

OPPOSE CHANGE IN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Lawyers of Multnomah County Suggest Whole Question Go to Legislators.

Lawyers of Multnomah county are opposed to any "tinkering" with the judicial system of Oregon at this time. They want a comprehensive and well defined system mapped out for submission to and consideration by the legislative session of 1912.

This was the substance of the report submitted by the special legislative committee of the Multnomah Bar association at its meeting last night at the courthouse.

The committee recommended that the work of revamping the judicial system of the state be given into the hands of a commission of 15 men, who should go at the task carefully and systematically and report their findings to the legislature for action two years hence.

The committee having the matter in charge is composed of Attorneys A. E. Clark, Martin L. Pipes, James E. Kerr, James L. Conlay, C. A. Dolph and W. M. Davis. Their idea is to have the committee composed of 15 men equally selected from attorneys and laymen throughout the state. The committee, which will have two years to do this work, will be named by the governor, and will serve without compensation. The reorganization will include both the circuit and supreme courts.

Reforms Badly Needed.
The adoption of the committee report does not stop any legislation absolutely necessary by the coming legislature. Several attorneys and others interested have minor changes in legal lines they wish to have made. These will not be discouraged. The report of the committee was unanimously adopted and the governor will be asked to name the committee early in the session of the legislature.

Attorney George Shepherd was of the opinion that the association should attempt to have passed some reforms that are now badly needed. One of the reforms, he said, is discontinuance of court terms. He said there were counties down state that would be greatly benefited by this change. He wanted to have the law changed so that the presiding judge or judge in charge call a jury whenever needed. It was shown by the committee, however, that the adoption of the report did not keep the legislature from passing on needed reforms.

Would Reorganize Court.
Attorney Claude Strahan, chairman of the committee having in charge the matter relating to the justice court, reported a bill providing that the court be completely reorganized. It proposes relieving the circuit court of much work. The bill also provides that there shall be one judge to each 50,000 population and that his salary shall be \$3500 a year. The court shall be known as the "district court."

B. E. Haney spoke of the present condition in the justice court, declaring it was on the highest standing it had ever been. He further added that the two judges are crowded with work, and that there is need of at least two more judges.

The association was also of the opinion that the limit for appeal cases should be raised in the district court to \$50, and it should be made a court of record.

Attorney Harry Yankwich filed a request with the association for an investigation of his recent arrest on the charge of embezzlement. It was the opinion of the association that he had been vindicated by his discharge from the accusation and this would be enough.

As a token of their esteem for Judge Morrow, a handsome wedding present in the form of a drop light was presented the judge and Mrs. Morrow. Attorney C. J. Schnabel, president of the association, was instructed to convey to the judge and his bride the best wishes of the bar association. The next meeting will be held January 14 at the courthouse.

POLICE BELIEVE PARENTS KILLED THEIR TINY BABE FOUND IN THE BUSHES

Evidence has developed to indicate that the baby boy found yesterday at the corner of Brandon and Pippin streets, near Peninsula station, had been murdered by the parents, and detectives are searching for them. That the child did not have proper care at birth or that it was purposely neglected is the explanation made for its death. From all appearances the child died to death, as the paper and handkerchief in which the tiny body was wrapped were soaked with blood. A charge of manslaughter will be made against the parents if they can be found. A woman's footprints were found in the vicinity of the bushes where the child was found. The remains are still at the morgue unclaimed.



11 YEARS IN PRISON FOR HOLDUP MAN

James Glisan Pleads Guilty to Charge of Robbing Dr. J. A. Merriman.

James Glisan, alias Dan Connors, who was one of four men who held up and robbed Dr. J. A. Merriman December 16, was sentenced to 11 years in the state prison yesterday afternoon, by Presiding Judge Cleland. Glisan pleaded guilty to the charge. William Martin, Glisan's partner, will stand trial.

