

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1908.

THE STANDARD OIL DECISION.

On some of the grounds stated by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, in its decision on the Standard Oil penalty, there is reason to approve the action of the court; for it must be admitted that the fine was excessive, not reasonable nor proportionable to the specific acts complained of, but in the nature of general punishment for the long-continued excesses and oppressions of the huge monopoly.

But the court begs the question when it urges so insistently that the judgment is unjust, in that it is virtually a judgment against the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, which is the principal owner of the stock of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana; for the New Jersey corporation was not in court, had not been indicted, and should not be punished vicariously, through its offshoot in Indiana.

Still another indication of the "state of mind" that exists in Georgia, is the daily utterance of the newspapers, one of the ablest and most substantial of the Southern newspapers. It says "Bryan will get the vote of Georgia, but he is not the state's choice for the Presidency."

The suggestion is made, however, that Georgia's electoral vote may go to Watson. The newspapers' wild and wild appeal to the frenzy and fanaticism of the country, and who is a vigorous man of brains and convictions. For "if Mr. Bryan cannot be elected because he is popular with the feverish, dissatisfied, and enraged in the United States, he cannot be elected at all, and Mr. Mitchell's name would have rimmed the ticket with agitation, so that it would have attracted the gaze of every voter suffering from a thirst for desperate politics."

The short argument on this point, for the political campaign now at hand, will be directed to the fact that many of the judges of the courts in the United States are to retire within a very few years, and that Bryan, if elected, will appoint judges of very different description. Even though it were an argument that ought not to be made, it should be made nevertheless. The hustling will ring with it, and newspapers will ring with it, during the next fourteen weeks, from one end of the country to the other. To the argument for an "independent judiciary," the orators will answer, "We don't want an independent judiciary; we want a judiciary that will execute our will." It will take many votes to Bryan, certainly; and as certainly will carry many away from him.

HELP FOR BLEEDING BOSTON.

The cultured West extends sympathy to the wild and woolly East. Not only sympathy but assistance as well will be offered, if we can be of service in appraising the band of desperados which has terrorized the city of Boston. Though the people of the West are not accustomed to the harrowing experiences incident to a "shooting-up-the-town," such as has just occurred in Boston, when one man was killed and ten persons were injured by the bullets of an outlaw gang, yet in courage we are not wanting, and if it is desired we can organize posses and send them to assist in restoring law and order in the old town on Massachusetts Bay. Out on the irrigated ranches of Eastern Oregon there is a lot of college graduates who have hunted coyotes until they have become expert with the rifle and revolver. In the mining camps of Southern Oregon are hundreds of young men who have learned the use of firearms while shooting deer, and though they prefer the quieter employment of putting in practice the knowledge of metallurgy acquired at college, yet for humanity's sake they would be willing to hunt desperados in the streets of Boston. All through the Willamette Valley are prosperous fruit growers, who love the peaceful life they lead and who would regret to miss, for even a few days, the cool sea breezes which add to the enjoyment of an evening with the masters of American literature. But these men would willingly give up the pleasure of eating cherries and peaches, if they in their shaded hammocks and pursue their favorite authors, if by so doing they could relieve the distress of their Boston brothers. They are experts with the rifle, for they were members of militia companies while at college.

Though exploring the conditions which prompt the offer, Oregon gladly volunteers to raise a company of picked sharpshooters and send them to Boston to hunt down the highwaymen who have successfully defied the constituted authorities on the other side of the continent. Though preferring the well-merited distinction of

intellectual pre-eminence, our people are ready, if occasion requires, to assist their fellow citizens in the East the aid of physical strength and prowess. It is to be hoped that peace officers in Boston will be able to exterminate the lawless band without asking the cultured residents of the peaceful West to endure the hardships and dangers of a man-hunt in the wild and woolly East.

SOUTHERN "SUPPORT" OF BRYAN.

