

## ROOT DENIES ALL TO BAR MEMBERS

Judge Is Asked About Gordon Letters by Investigating Committee.

GOT NO MONEY, HE SAYS

Explains That Money Asked For Was Volunteered by Spokane Contractors and Is Directed to Whom It Should Be Sent.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Judge Milo A. Root told the state bar committee today that he had never received one dollar from M. J. Gordon, former counsel for the Great Northern, or anybody else corruptly, and that he had never signed nor participated in a decision of the Supreme Court which he did not honestly believe to be right.

At the hearing before the investigating committee Judge Root was questioned concerning letters he had written to J. J. Gordon and about the case of Harris vs. the Great Northern, in which Gordon suggested and secured a modification of a decision. Although the committee questioned Judge Root upon a variety of things, it was upon the indirect letters and upon the Harris case that greatest stress was laid. The committee adjourned until Monday at 2 o'clock, when Judge Root will be heard further in his own behalf.

Corporations Promised to Aid Him.

"I told the committee that I had been an investigating attorney under Judge Gordon for nearly 20 years," said Judge Root tonight at his home at Ross station. "I told them I have always considered him to be thoroughly reliable and a trusted friend. I felt that while I had been indirect and imprudent in my conduct, yet there was nothing wrong or in the least corrupt or criminal in my dealings with him."

He believes it was last June that Judge Gordon told him that several contractors and corporations had subscribed to a campaign fund which was to be used in the interests of candidates in Eastern Washington and for candidates for the Supreme Court and state offices. He said that when he was wished to send \$250 or \$350 to help me and others, I told him that I did not wish to spend any money in the campaign, but when he returned his desire to send \$300 I told him to send it to E. B. Palmer, of Seattle.

Promised Money Failed Him.

"Palmer subsequently incurred an indebtedness of \$100 or \$150 on the strength of the information I had given him. On July 1 I learned that if the money had been sent, and he informed me that it had not. I was annoyed because Mr. Palmer had been put to considerable expense upon the matter and he repeated to him, and I wrote Judge Gordon. Later when I saw Gordon, he informed me that the man who had been looking after the matter had gone East without attending to it, and that the money was not available. Not one dollar of the money was ever sent."

Another letter to Gordon, written under date of September 26, related to a ticket for my deaf brother at St. Paul, and as he was without means and wished to attend the matter, I requested Gordon to furnish the transportation, which he did. Last Spring I heard that Judge Gordon proposed giving up his position with the Great Northern and of becoming a candidate for Supreme Court Judge. I wrote him from Olympia under date of April 24, 1908, asking to see him. A few days later I learned that he was in Seattle and, having the same matter in mind, I wrote him again."

Harris Case Not for Railroad.

There has been a misunderstanding concerning the case of Harris vs. the Great Northern, in which it is said Judge Gordon dictated or suggested modification of one of the law points. The decision of the Supreme Court was in favor of the plaintiff and against the Great Northern railroad, both of which were parties in the Supreme Court. Upon the rehearing of the case the court modified its former decision upon one of the law points, but held against the company upon the merits of the case.

"When first passed upon by the court the seven judges stood four to three in favor of the plaintiff. I was one of the four judges who held against the railroad company, and I wrote the decision. The other three judges filed a dissenting opinion, holding that the case ought to have been decided in favor of the railroad."

"It will be seen that I had the deciding vote and that had I been corrupt, or the tool of Gordon or the railroad company, I could have decided the case in favor of the company."

ROSEBURG WOMEN EASY

Picture Fakers Collect Much Money and Skip Town.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—An enlarged picture and a diamond ring or a rocker chair for good measure, all for \$2.98, were the inducements held forth by a trio of smooth-talking fakers who induced a large number of Roseburg people, principally women, to part with \$2.98 each. After delivering a very poor piece of work—and collecting the \$2.98—the agents told their customers to call at a local merchandise store to get the prizes. Calling at this store the victims found they had been duped and that the management of the store knew weeks ago they were being deceived. They also discovered that the agents had left town, going north.

CRUELTY CAUSES INSANITY

Woman Abused by Drunken Husband Sent to Asylum.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Mrs. Ethel Nielson was taken to Montezano this afternoon to be examined as to her sanity. Mrs. Nielson's husband, who is a Russian Finn, during a drunken spree several weeks ago, threw a lighted lamp at his wife and baby after terrifying her by breaking up all the furniture in the house. Her experience at that time, it is thought, has affected her mind.

