

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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No author ever spared a brother; Wit's are game-cocks to one another.

JUSTICE AND PRECEDENTS

REPLYING to the query of "H. J." on this page, The Journal does not advise abandonment of precedent in the administration of the law.

But there are precedents and precedents. The Journal advises abandonment of such precedents as that of the St. Louis court which ordered a new trial for a hoodlum alderman because "he" had been left out of the indictment.

The ultimate purpose of the law is to promote justice. Any sound precedent, which squares with that fundamental maxim, should continue to have weight with the bench, for guidance as to law and for the fixity of principle under which law should be administered.

It is in harmony with the supreme justices of the state of New York who have formed an association which, among other things, is considering the expediting of procedure.

It is in harmony with the late Justice Brewer who said "the seat of the whole trouble, in my opinion, is the granting of too many appeals when justice does not demand it."

IN THE LAST DITCH

PRESENT news from Washington is that there is small prospect of reaching an agreement at this session on the amendment for direct election of senators.

The house wants an amendment providing for state control, and has phrased the measure it has passed in such terms. The standpat Republicans of the senate want congressional control, and in the passage of their resolution contemplated a senate majority for that plan.

HOW TO IDENTIFY

IN the case of three hold-up men who robbed two pedestrians, compelled a hotel proprietor to hand over the contents of his till and then went to a saloon where they shot two policemen and two bystanders, the description runs as follows:

monopoly of the ribbon trade, but these migrating Protestants established the industry in England, where it thrives to this day.

THE TERRIBLE WOLF

ON New Year's Day a Chicago paper carried the following sensational alarm: "A big, savage gray timber wolf is running at large in the yard of the Western Lumber company. The entire neighborhood has turned out to aid the police in their hunt for the brute, which is famished to the point of desperation and has already attacked two men. Mothers were terror-stricken and have refused to allow their children to leave their houses, several New Year's parties being canceled in consequence."

"He is a big, wicked looking fellow," said the night watchman. The general manager of the lumber company took charge of the hunt, but, failing to locate the wolf, he called in the police. With drawn revolvers they searched the yard. Unless the animal is killed tonight, poisoned meat will be used to destroy him."

Another kind of great-gray wolf is at large in Chicago. He is pursuing the children in Portland. He is in Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, and every other large city.

His victims find their way to the juvenile court, to the hospitals, to the houses of correction, to the reformatories, and to the red light district. These wolves accomplish the delinquency of young girls. They bound them from rectitude. They contaminate them with disease. They despoil their lives, and rob them of hope.

The conviction of one of these wolves by a Portland jury is recent court history. The conviction of sixteen white slavers in Portland a few months is more of it. The melancholy records of flight and degradation of youth on file in the juvenile court is still other history.

But not many heads of great establishments in Portland are out, as in Chicago, in pursuit of these other gray wolves. Few mothers have called the children into the house, and pulled down the blinds. The police are hot out with cocked revolvers in hot pursuit.

CONTINUATION SCHOOLS

IN Cincinnati they are following the German idea in industrial education through continuation schools. Already they boast of three such schools in the Ohio metropolis. The idea is thorough instruction in industrial arts and crafts for workers.

Such a school for machine apprentices was established in September, 1909. It was the outgrowth of a small industrial school started by two manufacturers. Other manufacturers followed suit until today, teachers and equipment are now provided by the city and attendance upon the school's sessions for a fixed number of hours each week has been made compulsory upon apprentices in 31 shops.

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IN the case of three hold-up men who robbed two pedestrians, compelled a hotel proprietor to hand over the contents of his till and then went to a saloon where they shot two policemen and two bystanders, the description runs as follows:

the above paragraph tells the tale. Now, in the case before us not less than ten people had opportunity to mark these three criminals. If their descriptions of the noses, eyes, ears, height and bulk of the men are found to agree, then the chances of their identification are reduced to a small fraction of one per cent. The policemen would doubtless be the most accurate of the observers.