Nothing in recent times in our politics has been more noticeable than the manner in which the Southern press "supports" Bryan. It deals with him all the time with banter, with levity, with no touch of seriousness or the spirit of it. Truth is, Bryan's appeal to the socialistic sentiment of the North is detested at the South. The representative newspapers of the Southern states treat Bryan as a joke, a farce, and a false alarm. Their attitude is one of humorous indifference or amused contempt. In plain terms, the South has no interest whatever in the purposes for which the Bryan Democracy of the North is contending, and all the leading men and newspapers say so. The Southern States will give Bryan their votes this year, once more, but through habit only; and they are giving their "support" with a sadistic laugh.

The Macon (Ga.) Telegraph says the Bryan platform is "honeycombed with socialism"; and it laments that "there is nothing left for us to do but to follow what is left of the Democratic party—an empty name!" As for Bryan, "Without having filled any high office in any state, he was made famous by his own speech, and has since been prominent only as a continuing candidate for the Presidency, as a lecturer, and as the popular representative of the radical wing of the Democratic party during the past twelve years."

If there is any Democratic paper in the South it is the Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier. "This paper, detesting Northern socialistic tendencies that have the sanction of the Democratic party, declares that the convention 'would have done wiser by nominating for Vice-President John Mitchell, who would have accentuated the Democracy's wild and wild appeal to the frenzy and fanaticism of the country, and who is a vigorous man of brains and convictions.' For 'if Mr. Bryan cannot be elected because he is popular with the feverish, dissatisfied, and enraged in the United States, he cannot be elected at all, and Mr. Mitchell's name would have rimmed the ticket with agitation, so that it would have attracted the gaze of every voter suffering from a thirst for desperate politics.'"

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That a break-up is coming in the South is evident. Prohibition is one of the portents. In Tennessee, the Democratic party is badly upset by Prohibition; the fight in the Democratic primary. The liquor people won. But the Prohibitionists are on the warpath. Of course these things are not conclusive. But they show the break up of old party lines. While it may reasonably be expected that the electoral votes of the old South will all be cast for Bryan this year, yet in some of those states there will be very close results; and in no future Presidential election will the old South be wholly for the Democratic party. The reason is that the old conditions that made the Democratic party clearly passing away. The prevailing sentiment of the South has nothing in common with "the frenzy and radicalism" of the North, that pushes Bryan as its candidate.

NAVY FOR THE PACIFIC.

The remarks of President Roosevelt regarding the necessity of a navy in keeping with our aspirations as a world power will meet with general approval among all American citizens who are in favor of retaining our recently acquired possessions beyond the seas. The President's statement that "a first-class fighting navy is the most effective guarantee of peace the Nation can have," is unquestionably true, for nations are in many respects not at all dissimilar from individuals, and the same armed man rarely encounters trouble unless he is looking for it. It is regrettable in the extreme that the President did not see fit to call attention to the unprotected Pacific when the project for the world tour of the navy was first discussed. In his speech at Newport Wednesday, he mentioned the unprotected position of Alaska and Hawaii. What is true of those important Pacific possessions of the United States is equally true of the Philippines, the richest of all our Pacific dependencies. We must certainly need a navy that can "hammer" the enemy, but we also need that navy stationed at a point where it can reach the enemy without the necessity of steaming 14,000 miles around two continents in order to reach the place where the "hammering" is to take place. The world's last frontier is out here on the shores of the Pacific, and it is where the new world pushing westward encounters the hordes of the over-populated East

that the next big battle will be fought. This is a fact admitted alike by diplomats and fighting men, in Europe as well as in this country. If we are to continue building battleships, they should, on completion, be immediately sent to the Pacific station, where they can be made available in case of need. Some other power, which in different circumstances, might have a wholesome respect for our ships, would feel very much emboldened if these ships were 14,000 miles away when the occasion for hammering might arise.

Next to a big navy with the best fighting ships afloat, our greatest impediment to perpetuate peace is to have more of us already built, as well as those which are building, stationed at points where they can be of use. It is to be hoped that the necessity for such precaution will be sufficiently plain to the President and Congress to induce them to order at least half of the squadron back to the Pacific as soon as the present junket is completed.

READING THE GREAT DALLIES.

