

STEEVES IS GUILTY

THE JURY RETURNS A VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.

The Lawyer Released on \$10,000 Bail, but Subsequently Placed Again in Jail to Remain.

Attorney X. N. Steeves was yesterday found guilty of the crime of manslaughter on a charge of complicity with "Bunco" Kelly in the murder of "Uncle" George Hayes. The verdict of the jury was reached after 10 hours of deliberation and was read to the defendant at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The jury, which retired Friday evening upon a verdict, was expected to reach some conclusion by yesterday morning. Judge Stephens arrived at his chambers in the courthouse at 9 o'clock, and found that no verdict had yet been reached. All was silent at the grave within the jury-room, where the 12 judges of Steeves' innocence or guilt were balloting for a decision.

At exactly 1:30 o'clock a loud knock on the juryroom door caused Bailiff Church to inquire within. He was informed that the jury had at last agreed upon a verdict. Bailiff Church immediately rushed to the telephone and notified Judge Stephens, who was at the Arlington Club. In a few minutes the judge arrived at the courthouse, and, taking his chair on the bench, called the court to order.

Steeves in a few moments came up the stairway and into the courtroom, accompanied by Sheriff Sears. His head was averted and his shoulders thrown back, and his dark eyes flashed out the feeling of anxiety that must certainly have pervaded his entire system.

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THE COUNTY A LOSER

NO SPECIAL TRUST IN \$165,000 DEPOSIT WITH W. L. & T. CO.

Important Decision by Judge Stearns—The West Approach to the Steel Bridge May Be Removed.

In the case of Multnomah county vs. the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, to recover \$50,000 tax money, deposited by Sheriff Kelly, Judge Stearns yesterday decided that the county had no lien or preference on the funds in the hands of the receiver over the other creditors or depositors.

There were two or three men on the jury who were convinced of Steeves' absolute guilt, and with great reluctance, it is said, voted for a lesser verdict than the first degree. Three, however, were so strenuously convinced of the absolute innocence of the accused, taking into consideration the enormous expense attached to the trial, it is surmised that the jurors made some concessions rather than to fail to return a verdict.

Steeves appeared greatly encouraged when Judge Stephens announced that he would allow him to be released on bail. The prospects of a verdict in Steeves' favor, after three months' confinement in a steel cage, must have been at least a partial recompense for any verdict but one of acquittal. Steeves was taken down to the sheriff's office, and he was soon in conversation with his friend, Mr. W. O. Allen, whose name was mentioned prominently in the trial.

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STATE FRUIT TOPICS

BOARD OF HORTICULTURE'S THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT.

Scope of the Work Undertaken and Carried On in Orchard Work, Quarantining, Etc.

Secretary Sargent, of the state board of horticulture, has received advance proofs of the board's third biennial report. The work is not as large as some reports, but the matter contained is of great practical value to fruitgrowers, actual and prospective. There are seemingly no visionary statements made, but facts from the actual experience of the members of the board and prominent fruitgrowers from all parts of the state are presented.

The report is of interest to the public in an itemized statement of the use made of the state funds appropriated to carry on the work of the board during the last two years. This is followed by reports of the officers, showing in a brief way what has been attempted by the various members, and pointing out the ineffectiveness of the present law under which the board is working, and the imperative need for stronger laws, and especially for quarantine regulations. Effective laws under which other boards of horticulture are working are shown in contrast to the present laws of this state.

The advance of horticulture in this state and reasons for its further development are clearly set forth. Statistics are given showing the amount of money actually invested at the present time. The work of the officers and members as shown by their reports, has been along the line of the most practical value to the fruitgrowers. Much time—more, in some instances, than the remuneration received would warrant, has been spent in the orchards in endeavoring to assist the growers in keeping under control the various insect pests and fungi, and in imparting information regarding the best methods of caring for the orchards, handling fruit, etc.

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