

WANTONLY DESPOIL

East Side Gardens and Lawns Suffer From Nightly Depredations.

MILES OF HOMES VISITED BY THIEVES

Rose Bushes Torn Up, Flowering Shrubs Mutilated and Trees Are Hacked.

The east side office of The Journal is in the store of Mrs. F. W. McKim, 280 East Madison street.

Flower thieves and vandals have harassed the residents of Piedmont in Washington, South Irvington and Albina by their heinous and malicious destructiveness, and many an irate householder is sitting up these nights with a shotgun praying that the fellow who stole his roses will come back after the cherry trees and sidewalk.

This region of East Portland has for years been noted for the appearance of the lawn and it has been a matter of district pride that every inhabited lot was kept in order and blossomed freely when the rose season opened. During this spring hundreds of new houses have been completed and lawns laid out, rose bushes have been set out until the supply of several florists was exhausted, and the new era of civic improvement found its best exemplification in the district.

Recently, within the past ten days, extensive depredations have been committed and from the number of instances reported and the amount of bushes and shrubs stolen, the parties concerned must be numerous as well as active. One Irvington property holder recently complained every bush of his 100 square feet of property and between the sidewalk and the street he had planted a row of large rose bushes that were loaded with buds. Friday morning an article he discovered was missing and had gone, and that one had been dug up and left beside the hole.

Piedmont citizens generally complain that the early spring bloom has been stolen almost nightly and florists who have isolated hot houses and valuable plants missing and many cases where branches are pulled off and shrubs and trees are ruined.

Like the chicken thieves and the ladder men, the flower vandals leave no trace and though the police have willingly cooperated with the householders there have been no arrests made and still the despoliation of lawn and flower beds continues.

AFTER PENINSULA RUBBISH.

Improvement League Will Employ Small Boy Army.

The Civic Improvement League of University park met with Mrs. E. F. Canon, Friday afternoon, April 24. It was decided to request all chairmen of divisions to look over their respective territory and confer with the president regarding the amount of money required to hire cans and rubbish picked up from vacant lots. All cans will be handled away free of charge to residents, provided they have them in boxes, barrels or sacks and left by a roadside by Saturday morning, May 6, reporting to same to the chairman of their divisions.

The chairman are Mrs. Alice Thorold, Dwight street from Dawson to the Columbia boulevard; Mrs. C. M. Daily, Fluke street from Dawson to Willamette boulevard; Mrs. Kerr, Olive street from Willamette boulevard to Portsmouth street; Mrs. M. L. Hudson, from Portsmouth street to Columbia boulevard; Mrs. D. A. McGregor, Wayland street from Winchell to Columbia boulevard; Mrs. J. W. Mason, Dana street from Winchell to Columbia boulevard. The league will meet with Mrs. D. C. Hoyt Friday afternoon, May 5.

SELLWOOD TO THE FRONT.

Property sells rapidly and many new homes are planned.

Sellwood has a live boom throbbing away in its midst and even better times are in sight with the establishment of the wool scouring plant of the Portland woolen mill and the coming of the Clark woolen mill. More town lots have been sold by one Sanford Zim as the last six weeks than had been sold in the preceding six months by all the agencies interested and the throwing on the market of a number of lots heretofore involved in various estates has resulted in many new homes being started.

Among the homes last week begun are: A \$2,000 residence for Mrs. M. L. Roberts at Eleventh and Lin streets; a \$1,200 cottage for Mrs. Zim at East Seventeenth and Nehalem streets; a \$1,100 cottage for F. A. Waldele at Seventeenth and Spokane streets; a \$1,600 house for C. Kane at East Ninth and Cobococ streets. Mrs. Mary Wilhelm has purchased two lots in east Sellwood and will move the residence she now occupies to the new site and make material additions to it.

TRIMMED OUT OF FASHION.

Many east side residents have become converted to the no-fence doctrine of civic improvement ethics and many of the high and hideous fences that have hidden the beauties of lawn and garden are being torn down. Few new houses have fences on the street frontage and those that do seek excision in this manner do it with an unobtrusive wire of steel. But in addition to the substitution of grass and flowers for boards and posts another reform has just begun to be popular. This is to park the vacant strips between sidewalk and curb and the old plan of allowing weeds to usurp these places is out of date. In many of the better residence districts, blocks after block of rose bushes line the street and flowering trees, and shrubs are being frequently planted by the sidewalk.

CHURCH GROWS RAPIDLY.

Due to the increasing membership of the Sellwood Presbyterian church, Dr. Thompson, the pastor, has been relieved by the Presbytery of the mission charge adjoining the suburb and this will be supplied by the minister of the

FORMER SENATOR J. M. THURSTON HERE AS MITCHELL'S COUNSEL



Former United States Senator John M. Thurston.

