

RECOUNT MAKES STEVENS SHERIFF

First Intimation of Crookedness Is Discovered in Returns From Bertha.

CHANGE IN THE FOOTING

Stevens Makes a Gain of Fifteen Votes and Leads at the Close With Twenty-Five; Word Will Not Appeal.

STATEMENT BY ROBERT L. STEVENS, SHERIFF-ELECT.

I have no particular change to announce in the policy which I made both of my election campaigns. I shall carry out all the promises I have made for the strict enforcement of the law and shall endeavor to give the people who have honored me with the office an administration which will cause me no regrets at electing me. I feel more grateful than words can express over the efforts of my friends, who stood loyally by me from the very beginning of my primary campaign. I am especially grateful to E. W. Wright, whose able counsel and splendid work on my behalf have been of great assistance to me. I am also greatly pleased with the efforts of Attorney Dan J. Malarky in looking after my interests in the recount.

Statement by Sheriff Tom Word.
I shall not appeal to the Supreme Court and shall make no further attempt to retain the office. I contested the election because I believed it was a duty due the thousands of persons who so faithfully supported me during my campaign. Although I was defeated, I believe I have reason to feel proud over my race against such overwhelming odds, and I feel profoundly grateful to those who honored me by their support. I have no feeling against any person in the whole State of Oregon. I shall do whatever is possible to assist Mr. Stevens when he first assumes his new duties and I have only the kindest feeling for him.

When least expected, evidences of alleged fraud were discovered. At the conclusion of the recount for the Sheriff's office which increased the plurality of Robert Stevens from five to 25 votes, as in Precinct 38 the return candidate gained 15 votes out of a total of 46 ballots cast. The peculiar circumstances connected with the vote in that precinct have been reported to the grand jury and a rigid investigation will be made by that body. The recount was concluded at noon yesterday and following which Judge Frazer declared Stevens elected Sheriff of Multnomah County.

He will step into office Monday morning, which Sheriff Evans Wood has announced he will surrender without further opposition.

Big Surprise at Bertha.
A stroke of lightning from a clear sky could not have created greater surprise and excitement than the remarkable discovery made in Precinct 38 at the recount yesterday morning. It was entirely unexpected and came at a time when the recount was practically over, as but two precincts remained to be counted. Not until yesterday morning had the slightest evidences of crookedness been unearthed, and when the recount was completed it was freely predicted by both sides that it would be shown that the election was a remarkably clean one as far as the election judges and clerks were concerned. And, of all places, it was least expected in the country precincts.

From appearances, it seems that seven ballots for Stevens had been counted for Word. This gives Stevens an advantage of 14 votes in the recount. One Word ballot was thrown out by Judge Frazer, who ruled that it was defective, thus giving Stevens an advantage of 15 for that precinct.

Not Due to Mistakes, It Is Thought.
The extremely light vote gives ground to the belief that the change was not due to mistakes, and that it was caused by premeditated and concerted action on the part of either the election judges or the clerks. But it is alleged by men who made an investigation yesterday on the behalf of Sheriff Word that the ballot boxes of Precinct 38 had been tampered with and that the ballots were changed after leaving the hands of the election judges. This theory is not given much credence by those who are familiar with the conditions, as after leaving the hands of the election judges the ballot boxes were guarded both day and night by men employed by Stevens and Word. The election judges in Precinct 38 are Fred Brandes, chairman, Republican; John Chalmers, Republican, and C. Schwerdtmann, Democrat. The clerks were J. R. Slavin, Republican; H. A. Dietrich, Republican, and William Borch, Democrat.

Visit Judges and Clerks.
The judges and the clerks reside in the vicinity of Bertha, and are all employed as hay farmers. For the most part they have lived there for years, and are not of the sort that one would suppose would stoop to fraud. They have all been seen chairman of the election board at Bertha for four years and has an excellent reputation. He read off the ballots which were examined by the other two judges and which were tallied by the three clerks.

Deputy Sheriffs A. G. Farrott and John Grussel and J. T. Miner visited several of the judges and clerks yesterday afternoon, and when seen later declared that they were certain that no fraud had been committed in that precinct.

