

RAILWAY MERGER FINDS DEFENDER

California Official Helps Southern Pacific's Cause in Federal Action.

UNMERGING HELD WISE

Regulated Monopoly Viewed as Far Preferable to Irresponsible and Unregulated Competition—Road Said to Be Innocent.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 14.—(Special.)—Eshleman, Esq., president of the State Railroad Commission, succeeded the cause of the Southern Pacific Company Saturday when he took the witness stand for the defense in the Government's Central Pacific-Southern Pacific railroad unmerging suit.

He was the last witness to be called by the defense in the proceedings here which have continued for a fortnight, and which were adjourned today to reconvene April 13 in New York City.

Mr. Eshleman gave his views upon the proposed separation of the two roads in this language: "Regulated monopoly is preferable to irresponsible and unregulated competition."

Eshleman declared that in his opinion an unmerging of the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific roads would result only in throwing the present rail-road system in California out of joint, and that as a consequence the present efficiency of the lines would be lowered.

Joint agreements between the divorced roads would, however, overcome these ill effects, the witness declared. He said that the Railroad Commission disapproved the sale of the Central Pacific in 1912 to the Union Pacific because the latter was the offending party, and that the Southern Pacific was an innocent victim.

"Ownership in Central Pacific and Southern Pacific terminals in California is so tangled," said the Lieutenant-Governor, "that it would be difficult to separate it into separate portions. If this were done, the road owning the terminals would assess the other roads every cent possible for the use of them."

"The upshot of a separation probably would be that present terminal facilities would have to be duplicated out of capital investment, which would be a legitimate argument before a California Railroad Commission for increased rates."

HILLSBORO MAN SUICIDE

Knife Plunged Through Body When Three Other Attempts Fail.

HILLSBORO, Or., March 14.—(Special.)—Charles Y. Churchill, a deaf mute, of this city, committed suicide Saturday by plunging a butcher knife through his abdomen, after he had failed in two efforts to sever the artery in his neck, and had failed also to reach the artery in his wrist by hacking it with a pocket knife. He was found by Mrs. Emerick, who also is deaf mute, and was taken to a hospital, where he died 10 minutes after being placed on the operating table.

He was about 56 years old, a native of this county and the son of a pioneer of 1843. He owned a farm and his residence here. He fell from a load of hay three years ago and injured his head. Since then he has imagined he was going to become poverty-stricken and had threatened to kill himself.

ROAD 95 PER CENT FINISHED

Columbia Highway Between Astoria and Westport Inspected.

ASTORIA, Or., March 14.—(Special.)—Major Bowley, the State Highway Engineer, and a party of Astorians returned last evening from an inspection trip over the portion of the Columbia Highway between here and Westport at the east line of the county.

They report that 95 per cent of the clearing and grading of the entire road is completed and the construction can be finished by the first of July so that the highway can be used for summer travel. Everyone who made the trip is enthusiastic over what has already been accomplished and determined to see that the work is continued during the coming summer.

CATALINA GOES AGROUND

Grace Liner Strikes Mud Bar While Moving Near Hawthorne Bridge.

The steamship Santa Catalina of W. R. Grace & Co.'s line ran aground on a mud flat just above Hawthorne bridge Saturday night. The vessel was being towed by the steamer Cascade when the accident occurred. The steering gear was not connected. It is expected that the Port of Portland towboat Ocklawaha will get the Santa Catalina off this morning. The Santa Catalina had just been overhauled at the Willamette Iron Works at an expense of \$20,000, having been burned in the Columbia River last fall.

ZEPPELIN HAS GRANDSON

Inventor's Name Borne by Descendant, Though He Has No Son.

BERLIN, via London, March 14.—A son has just been born to Count and Countess Brandenstein-Zepppelin. The Countess is the only daughter of Count Zepppelin, inventor of the Zeppelin dirigible balloon. At the time of her marriage the King of Württemberg conferred on her husband, Baron von Brandenstein, the title of Count, with the name Brandenstein-Zepppelin. Thus the name of Zepppelin is borne by a descendant of the inventor, although he has no son.

NON-SUIT ISSUE IS TAKEN

Proof That Accusations Are Correct Needed, Says Parker's Attorneys.

