

MAN WHO CIRCULATED EXCISE PETITION UNDER SCRUTINY DEFENDS HIS WORK.

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WAS HARD JOB, HOWEVER

Attorney Sinnott Positive Bill Will Be Thrown Out Because of Fraud and Is Ready to Appeal to Courts.

It is not a snap exercising an excise board petition, according to Allen G. Ross, one of the circulators, whose list of names has been questioned by the Gothenberg promoters and retail liquor dealers.

NO TRACE OF SIGNERS.

An attempt was made by men sent out by attorney Roger B. Sinnott, of the Retail Liquor Dealers' Association, to find Hundy and Daley at the Quimby Hotel, which was the address given in the petition, but the scouts reported failure.

The names of H. Hundy and James Daley, with residences at the Quimby Hotel, appear twice on the petitions circulated by Ross, Charles Harbeck, yesterday.

"I know both the men and I don't see how I could have got them twice," said Ross. "They both resided at my house last summer, and I am positive that Daley has stopped at the Quimby Hotel within the last two days."

Most of the signatures whose genuineness has been questioned by the liquor dealers' attorneys and experts were those on petitions circulated by Ross, Charles Harbeck, yesterday.

"I only took up the work because I was nothing else to do," he said yesterday.

Worked With Charles Harbeck. "I know only one of the other circulators," he replied to a question, "Charles Harbeck went up to Mr. McKenna's office together with me before when I saw the advertisement in the paper. I understood it was a scheme to open the town wider."

"I told Harbeck it would be a snap getting signatures to a petition of that kind. I don't know where the saloons are open or not, but I heard a good deal of talk down town about the way things had been closed down."

"We found out different when Mr. McKenna explained the proposition. I was only 26 names the first day. It was no use trying to work Burnside street or that section of town. Two out of three men would turn you down."

"The best place to catch people for a petition of that kind is at the churches on Sunday. I went up town one Sunday and stopped people going to and from church. Mr. Harbeck and I went with them and almost had to sign when they saw what kind of a book with names on Sunday in that way."

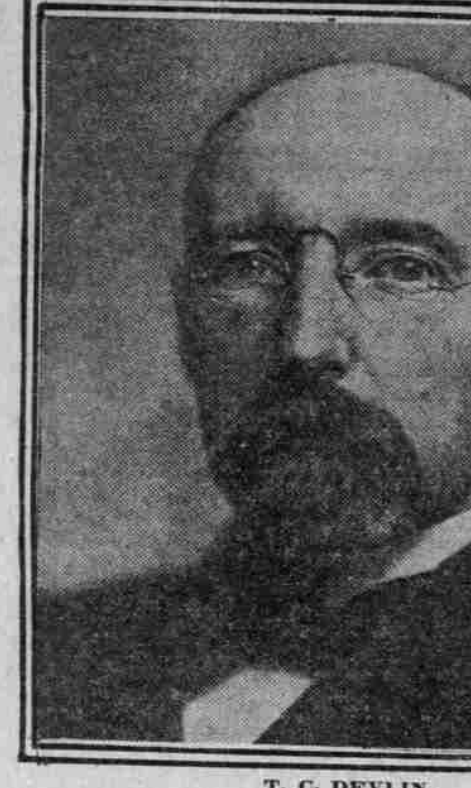
"I thought we were going to get about 3000 names the first week, but we soon found out different. I got tired of the job and threw it up. It was too hard work. I never worked so hard before. I turned in to make 35 a day. I think I turned in 25 cents a day names altogether at 5 cents a name."

"Harbeck and I worked together one day. He took one side a street and the other, but it was slow work. Then we went out to University and worked the sawmill and did pretty well."

"Lots of men said they would sign the petition just so Harbeck could get the money, but nearly all said they would not vote for the excise board."

What Councilman Dunning Said. "I tackled Councilman Dunning, one day, to sign the petition, and he went up in the way I'm on the Council," said Ross. "Do you think I'd favor taking control of the liquor licenses out of our hands and giving it to a committee?"

PRINCIPALS IN POLITICAL DEBATE AT PEOPLE'S FORUM



T. C. DEVLIN.



C. W. NOTTINGHAM.

LAND DEAL PROBED

Grand Jury Takes Up Suspicious Deed Case.

SHOWN TWICE IN RECORD

M. F. Culver, Notary Whose Seal Is Used, Declares Transfer to Mrs. W. T. Kearns Bears Forged Signatures.

The attention of the county grand jury was engaged the last four days of the past week in the investigation of a case that involves the integrity of the records in the office of the County Clerk, where a deed had been filed which seems to bear the earmarks of falsification.

It has been testified that the name of a well-known real estate man and notary public was forged to the instrument and that in addition to this his seal was imitated so badly that but a cursory glance at what is said of the bogus stamp and the genuine article would be convincing proof that the two could have no relation to each other.

The notary is M. F. Culver, who has an office on the second floor of the Chamber of Commerce building and who has been doing business in Portland for the past 25 years. Mr. Culver declares that not only he but likewise a number of others whose names have been dragged into the matter are very anxious that it should be sifted to a failure, as there is an attempt to make a fortune out of the case, but it came to be a grand jury secret.

Property Near Montavilla.

