CITY FUNDS LIE IDLE IN VAULTS

Charter Board, However, Insists Banks Must Furnish Best of Security.

WERLEIN'S PLAN REJECTED

Treasurer Declares Banks Send Best Paper to New York and Advises City to Lend Money on Indemnity Bonds.

As a result of disinclination of Portland bankers to comply with the present law relating to the loan of public money, the city's vaults are bursting with cash which cannot be placed to advantage while not in use. This necessitates its withdrawal from circulation for indefinite periods, and exposes sums reaching above the million-dollar mark to the mercy of possible looters. Such, at least, was the revelation made before the Charter Revision Committee yesterday afternoon.

In order to remedy this condition of money stagnation, Treasurer Werlein outlined a plan for loaning or depositing money on surety or indemnity bonds. But the committee would have none of this. They heard Mr. Werlein's explanation that the local banks keep their securities in New York and will not bring them here to post with the city for brief deposits. But the members of the committee did not share the Treasurer's alarm at this situation, and the decision was promptly reached that if bankers don't care to furnish proper security they need not ask for loans.

Unanimous Vote Against Plan.

"I think if any banker really wants city money, he'll produce collateral quickly enough," suggested R. W. Montague, of the committee, as he presented a formal motion that the letting of money on indemnity bonds be not authorized. This motion passed immediately and unanimously.

A spirit of distrust of surety companies and a tendency to shy at any and all indemnity bonds was shown by the committee from the first. Mr. Werlein, who heartily indorsed the idea of letting the money out in this way, said the companies could be relied upon and added that he could recall no instance when one of these concerns "welched."

"Why, those concerns can't be depended upon to pay anything unless they wish to," protested Chairman Henry E. McGinn. "All over the backs of their contracts there are little phrases which they can take advantage of in slipping away from their obligations."

Judge McGinn then asked H. H. Newhall, member of the committee and president of the East Side Bank, which was recently robbed, just what luck he had had in getting his losses back from the surety companies protecting him.

"I'm still waiting," reported Mr. Newhall. "They keep telling me the company is about to take my claim up, but nothing ever seems to come of it."

Robbers Might Loot Vaults.

The Treasurer insisted that it was an injustice to him to have the money kept in the City Treasury. He hinted at all manner of dire calamity. Some of these "hail fellows well met" politicians might be elected to succeed him and juggle with the money, or armed robbers might raid the City Hall and ramble away with a million or two in gold. Mr. Werlein assured the committee that in such a contingency he'd be willing to "protect the money with his life."

He pointed out, too, that Portland is a great reshipping point, and that vast sums of money are needed each year to move the wheat crop. He thought it was an injustice to the business interests to have a million or so in gold locked up in the city vaults when money was so badly needed. After lying awake nights for some time past, the only solution he could find was that of loaning money out to the banks on the surety bonds.

But even then the committee was unmoved. John M. Gearin suggested that it is sometimes easier to lend money to banks than it is to secure its return. As to the question of a raid on the City Hall by armed robbers, he couldn't see anything to be alarmed about in the suggestion and remarked that in the remote event of such a calamity it would have to be accepted.

Will Appeal to People.

"I don't wish to appear as holding a threat over this body, but I am afraid that I shall have to take this matter up with the people," concluded Mr. Werlein, when his plan for lending the city's money was knocked in the head.

"Take it before the people, by all means," said Judge McGinn, eagerly. "If the banks of this community keep their securities in New York and are insisting on borrowing money from the city on indemnity bonds, then the sooner the public knows it the better for all concerned."

"I'll be blamed for hoarding up the $1,500,000 of gold which will soon be in the vaults," said Mr. Werlein.

"I hardly think you will be blamed for complying with the law," said Mr. Gearin. "The banks may be blamed, but I hardly see how you can be."

Other amendments to the charter relating to city money were adopted by the committee as presented by Mr. Werlein. The most important of these amendments is that giving the small banks of the city a chance to receive deposits from the city. Heretofore only banks of $250,000 capitalization might apply, but the amount was cut so as to apply to the $50,000 institutions, provided, of course, satisfactory security is advanced.

