SUPREME COURT IS THE PROBLEM

Lawyers at Seattle May Try to Help Both Court and People.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 24.—That something more than [illegible] and being banqueted, than [illegible], wrangling, bouquet throwing, eating, drinking and sight-seeing will be the net result of the annual meeting of the American Bar association which is to open in the New Washington hotel here tomorrow is a cheering probability. If not smothered in its infancy by sheer weight of numbers, that something will be a sincere and patriotic effort to devise and recommend means for the relief and consequent increased efficiency of the supreme court of the United States.

Whether the attempt will be made through a committee report or by an individual speaker on the floor of the convention has not yet developed. But this much is certain, when the effort is made it will not stand without support. In this great gathering of the brightest legal lights of the country there is more than one who sees clearly the insufficiency of the highest tribunal to cope with the task modern conditions have imposed upon it, an insufficiency based on the fact that the supreme court is about the same now as it was when it was established to administer the appeals of thirteen small states inhabited by simple people whose personal and commercial existence had little of the modern complexity with its intricacies of corporation law, with its mountains of musty precedents on which lawyers and courts must scramble in a goat-like hunt for the little green sprigs of truth and justice.

Movement That Requires Courage.

It is doubtful if there is one lawyer who will sit in the first meeting of the American Bar association tomorrow who does not see all of this, who does not discern in it the advantage given by it to the rich law-breaking corporation, and the hopeless obstacles placed in the way of the poor man who would have simple justice. There are some of the lawyers who not only see this but who have convictions strong enough to stand back of any man who will take the first cold plunge.

Whether there is such a man, or who he is, has not yet developed. But the first hint at a real purpose to accomplish some material good at the present great concourse of trained minds was given today when Professor Samuel Williston of the Harvard Law school expressed his belief that the supreme court was not able to adequately dispose of the accumulated business before it.

Williston is the man who drew up the draft of the uniform act governing stock certificates, which is under final consideration by the national commission on uniform state law today. He is recognized as one of the greatest thinkers of the country.

A Specialist's View.

"There is no doubt," he said today, "that our supreme court is compelled to dispose of a greater mass of business than was intended when it was created. With the growth of the country, there has been a natural accumulation of litigation, with ever-increasing complexity, carried to the supreme court.

"It would appear that there must eventually be relief. Yet there seems to be no immediate relief in sight.

"It is possible that it may be found advisable to limit the jurisdiction of the supreme court. It would be a little troublesome now to diminish jurisdiction. Yet it would be possible to set a pecuniary limit to any case that could be carried to the supreme court. By that I mean that the jurisdiction of the supreme court could be limited by enacting that any case, even one involving a constitutional point, should involve a certain and rather large minimum amount of money.

"As I say, such a course would be rather troublesome now. The best course cannot be determined without careful study."

No Knocking on Supreme Court.

While Williston's statement is without doubt the first intimation of a strong undercut of sentiment in a limited portion of the bar association, whether this sentiment will find outward expression in the meeting depends on the result of committee deliberation or individual hardihood. Any criticism, even by inference, of the supreme court will be met with a determined effort to smother such a criticism in its infancy, this is certain. Yet, if the subject of the broken-down condition of the supreme court is injected into the convention it will immediately become the storm center and the one thing that will mark the meeting of 1908.

The first day will be devoted to the annual address of the president, Judge J. M. Dickinson of Chicago, the election of members, an address in the evening by United States District Judge C. H. Hanford of Seattle and reports of committees.

MIDDLE WEST COIN FOR PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Inquiries for investment opportunities in the northwest are coming in faster than they can be handled, according to H. A. Wheeler, head of the credit clearing house of Chicago. Mr. Wheeler visited Portland a short time ago and has written the Commercial club referring to some of the inquiries to it.

People throughout the middle west are greatly interested in the Pacific northwest as a field for investment as well as a home for themselves, says Mr. Wheeler in his letter, and since his return from Portland he has had more inquiries concerning this portion of the country than he has been able to attend to.

The fact that Mr. Wheeler is a business man of so wide experience and that he is the head of the Chicago credit clearing house lends additional importance to his letter.