Editor Geer of the Pendleton Tribune complains at the bigness of metropolitan dallies, and remarks that no one can take the time to read all these papers contain. He reminds one of the young man from the Waldo Hills, who on his first visit to a hotel, complained that he could not read everything mentioned on the bill of fare. Most people prefer a long bill of fare from which to select, and few attempt to eat everything prepared for them. The man who buys a metropolitan daily gets his money's worth, even if he reads but a small portion of the paper, for the plenty of people who never look at the market page or the sporting page of a city daily. On the other hand, there are others who read scarcely anything else. Every man knows that the metropolitan paper offers everything that a reasonable man could ask and that he would like to read, so much as he wants. Those who like the highly-spiced morsels from police and divorce courts are at liberty to pass them by. Those who enjoy the substantial offerings of National and International politics, can get their fill from the big daily and nowhere else.

The 40- or 60-page Sunday paper draws from every man according to his ability and gives to every man according to his need. No man is compelled to consume the whole bill of fare. If he does not wish to select, he can go somewhere else and get a plain meal of corned beef and cabbage.

THE RAILROAD PROBLEM.

The railroads of the country are rapidly getting into the position of that fabled party which "twixt the devil and the deep blue sea." Every possible curtailment made in operating expenses and maintenance charges, the tremendous shrinkage in net earnings which began last October is still in evidence, and the roads are now facing the problem of a decrease in wages. From past experience and present clamor, they have positive assurance that whichever alternative is chosen there will come on their heads the wrath of the party which was turned down. The gravity of the problem is such that it can hardly fail to appeal to all classes of the people, for the industry, on account of the immensity of its operations, is one of the basic pillars of our entire commercial and industrial structure.

Any curtailment in the spending powers of the railroads which prevent increase in facilities, betterments, equipment or service, is felt in an innumerable number of channels of trade and industry. The tremendous influence of the industry on prosperity in other branches of trade is reflected in the figures of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907. The elaborate nature of these compilations prevents their publication at an earlier date. These figures show that on June 30, 1907, there were on the payroll of the railroads of the United States, 1,672,074 persons and the wages paid them in the preceding twelve months reached a total of \$1,072,388,427. This salary list, together with other expenses, brought the total for operating expenses for the year up to \$1,748,518,814.

The hundreds of millions that were paid for fuel, supplies, fuel and other materials used in operating the roads, all represented other payrolls of a few proportions in other industries dependent on the railroads. Even the interest charges and the dividends, which, of course, were paid out of the earnings, were distributed among a vast number of people, the Pennsylvania road alone having 75,000 stockholders. These dividends for the fiscal year amounted to more than \$300,000,000, which, together with the amount distributed for cost of operation, show more than \$2,000,000,000 placed in circulation by this one industry. These figures show the industry at high-water mark. The number of men employed in operation alone was more than doubled in ten years, and the earnings increased \$1,000,000,000 in the six years since 1901, more than half of this increase being made in the two years prior to June 30, 1907.

Railroad prosperity for the period mentioned is thus shown to have been keeping pace with prosperity in other lines. In fact, the railroad interests are so interwoven with other industries that both must stand or fall together. Recognizing this fact, the present seems an inopportune time for recriminations. Good and bad have suffered alike before the swing of the pendulum, and there is no use crying over spilled milk or harboring resentment. The duty now before the people, as well as the railroads, is to face conditions as they actually exist, and determine the best remedy for the existing trouble. Notwithstanding the flotation of a number of bond issues, there is still a fabulous amount of money needed for improvement of the roads. The duty now before a hundred millionaires, or more, is to face conditions as they actually exist, and determine the best remedy for the existing trouble. Notwithstanding the flotation of a number of bond issues, there is still a fabulous amount of money needed for improvement of the roads. The duty now before a hundred millionaires, or more, is to face conditions as they actually exist, and determine the best remedy for the existing trouble.

While it is true that the wages of men in the industry are high, it is unfortunate that frequently those who are innocent of the sin must suffer its consequences. We haven't noticed that anybody who has anything worth having has asked Lloyd to enter him against the election of Candidate Taft.

Ladies may go and come at will in Portland saloons. There are always gentlemen there to welcome them.

ing stock, old road-beds and the practice of other hard-times economies, features must receive further attention. If, however, the railroad men can establish the truth of their contention that they are down to bed rock, on operating and maintenance charges, the matter becomes a simple economic problem as to whether the increased revenue actually needed shall come out of the railroad employee or whether the army of consumers shall share the burden in the shape of increased rates.