IDAHO TO AID OPEN RIVER

Legislature Asked to Give Sum for Snake River Improvement.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 24.—(Special.)—It is learned in political circles that

the State of Idaho, through the tenth Legislature, will be asked to aid in the proposed open-river work by making an appropriation of \$20,000 this winter for improvements on the Upper Snake River above Lewiston.

It is confidently expected by Northern statesmen that this bill will be passed and that the appropriation will be available because of the attitude of the sister states in making appropriations for this work. Besides these facts both Senators of Idaho have publicly announced that they are in favor of such an appropriation, while Governor-elect James H. Brady has likewise gone on record as heartily in league with the open-river question. He has announced that he will make such a recommendation in his first message to the Legislature.

Two years ago Oregon appropriated \$75,000 for improvement work on the Columbia River, and the Washington Legislature went on record as willing to assist in the work by appropriating \$50,000 for work on the Snake River, between Riparian and the mouth. The Idaho Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for improvement work on the Upper Snake River at the last session, but for some reason this money was never available.

TO DEEPEN CHEHALIS RIVER

ENGINEERS RECOMMEND APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000.

Large Amount of Commerce, Chiefly Lumber, Makes Valuable Cargoes for Coasting Vessels.

MONTESANO, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The Vidette tomorrow will publish a letter, with indorsement from Major H. M. Chittenden, to the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army, concerning the survey of the Chehalis River from the mouth to Montesano. This survey was ordered by Congress in 1867. The letter says that 7,000 cubic yards would have to be removed in order to give a mean low water depth of 7 feet and 1 1/4 at high water, and estimates the cost at \$28,000. This, together with small amounts for contingencies, would probably be increased to \$50,000, and "it is recommended that an appropriation of this amount be asked for."

The letter says, in part: "Like Grays Harbor itself, the commercial importance of the Chehalis river, as a means of access to the lumber industry, there are several mills at Montesano and others are projected there and farther down stream. Sailing vessels loaded at Montesano, and it is desired by the local interests that they be given practically the same facilities in this respect that are enjoyed by the towns on Grays Harbor."

"During the year 1907, the shipments from Montesano, as reported by the local interests, amounted to 18,500 tons, and this amount about one-half consisted of general commerce between Grays Harbor and Montesano and about one-half cargo lumber shipments. In addition to this there was carried down the river an immense quantity of logs, amounting to at least 50,000,000 feet, and 12 sailing vessels loaded at Montesano, valued at \$500,000, and an indeterminate quantity of poles, plies, shingle bolts, etc."

The letter is indorsed by S. W. Roessler, Lieutenant-Colonel, Corps of Engineers, and is being sent to the Board of Survey by D. W. Lockwood for the board.

During the year 1907, eight ocean steamers and 12 sailing vessels arrived and departed from Montesano, carrying 5,381,347 feet of lumber, valued at \$89,015.21.

REPORT ROAD TO EXTEND

Purchase of Land Near Salem Starts Oregon Electric Rumor.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The sale of 510 acres of agricultural land south of this city a few days ago to a prominent Portland business man has created the impression that the Oregon Electric southward is practically certain.

The sale was made to A. H. Birrell, mentioned as only \$10. It is understood that the real consideration was in the neighborhood of \$22,000. The ranch sold was the Sarah E. Kleppin place, which is known as the Slough road. It is presumed by those who have discussed the matter that Mr. Birrell had studied the situation and became convinced that the Oregon Electric will be extended.

BUSINESS RECORD BROKEN

December Receipts at Vancouver Postoffice Show Big Increase.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The business handled in the local postoffice during the Christmas season has been larger than ever before. An extra clerk and an extra mailcarrier were put on and still the force was not able to take care of all packages and parcels with as much speed as they wished. Postmaster Crowley says that the receipts for December will break all previous records.

SHOPPING, LOSES JEWELS

Montezano Young Woman Careless When Visiting in Tacoma.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Whether Miss Vitis Lee, a young woman of Montezano, was the victim of a clever purse-snatcher or absentmindedly left her purse containing about \$1000 worth of valuable diamonds and other jewelry in some store while shopping is a question the police are trying to answer.