SUES TO RECOVER TWO FEET OF LAND

Victoria Thome has brought suit against I. E. Dufur and his wife Mary M. Dufur to recover possession of a strip of land two feet nine inches wide along the west side of her lot. She alleges in her complaint that the defendants have appropriated this strip for the purpose of building an embankment to beautify their lawn. The plaintiff also asks to be allowed damages in the sum of $100 for having been deprived of her property.

REAR-ADMIRAL WISE, RETIRED, COMES WEST TO GROW YOUNG

Rear Admiral W. C. Wise, U. S. N., retired, who was in the service 48 years and who has never voted in his life owing to the fact that most of his time has been spent at sea, is at the Hotel Portland, seeing Portland for the first time. Admiral Wise's home is at Old Point, Va.

During the Spanish-American war Admiral Wise was in command of the scout boat Yale. He has been to all parts of the world, but with the exception of the seaport cities of the United States has seen very little of this country. Three years ago Admiral Wise was retired.

"I just came from New York and the trip out here was a revelation to me in more ways than one," he said this morning. "I have heard of the great cities and of the mountains and the industries of the interior of this country, but never before had I seen any of them until I started out this time.

"I never had a vote in my life. But if good fortune is with me I shall return to Old Point, my home, in time to cast my ballot at the fall election."

But Admiral Wise didn't say who he was going to vote for. Admiral Wise has had an interesting career and now he is enjoying the privileges of retirement. He entered the service when but 17 years old, and went through the civil war and has taken part in all of the naval demonstrations of any importance since that time.

DO YOU WANT TO BE DELEGATE TO COMMERCIAL CONGRESS?

Anybody wanting to be a delegate to the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress, which is to be held in San Francisco October 6 to 10, stands a chance of being one of the 10 delegates to which the Portland chamber of commerce is entitled. The official call for the congress was received by the chamber of commerce this morning, and the chamber will postpone naming its delegate until it learns whether some of its members are not planning to be in California at the time set for the sessions of the congress.

Among the questions that will be discussed are the conservation of natural resources, mining and internal waterways. The call issued by the directors assures all delegates that politics will be strictly excluded from the discussions of the body.

LAWYERS TACKLE DIVORCE LAWS

Meeting at Seattle to Discuss Some Difficult Legal Problems.

The American Bar association which meets at Seattle tomorrow in annual convention, will be brought to Portland after the convention if the persuasive eloquence of the Portland delegation is of any avail. The delegates may not all be able to visit this city at this time, but the lawyers who are going to represent Multnomah county hope to be able to capture most of them. They want the easterners particularly to see what a real western city is like. A formal invitation will be issued on the floor of the convention hall for all the delegates to visit Portland.

Those who do come will be assured of special entertainment and of being afforded an opportunity to see everything of interest in this city that they want to see. Preparations are being made to entertain them in the proper manner.

The association will find a large amount of work laid out for it when it assembles. One of the principal problems to be discussed is the intricacy of the divorce laws, which differ so widely in the various states. An effort will be made to find some way of harmonizing the conflicting statutes.

Reforms in judicial procedure will form another important topic of discussion. The association wishes to find a method of simplifying and expediting the trial of criminal cases and of advancing appeal cases. The necessity of reforms along this line is obvious. The association will also consider reforms in insurance laws and many other matters.

Among those who will be in attendance from Portland and other parts of Oregon, a large number of whom are leaving for Seattle today, are the following: Attorney-General A. M. Crawford, Judge C. H. Carey, D. Solis Cohen, John M. Gearin, Thomas G. Greene, W. D. Fenton, W. C. Bristol, R. R. Duniway, W. W. Cotton, F. W. Mulkey, H. H. Emmons, C. M. Idleman, A. E. Clark, G. C. Moser, J. F. Logan, J. Couch Flanders, F. V. Holman, S. B. Linthicum, Harrison Allen, C. J. Schnabel, L. R. Webster, Alexander Bernstein, T. Cleeton, A. P. Tifft, R. W. Montague, Dan J. Malarkey, Hilton Schwartz, W. Miner, E. T. Taggart, John K. Kollock, James Gleason, Martin L. Pipes, Jerry Bronaugh, Phil Herz, C. W. Pulrain, Arthur Langguth, Seneca Fouts, George Singleton, H. B. Adams, C. A. Bell, Bert E. Haney.