Pending this readjustment, it would help matters somewhat if the Interstate Commerce Commission would permit the roads to again secure some of the vast amount of traffic that has been diverted from the transcontinental lines to the foreign steamship lines plying between New York and the Orient by way of the Suez Canal. The whole question is fraught with deep interest to the American people, and on its proper solution the early return of continued prosperity is largely dependent.

The Pendleton East Oregonian has this remark: "The Portland Oregonian says that no good town is dry and that no dry town is a good town. It is a pretty play on words, but it does not bear investigation."

What The Oregonian said was this, to wit: "A town will never be a dry town, and a dry town will never be a big town, and a big town may not be a desirable thing." The Oregonian said "a big town" not "a good town." For a big town may not be a good town; while a good town may never be a big town. What is the reason, if one is to quote from another, that he can't quote correctly? What is the right way for such mental obliquity?

An unusually large number of drowning accidents are reported this season, the death roll from this cause being painfully large in the immediate vicinity of Portland. The abundance of opportunity for indulging in the pleasures of a dip in the rivers or lakes, there will always be great danger for inexperienced swimmers. Wherever it is possible to do so, boys and girls should be taught to swim. They should also be taught due respect for the dangers that in some circumstances beset even the good swimmers. Most of these distressing fatalities are due to carelessness, and could easily have been avoided by the exercise of caution.

From standing grain in the field to well-baked biscuits in 22 minutes was the record made in converting the raw grain into the manufactured product at Watsburg, Wash., a few days ago. This is said to beat the previous record held by a Minneapolis mill by 29 minutes. The Minneapolis record was made several years ago, and might be improved on at this time, but until the Minnesota farmers begin using combined harvesters and other up-to-date machinery such as has made the Pacific Northwest famous, the record will remain on this side of the Rocky Mountains.

The editor of a Whatcom County (Washington) paper admits that he fled his declaration of candidacy under the primary law for the purpose of obtaining advertising for himself and for his paper, and he considers the \$60 fee a good investment. Still another spirited citizen has filed his declaration, not in expectation of getting the nomination for himself, but of drawing off votes from another candidate whom he hates, so as to prevent his election. The system tends to development of the honor and dignity of human nature.

Eastern Oregon wool-growers who sold early at prices below the figures later prevailing, should not worry over the loss of the difference between the low and high market. No man can tell what the variation in prices will be. Perhaps next year the early sellers will be in luck. Each grower must exercise his best judgment and sell when he thinks conditions best for him. Whether prices go up or down thereafter may be a matter worth attention for the purpose of aiding future transactions, but it is not worth worrying about.

Where shall we see the end of the boycott that is threatened as a result of the prohibition movement? First the Eastern brewers declared an intention to boycott Oregon hops if Oregon voted "dry." Now, in an effort to stop the prohibition movement, Oregon brewers want to boycott whiskey by prohibiting the sale of that liquor alone. Will the whiskey distillers retaliate by refusing to drink any beer?

Union coal shovellers in San Francisco are striking against a reduction in wages from \$3 to \$2 per day. If there is only enough of that \$2 per day coal shoveling to go round, professional and semi-professional gentlemen from numerous points in the United States will be rushing into the Bay City in squads. There is considerable of the "dignity of labor" in emoluments of \$5 per day.

William J. Bryan has retired from the editorial management of the Commonwealth until after election. He has put his brother Charlie in charge and announces that he will not be responsible for what the paper says during his absence. That's a hard slap at Brother Charlie. He ought to resent it in his first leader.

Because many flocks have their black sheep it is not necessary presumption that all flocks have them. The best of families sometimes have their wayward sons and daughters, just as the worst sometimes produce models of manhood and womanhood. The Milwaukee Sentinel is giving away ice to the sick and poor of its city. The Sentinel will give to give away something else if it hopes to become famous in Milwaukee.

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OUTLOOK FOR PROHIBITION VOTE.