The time for presenting application for loans was removed from the charter. Provision was made that no standing funds shall be deposited on time certificates of deposit. The bank receiving a city deposit must deposit with the Treasurer either bonds of the city, Port of Portland, or School District No. 1, the face value of which must be equal to the amount placed on deposit, or other established municipal or corporation bonds.

The matter of changing the term of office for city officials, particularly the Mayor and City Councilmen, from two years to four, was suggested by Mr. Montague. No sooner would a Mayor get well along in the working out of some important public policy than he would be checked by an election, he said. "Where large policies are to be worked out more time should be given so that these officials may not be dependent upon every popular whim," said he.

"If the policy of a man is just, the people will re-elect him, so that he needn't worry about the election," protested Judge McGinn. "A sad mistake was made in this community when the election of a District Attorney was established for every four years instead of every two."

Rev. W. G. Eliot, Jr., urged that it is asking much of a man to put him in a public office at the sacrifice of business for a brief two years. But as several of the members of the committee were not present, the subject was laid aside for future consideration. The committee will meet again tonight at the Council Chamber to continue its work.

CALLS BELLING A THIEF

Mrs. Mayer Causes Arrest of Nervy Pawnbroker.

Walter Belling, business successor to Nathan Wolff, the First-street pawnbroker who was murdered, was arrested yesterday on a warrant charging larceny. Mrs. Sarah Mayers, 905 East Ninth street North, is the complainant.

According to Mrs. Mayer's complaint, Belling has every pawnbroker in Portland beaten a mile when it comes to real, objectionable nerve and effrontery. District Attorney Cameron evidently agrees with her for he readily issued the warrant and every effort will be made to punish the pawnbroker.

Mrs. Mayer, according to her complaint, purchased a watch and chain of Wolff before his death. She claimed that she left the watch at Wolff's place to be repaired and it was there at the time of Wolff's death. She says she was never able to get the watch, being told that it had been lost. She was offered another in return. As a result a dispute arose as to the payment.

Yesterday afternoon she went to the shop, made a little purchase and the discussion was renewed. Belling, she says, asked to see the chain she wore. She readily gave it to him, and when he regained possession of it locked it up, saying that he would keep it until she paid what he claimed she owed.

She immediately called upon the District Attorney, causing Belling's arrest on a charge of larceny.

UNION LABOR MAN HEADS FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

C. M. Rynerson.

Mayor Lane has appointed C. M. Rynerson as secretary of the free employment bureau, a municipal office soon to be installed in the City Hall. The appointee is widely known in union labor circles, being a member of the Typographical Union. He is also a member of the charter revision committee. The employment office will soon be opened, and it is believed it will prove of great benefit to the working class, as well as to employers.

TAXES DUE NEXT MONDAY

Rebate Allowed if Payment Is Made Before March 15.

Taxes in Multnomah County will become due Monday. All property-owners who pay their taxes before March 15 will receive a 3 per cent rebate. Sheriff Stevens says taxpayers will save themselves much time if they will mail to Deputy Sheriff H. B. Martin, Tax Department, Courthouse, descriptions of their property by lot, block and addition, with requests for statements. It will then be but a matter of a few moments for each property-owner to present his statement to the cashier at the Tax Department, and to pay his tax. Otherwise taxpayers will be obliged to wait while the property is looked up on the books.

The extension of the taxrolls was completed yesterday afternoon by County Clerk Fields, Deputy County Clerk Lounsbury and the deputies under him. Since January 11 they have been working upon 18 large books of 200 pages each, and last night were within 43 mills of striking a balance.

The total tax in Multnomah County is $4,581,497.17, the total property valuation being $236,173,657.60. This year's tax is $1,354,922.92 greater than last year's. The total tax for last year was $3,226,564.25. The assessed value of property last year was $232,141,658, the increase this year being $3,422,599.60. The city funds this year will be $1,423,709. This is $422,042 greater than last year's city tax of $957,-667.67. Last year's tax for school district No. 1 was $657,045. This year it is $1,094,489, an increase of $377,444.

