

# MITCHELL MACHINE OILED BY TAXES

## City and County Clerks and Deputies Who Have Few Public Duties Find Many Political Ones--The Taxpayer Foots the Bill.

The fight between the two Republican factions in this county is being carried forward at heavy expense. Costs money to build up a political machine and keep it running. As usual, a large part of the expense is being paid out of the city and county treasuries, so that the brunt of the battle falls upon the long-suffering taxpayer.

The Mitchell faction has control of practically all of the city, county and federal patronage, and this powerful weapon is being used to elect members of active machine workers have found employment in the public service and they are all working tooth and nail for the success of the Mitchell faction. While drawing their pay from the public treasury and nominally in the service of the city or county, their first allegiance is to the machine which gave them their jobs.

The city engineer's department has become little more than an organized brigade of political workers. The force is larger than ever before in the history of the office, the total number of employees under the city engineer's direction approximating 100. None but active adherents of the Mitchell organization find employment in this department, and all others have been carefully weeded out. An important part of the duties of the men in this department is to attend the Mitchell campaign meetings in the several wards, and they are marched in squads to the meeting places, to "root" for the machine which put them on the city payroll. The legitimate work of improving the streets and sidewalks, for which the taxpayers support the department, has become a matter of minor importance.

Another valuable adjunct of the Mitchell machine is the sheriff's office. By grace of the county board, Sheriff Storey has been allowed to appoint 20 extra deputies to handle tax collections, the appointments to be made as he finds it necessary. Needless to say, he has found it necessary to appoint a number of these extra men at once, although the tax collections as yet are very small and cannot keep a quarter of the ap-

# GOOD MEN MADE FROM BAD BOYS

(Continued from Page Two.)

garden age. How often he is punished or scolded for being destructive. (Willfully destructive is the verdict rendered.) Given a toy, the child has broken it in a short time. Why did you do it? remarks the stern parent. The sorrowfully replies it does not know, didn't mean to, etc. We are all aware of the great imaginative and constructive tendencies that lie embryo within the child. The toy allowed to, perhaps a horse and cart, having played with this a short time, an inspiration seizes the child. He would make a wagon out of it--there is not one thought of destruction in this desire.

We may safely employ tools in some form as a medium for gaining the boy's interest. It is further conceded that the boy should be intelligently employed most of his time, or he will make some other arrangement of his own.

I have often been impressed when comparing conditions existing among the boys of this and of the older larger cities. Portland may thank kind Providence that she has not the poverty and squalor, but the morale of our boy is much the same.

Manual training develops the intelligence of the boy as nothing else can by the ordinary academic means. A boy seldom learns to think or understand as he might.

**Skill Comes Readily.**

Manual training was originally planned for the purpose of giving technical skill, and this it does in a surprising manner. It is apt to astonish one to think that some of the finished work has been done by young boys. Nor do the boys have to be urged to do this work. They are glad to be allowed to make up lessons lost by public holidays, and in the free evening school, under the auspices of the C. J. W. First and Montgomery boys will attempt to "win" prizes by doing during the same evening. While the object is simply technical skill and does not concern itself primarily with human motives, still the work is so thoroughly in line with boyish activity that it does not seem to them to be a task, but a very great extent. You can see this if you watch the little workers. They are, for the most part, absolutely absorbed and quite unconscious of any presence. Manual training is a new birth, a refining and nice adjustment of the bodily powers.

The principal and teachers of the public school near the C. J. W. manual training school speak in no uncertain terms of the interest of the work upon the lives of the pupils. I have had the honor and pleasure of starting four manual training schools for boys and had an opportunity of watching the steady reforming influence of the work. In each instance, the boys were frequent, selfless and dishonesty in work were common. Month by month this subsided, making way to good will and frankness.

The superintendent of Elmira reformatory, when speaking of the work among his boys, stated that they mostly came to his charge too late, the damage having been wrought before 14.

Whatever may be the bait placed for the boy, whether it be club rooms well supplied with reading matter and games, the swimming pool or the finely equipped workshop, however attractive these may be, unless the instructors and workers make a liberal use of what Henry Drummond calls "the greatest thing in the world--the spirit of love," we are losing valuable time and there will be a shortage in the harvest.

Chaplain St. Pierre, of the state penitentiary, spoke briefly on the work at the prison. The committee on investigation at the reform school recommended that paroled pupils be allowed to make reports to the Boys' and Girls' Aid society.

Chairman T. N. Strong had the following to say regarding "Prison Contract Labor":

The question of the employment of state and other prisoners has been extensively discussed.

First--That justice to the state and to the taxpayer requires that the convict should, if possible, earn the expense of his maintenance.

Second--That ordinary humanity and a due regard for the best interests of the prisoners requires that they should be made to work and that this work should be made as engaging and interesting as possible.

Third--That the contract system under which the work of the prisoner is hired out at the prison to manufacturers is probably the most lucrative in its immediate results to the state of any system of employing convict labor; but--

Fourth--That it is the most harmful system to the prisoner himself, to the free laborer outside and to the state that can be adopted.