Local conditions may in several of these states favor a heavy Prohibition vote. This ticket has often appealed to voters dissatisfied with both political parties. It made such an appeal in 1884 and again in 1892. The platform adopted in Columbia contains much that is sound and popular, particularly the plank favoring a graduated income tax. Many disaffected members of the great parties may feel in supporting it that they are not altogether "throwing away their votes," but affirmatively urging principles, entirely apart from Prohibition, which are entitled to be treated with respect.

Illinois last year cast 88,393 Prohibition votes. The West Virginia Legislature has one Prohibition member. In 1884 and again in 1892, the platform of these states favored a heavy Prohibition vote. This ticket has often appealed to voters dissatisfied with both political parties. It made such an appeal in 1884 and again in 1892. The platform adopted in Columbia contains much that is sound and popular, particularly the plank favoring a graduated income tax. Many disaffected members of the great parties may feel in supporting it that they are not altogether "throwing away their votes," but affirmatively urging principles, entirely apart from Prohibition, which are entitled to be treated with respect.

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Predicts Rapid Decay of Muir Glacier.

PORTLAND, July 23.—(To the Editor.)—About the only feature of interest in the discussion about Muir Glacier now is whether that great natural wonder is actually disappearing. It is said that such is the case may be found between the lines of C. Henri Labbe's communication, whose name may be seen in the paper of the 21st. If the face of Muir Glacier is now four miles further back than it was 20 years ago, having rotted and dropped off up into the smaller branches, a process still going on, with no new supply being added at the source, the conclusion is plain. The writer visited Muir Glacier in 1889, and it was carefully surveyed by Professor Wright, of Oberlin College, who spent two or three weeks measuring its rate of travel toward the sea. It then moved in the center into the bay feet every 24 hours, breaking into icebergs and drifting seaward many leagues. Moreover, the mountain side, right and left, 1000 feet or more up, are scraped bare as a bone, showing beyond question that Muir Glacier, when the Americans came to it, was only a small remnant of what it had been.

Official records kept by officers of the Russian government show the snowfall up where this glacier was 93 feet in a single winter. The snow packed during the summer, each year adding to the others, till the icefield was so high that it ran over at the lowest places. Now, this heavy fall of snow no longer comes to renew the glacier above and, with the rapid decay, at the lower end, people who wish to see what little remains of Muir Glacier had better not delay.

Mr. Bryan's Nebraska Holdings.

Lincoln (Nebr.) Dispatch to the Indianapolis Star. According to the hasty estimate made by the County Assessors, W. J. Bryan stands eighth in the list of Lincoln's wealthy men. Mr. Bryan's possessions, as estimated in the list filed in the Court-house, total the modest sum of \$84,000. This total is made up of the following items:

Table listing Mr. Bryan's holdings: One hundred and thirty-five acres of farm land (50 acres worth \$8000), \$109,125; House at Fairview, \$21,000; Improvements, \$15,000; The Commoner, \$15,250; Personal property, \$12,500; The late sum is now up of the following: Household goods, \$3,500; Jewelry, \$500; Twenty-one head of cattle, \$1,200; Dogs, \$1,000; Cash on hand April 1, 2,100; Piano, \$500; Pictures and art objects, \$1,000; Agricultural tools, \$150; Furniture, \$1,000; Notes, \$1,000; Steamers, \$150; Diamonds, \$250; Six vehicles, \$600.

May Rebuild Oregon Woolen Mill.

ALBANY, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—The Jacobs Bros., owners of the Oregon City woolen mills, are considering a plan of rebuilding the old woolen mill plant in Albany. They were here recently inspecting the site of the old mill, which was destroyed by fire in 1904, and announced that they would rebuild the plant and establish a big mill here if local capital would take an interest in the enterprise.

GREEN GOODS

GREEN GOODS

CANNERY ENDS YEAR'S RUN

Eugene Growers Preserve Fruit When Market Is Dull. EUGENE, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—The cherry season closed at the cannery here today. The crop of the members of the Lane County Fruit and Vegetable Association has been quite satisfactorily handled, and a large lot of cherries from outside have been cared for. The cannery this season has been run by the fruit organization, with W. G. Allen as superintendent. Cherries have not brought a good price as green fruit and most of the output has been preserved in cans or barrels, where it can await an improvement in the market. The association is shipping some of the darker cherries to California and Eastern points, but the market is not satisfactory. The cherry crop in Lane County this year has been a heavy one and the quality first-class. The prices paid for green fruit was little better than half of that paid last year.