Former United States Senator John M. Thurston of Nebraska, who, with Judge A. S. Bennett, will defend Senator Mitchell in the land fraud prosecutions, arrived in Portland yesterday, and will remain here until the trials are concluded.

As a lawyer, Senator Thurston enjoys a national reputation and he has been concerned in some of the most important litigations of recent years. He was appointed general counsel for the Union Pacific in 1888, a position which he held until his election as United States senator from Nebraska in 1895. His fame as an orator has equalled his reputation as a lawyer, and he has been a conspicuous figure in Republican state and national politics.

Senator Thurston was chairman of the Republican national conventions of 1888 and 1896, and for 12 years he was president of the Republican League of the United States. It is four years since he left the United States senate to accept the highest reward, that I think we first became acquainted about 25 years ago, and we have been associated both socially and in a professional way. I can't tell you anything about the salary paid to the plaintiff in the case, but I think a lawyer should not try his case except in court. Besides, I have not yet had any opportunity for consultation with Judge Bennett, with whom I am to be associated in the case.

"I came to Portland considerably in advance of the trials so as to have full opportunity to acquaint myself with the facts and to study the questions of law that are involved. These are matters that I must discuss with Judge Bennett. I do not know when the first case against Senator Mitchell will be tried—that is a matter of guesswork. But I am looking for an early trial on some one of the charges."

"Portland has improved very much since I was here four years ago," he observed, changing the subject of conversation. "I used to be a frequent visitor here, considering the distance I had to come. The last time I was here for any considerable length of time was about 10 years ago, when I was general counsel for the Union Pacific and when we were trying to take the O. R. & N. out of the receivership. I was here 14 years ago when a contest was expected between the Union Pacific and the Northern Pacific over the ownership of the O. R. & N. There was a compromise and we got the road."

W. W. Cotton, general counsel for the O. R. & N., was at one time in Senator Thurston's law office in Omaha as one of his assistants, and he came from there to Portland to practice law. John M. Thurston was born in Vermont in 1847. He went to Omaha in 1869, and there his political career began. He was successively member of the city council, city attorney, member of the state legislature, general counsel for the Union Pacific and United States senator. During the last session of congress he appeared before the senate as counsel for Judge Swaine of Florida, and his brilliant conduct of the defense attracted national attention.

church at Mount Tabor. The growth of the Sellwood church in the past two years has enabled the members to double his entire services. Just before the city revival meetings were commenced the church received 25 new members at one morning service. So great was the interest aroused by the meetings that many more presented themselves for admission and another class of 25 will be received in the near future.

WILHELM BREWERY SOLD.

Mrs. Mary Wilhelm has sold to Portland parties her brewery at Sellwood, the consideration being \$25,000. The new management has planned extensive improvements and already additions have been made to the plant that will double its capacity. Mrs. Wilhelm has purchased property for a modern residence and will retire from active work as a business woman.

GEORGE J. CAMERON.

Candidate for Municipal Judge Shows Much Strength and Is Well Supported.

The local press has the following favorable comments relative to the candidacy of George J. Cameron, candidate for municipal judge: "George J. Cameron's candidacy for municipal judge is in the ascendancy. Of late it is noticed that the former municipal judge is gaining strength, and his friends are beginning to look upon him as the very likely man for the next municipal judge of Portland."

"Judge Cameron has been there before and is well qualified to discharge the difficult duties that devolve upon such an officer. He is especially qualified from the standpoint of temperament, and is aside from all that an able lawyer, with an enviable standing at the Multnomah county bar. Judge Cameron for the past 16 years, and during that time has enjoyed the confidence of a large circle of clients in a business way, besides building up a large and favorable acquaintance. He has held several positions of official trust and responsibility, not the least of which was that of municipal judge for two years preceding the incumbency of Harry W. Hogue. For two years he was the representative of the people of the Eighth ward in the city council, and left that body with a good reputation for business and executive ability. This candidate is prominent in a fraternal way. He is prominently identified with the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and the Woodmen 'World.' Opponents of George J. Cameron for the municipal judgeship on the Republican ticket at the May primaries are feeling the pressure of his campaign. During the last few days Judge Cameron has made surprising strides in popularity with the voters, and his friends are fully confident that he will receive the nomination at the hands of his

BOOLE IN THE CONCRETE WORK

Hoffman Bros. Sue Bowles and Heuser for Money Alleged to Be Due.

TOOK SUB-CONTRACT OFF DEFENDANT'S HANDS

Thatcher and Ainsworth Say Never Paid Rumelin Cent for Influence.

From the tangle of reported manipulation and scheming in connection with city contracts, one fact according to a complaint filed yesterday by Hoffman Brothers by their attorneys, Brodie & Meece—that J. H. Bowles and George F. Heuser built the Marquam gulch front street viaduct. The complaint is laid at law for the recovery of \$4,600 for work by Hoffman Brothers, 2,932 yards of excavation, 1,366.74 yards of concrete, false work, filling and foundation work, amounting to about \$12,800 and leaving a balance alleged to be unpaid of \$4,500.

