

THOMSON DENIES ASKING FOR \$50

**SUSPENDED LA GRANDE RECEIVER
SWARS HE DID NOT DEMAND
THAT OR ANY OTHER SUM FOR
FAVORABLE DECISIONS ON HELD
UP PROOFS.**

Asa B. Thomson, suspended receiver of the La Grande land office, charged with soliciting bribes, went on the witness stand in his own behalf in the United States circuit court this morning. The witness made a complete denial of any conversation with Charles Cunningham or Asa Rayburn in which he informed them that it would cost them \$50 apiece to insure favorable decisions on held up land homestead proofs. Mr. Thomson further declared that it was a month after the alleged Cunningham conversation that he first learned that he was charged with irregularities in his office.

The witness declared that when he was indicted by the grand jury, he was not called upon to go before that body, although he had previously requested of United States District Attorney John H. Hall to be allowed to do so. "Mr. Hall never notified me when the case was to come up," said Mr. Thomson.

"Do you consider that I have done you an injustice, Mr. Thomson?" asked the district attorney, and the witness replied that he did not think that the government's prosecutor had exactly kept faith with him.

His Alleged Talk with Rayburn.
The defendant said he did not remember having had any conversation with Rayburn on the street relative to land matters. "I might have," said the witness, "but if Rayburn asked me any question regarding the held up proofs, it was what further was required to get them through, else what it would cost to make further claims."

Col. J. H. Haley, one of the counsel for the defense, took the stand. He was reported to have been in conversation with Thomson when Rayburn engaged the latter in conversation. Haley did not remember the incident. It might have taken place, however, he said.

Regarding the talk with Cunningham in the saloon office, Thomson said that Cunningham remarked that "I ought to pass the held up claims, for we had all ways been friends."

"I informed him," said the witness, "that I wouldn't pass my own brother's proofs under the circumstances. Cunningham remarked, 'If you are going into that office and are going to hold up proofs like that, after I helped get you in, you'll be sorry you ever got the place.'"

"I told him he could go straight to hell and walked out."
One of the prominent witnesses of the morning session was W. C. E. Pruitt, reporter for the Pendleton Tribune, who printed an alleged interview with Cunningham that brought forth from the sheep man a very emphatic denial. The witness swore that the interview was substantially the same as given him by Cunningham, who was drinking at the time, he said. The principal statement accredited to Cunningham in the purported interview was that he was sorry the Thomson affair had gone so far and that the case was a political one.

Government Rests Its Case.
The government rested its case at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. During the course of the session the defense called 14 witnesses.

Thomas W. Ayers, Jr., a Pendleton druggist, testified that he was walking down Court street in Pendleton with Thomson the afternoon they met Cunningham. Cunningham asked Thomson to come in a nearby saloon, and Ayers waited in the barroom while the two went into the office. The witness said he heard nothing of the conversation and that Ulysses Rudd, the bartender, talked with him and did not stand at the end of the bar reading a newspaper, as stated by Cunningham.

City Marshal L. Rayburn of La Grande, a brother of Asa Rayburn, said that he should have known that he was to receive \$200 for entering a land claim for Charles Cunningham.

N. McCracken, a retired stockman, said that Cunningham told him that he had 14 claims held up in the La Grande land office, and he told me," said the witness, "that they wanted \$50 apiece." "That's all," interrupted Attorney Fee, who was conducting the examination. Mr. Hall smiled and said he thought he did not care to ask the witness any questions.

J. B. Perry, a brother-in-law of the defendant, declared he heard Cunningham make the statements that appeared in a Pendleton paper, regarding the latter's belief in Thomson's innocence. "Cunningham is a confirmed liar," said the witness, "that he was sorry he had had anything to do with the affair."

State Senator C. J. Smith, a Pendleton physician, said Cunningham's reputation was not the best, but that both Thomson and Joe H. Parkes bore good names.

C. B. Wade, cashier of the First National bank of Pendleton, testified as to Thomson's good reputation.

John E. Lashburn, a newspaper man, O. F. Thomson, father of the defendant, and former State Senator W. F. Matlock of Pendleton gave evidence tending to show that Thomson was in Heppner attending the flood sufferers on June 20, the day before the alleged date of the interview between Cunningham and Thomson.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.
Itching, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Yec draught will refund money if PAGO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 14 days. 50c.

