on the XL ranch.

Chance for the Girls.

Lakeview Herald.

Sixteen young Irishmen arrived here direct from the Green Isle last Saturday. They were all husky young men, ranging in age from 20 to 25 years. It is their intention to find employment in this county. Verily, the population of old Lake is increasing.

And Licked His Chops for More.

Freewater Times.

The sweetest little girl we ever saw brought us a pinto cake last Wednesday, and if this paper looks like it had indigestion, just blame it to that. We ate the whole works at one meal, including the napkin it was covered with. Cake beats Limburger just as easily as an eight-spot beats a deuce.

How Stories Grow.

Lakeview Examiner.

Lafe Pence, who created the rumpus in the mining congress in Portland last Summer, is stirring up considerable anxiety in Portland now by having filed on all the available water power in three counties around there.

Wants Her Chewing-Gum Back.

Needy Corr., Aurora Borealis.

Lost—A wad of chewing gum the size of a hen's egg on the road between her home and Needy. Finder will please return it to Martha and receive reward.