In this case the Hoffmanns are suing Bowles and Heuser individually. Some time ago they sued Bowles, Heuser, the Pacific Construction company of Washington and John Doe and Richard Roe, entering the equity court with their cause. There it was shown that Bowles and Heuser were solvent; therefore the Hoffmanns now are going to them as individuals and asking pay for work done for them.

The suit is based on the alleged discovery that Bowles and Heuser themselves built the Marquam gulch viaduct, and that the mystery heretofore attaching to the deal may be cleared up that extent.

No Reference to Irregularities. This suit, unlike the equity case, makes no reference to irregularities in letting the contract, or in its manipulation by city officials, but purposefully eliminates all such matter, the plaintiffs merely desiring to get money claimed by them to be paid. In the event the ground of the Hoffmanns be tenable, then wrongful practices in connection with the Marquam Gulch bridge, if such should be proved in the investigation now in progress, will be laid at the door of Bowles and Heuser. It has been apparent that there were questionable features of the Marquam Gulch viaduct transaction. The city was charged at an enormous rate for the concrete work, enough to enable Bowles & Heuser to sublet it at a living price and still make a large profit without doing any of the work.

It was in connection with this contract that the claim was made that the practical yardage was to be allowed, and that such yardage had customarily been allowed in most city contracts for years past. Were it proved that theoretical yardage had been paid for by the city on the basis of a graft, this would be one of the most important facts yet ascertained, for it would spot for thousands of dollars of tax money wasted.

In connection with the general investigation by the district attorney, the absence of Mr. Manning at the seacoast has put a stop to active work. Strong denial is entered by J. H. Thatcher, manager of the Pacific States Telephone company, and by John C. Ainsworth, president of the United States National bank, and one of the officials of the telephone company, that there is any truth in the allegations that money was paid to C. E. Rumelin or any other councilman or officials to influence their votes on franchises asked for by new companies. Mr. Thatcher said:

"I wish to stamp as a tissue of lies the statements that have been made. There is not a vestige of truth in them. This company, through me or anyone else has never paid one dollar to any person for an improper purpose, and does not intend to pay out any such money. The story is absurd on its face and should not be heeded by sensible persons."

Mr. Ainsworth reiterated Mr. Thatcher's statements with equal force. Mr. Rumelin and His Bank. One fact has been disclosed by the present agitation, that Councilman Rumelin has received a rich harvest from the employes of the city and county in lending money at high rates of interest, and the intimation is given that he has used his influence virtually to compel employes to do business with his banking house. Certain men working in city departments have said that they were given to understand that their situations would be more secure if they carried accounts with Ashley & Hummel, bankers.

Records at the city hall show that in the month of March the firm of Ashley & Hummel, bankers, purchased warrants from city employes aggregating \$11,940.80. At 5 per cent, which is the usual rate of interest charged by the brokers, their profits from the city employes alone amounted to \$617.25. The amounts of the warrants purchased from the employes in the different departments were as follows: Police, \$1,687; fire, \$4,800.40; street cleaning, \$1,874.10; water, \$3,111.65; city engineer, \$350; city hall janitor, \$320; city park, \$24; board of health, \$383.10; pound, \$140; building inspector, \$150.

Out of a total of 32 employes in the police department, they purchased the warrants a total of 166 out of 167 employes in the fire department, they discounted 76 warrants, and out of 113 employes in the water department, they purchased 23. In the engineer's department, they discounted 24 warrants; pound department, 3; health department, 6; janitors, 2; city park, 1; building inspector, 1.

C. E. Rumelin does all the work connected with the cashing of the warrants. Instead of signing the firm name, he receipts the warrants in the name of M. A. M. Ashley, his partner. To anybody not familiar with the signature, it would be impossible to make it out.

COUNT OF NOSES TO BEGIN THIS WEEK

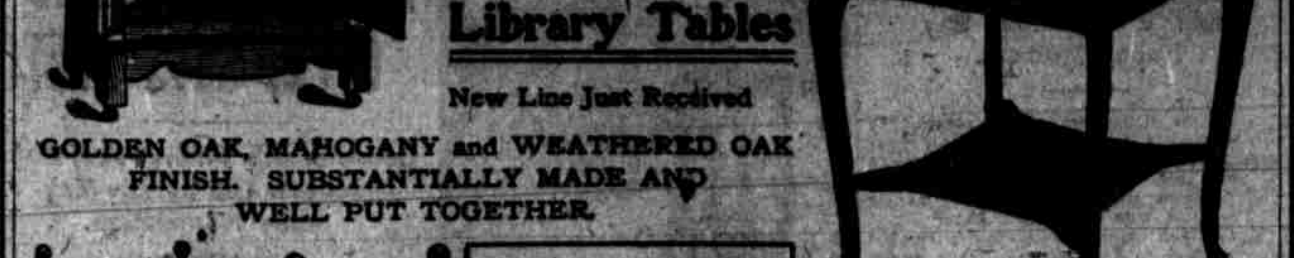
Tell Siger's Men Name, Age, Sex and Present Condition of Servitude.

