

HILL VIOLATES LAW

Minnesota Given Unlawful Advantages Over Washington.

CHARGE OF TACOMA GRAIN MEN

Market for Grain From Coast Farms Destroyed by Cheap Rates Given From State in the Middle Northwest.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—John T. Bibb, of the Tacoma Grain Company, in an interview today declared that the interstate commerce law designed to protect localities was being openly violated by James J. Hill through the Great Northern Railway.

"Every barrel of flour Minneapolis puts in the Orient furnishes 4 1/2 bushels of wheat to compete with ours."

"In other words, the railroads under Mr. Hill's domination force the Washington farmer to pay 20 cents per bushel for hauling wheat to a market 100 miles away and will load back the same car for a Minnesota farmer, to be hauled five times the distance, for 85 per ton.

"The railroad companies, with their water connections, charge Eastern farmers the equivalent of 75.00 per ton, or 25 cents per bushel, for wheat to the Orient, while they only charge the Minnesota farmer the equivalent of 31 cents per bushel for the delivery of his wheat in the same market, notwithstanding they haul the Minnesota wheat 1500 miles further by rail.

"Now these same railroad companies charge the Eastern Washington farmer 1 1/2 cents per bushel for 400 miles to tidewater, and assuming the railroads set one-half of the 33 they charge from Minneapolis to the Orient, which is most reasonable, the farmer gets only 12 cents per bushel for hauling Minnesota wheat to Puget Sound, a distance of 2000 miles, whereas they tax Washington wheat 1 1/2 cents per bushel for 400 miles, thus bringing the hard Minnesota wheat within 1/2 cent per bushel of the soft Washington wheat, whereas the former has an intrinsic spot value of 4 cents per bushel more.

"There can be no doubt that Mr. Hill and his railroad aggregation are determined to protect the Eastern farmer against the Western. In a recent speech before Minnesota farmers Mr. Hill declared he felt nearer to the farmers here than to those of his West.

"He has concentrated almost to a vicious and artificial means a locality which has no natural advantages by which they could overcome the Washington farmer's methods of railroading. Redwood is ample and easy. In a similar case in which the Great Northern was a defendant, the Interstate Commerce Commission held against it.

"The aggregate manufacturing industries on this Coast, to be affected by like railroad discriminations, amount to over \$175,000,000. The railroads are today assailing one of our chief industries, under the pretense of getting empty cars for the West. Why should we go no farther and assault all of them?"

Mr. Bibb says if Governor McBride begins an investigation, as requested, it will be a severe condition far from safe and serious to farmers in Washington than all the local combinations that could be formed, and if seriously pursued will inevitably result in their ruin unless remedied.

STRICT RULES ON HOMESTEADS

Special Agent Will See to Literal Compliance With the Law.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The district attorney here has issued orders to the interior at the Land Office here yesterday. Under the new ruling, a man will find it practically impossible to prove up on a homestead without his proof being investigated by a special government agent. In many ways this resembles the strict rulings instituted last year in the Walla Walla district, where hundreds of claims are being held without actual residence. Sidney Miller is special agent for this district, with headquarters at Lewiston.

REFUSES CHANGE OF VENUE.

Alleges that the Law Passed by Last Legislature is Unconstitutional.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 6.—In the District Court here today Judge Clegg denied a motion for a change of venue under the law that was passed by the last Legislature on this charge. In the opinion of the court, the law is unconstitutional. The court was of the opinion that under the constitution of the state there is no provision for an enactment disqualifying a Judge from trying cases that may come before him, and that to make such a law effective it would be necessary to amend the constitution.

Objections to the granting of a change of venue on an affidavit in behalf of the plaintiff alleging the bias and prejudice against him of Judge Clegg were sustained. Mandamus proceedings will be begun immediately to compel Judge Clegg to grant the change of venue under the new law that was passed by the last Legislature.

SAYS HE BURNED ABERDEEN.

Hoquiam Lunatic Makes Threats and is Put Under Restraint.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—C. Johnson, who claims he burned the

HILL'S MONSTER LINER

SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING OF THE DAKOTA AT GROTON, CONN.

Will Not Be Ready for Her Sea Trial Before September—Additions to the En Route Cargo Fleet.