BUSINESS MEN FROM DENVER

Portland will entertain a special excursion of 100 Colorado business men, members of the Colorado Manufacturers' association, on October 16 according to a letter received by the Commercial club this morning from Thomas C. Scott, secretary of the association.

According to the plans for the Colorado bunch, they will leave Denver and go to Salt Lake via the Union Pacific, to Los Angeles from Salt Lake via the San Pedro route, to San Francisco via the Southern Pacific, to Portland via the Shasta route and back to Salt Lake over the O. R. & N. and the O. S. L. During the trip they will take in the National Irrigation congress at Albuquerque, N. M., and the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress at San Francisco.

Manager Tom Richardson of the Commercial club answered Mr. Scott's letter [illegible] assuring the Denver manufacturers of a welcome to Portland and of some of the good sights that await them here.

LIFE WITH HUSBAND BECOMES UNBEARABLE

Bertha E. W[illegible] finds life with her husband [illegible] so burdensome from which she would like to be relieved. [illegible] for divorce asking [illegible] be allowed to resume her maiden name of Bessie Winter. Mrs. [illegible] charges her husband with treating her in a cruel and inhuman manner, heaping upon her gross personal indignities and epithets, striking her, and finally making her earn her own living, which renders life burdensome to her.

JURY DRAWN FOR SEPTEMBER TERM

The jury list for the September term of court, commencing September 8, was drawn in Judge Gantenbein's court this morning. The judge also set a large number of cases for trial during the term, which will be a full one. The grand jury will be drawn on September 8, the opening of the new term of court.

WIFE GONE WITH $1,000 DIAMONDS

E. J. Hoover Offers Reward but Little Information Is Found.

Wearing $1,000 worth of diamonds, Mrs. Charlotte Hoover, the wife of E. J. Hoover, a commercial traveler and mining man, was yesterday reported to the police to be missing. Her husband offers a reward of $50 for information of her whereabouts.

Mrs. Hoover, so her husband says, left her apartments in the Sheffield, Seventh and Jefferson, about noon Saturday. At 2 o'clock she was seen at Tenth and Washington by two friends. When Chief Gritzmacher asked Hoover who were these friends, Hoover declined to give their names, merely saying they were a druggist and his wife. His reason for this, he said, was that he did not wish a police officer to call upon them, as the disappearance of Mrs. Hoover might then become known.

Mr. Hoover, however, did say that when the druggist saw his wife she was crying bitterly. Hoover went to Vancouver early today, supposedly to search for his wife. He gave as the only possible reason for her disappearance that she was despondent and had been in ill health for some weeks.

Mrs. Hoover is 44 years of age, five feet eight inches in height and weighs about 140 pounds. She wore a brown silk skirt and white shirtwaist. In her hat was a big brown feather.

NO ROBBERY, JUST PLAIN BEATING

Alleged Insult, Leads to Pummeling Then Hold-up Charges.

The district attorney's office this morning dismissed the charges of assault with intent to rob brought against Edward Jones and E. Equals by E. M. Sherlock, a lawyer.

Jones and Equals would have been arrested late Saturday night by Constables Wagner and Kiernan and probably locked up in the county jail with little opportunity to obtain bail had the constables not seen in The Journal at the last moment that Jones had already reported to the police that he was responsible for the alleged robbery on Sherlock Monday night at [illegible] station on the Mount Scott line. Jones told the police that he would thrash Sherlock again if he did not retract the robbery story.

Under the circumstances no action was taken until this morning when Jones and Equals were brought before Deputy District Attorney Fitzgerald. They told [illegible] that there had been no attempt at robbery. Jones declares Sherlock insulted him on the car, and that when he refused to apologize when their home station was reached he pummeled the lawyer.

DEATH OF PROMINENT ASTORIA ATTORNEY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Astoria, Or., Aug. 24.—Frederick [illegible] W[illegible], a prominent attorney of Astoria [illegible] years [illegible] was 63 years of age [illegible] and three daughters, Mrs. E. C. Slater, Mrs. W[illegible] of Spokane and Mrs. [illegible] [illegible] twenty years was [illegible] [illegible] will take place [illegible] with interment in [illegible].