The county taxes, as apportioned to the various funds, is as follows:

Fund.	Levy, Mills.	Property Val	Taxes.
State and State School	2.14	$236,173,657	$502,990.43
County	3.	236,173,657	708,520.97
Road	.97	236,173,657	229,088.45
Library	.13	236,173,657	30,702.58
Port of Portland	1.2	230,743,552	276,892.26
City of Portland	6.6	215,718,595	1,423,709.72
City of St. John	5.8	2,722,165	15,788.56
City of Gresham	5.	193,825	969.12
City of Fairview	10.	106,930	1,069.30
School District No. 1	4.7	220,104,130	1,034,489.41
Country School Districts	...	.....	57,276.37
Total taxes			$4,581,497.17

WILL BUILD TWO SCHOOLS

St. John Citizens Vote to Spend $50,000.

At a special election yesterday St. John officially decided to erect a High School building and also a graded school building. The two buildings will cost $50,000, and plans for their construction will be made at once.

The proposition to erect a High School building carried by 78 votes, while there was a majority of 22 in favor of the graded school building. The High School will be erected on block 29, which was bequeathed to the city by the late James John, founder of the suburb, for school purposes. The building will cost $20,000.

The graded school building will cost $10,000, and will be erected on a block near Smiths Crossing.

Harris Trunk Co., Sixth and Alder, have reduction sale for two weeks. **

25c safety razor. Elyssell's Pharmacy, 289 Morrison, between 4th and 5th. **

COUNCIL AT OUTS WITH PARK BOARD

Fails to Authorize Proceedings for Condemnation of 12-Acre Tract at Sellwood.

BOARD'S REQUEST DENIED

Proposed Purchase of Strip Adjoining Columbia Park Turned Down. Councilmen Criticise Action of Board in Sellwood Project.

Condemnation proceedings for the purchase of 12 acres of land at Sellwood for park purposes, was not authorized by the City Council yesterday, as recommended by the Park Board, neither did the Council act in conformity with the request of the board to purchase a strip of ground lying along the northern portion of Columbia Park. Members of the Council are indignant at the recent action of the Park Board and Mayor Lane in first recommending the purchase of the Sellwood tract and then changing about and suggesting that it be condemned. It seems probable that this action will result in the refusal of the Council to accept further recommendations from the Mayor and Park Board, and that the Council itself will first investigate every bit of land offered before taking action.

While the reason is assigned that City Engineer Taylor could not make the surveys of the Sellwood tract in time to lay the description properly before the Council, it is said that the members of the Council are as well pleased; that they want to give the Park Board time to think before taking any further action on land for parks, boulevards and playgrounds. Several of the Councilmen expressed themselves as unwilling to vote any more ordinances for the purchase of ground upon the recommendation of the Mayor and members of the Park Board.

Peninsula Purchase Turned Down.

This was clearly brought out when recommendation from the Park Board was read, asking the Council to purchase for $5000 the strip of ground adjoining Columbia Park. An ordinance was up for consideration, and because he refused to act upon recommendation of the Park Board, Councilman Menefee used his prerogative and objected to the passage of the measure under suspension of the rules, which blocked passage. Therefore, the strip is not purchaseable until further action, at least, and in the meantime the original option will expire February 1. Whether an extension can be obtained, is unknown.

"I will not vote for any more land purchases upon recommendation of the Park Board," said Councilman Menefee. "I object to the passage of this ordinance at this time, because I will hereafter make a personal investigation of all these pieces of property recommended by the Park Board to ascertain whether the valuations are reasonable, and to make certain that nothing like the Sellwood park fiasco occurs. It may be the strip of ground asked for the Columbia Park is offered at a reasonable price and should be bought, but I am not going to take any chances on it, and will therefore object to the passage of the ordinance until such time as an investigation can be made."

"It is altogether likely," said Councilman Belding, "that if we authorized the purchase of the strip of ground for Columbia Park, the Mayor would veto the ordinance and say we are paying too much."