Property with a valuation which is now practically nominal, but which, with the extension of East Gilliam street, may, in a few years, become very important, is involved, and there is an extent of 1/4 acre of it, the plot is looked upon as a good asset. The location is about a block north of the Base Line road and facing East Gilliam street on the east and between Rockwood and Montavilla. It is not now city property and at present there is no attempt to improve made on the premises, although attempts have been fostered to have a highway or street run through its center.

Previous to the coming of this person Rankin in which it was stated that the latter would give a quit claim deed to the property for the sum of \$20, this taking into consideration that his name was to be taken from the deed and all the responsibility for the taxes and other liabilities removed. This was agreeable to Rankin's friend, and the deal was closed when Rankin's friend arrived.

Deed Filed by Rankin.

It is said that this friend brought with him two young men who were nephews of Castleman and whose presence was necessary for a decision in the matter. Rankin says he paid the \$20 and received a deed which he filed for record on April 14 last. The records show that this was really done and the item concerning the entry thus appears in the Daily Abstract, which is accepted as official.

March 1, 1909—Harry W. Castleman and wife, C. D. Rankin, 20. The date of March 22 indicates the time when the transfer was signed by Mr. and Mrs. Castleman in Los Angeles. Rankin's books verify Mr. Rankin's statement about the local legal formality.

Subsequent to this it was necessary for Rankin to put on record the fact that he had taken upon the responsibility for the land and an additional record was made which was subscribed and sworn to before Notary Public Culver, who has been Mr. Rankin's associate to a degree in various land investments.

Great surprise was manifested by Mr. Rankin when, on April 15, he failed to find any notation in the Daily Abstract of the filing of the deed. There was a stormy scene in the office of Mr. Culver and it seemed for a long time that there would be the old story of the best of friends parting, but according to these two individuals, the gale died down to a calm when other discoveries were made.

A hurried run was made to the Court-

CAUSES NO ILLNESS

Willamette Water Has Not Brought Typhoid.

HEALTH OFFICERS WATCH

Work of Repairing Broken Main Drags Wearily Along—Attempt Will Be Made Today to Pick Up Ends of Pipe.

There has, so far, been no disease in Portland that is attributed to the use of Willamette River water, during the four days that the city was without the Bull Run article, says Dr. Esther C. Pohl, City Health Officer. The hospital report there are no typhoid cases that could be ascribed to a similar cause.

"It does not apprehend bad effects," said Dr. Pohl, "although if there had been any typhoid germs in the water, development would not take place for several days—typhoid taking two weeks to develop. We can ascribe this to the freedom of the up-river town from typhoid. During last month there were but eight cases in the city and towards the Fall we usually have at least 30 cases."

"For the sake of the Sunnyside people I would like to correct a report that there are 60 cases of scarlet fever in that district. This is a misapprehension. There were only six cases in the whole city, and although cases in the whole city are not unusual, there were far more than the usual share, there were only six cases found in that district."

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"In the Hills of Carolina." The Lyric Stock Company opened yesterday matinee in "In the Hills of Carolina," a comedy in two acts, which was performed very well, being unable to get a better performance. You had better see this production early if you want to see this big production.

AT THE VAUDEVILLE THEATERS.

New Bill at Orpheum. These vaudeville acts before the Orpheum and sketches presented by the comedians in rapid succession at the Orpheum this week. The comedy, "The New Bill," is a new production. Realizing that to pay the required taxes, to invest a little money, to obtain a possible result of future profit, and made overtures which resulted in the passage of several letters between the date of March 22 indicates the time when the transfer was signed by Mr. and Mrs. Castleman in Los Angeles.

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ASSEMBLY PLAN DEFENDED

Ex-Auditor Shows That Just Such Party Gatherings Are Not Only in Harmony With Law, but Specially Authorized.

Those who attended the People's Forum in the Sealing-Hirsch building yesterday to hear State Senator C. W. Nottingham and Thomas C. Devlin debate the direct primary law, State election No. 1 and the initiative and referendum were disappointed. In the first place the discussion on the part of Mr. Devlin was confined to a defense of the recent Republican assembly. Secondly, Senator Nottingham agreed with his opponent as to the advisability of holding nominating conferences prior to the primaries. The latter devoted the principal part of his remarks to a defense of the last Legislature, which, representing the product of the direct primary system, he contended, compared more than favorably with preceding Legislatures in this state. In support of the assembly plan Mr. Devlin said:

The argument that a number of qualified voters coming together in an assembly called for the purpose to select the name of a candidate for a particular office and to recommend his nomination at that office is entirely in harmony with the law. That argument is advanced for the purpose of excluding the initiative and referendum from the list of candidates for the office, a candidate for whose election the law provides they are willing to become responsible.

What Primary Law Says. That the direct primary law itself authorized holding just such an assembly held by the Republicans of this city yesterday, I need not to discuss from the records of the direct primary law which says:

The method of selecting candidates for elective public offices by political parties and voluntary political organizations is the best plan known for selecting the best people the names of qualified and worthy citizens from whom the electors may choose the officers of our government."

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HARTMAN & THOMPSON BANKERS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COOS BAY LINE The steamer BREAKWATER leaves Portland every Wednesday, 8 P. M., from Astoria for North Bend, Marshfield and M. on day of sailing. Freight received till 4 P. M. \$10; second-class, \$7, including berth and meals. Inquire city ticket office, Third and Washington streets, or Astoria dock, Phone Main 258.