GROTON, Conn., Feb. 6.—The steamer Dakota was successfully launched here today. Miss Mary Fleming, of Ellendale, N. D., was sponsor, and as the great craft began to slip away from the christening stand broke a bottle of champagne on the prow, saying, "I christen thee Dakota."

In the christening stand were Governor Abraham Chamberlain, President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Steamship Company, and members of the Boards of Trade of Minneapolis and St. Paul, with ladies.

The Dakota, like her sister ship, the Minnesota, which was launched at the Eastern Shipbuilding Company's yard in April, 1903, is of the largest type of car-

FLYNN RENEWS HIS SUIT.

Asks for Heavy Damages From the Astoria & Columbia River Road.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—A suit was filed in the Circuit Court this afternoon by James Flynn, of Portland, against the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Company, to recover damages in the sum of \$4000.00 for injuries and loss of the loss of a watch.

The complaint alleges that on August 1, 1903, the plaintiff was walking along

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working on the Marchal de Tourens, at the end of dock, was hurt yesterday by an iron bar falling on his head. A doctor was called, who put several stitches in his scalp and sent him home.

Seven Cargoes of Lumber.

ASTORIA, Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Seven full lumber cargoes and one partial cargo were cleared from Columbia River during the week. The shipments aggregated 4,251,599 feet, of which 1,777,000 went to San Francisco, 22,000 to Port Los Angeles, 265,000 to San Pedro and 1,287,599 to Oriental points.

Lumber vessels clearing were the Fulton, Zampa, Gardiner City, Charles Nelson, Aurelia, Challenger, Governor and Indrahnima. The latter vessel has aboard about 200,000 feet, besides her big cargo of four and other merchandise.

Zampa Crosses Out.

ASTORIA, Feb. 6.—(Special.)—During a brief lull in the storm this afternoon the Zampa departed, but all the other weather-bound vessels are still in the harbor.

Domestic and Foreign Ports.

ASTORIA, Feb. 6.—Arrived about 12:30 P. M.—Barkentine Georgia. Left up at 3 P. M.—Schooners Commerce and Virginia. Sailed at 6:15 P. M.—Schooner Challenger, for San Francisco. Condition of the weather, moderate; wind west; weather cloudy.

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—Sailed—French bark Verano, for Portland.

Hoquiam, Feb. 6.—Sailed—Steamer Centralia, from Aberdeen, for San Francisco.

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—Arrived—Bark Kalu, from Hilo; steamer Governor, from Victoria; schooner Sophie, Christensen, from Gray's Harbor. Sailed—Steamer Eurasta, for Queenstown; bark Inverary, for Sydney; bark Inverness, for Newcastle; S. W. steamer Newport, for Panama; steamer Olympia, for Pahravan.

Yokohama, Feb. 6.—Arrived previously—Coptic, from San Francisco and Honolulu; for Hong Kong, etc.; Tacoma, from Tacoma, for Hong Kong.

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—Passed—Indrapura, from Honolulu, for San Francisco, etc.

Hong Kong, Feb. 6.—Arrived previously—Aki Maru, from Seattle, via Yokohama; Sibiria, from San Francisco, via Honolulu, Yokohama, etc.

Tacoma, Feb. 6.—Arrived—Steamer Jeanie, from Seattle; steamer Leelanau, from San Francisco. Sailed—Barkentine Quikstep, for San Pedro; steamer Victoria, for Yokohama and Hong Kong.

Seattle, Feb. 6.—Arrived—Steamer Valencia, from Shagway.

READY TO MARRY AGAIN.

Gay Lombard Readily Acquiesced in Wife's Suit for Divorce.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—(Special.)—A most interesting and carefully covered-up divorce suit was revealed today when Judge Hebbard ordered papers sealed and put in the vault. The suit, which since final settlement last November, has been kept a profound secret, reveals some remarkable conditions, which hint of mystery that has never been disclosed.

Clara Belle Lombard was granted an interlocutory decree of divorce from Guy Lombard November 12, 1903, upon the ground of cruelty. Lombard is a stockbroker who, at that time, was associated with a well-known California street firm of brokers. His main place of business is in Portland, where he is associated with A. Cobb.