Fifth--That no general system of employing all convicts and prisoners in useful work can be made immediately and of itself peculiarly profitable to the state.

Sixth--That convict labor never be employed in competition with free labor.

The main difficulty that confronts us is the difficulty of obtaining honest and efficient prison administration and management, coupled with secure tenure of office administration so that large plans covering many years may be adopted and carried out.

Presuming by a bold flight of the imagination that the city of Portland and its council and officers and the state of Oregon and its legislature and officers are honestly desirous of employing convicts to the best interests of the state, it would not be difficult to devise a scheme that would accomplish this purpose. The city of Portland is peculiarly situated and nothing would be easier than to discard the discredited old relic and put the men at some work that would be of some real and permanent advantage to the city.

Any one who knows of the magic change that was wrought in the Jefferson street road from Sixteenth street to the reservoirs by the relief work that was put upon it in the hard winter of 1898 by the city board of charities can appreciate how simple and practical a scheme it would be to employ prison labor in the same way.

**Need Honest Officers.**

Had the state of Oregon 30 years ago established its prisons at The Dalles, on the Columbia river and there employed its convicts on a canal and locks we might by this time be much nearer to seeing the Columbia river flowing unfettered to the sea, and we might also in those 30 years have seen some men, the ruin of whose lives has been completed in dishonest and inefficiently conducted prisons, built up into honest, stalwart citizens of the commonwealth, and all while but little if any, added expense.

Other states have tried this experiment but lacking honest, intelligent administration, long tenure of office and freedom from partisan and political abuse have not been as fully successful as they should have been. Nevertheless they have been sufficiently successful to take the plan out of the class of visionary projects and to establish it as an ideal to which to strive.

Miss Julia Lathrop was in attendance and spoke briefly this morning. She will address the convention tonight.

Rev. A. D. Soper, of the Men's Reformatory, spoke this morning.

# EVENING PROWLER SHOOTS TO KILL

## Unknown Person Fires Point Blank at Mrs. Hugh Dennison While She Is Resting at Her Home--Mere Chance Saves Her.

About 7:15 o'clock last night an unknown man attempted the murder of Mrs. Hugh Dennison, wife of the district manager of the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance company, while she was lying ill on a couch in the dining room of her home at the corner of East Stark and Seventh streets. The bullet, which had been shot point blank at Mrs. Dennison, struck the corner of a stove and glanced upward.

Mr. Dennison stated this morning that he had gone home early last evening and saw his wife lying on the couch in the dining room. While he was sitting by a table reading, Mrs. Dennison lay down on the couch to rest and had been reclining but a few minutes when the crash of the bullet was heard. Mr. Dennison rushed out to the kitchen, which is located in the southwest corner of the house back of the dining room, and there saw that the glass of the south kitchen window had been broken and that plastering from the ceiling was scattered over the floor.

Hastily lighting a lamp, the dirt on the stove where the ball had struck was seen, as was also the large hole made in the ceiling where the bullet had struck after glancing from the range. It is believed by Mr. Dennison that the

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# RUSSIANS ADD TO THEIR TROUBLES

## ASSURANCE THAT UNCLE SAM MENACES

(Continued from Page One.)

point in the Orient comes the news of the cutting of cables and the closing down of all news by the censor. A report from these sources yesterday of a gradual drawing of the circles of Russian activity from the coast of the Japanese island and it is known that the garrison has established a line of retreat in the rear of the city and to the north that will be covered by an earthwork of defenses if the main army should desire to evacuate while the main harbor was not protected against a spirited attack from Japanese land and naval forces. It is thus possible by a concentration movement to re-attack the city and cause an extreme loss to Japan. The Russian soldiers, however, are not prepared for a forward movement. While Russia offers no figures of the strength of its army approaching Port Arthur and the Yalu, it is now known she has succeeded in getting more troops to the front than was reported to the public.

At St. Petersburg there has been a strong opposition to the party of nobility which has been formed and is embarrassing the government. This opposition has even gone so far as to try to affect the country's credit in European financial centers void of aristocracy, and active police work is on to root out the disturbers, which may cause rioting.

The cutting of the cables between Port Arthur and Chefoo is thought to mean that a general Japanese attack must have commenced, as the Japanese must have cut the wires. The Russians have all along tried to maintain communication with the Russian home office admits a third attack by torpedo boats on the 14th, but gives no details. This may mean the attack was not so successful as desired. The report that the engagement lasted several hours is denied, and they try to minimize the importance of the move and say they were scouting.

Disorder at Port Arthur is again reported. Russian soldiers are showing cruelty in dealing with inhabitants. Manchurian bandits are harassing refugees and are raiding outlying states between the lines of frontal defense and the rear line of fortified retreat. Many citizens join with the rabble of the army and pillage and murder innocents of all nations including their own.