If the \$20,000 libel suit of Dr. E. R. Parker against Hugh Hume, editor of the Spectator, is to be non-suited, it must be proved that the Spectator's published accusation against the plain-

iff were correct. This is the substance of the reply brief filed in the Circuit Court Saturday by Mannix & Sullivan, attorneys for Dr. Parker, who is well-known throughout the country as a "Painless" Parker.

Ralph E. Moody, attorney for Hume, made a motion the other day for a non-suit after three or four days had been consumed in direct evidence.

"In order for the court to grant the non-suit," says the brief, "it must appear from the evidence already introduced that the libelous matter is true; that is, it must, as a matter of law, appear that Dr. Parker, or Painless Parker, is a charlatan, that he has been arrested and convicted as a law-breaker, etc."

In conclusion the contention is made that the jury should be instructed that the burden of proof is upon the defendant to justify the publication of the alleged libelous statements.

Dr. Parker says that the editor of the Spectator is eager to have the case non-suited so that it may embarrass Parker in his forthcoming campaign for the State Senate, for which office he already has announced his candidacy.

Y. M. C. A. MEET STARTS

J. CAMPBELL WHITE IS OPENING SPEAKER AT NEWBERG.

Stereopticon Views Show Progress of Association—State Sessions Will Be Concluded Today.

NEWBERG, Or., March 14.—(Special.)—The convention of Young Men's Christian Associations of this state and Idaho began Friday night with an address by J. Campbell White, which attracted a large assemblage.

The exercises today and tonight were held at the "Friends" Church. In the morning there was a session of Bible study, led by A. S. Allen. This was followed with an address by W. D. Weatherford on "College Men and Christian Leadership."

Tomorrow afternoon there are to be talks to men by W. S. Weatherford and to boys by Tracy Young. There is a large attendance of delegates.

BOY ATHLETE ARRESTED

B. F. ST. MARIE, 10, IN JAIL FOR PETTY THEFTS IN STORES.

"Prep" School Football Player Admits Buying Articles and Charging Them to Friends' Accounts.

B. F. St. Marie, the 10-year-old "prep" school football player, son of Mrs. Blanche St. Marie, a widow living at 59 East Eighteenth street north, was taken into custody by the police Saturday afternoon about 6 o'clock. According to Detectives Hill and Leonard, who made the arrest, the boy has made a practice of buying articles at different stores about the city and charging them to friends who he knew had accounts at the stores.

The arrest took place in the Meier & Frank store about 6 o'clock last night after he had made a purchase and ordered it charged.

St. Marie told Detective Hill that he had been making a practice of obtaining articles in this way for almost a year. When questioned as to his reasons for so doing he refused to talk.

Among the things he had charged are candy, cookies, toilet articles, gloves, shoes, neckties and other articles of wearing apparel.

One of the articles which he was accused of purchasing in this manner was a silver pie knife. This, he declares, he purchased for and presented to a girl friend.

St. Marie said he was a student of the Columbia University, where he formerly starred on the football team.

JITNEY FOLK BUSY

Proposed Ordinance May Be Put Up to People.

REFERENDUM TALK HEARD

Machine Interests Object to Provisions of Measure Before Council and Threaten to Circulate Petitions if Action Is Taken.

Portland will have no jitney legislation until after the regular city election in June if the threats made by representatives of the jitney interests are carried out. It is said that jitney people propose to circulate petitions to invoke the referendum on any ordinance the Council may pass, regardless of its contents. This will mean the holding up of the measure until it can be voted upon by the voters at the June election.

Specific objections have been made by the jitney interests against practically all of the provisions of the pending ordinance which would tend to curb the operations of the machine. If these are eliminated it is said by the anti-jitney interests that there will be no more regulation than there is now. If they are not eliminated it is contended by the jitney interests that they will work hardships on the jitney business and for that reason they will attempt to have the voters knock out the ordinance.

The jitney people have made specific and public objection to provisions of the ordinance which would prevent over-crowding of jitneys, would require them to operate on definite schedule, would prohibit them from changing their routes at will, would limit them to a five-cent fare, would require them to have any inspection of their machines or make any provision for the protection of the public in case of accident, and would restrict their operation on Washington and Morrison streets in the business center of the West Side.