His wife's complaint was filed on September 20, and defendant's default was entered October 23. The papers show that after the complaint had been filed, and before default was entered, Lombard, who at that time was in California, passed through this city several days ago and announced to friends that he was to be married to a lady of the southland as soon as the statutory twelve months had flown.

Association Cleans Up Business.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The executive committee of the Willamette Valley Poultry Association met in Albany last evening and closed up the business of the recent poultry show, including the granting of special awards made by the judges at the show. The meeting was attended by W. E. Baker, of Albany, president; S. G. Crawford, of Albany, secretary; Ed. Scheel, of Tangent, superintendent of show and chairman of the executive committee; Executive Committee—Frank C. Dannals, Asa Hart and F. B. West.

The receipts of the recent show were \$15,45, all of which was expended in conducting the bazaar.

The special awards were for largest pen displayed, for best pen displayed, for best bird, etc., and were cash prizes.

Deerster Sentenced for Stealing Boat.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Norman Scott was arrested at Westport last evening by Sheriff Linville on the charge of stealing a boat from Bertie Hays, a Cowlett River fisherman. Today Scott pleaded guilty to a charge of larceny and was sentenced by Justice Goodman to 30 days in the county jail. The man is about 24 years of age and said he deserted from Vancouver about ten days ago.

It is expected that before his term in jail expires, the Army officers at Vancouver will send for him to answer a charge of desertion.

Brave Woman Caught Thief.

SALEM, Feb. 6.—(Special.)—While trying to steal provisions from a shed adjoining the Clark boarding-house yesterday afternoon, a tramp giving his name as John Coleman was discovered by Mrs. A. Clark and held by her until her husband came to her assistance. Coleman was taken to jail and arraigned before Recorder Judah today. He pleaded guilty and was sent to jail for 60 days.

OREGON BABY A PRIZE WINNER

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Mrs. George H. Bennett has received the pleasant information that her infant daughter, Evelyn, was awarded the fourth prize of \$50 in the contest for the most beautiful baby in the United States, held recently by a Johnstown, New York, company. Photographs of hundreds of babies were entered in the contest.

upper works. The new shaft has been shipped from the East, and is due here on the 15th or 18th of this month. Captain Spencer estimates that the alterations of the steamer will be completed by March 15, when the boat will resume business on the run between Portland and The Dalles. It is his intention to make a round trip every day, leaving Portland in the morning. What the fare will be remains to be seen, but it is believed along the water front that the rate war will be renewed as soon as the Spencer and the Bailey Gatzert are both on the run together.

Captain Spencer will abandon the

Lost Anchor Fouled Cable.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The steamer O. K. succeeded yesterday in recovering the anchor and fathoms of chain which were recently lost by the American bark Haydn Brown in the lower harbor. The anchor had fouled the Government telegraph cable, and the cable which was wrapped three times around the anchor, was badly twisted and damaged.

The injured piece of cable was removed and a temporary splice put in the line so that it can be used until permanent repairs to it are made.

Hard Blow in the Straits.

It blows in the Straits of Fuca. The steamer Jeanie, from San Francisco, has arrived at Seattle and Captain Mason reports having met one of the worst storms in all his experience, when coming into the straits Wednesday. The wind was dead against the steamer as she entered and was blowing a hurricane. The Jeanie is one of the staunchest and fastest boats on the Coast, but in four hours' time against the gale she only made 14 miles.

Challenger Takes Lumber South.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The schooner Challenger cleared at the Custom-House today for San Francisco with a cargo of 45,000 feet of lumber, loaded for the Tongue Point Lumber Company's mill.

The steam schooner Charles Nelson also cleared today for San Pedro. She carries 65,000 feet of lumber, loaded at Westport.

British Ship Ashore.

RANGOON, India, Feb. 6.—The British ship Launceston, from Philadelphia, Oc-



Evelyn Bennett, of Roseburg.

Marine Notes.

The schooner W. F. Garms has gone on the drydock at San Francisco.

The generator for the power-house at the drydock had arrived from the East and has been taken to St. Johns.

The Queen left down yesterday with the lumber-laden schooner Jackson. The Commerce and the Virginia are on the way up in tow of the Ochlam.