The famous little orchard of Mahlon Hartow has made a new record this year in its cherry yield, giving 15 tons as compared with 13 tons last year. This orchard consists of two acres. One tree bore 65 pounds of cherries this season.

PERDUE NOT SPOKANE MAN

Mystery Still Surrounds Identity of Timber Murder Victim.

HILLSBORO, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—Sheriff Hancock has received word from the Hills of Police, Spokane and Seattle, stating that no such man as E. Perdue, supposed to be the man murdered near Timber, has made himself known in either of those cities. It is now thought probable that the machine-stamped badge bearing the name might have been placed in the hands of the murderer in order to confuse identification. The robbery was the motive seems apparent, as the right-hand pocket of the dead man was turned inside out, while the left, containing the metal stamps, was untouched. Sheriff Hancock yesterday brought in the weapon used by the murderer. It is a piece of wagon tire, about 18 inches in length, and which had been made over by a blacksmith for use as a support to a choker in the process of felling timber. The iron is about two inches wide and is heavily encrusted with blood.

LOOT TWO PENDLETON HOUSES

Enterprising Thieves Carry Off 40-Pound Clock and Other Plunder.

PENDELTON, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—Two homes were raided in the central residence district of the city and an attempt made to burglarize recently an abandoned house in the residential district last night. Two young men were arrested while in the act of carrying off much plunder, there is no trace of them. The homes visited were A. J. McAllister's and Nate Raines'. Among the things taken from the former was an ornamental clock weighing about 40 pounds, various other articles were taken, both robbers being perpetrating while occupants were at the theater. The two men arrested are Charles Peterson and Farmer Edwards. They deny they were attempting robbery.

COLONEL GUFFEY DEFENDANT

Bryan's Enemy Sued for Alleged Fraud in Texas Oilfields.

HILLSBORO, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—The name of Colonel J. M. Guffey, the famous Pennsylvania oil king, who went to Denver in antagonism to W. J. Bryan, the Democratic nominee for President, has broken into Washington County official circles through his being defendant in a suit brought in the Texas District Court in the Jacinto River district. Zilpha Ann Smith sues a host of oil companies, as well as a few small speculators and stockholders, and James W. Laine, of Forest Grove, is one of the defendants. The woman sues for something like \$200,000, alleging that defendants have taken away \$9,000 worth of oil at \$1 each, \$1,000,000 worth of oil, and gas to the value of \$100,000. Plaintiff alleges that the defendants are now taking \$100,000 worth of product off the place daily.

BITE ON NOSE MAY BE FATAL

Blood-Poisoning Sets In in Wound Received in Personal Combat.

TILLAMOOK, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—M. J. Cone, who was bitten in the nose in a fight with Jesse Davis, at Netarts, is considered to be in a dangerous condition, his condition being hanging set in. It is thought that the injuries will prove fatal.

Child Won't Consolidate.

ASTORIA, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—Charles, the 7-year-old son of E. J. and Mrs. Martin Morris, of Warrenton, was drowned in the Skipanon Creek last evening by falling overboard while playing along the bank. The body was recovered about three hours later.

IN THE MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE

SUNDAY OREGONIAN

ON FOOT OVER THE COOS BAY ROAD

A man who has just made it tell of a three days' delightful tramp over picturesque mountains to Roseburg.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY AS A MEMORIAL TO LINCOLN

A \$7,000,000 road from Washington to Gettysburg to be a grateful Nation's tribute to the centenary of Lincoln's birth.

PASSING OF THE BIG TRANSFER BOAT

After service of a quarter of a century, the Northern Pacific Co.'s steamer Tacoma to be driven off the Columbia by the march of improvement.

ODD DISEASES INCURRED BY TRADEWORKERS

The United States Bureau of Labor is now investigating the relation of certain occupations to health.

PICKING DAISIES IN AN OREGON FIELD

Full-page illustration from an artistic photograph by George F. Holman. Order early from your Newdealer.