POLICE SEARCH FOR TWO MISSING PERSONS

[illegible] street has reported to the police that his son [illegible] employe of the [illegible] is missing since [illegible]. He is of light complexion, [illegible] and wore a [illegible].

J. H. Sutherland, 1154 Macadam road, reports his son, J. H. Sutherland, aged [illegible], missing. He came from Washougal Saturday morning but did not come home after leaving the boat and has not been seen since.

PAPER COMPANY IN NEW ENTERPRISES

Supplementary articles of incorporation were filed with the county clerk this morning by Blake, McFall & Co. The documents states that these supplementary articles are to enable the company to engage in new enterprises, including the manufacture and sale of paper, paper stock, etc. O. W. Mielke, manager of the stationery department of the company, says that the object is to enable the company to handle its new building on the corner of Fifth and Pine streets.

CANAL REPORT IS GIVEN OUT

Commission Finds Conditions in Panama in Excellent Shape.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Oyster Bay, Aug. 24.—President Roosevelt yesterday made public a report submitted to him on August 6 by a special commission consisting of James Bronson Reynolds, Samuel B. Donnelly and Henry Beach Needham regarding conditions in Panama. The commission was appointed April 25 last.

The commission reports that it "inspected the entire line of the canal excavation from La Boca, the southern or Pacific terminus, to Cristobal, the northern or Caribbean terminal, and traveled through the excavation several times, interviewing the men at work."

Indicating the scope of the inspection, the commission reports that it visited the "government workshops, construction plants, warehouses, shipyards, dredges, commissary stores, living quarters (that is, hotels, messes, kitchens and camps), schools, clubhouses, courts, police stations and the convalescent home at Taboga."

Actual Progress of Work.

Of the progress of the work the report says:

"This year over two and one third million cubic yards were excavated in each of the winter months, the dry season in Panama, 1,000,000 yards being approximately equal to a square mile one foot deep. To prepare this immense mass for removal 405 tons of dynamite were used per month, and to make the dirt fly to this extent 32 95-ton steam shovels, 37 70-ton, 10 45-ton and 24 others were in constant use. A total of 4,141 cars and 302 locomotives moved this mass to the dumps. A fleet of 18 barges, 15 dredges and 31 other vessels were at work in the dredging service."

After giving a detailed description of the method of the work on the canal and the amount of machinery and labor involved, the report continues:

"When we recall that this enormous plant is operated at a distance of 1,157 miles from its main base of supplies, New York, we can estimate with more justice and accuracy the magnitude and complication of the undertaking. On April 30 last, 26,118 men were actually at work for the Isthmian canal commission and 7,077 at work for the Panama railroad, a total of 33,195."

FIRE DOES MUCH DAMAGE IN ALBANY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Albany, Or., Aug. 24.—Fire early Sunday morning destroyed four business houses in the heart of the business district of the city. The flames were first detected issuing from Eilers piano house and from there easily spread and destroyed Bruce & Huston, barbers, Linn & Benton, real estate dealers, A. Schmitt, gunsmith and dealer in sporting goods. The origin of the fire is unknown. A total loss of about $16,000 was sustained by the parties mentioned.

The heaviest individual losers are Eilers piano house and Schmitt, the gunsmith, losing $5,000 and $3,000 respectively. The losses are only partially covered by insurance on account of the almost prohibitive rates prevailing in the frame dwelling districts.

The buildings will be immediately rebuilt and in their stead will rise fine brick buildings, modern in every detail. The burned buildings stood in the center of the business district on First street and immediately across the street from the postoffice.

On account of the defective fire alarm system no fire call was sounded until the whole area of buildings were practically doomed. Even thus, had sufficient force been available the gun store of A. Schmitt might have been saved.

It is a problem for the parties burned out to find available buildings in which to reinstate themselves. As far as known not a vacant business building is to be had in the city.

William Crawford was arrested charged with stealing a rifle from the burning store of A. Schmitt, dealer in sporting goods.