Too Much

Stock on hand is our trouble—no money to pay for them. Must sell, regardless of what they bring. From now until January 1, 1904, I will sell at auction every day from 2 and 7 p. m. every article of

Jewelry

Including Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Cut Glass, etc., for whatever they will bring. An excellent chance to get your Christmas presents at your own price.

SPECIAL SEATS FOR LADIES.
Remember we are not going out of business—we have a three-years lease on building—just need money.

James McDevitt & Co.
305 1/2 Washington St. T. McDaniel, Auctioneer.

FIRE SWEEPS AWAY PALATIAL HOME

**STURBORN BLAZE IN HOUSE OCCU-
PIED BY MAX LANG AT TWEN-
TIETH AND IRVING STREETS
CAUSES A LOSS OF \$15,000—TWO
FIREMEN KURT.**

A loss of \$15,000 was caused by a fire which destroyed the palatial dwelling occupied by Max Lang of the wholesale grocery firm of Lang & Co., shortly before 8 o'clock last evening.

George Mitchell, driver of Truck company 3, is at North Pacific auditorium. The blaze evidently smoldered for a time, for when the fire was discovered it was breaking through the floors from the cellar. Instantly the house was filled with smoke, but the warning was sufficient to enable the occupants to escape in safety.

A telephone alarm brought Truck 3 and Hose 6, but as there are but two paid men on each, they were unable to do effective work. A box alarm brought Engines 3 and 6, Truck 1 and Hose 1, together with District Chief Young. The latter at once realized the seriousness of the situation and sent in a special call for Engine 1, on which Chief Campbell also responded.

When the companies returned to quarters five hours after the first alarm the house was a scene of desolation. The building was the property of Mrs. L. Hexter of 765 Park avenue, and was valued at about \$10,000. Mr. Lang's loss will be at least \$5,000, as the furnishings were expensive. His loss is partly covered by insurance.

While on the upper part of the building, Driver Mitchell was struck in the left ear with a stream of water, which broke the ear drum. This morning he was resting easy, but Dr. H. W. Cardwell and Dr. E. D. Connell, who are attending him, cannot at present tell whether he will lose his hearing. Truckman Signott worked at the fire several hours and was taken sick after inhaling the dense smoke. He walked to Sixth and Couch streets, where he fell unconscious to the walk, cutting a bad gash in his head. He is much better today and probably will be able to leave the hospital tonight.

The want of men at the start was seriously felt by Chief Young. Such a situation could not exist if the companies were full paid. All the apparatus had long runs through almost impassable streets. An engine company stationed near the Union depot, as suggested some time ago by The Journal, would have been a great help at the blaze.

EXACT SUM TAKEN \$940
(Continued from Page One.)

croft resorted to the public funds in his keeping in order to escape from his dilemma.

From the postmaster's safe he took \$500, putting his I. O. U. in place of the money. This was more than enough to take up the note given to the Letter Carriers' association, but apparently it was not enough to satisfy Bancroft's requirements. The following day, Monday, November 16, Bancroft took \$100 from the money order department and from two of the clerks in the stamp department he obtained \$25 and \$15. This made his total shortage \$940.

Bondsmen Scared, It's Said.
The manner in which Bancroft had secured the \$500 loan from the Thompson fund soon became known among the letter carriers and was the topic of much gossip. Whispers also arose as to the postmaster's subsequent appropriation of public funds in his custody. It was not long before the story reached some of Bancroft's bondsmen. When he assumed office he was obliged to give bonds in the sum of \$150,000. One-half of this amount was given by a surety company, but the government always requires that at least one-half shall be given by private individuals, this being regarded as a guarantee of the appointee's standing in the community. Bancroft had much difficulty in securing bondsmen, and it was more than a month before he finally got them. It is said that he was compelled to indemnify almost all of the men who went on his bond.

When the story of his dealings with the letter carriers leaked out it reached the ears of some of Bancroft's bondsmen, and their fears were naturally aroused. It is said that they communicated with the postal inspectors and suggested an investigation.

NOT YET SUSPENDED.
Bristow Has Taken No Action in Bancroft's Case and Awaits Report.

Washington Bureau of The Journal.

Washington, Dec. 3.—An air of reticence pervades the postoffice department today concerning the alleged shortage of Postmaster Bancroft. Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow, who has jurisdiction in the matter, said the inspectors' report of the inspection has not been received, and he was not in a position to give any information relative to the condition of Bancroft's accounts.