Miss Lee reported her loss to the police this morning. She said she was in several stores last evening. She had brought her jewelry with her because she expected to spend Christmas with friends and was to attend several social functions.

BARBER SUTTON ARRESTED

Accused While Drunk of Trying to Kill His Wife.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Charles S. Sutton, employed in Rogers' barber shop at 206 Alder street, Portland, was arrested tonight by Clackamas County officers at his home at Island station, on a charge of attempting, while drunk, to kill his wife. Sutton and his wife were divorced two years ago, but were remarried last March. Mrs. Sutton filed the complaint.

MORO PAYS LIGHT DEBT

Citizens Levy Tax to Take Up Personal Note Given by Councilmen.

MORO, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The city of Moro was successful in amending its charter by a special election held December 21. This amendment to the

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

FOR A GENEROUS PATRONAGE

throughout the year accept my best thanks

## BEN SELLING

Leading Clothier

## PESTS TO BE SLAIN

Marion County Fruitmen Plan Clean-Up Campaign.

FINIS FOR OLD ORCHARDS

Insect-Ridden Trees Must Be grubbed Out—Special Inspectors Will Be Put to Work in Willamette Valley Fruit Sections.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—With the desire to make Marion County one of the best counties in the state in the production of good fruit, a number of fruitgrowers have been urging that a vigorous cleaning-up campaign be conducted this winter and that to this end a sufficient number of special inspectors be employed to inspect every orchard in the county before spraying and pruning season is over.

The subject has been taken up with Fruit Inspector E. C. Armstrong, and will be placed before the County Court and the Board of Horticulture. The old orchards are the ones that create the trouble for there are many of them and they produce so little commercial fruit that their owners will not take care of them. Nevertheless, they are a constant menace to young commercial orchards.

Experience has shown that in order to bring satisfactory results, a warfare against diseased orchards must be conducted during the spraying season. If notified at other times that their trees are diseased, the owners either forget about it before spraying season comes or they put off the work of cleaning up, thinking that the inspector will not come again. Many of them cannot recognize San Jose scale when they see it. Then, too, one inspector cannot visit the orchards and attend to his work of inspecting nursery stock, marketed fruit, etc.

In order to make the work effective, it is planned to employ two special inspectors and have them make a systematic canvass of the entire county, visiting every orchard, showing the owners the evidence of the presence of pests and serving them with legal notice to clean up their orchards or chop down the trees.

It is believed that a thorough canvass conducted in this manner would not only result in the cleaning up of orchards for the present, but would get the owners of old orchards into the notion of keeping them clean in future years. It is also believed that the expense of the cleaning up campaign would be more than made up by the increased value of the fruit crop in a single season. Owners of young commercial orchards are deeply interested in the movement.

MATTER ONE FOR COURTS

Procedure for Annexation of Cosmopolis Muddled.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—To ascertain the proper method of procedure to bring about a vote of the people to determine their will as respects annexation of Cosmopolis to Aberdeen, City Attorney Hogan, in a long opinion to the Council, advises that the question be submitted to the courts for decision. He expresses the opinion that the proceedings heretofore attempted to bring about a special election have been irregular and not according to law.

OREGON PIONEER WOMAN CELEBRATES 81ST BIRTHDAY.

Mrs. Sarah E. Martin, who celebrated her 81st birthday Wednesday, was born in Alabama in 1827, and crossed the plains to Oregon in 1852. She settled in Lane County and resided there until the death of her husband, Lewis Martin, in 1884. Mrs. Martin then removed to Harney Valley, where she and her sons were pioneer settlers. Her home is in Ashland, but she is now visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George McGowan, 729 Wasco street. Mrs. Martin is in perfect health and in full possession of all her faculties.



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Our Greetings of the Season  
Tull & Gibbs

## OLD BOAT WRECKED

Schooner San Buenaventura Reaches Port a Derelict.

VESSEL'S HULL IS RUINED

Battered by Heavy Winds, Masts and Rigging Give Way Like Paper. Schooner Towed Into Coos Bay With All on Board Safe.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Stripped of entirely all her rigging and masts the old two-masted schooner San Buenaventura, is anchored in Coos Bay and will never again sail the seas. After active service for 40 years in the merchant marine of this coast, the San Buenaventura met her fate while at the very entrance of the harbor for which she was bound on her final trip.