The original ballots were taken out of the boxes and others substituted—I am positive of that," most emphatically asserted Mr. Miner. "Why, it is absurd and really ridiculous to intimate that these honest farmers would countenance any dirty work. There is no doubt in my mind about who the ballots were changed after they left the hands of the election judges. I don't know how, where or when, but I am convinced that the boxes were tampered with." Deputy Sheriff Farrott and Grussel were equally emphatic, and said they were determined to find out the truth of the matter, so as to prevent the names of the good residents of that neighborhood being besmirched by the cry of "fraud."

Reported to Grand Jury.
That the discovery is considered very important is shown by the hasty manner in which the affair was reported to the grand jury. At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon Presiding Judge Sears, of the Circuit Court, called the members of the grand jury before him and informed them of what had taken place in Precinct 38. Judge Sears stated that he hardly

HE TIPS THE SCALES AT TWENTY-FIVE



thought it possible that it was due to mistakes, and asked that the grand jury make a thorough investigation.

"It is very, very peculiar, and I am at a loss how to account for the change," said chairman Brandes yesterday afternoon. Mr. Brandes, brother of County Auditor Carl A. Brandes, is a retired German farmer of means, and has lived near Bertha for a great many years. He is satisfied that I correctly called off the ballots, and I don't understand how such grave errors could be made. I in person delivered the ballot-boxes to county clerk Fred Fields.

Thought Vote Was Straight.
"After we counted the votes I remembered that there was some comment among us judges as to the large vote given Word when he had expected Stevens to make a good showing. I thought it rather strange, and so did the others, but of course we did not for a minute think that everything had not been straight."

Mr. Brandes is a staunch Republican and stated yesterday without being questioned that he had voted for Stevens, and had favored his candidacy from the first. He was an acknowledged Stevens supporter. The only light whatever thrown upon the mystery—and it appears to be nothing less—is very unsatisfactory at the moment. It is believed that worded and Borch, who is employed on the farm of Charles Ladd near Bertha, were Word men. Dietrich is a Republican, but after the election he voted for a Democrat. He refused to state yesterday whether he had voted for Stevens.

Result of the Recount.

The result of the recount for yesterday is as follows:

PRECINCT.	Stevens.		Word.	
	Original.	Recount.	Original.	Recount.
30.....	45	44	72	72
31.....	212	212	60	58
32.....	25	25	14	14
33.....	31	31	44	44
34.....	21	21	27	27
35.....	23	23	28	27
36.....	11	11	21	21
37.....	14	14	7	7
38.....	27	26	15	14
Totals.....	9260	9236	9255	9201

Slavin Gets Tangled.
Borch is a Democrat, but Slavin is a Republican. When the count of the votes was being run, Slavin repeatedly became tangled up and would have to consult the tally sheets of the other two clerks. Dietrich repeated the names of the candidates when called off by Chairman Brandes. Before the count started the three clerks agreed among themselves that in case any one of them became confused that he would have to abide by the record of the other two.

Slavin, when approached yesterday, denied at first that he had become confused in tallying, but later, after much questioning, admitted that such was the case. He also, although he professes to be a Republican, refused to say whether or not he voted for Stevens.

Makes Queer Statement.
"So they tried to count Word out, did they?" laughed Dietrich, when approached by an Oregonian representative. "I noticed as soon as the recount was about over Stevens began to make big gains in the country precincts. Well, I guess they succeeded all right."

He acted very strangely when it was told him that it was believed by many that the fraud had been perpetrated in precinct 38. He then put on an air of offended dignity and refused to discuss the likelihood the illegal work having been done at Bertha.

"It would be an easy matter to get into those ballot-boxes," he continued. "Why, I could take off the seals on those boxes with a little hot water without the slightest trouble, and no one would know the difference."

Schwerdtmann Expresses Regret.
C. Schwerdtmann, another of the judges who was seen, expressed great regret over what had happened. He could give no explanation of the occurrence, and said he could not understand how it had taken place. He expressed the belief that it would be very easy to ascertain whether the ballots had been changed after they left the election board, inasmuch as Chalmers, the third judge, had written his name upon the backs of all of them and that only an expert could successfully imitate his handwriting. Mr. Schwerdtmann, Mr. Chalmers and Mr. Brandes will call upon County Clerk Fields this morning to examine the ballots.