Work upon the state census for Multnomah county will be begun by County Assessor Siger early this week, when 25 enumerators will be placed in the field; the greater part of this number have been ordered to report to the assessor for instructions Monday morning. The enumeration of inhabitants this year will be more thoroughly performed than ever before. Distinctions of occupations will be closely drawn. Thus, a young man who sells goods over the counter of a dry good or grocery store

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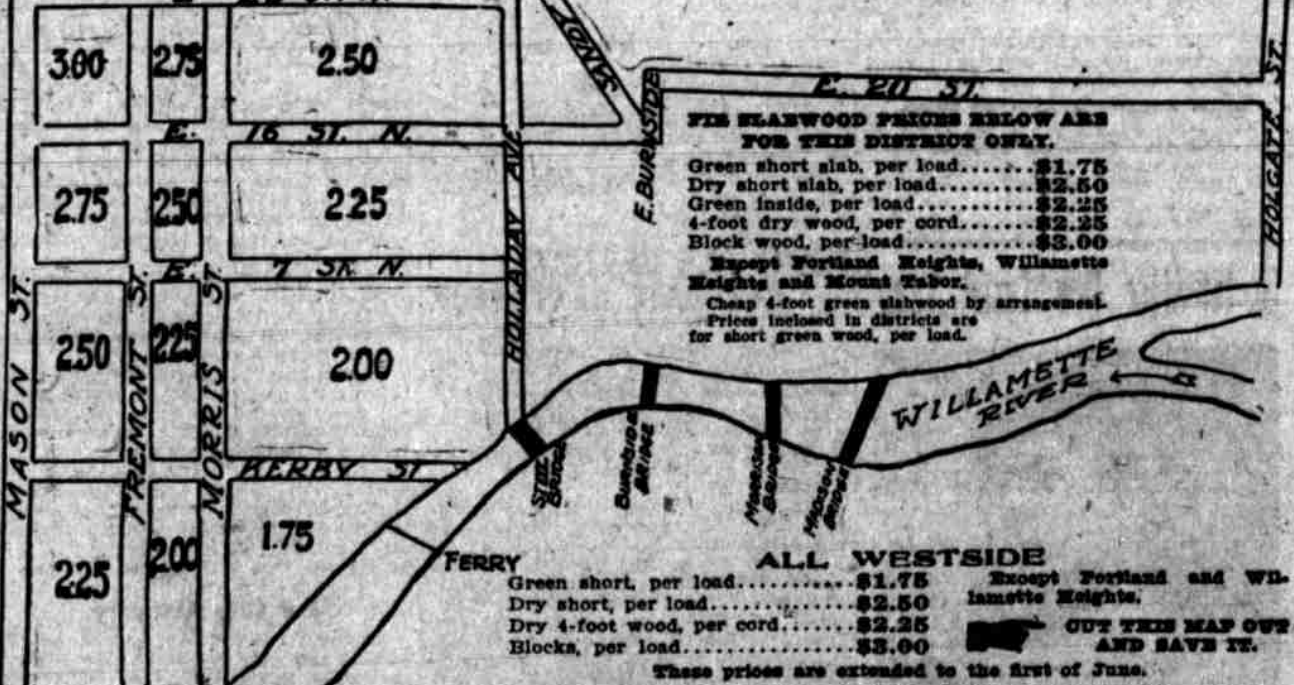
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will be listed as a salesman, instead of as a clerk as formerly. Only persons who in some way attend to the books of a concern will appear in the census as clerks. Day laborers will be distinguished from farm laborers, and farm laborers from farmers. Sons of farmers who work for their fathers will appear as farm laborers. Only women who keep house for gain will be returned as housekeepers, and will not be confused with others who keep house for themselves or their families. In all cases the particular work done by any person will have to be stated, and

CHAMPOEG TO HAVE GREAT CELEBRATION

Many are arranging their plans to go to Champeog next Thursday, to take part in the exercises in connection with the sixty-second anniversary of the formation of the first American civil government west of the Rocky mountains. The boat leaves the foot of Taylor street at 6:45 a. m. and returning leaves Champeog at 4 p. m. The boat trip up the Willamette river at this season of the year is a delightful one. Hon. F. X. Matthews, the sole survivor of the 162 who took part in the eventful meeting, now in his 85th year, will be present. The Honorable of Nature. Krrie Bellow says actors are born and not made. It is painful to think that all the persons who are trying to act were born that way.

Portland Business College

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