The Park Board, under the charter, is authorized to select and recommend property for purchase, but the Council alone has power to authorize the expenditure of money, and the whole matter is thus resting with the Council. Condemnation proceedings must also be ordered by the Council, and if there is inharmony between the two bodies, it will undoubtedly result in great delay in acquiring the park properties for the purchase of which the people voted $1,000,000, of which $500,000 is now available for use. The ordinance relating to the Columbia Park strip was referred to the committee on parks and public property for an investigation.

An ordinance by Councilman Belding, fixing the time in which referendum measures may be filed with the Council at 30 days, was defeated by a large majority, as it was feared its passage would interfere with the introduction of many bills sought to be laid before the voters in the coming elections. Councilman Belding said he regarded it as necessary that great precaution should be taken regarding such measures, and declared the people should have copies of all such proposed amendments and also of the proposed new charter at least 60 days before the election. Councilman Bennett and others strongly opposed the ordinance, and it was defeated.

Salary for Bailiff Macdonald.

Councilman Wallace believes that James Macdonald, who was employed as bailiff in the Municipal Court under the regime of ex-Judge Cameron, should be paid for his services in the sum of $1120. A legal question arose as to the appointment, and Mayor Lane refused to sign the first month's salary warrant. The case was taken into the courts and finally decided adversely to Mr. Macdonald; but he had, meantime, been performing faithfully the duties assigned him, and another effort is to be made to pay him. The ordinance was referred to the committee on judiciary.

A warant was ordered drawn on the Mayor and Auditor to pay for one year's services of Day, Carpenter, Rasing and Snow, illegally discharged from the detective force, and it will now be Mayor Lane's turn to act. It is generally believed he will refuse to sign the warrants unless compelled to do so by order of the Court, and that he will commence proceedings immediately thereafter to force the detectives to pay into the CityTreasury all sums earned by them for the period covered by the warrants.

PARK TRACT IS TRANSFERRED

Streetcar Company Deeds Sellwood Land to William Morehouse.

A deed transferring the tract at Sellwood the Park Board recommended to be purchased for park purposes from the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to William Morehouse, for $35,000, has been filed. There are 16 acres in the tract transferred by the railroad company, and the deed is dated December 11. The city is seeking 12 acres of this property. Walter Adams, a member of the Sellwood Board of Trade, who has been active in securing a park for Sellwood, said yesterday that the filing of the deed was not significant, and that the city could condemn the property just the same, but the filing of the deed indicates that Mr. Morehouse wants the proceedings to be directed against him and not the railroad company. Mr. Morehouse has said that he has no apprehension, but that he will get his price and more under condemnation proceedings, but as long as the matter hangs fire he cannot sell out the property in lots. He had sold a number of the lots already before the recommendation of the Park Board was made. The recommendation of the Sellwood Board of Trade is that the city condemn the tract and enough on the north and west sides to carry the land over the brink of the hill on both sides.

Mr. Adams said yesterday that the proceedings to condemn the property would be for the best anyway for all concerned, as it would relieve every one connected with the transaction of the charge of "graft," which has been so freely made in many quarters. However, there is a movement to consider the securing of 40-acre slice of the Golf Links tract between the Oregon City railway and the Milwaukie road. The land is outside of the city and the county, but that might not affect the matter, as the territory could be annexed in time. It is understood that the land was offered a short time ago for $180 an acre, but since then the price has been raised.

Mr. Adams said yesterday that the tract is not suitable for park purposes, being a long distance from the river, besides being outside the city and county. He considers the Morehouse tract far superior in every way.

SWEDEN TO HAVE FLOAT

VICE-CONSUL TAKES UP PLAN FOR FESTIVAL.

Local Societies Will Unite to Be Properly Represented in One of the Big Floral Pageants.

Waldemar Lidell, vice-consul for Sweden, has announced his intention of interesting the Swedish colony of Portland and Oregon in a movement to enter a typical national float in the daylight parades of the next annual Rose Festival. He called on President Ralph W. Hoyt yesterday, to secure detailed information as to the plans for the week of the Festival, and said that he felt sure that the Swedes of the Northwest would be only too glad to have representation in the great municipal jubilee.

