

BRYAN APPEAL COMES TO NAUGHT

Court Decides That Sealed Letter Cannot Be Admitted for Probate as Part of Will.

Binding Upholds Decision of Lower Tribunal in Spite of Bryan's Oratory.

JURY INSTRUCTIONS EXPLICIT

Judge Gager's Ruling in Present Case Establishes Precedent Governing Admission of Evidence.

New Haven, Conn., March 31.—A finding that the sealed letter by which Silas B. Bennett expressed a wish that \$9,000 should be given William J. Bryan and his family was not a part of the last will of Mr. Bennett, was returned by the jury today in the superior court in the trial of Mr. Bryan's appeal from the decision of the probate court, was given in accordance with instructions to the jury from Judge Gager, who presided at the superior court. Judge Gager's ruling on the question which has never before come directly before the courts of Connecticut, decided that a sealed letter could not be admitted as evidence in a trial.

ATTENTION OF SENATE DIVIDED.

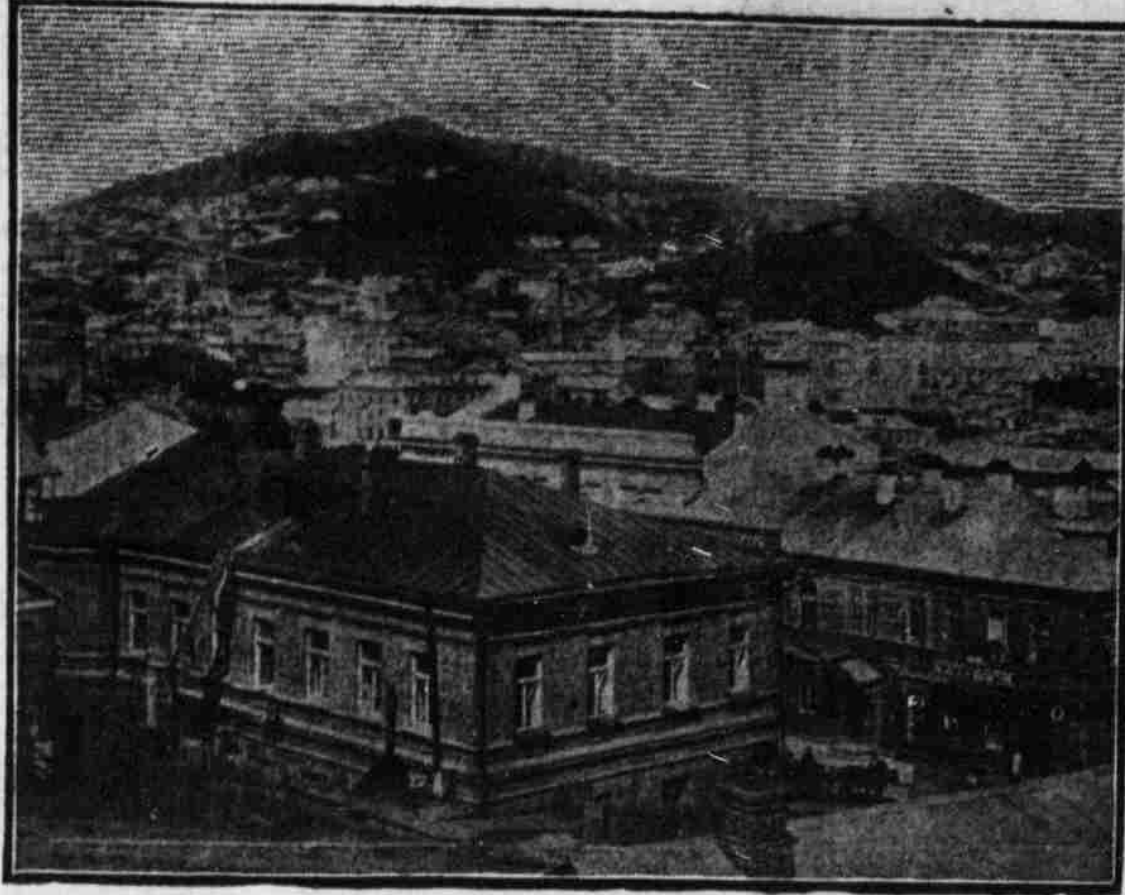
Clark Contends There Are no Great Western Land Frauds. Washington, March 31.—The attention of the senate was divided today between the bill for the repeal of denials of the timber and stone and instead of amputation laws and the office appropriation bill. The repeal bill was taken up only for the purpose of discussing, Mr. Clark of Wyoming, was the principal speaker. He contended the position taken by Mr. Robinson, that there have been great frauds in the administration of land in the west. He declared there was a lobby in Washington in the interest of the repeal bill and engaged in a short colloquy with Patterson, during

which each characterized the statement of the other as untrue.

The general debate on the postoffice bill was confined largely to a speech by Senator McCreary and interruptions by republican senators. Mr. McCreary charged in the main, that the policy of the early adjournment of congress had been adopted in order to avoid legislation not desired by republican leaders.

Corean Spy is Shot.