Glisan and Martin were arrested within half an hour after the physician was held up and robbed of \$18.50 and a gold watch. Glisan has served time in the Washington state prison, and has been arrested in Portland a number of times. When asked yesterday if he had anything to say, Glisan nodded to his attorney, who made a talk for leniency. The attorney said that Glisan and the three other men had been drinking on the night of the hold-up, but had no evil intent when they committed the act. He said that Glisan admitted doing the work, and said he was sorry. He refused to go to trial, saying he would take his sentence.

Mrs. Frances Metzger, accused of assaulting her husband with a deadly weapon, was also arraigned. Attorney B. E. Haney, appearing for her, asked for one week within which to enter a plea.

R. E. Chapman was also given a week to plead to the charge of manslaughter. His auto ran down and killed Harry Schmitzer, a 7-year-old boy, at First and Arthur streets.

Charles A. Crawford and Miss Eva Lamar, who were indicted by the grand jury on a statutory offense, failed to appear yesterday before the court. Their time to plead was extended. They were arrested upon complaint of Mrs. Crawford.

MOVING PICTURE CRAZE STRONG IN ORIENT

You can see moving picture shows in China, Japan and Malaysia just as you can see them in the United States and Europe, according to E. Morton Cohn, who returned to Portland yesterday after a six months' trip through the orient. Mr. Cohn, who is head of a film selling company here, was naturally interested in the moving picture houses in oriental countries. There is scarcely a city of any size but that has them, he says, and as a rule they are well patronized though poorly arranged for ventilation and comfort. The films used are the regular trust films to be seen in the United States and the pictures are usually the same seen here. The Chinese seem to take as much pleasure in viewing the antics of Americans and Europeans as seen by means of the moving pictures as do the people of any other land.

"Of all the places I saw I liked Honolulu and Manila the best," said Mr. Cohn. "They are the most like American cities. If I were a younger man I would go to Manila to make my fortune. The other cities were interesting, but served to show how much better the United States is from every standpoint."

While in San Francisco on his way home Mr. Cohn subscribed to some stock in a corporation being organized there to conduct a string of 10 cent theatres in the Pacific northwest. Mr. Cohn said no details had been arranged yet as the company had not been incorporated. He expects the matter will be in concrete shape within a week.

FAVORS REVISION OF OREGON'S HEALTH LAWS

A. L. Mills, president of the First National bank, and head of the Oregon branch of the National Health League, spoke warmly in favor of the proposed revision of Oregon's health laws yesterday.

"I approve such a revision of the health laws as will permit the elimination of politics," said Mr. Mills. "I believe that giving such a commission as the state board of health supervision of the enforcement of all the health laws is the only common sense means of procedure. We will never get full protection for public health so long as men from the enforcement of health laws or for the dissemination of information are politicians or are politically chosen. We will never have combined economy and efficiency in the administration of health laws and health departments until all are under one head. By eliminating unnecessary office forces and by centralizing equipment we can make one dollar of the taxpayers' money go as far as two dollars now go. We will forever prevent quibbling and defiance and lost time and effort between departments. I thoroughly approve the plan and will give it my support."

At a recent meeting of the City and County Medical society resolutions were adopted approving the revision of laws so that the state board of health will be constituted as a body having supervision of the enforcement of all health laws and having as their executive officers, the state chair and food commissioner, the state health officer, the state bacteriologist and the state veterinarian. A committee was at the same time appointed to draft a measure covering the proposed revision and change in the laws.

Chinese Injured by Thugs.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Pullman, Wash., Dec. 23.—"Bologna," Pullman's lone Chinaman, who lives in a house on the flats near the O. R. & N. depot, was almost killed by robbers who tried to bet his hoarded wealth Monday night. The names of the robbers are known and their arrest is believed to be certain. The Chinaman is suffering intense pain, but it is believed he will recover, although his head and face are frightfully cut and bruised.

Oklahoma Bar Association.
Oklahoma City, Okla., Dec. 23.—With a large and representative attendance of members of the bench and bar the annual meeting of the Oklahoma State Bar association began in this city today and will continue over tomorrow. The annual address will be delivered by Judge Frank Deater, former chief justice of Kansas, on the subject of "The Constitution and the Courts."

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