Mr. Lidell says that he feels sure that the seven or eight Swedish societies in Portland will be willing to help defray the expenses of building a magnificent float which shall be symbolical of their own nation and be a tribute to the Northwest to which the people of Scandinavia have contributed so much in its upbuilding.

There are a number of strong Swedish organizations in Portland, of a musical, religious and of a commercial character which it is expected will be willing to participate in the movement to raise enough money to give the people of that country a fine float in the floral pageants. The theme to be treated in such a float was discussed with the Festival management but no conclusion arrived at, for the reason that Vice-Consul Lidell desires to take the subject up with the various societies in the city before settling this matter.

Swedish tradition and mythology are extremely rich in themes which would easily lend themselves to treatment for decorative floats in such a celebration as the Rose Festival proposes to hold, and as soon as the matter can be brought to the attention of the Swedish people of Portland, the plans and cost of the float will be decided upon.

James A. Wood, director of publicity for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, notified the Rose Festival yesterday, that he had directed letters to Senators Piles and Jones and to the three Representatives of Washington asking them to use their influence in behalf of the movement inaugurated by the Festival toward securing Government aid in defraying the expenses of the Pacific Coast trip of the Liberty Bell. Mr. Wood stated that he had taken the matter up with congressional representatives personally and felt sure that they would do all in their power to assist this movement.

The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition management has expressed its willingness to have the great historic trophy come to Portland first, inasmuch as there will be so many details in connection with the opening of the Seattle Fair that the relic could not be given a fitting reception at that time. Seattle will, therefore, work to have the bell come to Portland for Festival week, June 7-12 first, and then be sent over to Seattle for as long a period as possible.

WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Some Clerics Handed a Scolding by One of the Brethren.

PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—With regard to a recent news article in The Oregonian on "What Would Jesus Do?"—well, in the first place he would never assume the title of the Rev. Jesus Christ, D. D. He would not require a salary of so many thousand dollars a year to proclaim his gospel. He would disdain to pass a collection plate before his audience, as also he would to crack a host of jokes, to the mirth and merriment of his congregation. He would have no time to entertain his listeners with flowery oratory on the "life in four great cities," and wind up with a few moral lessons to spice it a little, but he would be constantly proclaiming and that solemnly—the "Glad Tidings of the Kingdom of God."

What would Jesus do? He would denounce as serpents, hypocrites and whited sepulchres the clerics of today and brand them as "blind leaders of the blind." He would proclaim the divine message of hope to poor perishing mortals that they might be saved from an everlasting grave, whilst on the other hand he would refrain from being a burden to society and a parasite in other people's pockets.

I venture to suggest that if the actual truths as taught by Jesus, together with the facts recorded in the prophecies and writings of the apostles were strictly and actively proclaimed from the platforms of the churches, instead of the moonshine we have (painfully often) to listen to, there would be no need for a "ringing appeal along the line." For the purity and cleanliness of a moral life would naturally and automatically follow.

H. W. G. WILLIMONT.

PIPE ORGAN FOR SALE

A fine, slightly used two manual, pedal bass pipe organ is offered upon easy terms and at exceptionally low price. An opportunity of a life-time to secure an instrument suitable to a church of limited means. We guarantee the organ to be first-class in every respect. Eilers Piano House, 353 Washington street. **

Children's shoes at factory cost. Best makes at Rosenthal's. **

ENGINEER BLAMED FOR BRIDGE WORK

D. W. Taylor Resents Attack on His Office by H. M. Esterly.

CALLS REPORT WORTHLESS

Official Declares Experts Who Inspected East Twenty-eighth-Street Span Gave City Poor Return for $500 Fee.

Gross negligence and slack system in the office of City Engineer Taylor in the matter of the reinforced concrete bridge across Sullivan's gulch, on East Twenty-eighth street, was charged by H. M. Esterly during a session of the bridge committee of the City Executive Board yesterday afternoon. Mr. Taylor heatedly replied to the aspersions, declaring the allegations untrue in every particular, and challenging his accuser to produce evidence upon which to base his statements.