On December 20 the schooner left San Francisco, where she is owned, in tow of the steam schooner Raymond. She was bound for Bandon at the mouth of the Coquille River. The steamer could not take her inside and she anchored off the bar. At 3 o'clock yesterday morning a strong wind came up, the boat broke from her moorings and was entirely dismantled by the wind. It was not so much the severity of the storm

that caused the accident as it was the condition of the boat. She was very old and the masts were rotted and could not withstand the wind.

Captain Tony Ivergard, with five seamen and a cook, were aboard. The men were asleep at the helm when the wind came up. No one was hurt. The boat drifted up to Coos Bay and anchored off the Bay last night, when she was spoken by the gasoline schooner Wilhelmina. The tug Columbia went out this morning and towed the boat in. The hull was floating easily on the water and the crew was not in any immediate danger. It is not likely that anything will be done with the hull. The boat was built at Fairhaven, 40 years ago, and during her service has visited most of the ports along this coast, she was old and not of great value, probably being worth only a few thousand dollars. The wreck was so complete the hull will not be worth repairing.

Progressive Association Formed.

PIRWOOD, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—The Progressive Association is the name of an organization just formed in this part of Clackamas County, with the following officers: President, J. G. De Shazer; vice-president, A. Malar; secretary, Harvey Keires; corresponding secretary, A. L. Milliron; treasurer, E. D. Hart; librarian, Mrs. E. D. Hart. At the meeting a letter was received from the Oregon Agricultural College announcing that the institute scheduled for Pirwood will be held early in the Spring there.

Bartender Is Arrested.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—A bartender named Joe Tray was arrested this afternoon on a charge of larceny from the person. It is alleged that two witnesses will swear to having seen the man taking money from the person of an intoxicated logger named Archie Purdy, who was in a somnolent state from over-indulgence. The alleged robbery occurred in a local saloon.

## HUME WILL IS PROBATED

WIDOW AND NEPHEWS AND NIECES GET PROPERTY.

Real Estate in San Francisco and Valuable Personal Property Given Mrs. Hume.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 24.—According to the statement of J. S. Coke, attorney for the administrator, there will be no contest in the settlement of the estate of the late R. D. Hume, of Curry County. The will has been admitted to probate in Curry County and its provisions have just been made public. To the widow is left outright the testator's property on Chestnut street in San Francisco, all stocks and bonds, \$20,000 in cash and some personal property. The mansion at Piedmont is owned by Mrs. Hume herself.

Four or five nieces and nephews are bequeathed \$500 each, and the remainder of the estate is divided into 100 shares, of which Mrs. Hume received 10 shares and the nieces and nephews some five and some seven shares each. This part of the estate includes the enormous land holdings and canneries in Curry County and will probably be incorporated. Mrs. Hume is sole executrix of the will, and she, together with Charles H. Warner, is appointed to administer the portion of the estate in California.

A par excellent table d'hoite dinner served at the Perkins Grill Christmas, 5 to 8:30. Reserve your tables.

Finest stock fitted cases and bags, Harris Trunk Co., 132 4th, opp. Oregonian.

# GRAY'S

## Great Removal Sale

### Chesterfield Clothes

Continues Through the Holidays

The greatest sale of high-grade clothes ever held in Portland. Get your share of the bargains while the selections are good. Following are the great price reductions:

Chesterfield Suits	Chesterfield Suits	Chesterfield Overcoats and Cravenettes
Fancy Patterns	Blacks and Blues	\$20.00 Values... \$15.00
\$20.00 Suits... \$14.25	\$22.50 Suits... \$16.50	\$25.00 Values... \$19.00
\$22.50 Suits... \$15.50	\$25.00 Suits... \$19.00	\$30.00 Values... \$23.50
\$25.00 Suits... \$18.50	\$30.00 Suits... \$23.50	\$35.00 Values... \$26.50
\$30.00 Suits... \$22.50	\$35.00 Suits... \$26.50	\$40.00 Values... \$29.50
\$35.00 Suits... \$25.50	\$40.00 Suits... \$29.50	\$50.00 Values... \$34.50
\$40.00 Suits... \$29.50	\$45.00 Suits... \$34.50	\$60.00 Values... \$45.00
\$45.00 Suits... \$34.50	\$50.00 Suits... \$39.50	

Big Reductions on Full Dress and Tuxedo Suits and Trousers

# R. M. GRAY

269-271 Morrison Street