Walter Anderson, a longshoreman

THIS IS THE FINAL EFFORT TO REDUCE OUR STOCK



Men's fine Suits of \$15.00, \$16.50 and \$18.00 values reduced to \$8.50

Odd sizes in Boys' double-breasted and Norfolk Suits, in tweeds, chevots and cassimeres, ages 3 to 16, \$4.00 and \$5.60 values reduced to \$2.85

Broken sizes, Boys' three-quarter and full-length Overcoats in Scotch over-plaid, Oxford gray, brown, blue and green mixtures, ages 3 to 16, \$5.00, \$5.45 and \$6.00 values reduced to \$3.65

We have just received, by express, our new line of Spring Top Coats and Cravenettes. Come in and see them.

Sam'l Rosenblatt & Co. Reliable Clothiers. COR. THIRD AND MORRISON STREETS.

OYSTERS LIVE ON OLD NETS

SPAT CATCHES ON MESHES AND YOUNG THRIVE.

Experiments Show That Cast-Off Material Can Be Used to Great Advantage in Bivalve Culture.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)

Edward Doyle & Co., representing large fishing interests on Puget Sound, have sold to Willapa Harbor oystermen 30 tons of cast-off fishtrap netting, which will be placed on Willapa Harbor oyster beds as an oyster spat catcher. Olympia oystermen are also investigating the adaptability of fishtrap netting for this purpose. The oyster netting, which has been burned by the ton by Puget Sound trappers every year promise to become a utility never thought of until quite recently, and to represent a good money value.

The first experiment with fish nets as an oyster spat catcher was made on Bellingham Bay about three years ago. The only netting used, which were given to the experimenters, who, instead of hauling gravel to their beds for the young spat to catch on, spread the old nets on the ground. The success of the experiment is said to have surprised even the originators of the idea, who were new to the business of oyster culture, and a peculiarity of the situation is now remarked in the traveling of the old-time oystermen of Willapa Harbor and the Upper Sound to Bellingham Bay to get pointers from novices in the business of propagating native oysters.

The trap netting is used but one year on the fishtraps, and is then considered useless for that purpose. When spread on oyster ground during the spawning season it becomes literally covered with seed oysters which cling to the heavy meshes. Great labor and expense are saved by the new plan, where it is desirable to transfer seed oysters from one bed to another. Instead of towing the young oysters, the nets are dragged over scows and given a shake and the young oysters fall off on the scow.

Two men of oyster-covered nets from Bellingham Bay beds brought to Olympia have occasioned great interest among old oystermen.

PARENTS PLAY; HOUSE BURNS

Neighbors Rescue Children In An Unconscious Condition.

SUMMIT, Or., Feb. 6.—Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Case, of this city, sat at the theater, applauding the acts and thoroughly enjoying the play, while their home burned and their two little children came near to death by blast of suffocation. Their residence was completely gutted and only the efforts of bystanders saved the little ones. Neither father nor mother knew of the fire until all was over.

POMONA GRANGE AT RAINIER.

RAINIER, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—The Columbia County Pomona Grange met in regular session at 10 A. M. today. Master of the State Grange B. G. Leedy presided. The reports from the subscription for the work of the Grange. This was manifested by the large attendance. All the subordinate Granges of the county were reported in a prosperous condition.

Sixty Members Take the Fifth Degree—Officers Elected.

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Will Be Buried at Monmouth.

MONMOUTH, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—News of the death by drowning of Charles McCall, of Moro, was received today. Mr. McCall was a graduate of the State Normal School and had a host of friends in this county. His parents reside here, and are among the most respected citizens. Mr. McCall was Deputy Sheriff of Sherman County. He left a wife and one little girl about 4 years old. The remains will be brought here for interment.

Done in Union County Court.

LA GRANDE, Or., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—At the February term of the Union County Court, Dr. C. E. Sanders, of Union, was appointed County Physician. M. Irwin was awarded the contract for keeping the county poor farm. The La Grande Observer and Chronicle were declared the official papers of Union County. Road Supervisor's bonds were approved and David Tucker appointed for district No. 5, W. W. Porter for district No. 7 and L. Cross for district No. 8.

Extradition Secured for Oleson.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Sheriff John M. Bayer, of Clay County, Minnesota, today secured extradition papers for Thomas Oleson, who is under arrest at Aberdeen, Oleson is wanted in Minnesota on charge of grand larceny in the first degree. It is stated that several other charges will be lodged against him on his return.