City Engineer Taylor Who Was Criticised by H. M. Esterly.

Mr. Taylor went further, and in turn charged that the report of the three experts employed by the Board, and which severely criticised the bridge in design and workmanship, was written by one expert and signed by the others; that it was "worth very little," and that "the other two probably wish they had never signed it."

The clash occurred during a lengthy session of the committee, composed of J. A. Newell, John Montag, P. E. Sullivan, Judge Seneca Smith and Mr. Esterly. Mayor Lane presided. In making a statement as to his views regarding the bridge, which has been held up pending a decision as to whether it is acceptable, Mr. Esterly cast severe strictures upon the City Engineer's office. Mr. Taylor, who maintains that the bridge is all right with but minor exceptions, interrupted, to reply to his accuser, but was not allowed by the Mayor to proceed. Later, however, he insisted upon saying that he would not permit any man to make serious charges against him without taking the privilege of making reply.

Mr. Esterly's idea of the bridge is that the company is at fault as to the abutment, wings and railings, which he regards as defective and not according to plans and specifications. In other matters which affect the structure's value, in his opinion, the City Engineer's office is at fault. He declared that gross carelessness in checking the plans and specifications is apparent, and that the bridge was built in a faulty manner by consent of the city's own employes.

Mr. Taylor at this point heatedly replied that he would not allow any one to make such charges against his office, and was about to demand that Mr. Esterly make specific statements as to the alleged neglect of duty, when Mr. Esterly interrupted and said that he would not hear any reply from Mr. Taylor at that time; that the committee was not there for that purpose, and that it was unnecessary. Mayor Lane ruled that Mr. Taylor could say something later.

Says Instructions Were Followed.

A general discussion of the bridge, as to its defects and the condition of the structure, followed. In a general way, the Northwest Bridge Works, the builders, were blamed for "doing an unworkmanlike job." Some of the concrete is said to be faulty, but Attorney L. A. McNary, counsel for the contractors, and J. B. Bowles, president of the firm, declared that, in every instance, the dictation of Assistant City Engineer Hannam was followed. The contractors contend that the plans and specifications were followed and that the bridge is therefore built as the city directed, and must be accepted.

Mr. Esterly said he would vote to accept the bridge if the contractors will make good the defects with which he blames them. Mr. Newell said he thought that the city's experts did not go into the investigation as thoroughly as they should, or they would have found the concrete different from what reported. Mr. Montag said he would not vote to accept the bridge until the defects were repaired. Mr. Sullivan said he thought the Board paid $500 to get a report of three experts, and that he supposed they would report as to whether the bridge should be accepted or rejected. He seemed disappointed with the report. It was finally agreed that Mr. Sullivan and Judge Smith will view the bridge again this morning, and that another session will be held some time today, at which a report may be formulated, for presentation to the Executive Board, which meets this afternoon. The bridge cost $71,000.

The experts who were paid $500 by the city to render a report on the condition of the bridge are W. A. Grondahl, R. L. Donald and J. W. Moffett. The report they made was vague and indefinite, and by numerous experts employed by the contracting company and also by City Engineer Taylor is declared to be virtually worthless.

Talking Machine Supremacy.

All the best makes here. Each one a leader in its class—the Columbia, the Edison and the Victor we mention particularly. Here you buy from choice of the recognized "best" after a comparison side by side, and it's the only place in Portland where you can make this comparison. You get what you come for here. Allow our clerks to run over a few of the latest New York hits for you—also other new music. It's well worth your time to visit Eilers Talking Machine Parlors and you're welcome to come and post up on the latest. Small payments if you like. Remember the place Park and Washington. **

One Dose

Ask your doctor to tell you, honestly and frankly, just what he thinks of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Then do as he says.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

REVISED FORMULA

Often a single dose of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral at bedtime will completely control the night coughs of children. It is a strong medicine, a doctor's medicine, entirely free from alcohol. Made only for diseases of the throat, bronchial tubes, and lungs. Full formula on each label.