Bancroft, he said, has not been suspended. The authority to suspend the postmaster rests in certain cases where the government is in danger of loss in consequence of retaining a postmaster in office. In such cases the inspector may place the bondsmen in charge, without receiving instructions from the department.

Bristow declined to state what the bondsmen of Bancroft are. Information of this kind, he said, is obviously not proper to make public, when publicity might injure the bondsmen in their business standing.

When asked if the department does not occasionally allow settlement of a shortage by immediate repayment of the money, Bristow said that every case stands on its own merits and is determined by the circumstances connected with it. Shortage of funds is regarded as a serious matter, but he would not say that cases of shortage are not adjusted by repayment of funds.

Senators Mitchell and Fulton state that they have no new information concerning the trouble.

Professor Eaton's Dancing School.
Classes Monday and Thursday evenings at Arion Hall. Beginners taken at any time. Five assistant teachers. Private lessons daily at hall. Phone West 732.

SHOOTING GALLERY LICENSE REVOKED

**PLACE ALLEGED TO BE OWNED BY
"SPINDLE" DAVIS MUST CLOSE—
W. E. DAVIS ALSO ROBBED OF
POWER TO RUN AN EMPLOYMENT
AGENCY.**

At a star chamber session of the city council license committee yesterday afternoon the officials revoked the license of W. A. Armstrong for a shooting gallery at 105 North Third street and also the license under which W. H. Davis operates an employment agency at 353 Couch street. This drastic action is the culmination of a series of events in which the shooting gallery figured prominently as a "big mitt" joint and the employment agency was found to be charging men for jobs that did not exist, except on paper.

"Such places," said Councilman Sharkey, "have no right to exist, and there are no pros or cons to the proposition. Close them up tight; that is what I believe should be done," and the suggestion was unanimously adopted.

The license for the shooting gallery is made out to W. A. Armstrong, but the authorities claim that he is used merely for a blind, and that the real proprietor is "Spindle" Davis. The gallery was closed once by the police, but was allowed to reopen. This fact was called to the attention of the committee and it took the responsibility of closing it up.

The employment bureau was declared by Inspectors McEachern and Hutchinson to be operated on a basis that was at least questionable for its honesty. "We could get no satisfaction," declared McEachern, "and an investigation developed the fact that the place had been in trouble numerous times. At various times the firm has been compelled to refund money to men whom it sent out to work where there were no jobs available."

The members of the committee took the same stand in regard to this place that they did about the shooting gallery. They voted unanimously to revoke the license.

"Another feature which we intend to take up now," explained the officers, "is the ticket-scalping ordinance. We are preparing a new ordinance now. The last time we were defeated on the technical ground that a person employed in that manner could prove that he was merely an agent for some other person. This defect in the ordinance will be removed."

**COSTLY LEGAL BATTLE
OVER 10 FEET OF LAND**

Ten feet of land across the rear end of two lots in Caruthers' addition in East Portland, estimated to be worth from \$50 to \$100, is causing litigation in Judge Frazer's department of the state circuit court that will foot up at least five or six times the value of the property. But the contesting parties were unable to reach a decision and the judgment of the court was called on.

Several years ago Mrs. A. Waltring entered into an agreement with C. W. Laurens, whereby she was to pay some \$1,500 for lots 7 and 8, in block 64, Caruthers addition, East Portland. In addition she says she was to receive 10 feet from the rear of lots 5 and 6, on the opposite side of the block, to be used for alley purposes.

It appeared later, however, that Laurens did not own any portion of lots 5 and 6, and was unable to deliver a deed for the 10-foot strip as specified. He was willing, however, to allow a rebate of \$50, but Mrs. Waltring wanted \$100. She is now suing Laurens for specific performance or to compel him to allow a reasonable deduction for the land which he is apparently unable to deliver.

Journal friends and readers who travel on trains to and from Portland should be advised that The Journal and its staff are now supplied with this paper, reporting all failures in obtaining it to the office of publication, addressing The Journal, Portland, Or.