Justice and Precedents

Portland, Or., Jan. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal.—A number of your recent editorials appear to attack the principle of our courts following legal precedents and to favor reliance upon the decision of a trial judge on the facts of each particular case as they may appeal to him, without regard to what has been done in similar cases settled and controlling law by means of precedents. If this is not the proper construction of the editorials on the subject, it is the impression they have made and I shall be glad to be set right.

COSTLY CARELESSNESS

IT turns out that the fire which destroyed the Equitable building was caused by a burning match, carelessly tossed aside by a smoker. The known loss is \$6,000,000. Several lives were sacrificed.

A big fire in Winnipeg last week was caused by a smoker who carelessly threw away a lighted cigarette. The property loss was \$200,000.

A great fire in the Asch building a few months ago was started by a half burned cigarette, dropped by a smoker. The property loss was heavy, and 143 lives were sacrificed.

UNLESS there is a change, the great American cities that have so far escaped destructive conflagrations may expect them. In the three fires here mentioned, the loss of life and property was the fruit of two cigarettes and one match.

Consular reports, after careful investigation by direction of the Washington government, universally show that our fire apparatus and firefighting methods are vastly superior to those of Europe. But, with unvarying regularity, the same reports revealed that fire losses in Europe are much smaller.

Thus, in 1910, thirteen of the largest cities of Germany, with a combined population of 5,618,823, suffered a fire loss of \$1,067,205.

NEW YORK was not in the list of American cities, with a combined population of 100,000, suffered a fire loss of over \$14,000,000.

Letters From the People

Mr. W. R. Hearst is at least temporarily a Democrat again.

THE COLONIALS' CONGRESS

Mr. Abbott of the Outlook says Roosevelt is not a candidate, does not desire to be a candidate, and has discouraged and is discouraging in every possible way all talk of his candidacy.

SEVEN MEN OF INTEGRITY

Every one is familiar with the qualities of steadfastness to duty and bravery of "Stonewall" Jackson, the noted Confederate general.

DETROIT'S PRISON PLAN

IN a financial sense one of the best managed institutions in the country is the Detroit house of correction.

PROGRESS AGAINST CANCER

THE public has learned to be a bit slow in accepting at face value the stories that are circulated at irregular intervals concerning recently discovered cancer cures.

THE MATRIMONIAL QUESTION

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

OREGON HIGHLIGHTS

YAMHILL RECORD

FAIRLAKE CORRESPONDENCE

ALBANY DEMOCRAT

LAKEVIEW EXAMINER

STONEWALL JACKSON

DETROIT'S PRISON PLAN

PROGRESS AGAINST CANCER

THE MATRIMONIAL QUESTION

From College to Farm

From Deschutes Valley Tribune

A few years ago we saw a young man who had been reared on the farm where wheat had been the main staple produced. His horizon of thought at that time was limited to the experience of his days on the farm and a common school education.

Once in awhile an old timer is found who ridicules the idea of college farming, who insists that to be rather scarce these days. He does not realize what a back number he is.

Another great accoster me: He said, "My lingo can be: I need a little piece of change to tide me over the night."

So I've observed that not each one who begs for coin to buy a bun insists upon the liquid ones—sometimes he's much in need.

Pointed Paragraphs

You can flatter silly girls by calling them flirts.

It's easier to look wise than it is to deliver the goods.

A conceited man is often conceited enough to think that he isn't.

Below Stairs

From the Kansas City Journal.

Many Remedies

(Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Kansas poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in The Daily Journal.)

I have a spavin on my knee, and when the weather's damp it causes so much misery I find it hard to tramp.

There never was a man as important as a bride expects her husband to be.

An old bachelor will stay out till 3 a. m. if he wants to, but he misses the fun of trying to sneak upstairs with his shoes off.

The theory that there is always room for one more leads many a man to take on a bigger load of damp goods than he is able to carry.

Below Stairs

From the Kansas City Journal.

What's your missus kidding about? Inquired the housemaid from next door.

Much in a Name

From the Birmingham Age-Herald.

"They both do the same kind of work, son, but I am inclined to think a mortician will charge more."