We have no secrets! We publish the formulas of all our medicines.

J. C. AYER CO., Manufacturing Chemists, Lowell, Mass.

MINKLER WINS SUIT

Railroad's Pleas in Abatement Are Overruled.

LAND-GRANT CASE HEARD

Actual Settler Sues Oregon & California to Compel Conveyance of Quarter Section in Clark County at $2.50 an Acre.

A decision in the case of Roy Minkler, claiming to be an actual settler on a quarter section of the Oregon & California Railroad grant lands, who has sued the company in the Federal Court at Tacoma to compel the conveyance to him at $2.50 an acre, was handed down by Judge Dietrick yesterday.

The decision was upon pleas in abatement filed by the Oregon & California Railroad Company and Union Trust Company, mortgagee.

Judge Dietrick overruled the pleas in abatement, which were based upon the ground that the two defendant corporations are non-residents of the State of Washington. The court held that inasmuch as the suit is to enforce a trust in reference to land situated in the State of Washington, that the defendant corporations will be required to answer and stand trial at Tacoma. Portland attorneys appeared for all parties concerned, W. D. Fenton and John M. Gearin representing the defendants and A. W. Lafferty representing Minkler.

This case is identical with that filed in the United States Court here by John L. Snyder over a year ago against the same defendants. The Snyder case, and all the other actual settler suits in the Federal Court at Portland, have been consolidated with the Government suit, and cannot be tried ahead of the Government suit. Therefore, the Minkler case at Tacoma may be the first case involving a construction of the railroad grant to be decided, and may furnish a precedent for the cases here. It will in all probability be reached for decision on the merits considerably ahead of the cases in Portland.

Minkler is suing for a quarter section of land in Clark County, Washington, near Vancouver. The grant of May 4, 1870, gave the railroad company each odd-numbered section on either side of the track for a distance of 20 miles, on condition that the lands should be sold to actual settlers only and at prices not exceeding $2.50 an acre. The road running west from Portland to McMinnville was included in this grant, and as the grant extended 20 miles north it included some lands across the Columbia River in the State of Washington.

WOULDN'T BUY HER CLOTHES

Mrs. Edward L. Wyatt Wants Divorce From Heartless Husband.

Telling his wife, "Your old hide is not worth it!" when she asked him for suitable wearing apparel, Edward L. Wyatt paved the way for Mrs. Ora E. Wyatt to file a divorce suit in the Circuit Court. Wyatt is 27 years old, while his wife is but 20. They were married August 4, 1907.

Mrs. Wyatt, whose maiden name was Bratton, says that although her husband earns a good salary, she has been compelled to leave home and to take up her abode with friends in order to obtain the necessaries of life. She demands $25 a month alimony, $50 attorney's fees and asks for her maiden name.

Lottie Anderson has brought a divorce suit in the Circuit Court, charging Edgar W. Anderson with having struck her so violently on the head last August that he stunned her, and with having blacked her eys and injured her knee last December. She says she married him in San Francisco, July 30, 1905. She desires to resume her maiden name, Lottie Hunt.

Marie Cornelius says, in a divorce complaint, filed yesterday, that she was obliged to support herself after marrying Conrad Cornelius, as he contracted the drinking habit. They were married in Portland, October 22, 1899. He deserted her, she says, in July, 1906. They have a boy 7 years old. She desires his custody.

V. F. Irish demands a divorce from Cora Irish on a statutory charge. He also desires the custody of their 1-year-old girl. The couple were married February 22, 1906.

Parents Fighting for Child.

Elvera Elgin, 2 years old, was taken before Judge Gantenbein yesterday afternoon, a writ of habeas corpus having been issued directing Edward L. Gage and his wife to appear and show cause why the child should not be returned to the Baby Home. Judge Northrup appeared in court to represent the home, while Attorney Fadden represented Gage. Upon the request of counsel the case was continued until 2 P. M., Monday, Gage and his wife being allowed to keep the child until that time. The home alleges in its petition that it adopted the child November 12, last year, and that Mr. and Mrs. Gage now refuse to surrender it.