Details of Recount.
When the recount opened yesterday morning Stevens was ten votes to the good. There were but few mistakes discovered by either side, each candidate dropping or gaining a vote now and then in the different precincts, until Precinct 38 was reached. Owing to the light vote, no change was expected in that precinct. When nine votes had been counted for Stevens it was expected that all the rest would show for Word.

But the tenth, eleventh, twelfth votes and so on were counted for Stevens, and the clerks then went back over the records to see if they had not made some mistakes. It was then realized that the much-talked-of startling developments had arrived, and when the count of the

READVISE FOR BIDS

EXECUTIVE BOARD ADOPTS A COMMITTEE REPORT.
Bridge Over Sullivan's Gulch Again Comes Up for Consideration and Action Is Taken.

The Executive Board adopted yesterday the report of the street committee, which called for the rejection of all bids on the proposed bridge over Sullivan's Gulch, on Grand avenue, and recommended that the Council readvertise for new bids, with the specifications changed to provide for a concrete instead of a wooden deck. The report of the street committee, however, was amended to provide for as much of a fill in connection with the bridge as should be judged necessary after the matter has been thoroughly considered. The fill has been the subject of considerable contention ever since the bridge was first proposed. The rejected bids provided for the fill, which some of the members now wish to eliminate. Some of the members of the board believe that as substantial a bridge can be made without a fill as with one, but City Engineer Taylor thinks the fill is necessary to strengthen the structure. This point will be thoroughly considered by the City Engineer and Consulting Engineer Lockwood, and action taken in accordance with their report.

TRIP TO YELLOWSTONE PARK.
But few of the observations available to those who are desirous of accompanying the Oregonian party to the Yellowstone Park and other places of unusual interest remain, and it is expected that within a few days more all of them will have been taken. Reservations will be made upon the receipt of \$20, which includes the railway fare and all accommodations while in the park. But it does not include meals and Pullman reservations while en route.

The special train chartered by the Oregonian for the trip of the contest girls to the Yellowstone will leave Portland at 7 o'clock the morning of July 7. It will make fast time, arriving in Salt Lake at noon the following day. That afternoon at 2 o'clock the party will attend services at the Tabernacle.

Those who will accompany the party will benefit by many advantages which they would not otherwise enjoy if they made the trip by themselves. All information regarding the trip can be obtained at room 200, Oregonian.

PAYING OFF STEVENS MONEY
Those Who Bet on Word Are Forced to Make Good.

"Have you collected your Stevens money?" This was the question that prevailed on the streets yesterday afternoon after Precinct 38 had unloaded for Bob Stevens, Multnomah County's new Sheriff. No joy bells rang for those who had wagered their coin on Tom Word. It is estimated that about \$30,000 changed hands on the result of the contest between Word and Stevens, and if ever bettors got a run for their money, the men who thrills have been thrown into the gutter, and there were days when the Word bettors waxed jubilant and happy, and there were just as many days when they had waded their hundreds on Stevens had their thrills.

Only a few of the bets had been paid up until yesterday afternoon. Most of the money was held by Ed Schiller, and when the returns showed that Stevens had won by only five votes and the word was sent out that Sheriff Word was going to demand a recount, those who had taken the Word end of the betting hiked in a hurry to the telephone, or rushed hot foot to Schiller's and left orders not to pay the bets until the contest had been settled in court. There were a few of the game fellows who bet on Word who said:

"Pay off now." These men were in the minority, and Schiller alone has been custodian of about \$5,000 since June 2. The other day, when the recount showed a tie, Captain Spencer and a man with whom he had wagered \$100 met at a down-town cigar restaurant, and the whip-sawing of the contest, they finally agreed to shake dice for the amount of the bet. One roll of the dice settled the bet for Captain Spencer. He lost. Several other who had made small wagers also settled their bets by the dice route.