The Council, in finally considering the ordinance, will take into consideration the probability of the referendum being invoked. Whether or not it will be made more or less drastic than it is now is uncertain. The Council says it would be a calamity for the jitneys to continue to operate without regulation and this might be the result of the enactment of too severe regulation. It is feared that if the measure is too severe the jitneys might be able to get the measure defeated at the June election. In this event should another measure be enacted it would have to go over for two years before being voted upon again.

Commissioner Daly declares that public opinion is in favor of the jitney, and that a majority of the city and county business it should not go too strong. Otherwise, he says, the ordinance might be knocked out by the voters.

JITNEY CONVENTION HELD

KANSAS CITY, March 14.—A National convention of owners and operators of 5-cent motor buses will be held in Kansas City May 4, 5 and 6. That announcement was made today by E. K. Carnes, traffic manager of the Kansas City Jitney Association. Representatives of motor traffic organizations from all parts of the country will be asked to attend.

SAFE ROBBERS DARING

WELL-DRESSED MEN LOOT VAULT AT SPOKANE ON BUSY STREET.

Secretary of Citizens' Savings & Loan Society Locked in Clothes Closet While Valuables Are Taken.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 14.—(Special.)—Two men looted the safe of the Citizens' Savings & Loan Society tonight, after breaking into Robert E. Porterfield, the secretary, in a clothes closet at the point of guns at 8:50 o'clock. They departed with \$98. Not more than two minutes were occupied in the robbery, which occurred within speaking distance of many pedestrians, and 100 feet from Riverside avenue.

Dropping a newspaper and arising from a chair Secretary Porterfield started toward to meet a young man of genteel appearance and confident manner, who entered. As the stranger reached the counter he raised a revolver and leveled it at the secretary. Today the man was backed into the clothes closet and commanded to keep silent. The second man stood guard while the first rifled the safe.

"If you make an outcry I'll put a slug in you," volunteered the leader. The men departed with a caution to silence. As the last of the loot was clicked behind the robbers Porterfield emerged from the prison and informed the police.

DARBY, Pa., March 14.—The mysterious theft of a wedding dress and a complete trousseau belonging to Miss Verma Middleton, of 1925 Main street, Darby, almost on the eve of her marriage to William Horner, also of Darby, by thieves who overlooked many other valuables, is considered by the Darby police to be one of the strangest robberies ever perpetrated in the borough.

The thief's reason for overlooking several suits of men's clothing, small articles of jewelry and handbags and taking only a handsome blue silk, lace-trimmed wedding dress and dainty lingerie that is embraced under the name of "trousseau" is unathomable, except for one motive, revenge.

Yet Miss Middleton says she cannot imagine anyone who would steal her wedding dress for that motive. "If they took it for revenge or for the reason of stopping or postponing this wedding," she said, "they have made a mistake, for the wedding will take place on March 6, as planned for."

o'clock Friday night, was fishing busily in the gutter at the southwest corner of Washington and Broadway streets. Despite the gurgling of the newshoes and the stares of the amused passers-by, he continued to stand on his inverted keg and stolidly fish.

No, he was not, as it would seem to think. It was merely the initiation of the K. D. I. Fraternity of the Portland High School.

MAN SAYS HE IS SINGLE

IN ANSWER TO DIVORCE SUIT, MARRIAGE IS DENIED.

Pittsburg Resident Blames Party 58 Years Ago, When Justice United Unwilling Couple in Plaint.

PITTSBURG, March 10.—Fifty-eight years after they met and were married against the wishes of the bridegroom, Nancy Bevington, quailed formerly of Bevington, near Burgettstown, Pa., now of Sharsburg, and James Conkle, aged 32, of Beaver Falls, Pa., will meet Friday at noon in the court of the nuptials long forgotten by Conkle, but still vivid in the mind of Miss Bevington.

In her suit filed against Conkle, Miss Bevington charges the former with desertion and non-support.

According to Attorney Walter Dippl, counsel for Miss Bevington, Conkle met Miss Bevington while working in 1857 on an old mill near her home. The couple fell in love, but were separated about two weeks ago and failed to get together again until Conkle, accepting a position in Ohio, shortly afterward a brother of Miss Bevington went to Conkle and persuaded him to return to the mill in Washington and Morrison streets in the business center of the West Side.

When he reached the farm in Washington, the Conkle couple had been arranged for his marriage to Miss Bevington. By pre-arrangement a Justice of the Peace was present. Conkle was asked to join hands with Miss Bevington, but he refused. Despite his objection the Justice pronounced the couple man and wife.