**THE NEW STORE IS ABOUT
READY.**

**THREE
MORE
DAYS
ENDS
THE
GREAT
SALE**

**FATHER P. PLACIDUS OF Mt.
Angel College after spending
several days investigating the
merits of the many pianos sold in
Portland, decided upon and purchased two beautiful**

**HAMILTON
PIANOS**

One for the use of the Benedictine Sisters at Woodburn, and the other for the same sisterhood at Mt. Angel. We are sole agents for the HAMILTON.

**OPEN
EVENINGS**

ALLEN & GILBERT-RAHMER CO.

Oldest, Largest, Strongest.

211 First Street

\$1.00 Down. \$1.00 a Week

This speaks for itself. It tells the story of the MOST PERFECT RANGE BENEATH THE SUN.



GUARANTEE BOND.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the ECLIPSE STOVE COMPANY fully warrant and guarantee the Stove or Range covered by this certificate not to crack by fire for fifteen years, and to be a PERFECT baker. PROVIDED, the chimney is not defective, and that ordinary care and attention are given. ECLIPSE STOVE CO.

THE BOND REFERS TO THE ECLIPSE STEEL RANGE

The magnificently constructed kitchen treasure, sold by I. Gevurtz & Sons to any reputable person at

\$35, Payable \$1 Per Week

The Range is made by the largest manufacturers of stoves in America and its guarantee is good.

IN ECONOMY OF FUEL, OVER THE ORDINARY COOK STOVE, THE RANGE WILL PAY FOR ITSELF

The cost being a trifle less than 15 cents per day. Persons desiring to take advantage of this offer MUST NOT DELAY, as it will not be open always.

The range is constructed of the very highest quality of planished steel, first introduced and used by the Peninsular Stove Company, and now universally acknowledged the most perfect Range material in the world.

Buy Now! -- Buy Today!

The offer is subject to withdrawal at any time.

I. GEVURTZ & SONS

FIRST AND YAMHILL STREET

W. H. MARKELL & CO.

123 GRAND AVENUE

OPENING Toy Department

SATURDAY, Dec. 5th

A larger assortment of DOLLS, GAMES, DOLL CARRIAGES, AUTOMATIC TOYS, WAGONS, SLEDS, IRON and WOODEN TOYS, JUVENILE BOOKS, Etc., than was ever before shown on the East Side.

OUR PRICES ARE EXTREMELY LOW, as a close comparison will soon convince you. Bring the children; they will enjoy the show.

Friday Bargains

15c Black Cotton Hose at 9c — Children's fast black fine ribbed Cotton Hose, sizes 6 to 9, regular 15c value, at..... 9c
\$1.75 Value Comforts at \$1.35 — Very large, silkoline cover, white cotton filling.
\$2.00 All-Wool Smyrna Rugs at \$1.60 — 30 by 60 inches, with fringe, all bright, new patterns.

ZION'S CRY IS MONEY

(Continued from Page One.)

after reading it, went into a rage and ordered it torn down. The following was the lettering on the poster:

To John Alexander Dowle,
Eljah II of the Hosts:

So marvelous was your success in bringing Greater New York within the fold that the people of San Francisco are clamoring for a second deal. They like the healing business and are ready for the game. As representative of a citizens' committee I am entrusted with an invitation for you to come. We hope you will get out of this financial difficulty unscathed, so that you will not have to walk, as we need you soon. Would like you to bring the bunch.

COMMITTEE.

HOP AT HILL ACADEMY.

The cadets of the Hill Military academy have issued invitations for a hop on the evening of December 4. The affair will be held at the academy armory.

Always Remember the Full Name
Laxative Bromo Quinine
Cures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days

CAUGHT GAMBLING FOR FOUR DIMES

**DETECTIVES KERRIGAN AND SNOW
BAG EIGHT HOBOES AFTER A
SHORT, SHARP, DECISIVE FIGHT—
VAGRANCY IS CHARGE WRIT-
TEN AGAINST THEIR NAMES.**

With only 40 cents among them, eight seedy-looking hoboies were engaged in gambling with cards in a room at Front and Jefferson streets this morning, when Detectives Kerrigan and Snow arrested the entire crowd. All were charged with vagrancy.

For several days complaints have come to the police about the pilferings of a gang of tramps. Clothing, food and other property have been taken, while other complaints told of people being stopped on the streets by ill-dressed individuals who asked for money.

The detectives located them and told them they were under arrest. Several of the men started to fight with the officers and for a few minutes the room resembled a battle-field. But the officers finally succeeded in capturing the entire crowd and they were sent to the station in the wagon.