London, April 1.—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at Seoul reports there is continuous skirmishing between Ping Yang and Wiju and that many Japanese have been killed. The correspondent adds that a Corean spy at Ping Yang has been shot by the Japanese.



VLADIVOSTOCK.
Vladivostock is the terminus of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, and consequently a point of the utmost strategic importance to the Russians. The hills seen in the rear constitute the town's defenses.

HARSH WORDS FOR OWN STATE

Bell of California Condemns Action in Allowing Canteen to Be Admitted at Soldiers' Home.

Claims That Pensions Are Drawn by Inmates in Checks on the Drink Department.

AMENDS TO CORRECT EVIL

Violent Attack Made Upon Coast Geodetic Survey by Robinson, of Indiana—Charges Hotly Denied.

Washington, March 31.—Consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill concluded in the house today and the bill was about to be passed when Mr. Sulzer forced roll call on the motion to commit the bill with instructions to strike out the paragraph appropriating \$136,000 for the rental of the New York customs house. The vote showed a quorum was not present and adjournment taken until tomorrow.

The right of the board of receivers of state homes for disabled volunteer soldiers to retain certain portions of pension money received by inmates was discussed at length. Mr. Bell, of California, assailed his own state for permitting the canteen to be established in the California State Home, and charged that old soldiers were allowed to draw their pension money from the home in most instances only through canteen checks. After an extended debate an amendment by Mr. Bell to correct the evils complained of was adopted.

A violent attack on coast and geodetic survey was made by Robinson, of Indiana, who charged that scandal attached to that office in connection with the allowance for communication of subsistence. Mr. Hemenway in charge of the bill, indignantly denied the charges made.

BANDITS ROB OREGON TRAIN KILLING BRAVE MESSENGER AND EXPLODING CAR

They Then Force Engineer to Carry Them Five Miles South to Station Where They Disappear in the Darkness.

Robbery and Murder Committed at Copley Where the Train Had Stopped for Water—Not Known How Much Booty the Outlaws Secured—Train Returns From Redding Later With Posse on Board to Pursue Villians.

Redding, Cal., March 31.—Three masked men held up the Oregon express at Copley at 11 o'clock tonight, killed Express Messenger O'Neill and carried off the contents of the express box. The train stopped at Copley for water. The robbers demanded Messenger O'Neill to open the express car. He refused whereupon they blew up the express car with dynamite and deliberately killed O'Neill by shooting him through the head. The bandits then robbed the express car of its contents, but it is not known how much they got.

The highwaymen next forced the train crew to uncouple the front engine and compelled the engineer to draw them to Keswick station, five miles south, where they disembarked and disappeared.

The engine has orders now to run on

to this city to carry up the sheriff and a posse of armed men. The robbed train left Portland Wednesday night.

B. F. Joesink, the engineer who was forced to draw the train robbers to Keswick station, arrived here at midnight. He says that the first he knew of the holdup was after O'Neill was killed. He and his fireman were compelled to dismount. They, with the rest of the train crew were compelled to march back to the express car where they saw O'Neill dead. The robbers tried to force O'Neill's helper, who was in the baggage car when O'Neill was killed, to open the safe, but the helper showed he could not do so. Then the robbers compelled the party of seven to place six sticks of giant powder on top of the safe. The explosion wrecked the entire car. Engineer Joesink is not certain that the robbers got any plunder.

Appropriation Bill Drafted.

Washington, March 31.—The house committee on rivers and harbors today completed a draft of the appropriation bill carrying approximately \$3,000,000 to continue existing contracts for river and harbor work.

Smoot Hearing Postponed.

Washington, March 31.—Subpoenas have been sent out for witnesses to appear before the senate committee on privileges and election in the Smoot inquiry on April 20, postponement being made from the 12th.

Cruiser Denver Too Slow.

Boston, March 31.—The protected cruiser Denver, in the second govern-

ment speed trial test over the Cape Ann course today again failed to reach the contract requirements of 17 miles an hour, her average speed being 16.70 knots. Weather and wind conditions were almost perfect.

Former Lord-Mayor Dead.

Dublin, March 31.—Valentine B. Dillon, twice lord-mayor of Dublin, died today. He attained prominence as solicitor for many leaders of the Irish Land League, including the late Hon. Parnell.

For Education in Alaska.

Washington, March 31.—The treasury department today transmitted to

the house an estimate from Secretary Hitchcock for an appropriation of \$100,000 to be immediately available for education in Alaska.

Expedition Steamer Returning.

Christ Church, N. Z., March 31.—The British Antarctic expedition which sailed on the steamer Discovery from London July 31, 1901, has signalled that it is returning.

Revenue Returns Increase.

Vancouver, B. C., March 31.—Dominion customs revenue returns for nine months ending today amount to \$30,163,263 compared with \$26,750,329 for the same time last year.

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Sunday next is Easter, and we prepared for it with a magnificent line of Bibles, Testaments, Psalm Books and Hymnals. All we ask is that you see them. We feel certain you will then be anxious to pay 10 per cent. less than the very low price they are marked.

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