While engaged in assisting in the work of saving the stock and carrying guns to places of safety he was seen to appropriate a new rifle to himself and hide the purloined article under the sidewalk. He afterward returned to the place where he had cached the gun, and was there arrested.

He was lodged in the county jail and his hearing postponed until formal complaint could be entered against him.

PREPARATIONS FOR T.-M. CONGRESS

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 24.—Arthur F. Francis of Cripple Creek, Col., permanent secretary of the Trans-Mississippi congress, which is to convene here from October 6 to October 10, established headquarters in the board of trade rooms in the Ferry building today. Secretary Francis has come to make arrangement for the great congress, which will be attended by delegates from every state and territory west of the Mississippi river.

It is expected that at least 1,000 delegates will attend the convention from outside states as well as 1,000 from this state. Irrigation, forestry, rivers and harbors, insular possessions and mines and mining are among the principal topics to be discussed at the congress. The measure for the reclamation of swamp lands, introduced at the last session of congress by Senator Flint of this state, will be explained.

A complete report of the doings of the congress will be mailed to each member of congress by the secretary.

MEXICAN RAILROADS ADOPT NEW RULE

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Mexico City, Aug. 24.—Many people who formerly travelled second class on Mexican lines will be forced hereafter to travel first class and pay 2 1/5 cents gold per mile as against 1 1/5 cents, the second-class fare. It was announced today that the Mexican government has granted nearly all the railroads in Mexico the privilege of abolishing the third-class coaches, which have been popular and liberally patronized.

The Vera Cruz line, running from this city to Vera Cruz through a populous country, is the only line to continue the third-class coaches. Figures show that passengers who formerly rode second class are taking first-class coaches. The revenue of the roads is being greatly increased by the new arrangement.

MAD BULL INVADES GOLDEN GATE PARK

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Aug. 24.—The park commissioners are today preparing an appeal to the chief of police and police commission to inforce the regulations against allowing cattle to run at large in the city and have asked that the mounted police prevent a repetition of yesterday's incident, when a mad bull ran into Golden Gate Park, when it was full of merrymakers, and created havoc.

The bull appeared at the children's playground and drove the little ones to safety in flight. Pandemonium reigned among the women and children for several hours.

Mounted police chased the intruder through the park and finally captured him with lariats.

Colored Club Women.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

New York, Aug. 24.—The National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs met in Brooklyn today for a four days' session. The opening was attended by delegates representing organizations of colored women in many different parts of the country. For their entertainment elaborate arrangements have been made by the colored women and church organizations of Greater New York. The convention has prepared an interesting program that provides for addresses, papers and discussions concerning a wide variety of subjects of interest and importance to the negro race and its moral and intellectual advancement.

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You need not hesitate about the small prices—they're just to sell the remainder of the seventy-five pianos as advertised last week. The values are about double the sale price. After they are gone the prices will be regular.

Whatever your income may be, you can get a piano today at this sale, and it will be a mistake to wait.

Come down this afternoon and we'll send the piano home on payment of six dollars, and besides our smallest easy-pay plan, you save from $125 to $200 this week—remember, this week only—no longer than it takes to sell the few remaining pianos—about thirty—in this lot of seventy-five advertised last week. Sale may close most any day. Fair warning to all—come while we have them at advertised prices.

Remember the Terms
$6 CASH and $6 A MONTH
Take Any of These Until All Are Sold
Pay $138 for Best $2.65 Pianos.
Pay $144 for Finest $275 Pianos.
Pay $185 for Best $325 Pianos.
Pay $243 for Best $400 Pianos.
Pay $294 for Our Best $500 Pianos.
Come this afternoon, if possible, and secure best choice.

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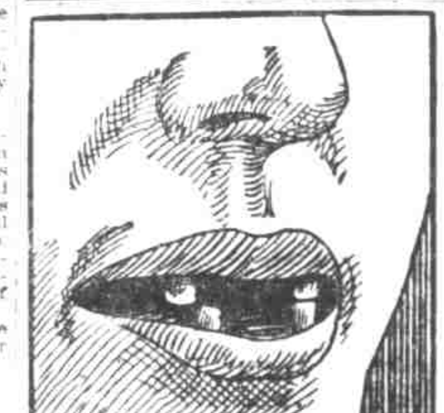

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