"No, we are not man and wife," Conkle exclaimed.

He left next day and went to West Virginia. It is said he neither saw nor heard from Miss Bevington in 1857, when she wrote to him. Still he refused to acknowledge her as his wife.

Conkle was married in 1862. His wife died eight months afterward. Again in 1866 he was married, that time to Miss McKalg, of this city. They had six sons, the eldest of whom is 59 years old.

The plaintiff in the suit alleges the ceremony of more than half a century ago was performed in a legal manner, and by a regularly commissioned Justice of the Peace. She received no marriage certificate.

LARGE WARDROBE IS KEPT

No One Wants Any of Chicago Bankrupt's 1000 Articles.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Israel Sandack, whose bankrupt petition brought him into prominence a few weeks ago as one of the two men in Chicago with the largest, most complete and varied wardrobe, was adjudicated a bankrupt a few days ago and his case was dismissed.

He got away with all the clothes. Not a single creditor appeared to contest his claim to them.

Sandack was a second-hand clothing dealer. He scheduled more than 1000 articles, including dress suits, canes, hats and traveling bags, as his personal wardrobe.

Sandack was not required to try the clothes on to prove ownership.

GRAZING BILL IS BEATEN

NEW HOMESTEAD LAW FAILS IN CONGRESS' LAST HOURS.

Measure Not Intended to Apply to Agricultural Lands, but to Encourage Stockmen's Entries.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 13.—Among the bills to go down to defeat at the recent session of Congress was the 640-acre stock-raising homestead bill, which passed the House some weeks ago and failed in the Senate in the last hours because of the objection of Senator Walsh, of Montana. The backers of the stock-raising bill did not have an opportunity to bring it up until the session was about to close because more important business claimed the right of entry after the shipping bill filibuster ended and when the bill was called up by Senator Sterling, it had to be considered by unanimous consent. Senator Walsh would not agree.

The 640-acre homestead bill was not intended to apply to agricultural lands, but to dry lands or other lands not suitable for cultivation, which would be valuable for grazing. Nor did the bill require the homesteader to reside on his homestead, for it recognized the fact that lands that would come under such a law would not be such as would sustain a home. The framers of the bill believed that their measure would lead to the entry of vast areas in the West which will not be entered under any existing law, because of the low character of the land.

It is the intention of those who supported the stock-raising homestead bill at the past session to reintroduce the bill next session and an effort will then be made to get it up for early consideration.

BALD? STUDY MUSIC, PLEA

Boston Doctor Says Harmony Makes the Hair Grow.

BOSTON, March 3.—Dr. R. Kendrick Smith, a prominent Back Bay physician, says that the love of their art, the tranquillity, the peace, the harmony and the joy of music is what makes musicians' hair grow long, and prevents them from getting bald headed.

Dr. Smith says: "A slight grief will turn the hair white, which we all know sometimes occurs, why is it not perfectly logical to assume that the opposite extreme, that is, the tranquillity, peace, harmony and joy of music, would tend to produce an opposite result?"

An expert statistician, after months of labor, announces that only one of every hundred devotees of music is hairless, while in every other profession, eleven in every one hundred are bald. This may, in part, be due to the habit traditional to musicians of always brushing the hair backward.

"Professional men, as a rule, keep their hair cut short, and are such slaves to their barbers that they keep it plastered down smoothly. Wearing

Annual Clean-Up Sale of Ladies' Handbags!

Commencing today, and continuing one week, we place on sale at extremely low prices our stock of Ladies' Handbags. This is our annual event, and is awaited by a number of careful buyers who know the genuineness of our reduction sales. Our stock of Handbags is most complete, and the most fastidious can select a style which will please. Each bag is backed by the "Wood-Lark" guarantee of satisfaction. All domestic and imported bags are included in this sale, including

LANGFELD, CROSS and other famous makers

Table with 2 columns: Values to \$1.50, 98¢; Values to \$3.00, \$1.64; Values to \$4.00, \$2.45; Values to \$5.00, \$2.95; Values to \$6.50, \$3.85; Values to \$7.50, \$4.95; Values to \$8.50, \$5.50; Values to \$10.00, \$6.70; Values to \$12.00, \$8.10; Values to \$15.00, \$10.45; Values to \$20.00, \$14.60; Values to \$25.00, \$17.75

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