Yesterday when the final count showed Stevens had won by 25 votes there was a rush for Schiller's, and all afternoon A. M. Brown, Schiller's bookkeeper, was busy paying bets. Last night Mr. Brown had paid over about \$4,000, and there were still several thousands that had not been called for. One of the big winners on the Stevens-Word contest was Henry Hanno. He won in wagers \$4600. Not all of this money was bet on the election. Several thousand dollars was wagered after the recount had begun. The Word followers, when the recount had cleaned up all of the precincts where Stevens was the strongest and the recount looked as if Word had a chance, began hunting for Stevens money. Even when the result looked bad for the new Sheriff, there was plenty of Stevens money on tap, and every time Word money showed, it was grabbed up.

BIG TIMBER DEAL

Bridal Veil Lumber Company Increases Stock.

ADDS THOUSANDS OF ACRES

It Increases Its Capitalization From One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars to Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand.

One of the largest transactions in timber lands which has taken place in the Northwest for some time has just been completed in Multnomah County in the increase in the holdings of the Bridal Veil Lumber Company. Approximately 7000 acres of land covered with the finest fir and larch timber has come into possession of the company, in addition to a large tract already held. By the transaction the owners of several different tracts have been brought into the corporation.

Documents have just been filed with the Secretary of State by the company raising the capital stock of the corporation to more than four times its previous volume. The capitalization has been \$150,000 up to the present, and the change increases it to \$650,000. The company is already one of the largest lumbering concerns in the state, and its scope will be greatly enlarged from now on. The increased capital is due to the consolidation of the present company with other interests, which puts it in control of a large amount of timber land in addition to the big tract which it has owned and from which it has been cutting to supply its large sawmill. The officers of the firm are L. C. Palmer, president; J. M. Letter, secretary, and J. S. Bradley, treasurer and general manager. W. W. Edwards, of Ohio, and Mr. Bushong, a Michigan lumberman, are the chief owners in the timber land which has been consolidated with the holdings of the company. Holland & Briggs, a Portland firm, are also interested.

Between 3000 and 7000 acres of rich timber land have been added to the tract of the company by the deal which has been consummated. This gives the firm control of between 11,000 and 12,000 acres of land, all of which lies in Multnomah County southeast of Bridal Veil. There is upon the land between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 feet of standing timber. The capacity of the large sawmill owned by the company will be raised from approximately 30,000 feet in ten hours, which is the present output, to between 100,000 and 125,000 feet. With the additional machinery which will be installed the plant will be able to turn out 250,000 feet of lumber by running nights. This sawmill is located four miles from Bridal Veil and the lumber is hauled to that place. The mill at Bridal Veil will be discarded and a new mill erected to correspond with the increased sawing capacity of the plant.

The Sketch an Attractive Paper.

The Sketch, a Portland publication which has just been established, made its first appearance yesterday with an attractive issue in magazine form. It will be published weekly and will devote its space to portraying the lighter side of life. Arthur A. Greene is editor and Murray Wade business manager. Social news is the special feature of the new publication, but attention is also

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given to the drama, music, book reviews, politics and sports. It is neatly printed on heavy paper, and was received with great favor upon its initial appearance. The illustrations are especially good, comprising halftones from photographs of society leaders and theatrical people, and cartoons and decorations from the pen of Murray Wade.

The Sketch has an exclusive field in Portland in its special line, so far as local publications are concerned. Its articles are written in a new style, and it has set a standard in the first issue which is in advance of many journals of similar character in other cities.

MERRITT LINDSAY IS DEAD
Passing of City Passenger Agent of the St. Paul Road.

Merritt Lindsay, city passenger agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, died yesterday at his home, 73 Going street, of heart trouble. The remains were taken to Finley's undertaking establishment, and the funeral will be held at Finley's chapel at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Interment will be in Riverview Cemetery.

Mr. Lindsay had been engaged in rail-roading in Portland for the past 15 years, and was one of the best-known officials among railroad men. He came to Portland first in 1878, but returned to the East shortly afterward. He came back to the city in 1888 and took the position of city passenger agent with the Northwestern. After a time he went with the Union Pa-

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