The prisoners are: Dan Wilson, aged 35; George Roberts, 27; George O'Connor, 24; Frank Phelps, 64; Frank Ryan, 29; Robert Ross, 26; Ed Sargent, 35; Walter Thomas, 21. Wilson and Thomas were the only ones on whom the jailer found money, each having 20 cents.

Roberts is one-legged, while Thomas is minus one arm. O'Connor was in jail recently for begging. He was just released after breaking rock for 20 days. Roberts, who, the officers say, started the fight in the room, has been in custody several times and was released by Chief Hunt but 3 day or two ago on his promise to leave the city. Phelps is a gray-haired man, who could not explain why he was keeping such bad company.

OLYMPIC PAN- CAKES

"As easy on the
Stomach as Fruit."

SPECIALISTS

FOR



MEN

STRICTLY
RELIABLE

Dr. Talcott & Co.

"Weakness"

Affections of men, commonly described as "weakness," according to our observations, are not such, but depend upon reflex disturbances and are almost invariably induced or maintained by appreciable damage to the prostate gland. When occurring in robust subjects in every other respect these forms of so-called weakness are very amenable to proper treatment.

Contracted Disorders

From statistics compiled from our practice, covering over 7,500 cases, we find that 80 per cent have recovered in seven days or less. This successful treatment prevents all complications, such as stricture, inflammation of the bladder and prostate gland and kidneys, and, together with our extremely low fees, should induce all in need of treatment to consult us.

Consultation Free

250 1/2 ALDER STREET

nor, 24; Frank Phelps, 64; Frank Ryan, 29; Robert Ross, 26; Ed Sargent, 35; Walter Thomas, 21. Wilson and Thomas were the only ones on whom the jailer found money, each having 20 cents.

Roberts is one-legged, while Thomas is minus one arm. O'Connor was in jail recently for begging. He was just released after breaking rock for 20 days. Roberts, who, the officers say, started the fight in the room, has been in custody several times and was released by Chief Hunt but 3 day or two ago on his promise to leave the city. Phelps is a gray-haired man, who could not explain why he was keeping such bad company.

Fate in Life

Your lines in your hand are there from birth, look at a little child's hand and you will find as many as in your own. I will take your hand and show you your experiences from childhood up to your present age. Don't it seem reasonable that I can on the same basis also predict the future. My clients are enthusiastic over my work. Among other endorsements, one told me yesterday that he had been all over America, had probably spent over \$200, been charged from \$5 to \$25 for a reading, and all had not told him as much as I did. I could have saved him thousands of dollars if I had seen his hand a few years ago, by warning him of certain unfortunate years and encouraging him in others, when he only went halfheartedly into enterprises. I can probably do as much for you. In any event, if you are not perfectly satisfied it will cost you nothing.

Mrs. A. Herbert

DAY AND EVENING. READING \$1.00
Fourth Floor, Raleigh Bldg., N. W. Cor.
Sixth and Washington. Rooms 39 & 40

BEAUTIFUL ART CALENDAR

**Free to Business and
Professional Men.**

It is a copy of one of the celebrated paintings of the world, and will be mailed to any business man in Portland, by the advertiser.

Absolutely Free!

Who delivers this coupon, or mails it, to The Journal.

Advertiser, The Journal, Portland, Or.

Please deliver to me, by mail or messenger, your Art Calendar for 1904, it being understood that no charge whatever attaches to its delivery or receipt by me.

Name.....

Address.....

(The above IS NOT a Journal offer. It belongs to a business institution of the city, and the calendar is a real work of art.)

EDUCATIONAL.

Better

HOW THAN EVER BEFORE

Because of improved facilities. Superior instruction in spelling, grammar, writing, arithmetic, correspondence, commercial law, bookkeeping, business forms, shorthand, typewriting, office work, etc. Hundreds of our graduates are now in business for themselves, or at work for others as bookkeepers and stenographers—thousands more will be. Open all the year. Students admitted any time. Catalogue free.

PORTLAND BUSINESS COLLEGE
PARK AND WASHINGTON.
A. F. ARMSTRONG, LL. B., Principal.

CLARK, 186 Morrison
At The Morrison-street Bridge.
Makes Your Old Hat New
Men's Hats Reshaped to Latest Styles.