Drastic measures will be taken by the commander to stop the outrages, and earnest solicitation will be made to English and American representatives.

# FURTHER VIEWS ON WAR CONDITIONS

(Hearst Special Service.)

Jasper, Ala., Feb. 18.—Dashing spirit in the Japanese navy is again illustrated in the second torpedo boat attack on Port Arthur. It will be interesting to learn the full success of the dash, as an indication of the efficiency of the Russian defenses of the city; also upon the question whether there are Japanese sympathizers in the Russian service, or the question whether there is a lack of discipline and efficiency in the Russian army as well as the navy.

The strategic situation remains unchanged. Interest will be centered upon Port Arthur, which measure will be probably affected by the local topography. Whether the Japanese can secure positions for mounting large guns and remain outside the fire of Russian ships is a question. The situation offers many dramatic possibilities for so dashing efforts by land and sea. It is interesting to consider as a matter of speculation what would be the strategic situation in the Orient in event of European complications.

In the event of France joining Russia, a French fleet of 350,000 tons could be thrown into the scene, large enough to overpower the Japanese fleet, cut off Japanese communications and blockade the Japanese coast and bring the war to a conclusion, the French fleet operating from Saigon as a base until it had established its base with the Russian fleet at Port Arthur.

This, however, would precipitate a war alliance between Great Britain and Japan, by the present British-Japanese treaty. Great Britain could readily throw into the far east 500,000 tons of warship displacement and still retain in Europe a force adequate to put Russia and France on the defensive, placing about 1,000,000 tons of warships' displacement against about 400,000 tons of French and 350,000 tons of Russian, or a total of 750,000 tons, which would not be adequate to save the Russian and French coasts from a blockade.

The British could readily checkmate any move on the part of France. From Hong Kong they could cut off the French at Saigon, and from Wei-Hai-Wei they could hold Port Arthur at bay while British operations from India would divert a large part of Russia and might otherwise affect Manchuria.

The situation would be a complete checkmate to any French-Russian move and Japan would be free to save China from invasion from the north, Great Britain preventing invasion from the southwest. However, Germany, if she should enter and join Russia and France, the whole situation would change. With the addition of 450,000 tons of German warship displacement, the predominance would shift to the side of the new triple alliance, assuming the same average in the efficiency of the navies.

# SUITATION APPEARS VERY OMINOUS

(Hearst Special Service.)

Boston, Feb. 18.—I regard the virtual abandonment of lower Manchuria by Russia as exceedingly ominous. All hopes of a brief war may now be given up. The bear is evidently crawling into his hole, resolved to tire the Japanese out. It is the evident intention of Russian commanders to concentrate their forces in the vicinity of Harbin, a position which they

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# THE DUNLAP HAT

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# GERMS WORRY THE COUNTY OFFICERS

Some was started the story yesterday that a man with smallpox had been wandering around all the various departments of the county courthouse trying to find Dr. Evans, who was out on a case.

All the deputies of County Clerk Field's office were profoundly affected. Windows were immediately opened and hands washed after distributing every bundle of papers. Frederick W. Prasse, who officiates as local agent of Cupid in laddling out licenses to wed, adjusted his brethren to kiss themselves good-bye and prepare for the worst.

The startling news spread to the up-story and reaches some of the attorneys arguing in civil suits. They immediately cut short their speeches and more windows were opened.

About the middle of the afternoon Damon D. Jackson, county jailer, heard of the structure being filled with small-pox germs. Armed with an instrument resembling nothing else so much as a sawed-off Krag-Jorgensen rifle, copper plated and provided with a piston rod, he repaired to the sheriff's office. There he industriously worked the piston and three minutes or less the atmosphere of the room was hazy. Incidentally it was filled with a Stygian odor that permeated the walls and ceiling and caused considerable discomfort in Judge George's court. Several deputies found it necessary to take a walk round the block to stir their clothing.

"What in blazes is that smell on you?" queried Clerk Burkhardt, holding his nose, as Deputy Snyder entered the auditor's office.

"Oh," answered Snyder, with a snort of disgust, "Jackson was just upstairs with his confounded crescent fumigator."

Sheriff Storey was absent when Jailer Jackson made his descent on the office. When he returned and got a whiff of the atmosphere he is said to have remarked that in registering prisoners from the county jail he couldn't see the necessity of bringing them into the sheriff's office.

# A POOR MAN AND A SAFE INVESTMENT

A gang of draymen were toffily wrestling a big safe into the Burnside-street doors of Erickson's house last evening. The safe was bulky, heavy and unwieldy and seemed capable of bearing the weight of half a dozen tanks in its capacious interior. A crowd of tattered, dull-eyed idlers had gathered to oversee the job and as the safe with a thud finally rolled inside the doors one of the

# JUDGE CAREY'S WIFE ROBBED OF WATCH

Judge C. H. Carey reported to the police this morning that Mrs. Carey had lost her gold watch last evening when her return home from a shopping trip in the city retail district. Mrs. Carey wore the

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