Wemme Faces Receivership.

Presiding Judge Gantenbein decided yesterday that the Circuit Court has jurisdiction in the case of A. F. Swensson against the Overlook Land Company. President Wemme, of the company, must decide before 2 P. M. today whether he will pay Swensson $36,000 or permit the company to go into the hands of a receiver.

Trouble Over "Bubble" Wagon.

The damage suit of Ira T. Beekman against J. B. Kelly is on trial before Judge Morrow, in the Circuit Court. Beekman says he sent an automobile to Kelly's repair shop, and that Kelly refused to return it. Kelly says Beekman owed for repairing the machine, and that he is willing to surrender it as soon as the bill is paid.

Notes of the Courts.

Clifton F. Noakes was appointed by Judge Webster yesterday administrator of the estate of his father, George Noakes, valued at $4500.

Four men indicted by the grand jury Wednesday were to be arraigned before Judge Gantenbein in the Circuit Court yesterday afternoon.

The Standard Trust Company has been made defendant in an $800 damage suit, filed in the Circuit Court by the Pacific States Adjustment Company. The suit is to recover $500 attorney's fees, alleged to be due A. E. Clark, and $200 office rent in the Chamber of Commerce, alleged to be owing to the Seattle Dock Company.

The suit of Arnt Jorstad against O. M. Stafford and J. C. Burke went by default before Judge Bronaugh in the Circuit Court yesterday morning, the defendants failing to put in an appearance. Jorstad obtained $300 damages.

FRUIT IS NOT BADLY HURT

The Dalles Peach and Cherry Crop Weathered Recent Storm.

That the recent extreme cold weather has not killed fruit trees in The Dalles district is the statement of J. M. Patterson, secretary of The Dalles Business Men's Association, who was in Portland yesterday. Mr. Patterson says the peach crop has probably been injured to some extent, but he does not believe trees have been hurt. He says 20 inches of snow fell when the freezing weather came, and he thinks this protected the roots from the cold. Cherries, he believes, have not been injured at all.

Mr. Patterson returned yesterday from Salem, where he went in the interests of the bill providing for the extension of the Portage Road from Big Eddy to The Dalles. "This extension is badly needed," said he. "As it is now, the Portage Road is practically a dead letter. It cannot pay its way. With the line extended to The Dalles, all this would be changed and the interchange of freight between river steamers and the road would be simplified. It seems too bad that this improvement is not made, for Portland people and others have invested large sums of money in operating these steamers, and unless provision is made for the transfer, the boats will continue to be delayed in operation."

HERE IS AN EFFECTIVE RHEUMATISM RECIPE

Take This Mixture Now, and See How Long You Suffered Unnecessarily.

Thousands of men and women who have felt the sting and torture of this dread disease, which is no respecter of age, persons, sex, color or rank, will be interested to know that while for many years rheumatism was considered an incurable disease, now it is one of the easiest afflictions of the human body to conquer. Medical science has proven it not a distinct disease in itself, but a symptom caused by inactive kidneys. Rheumatism is uric acid in the blood and other waste products of the system which should be filtered and strained out in the form of urine. The function of the kidneys is to sift these poisons and acids out and keep the blood clean and pure. The kidneys, however, are of sponge-like substance, the holes or pores of which will sometimes, either from overwork, cold or exposure become clogged and inactive, and failing in their function of eliminating these poisons from the blood, they remain in the veins, decompose and settling about the joints and muscles, cause the untold suffering and pain of rheumatism and backache, often producing complications of bladder and urinary disease, weakness, etc.

The following simple prescription is said to relieve the worst cases of rheumatism because of its direct action upon the blood and kidneys, relieving, too, the most severe forms of bladder and urinary troubles: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Mix by shaking well in a bottle and take in teaspoonful doses after each meal and at bedtime. The ingredients can be had from any good prescription pharmacy, and are absolutely harmless and safe to use at any time.