

ATTORNEY BELIEVES CHANGE IN INSANITY LAWS IS NECESSARY

Contention Is Made That Any Irresponsible or Spiteful Person Can Lodge Charge.

MANY INSTANCES CITED

Recent Arrest of Young Woman Aloud to Be Married Brings Subject to Mind Just Now.

To the Editor of The Journal—The people of Multnomah county should not read the account of the case of Margaret Link and Vere Cerbell which occupies a prominent place in the papers at present as they would read a novel, even though it reads like fiction and it does not seem possible that such things can occur in this supposedly enlightened age.

It is just what the thought that it is a good story but everyone should stop and think, "What does this mean? Is it possible that our courts can be used for such purposes? Where are our judges and court officials when they are supposed to be safeguarding the rights of the citizens?"

Surely they would admit, themselves, that they were negligent in protecting the rights of this young girl. The law says that a girl is of age at 18 and gives her the right to choose her husband. Why should our judges allow our courts to be used as a tool to help people in their personal prejudices and for spite work, and to prevent a girl from doing what the law says she is legally competent to do?

Another Case Cited. This is not the only case of this kind in the insanity department of our county court. In my own personal practice I had a case of one who was conducting a business of her own. Her sister died suddenly and because of the shock caused thereby, she was under the doctor's care. Another woman came to her to have her attend to some business for her and she said she could not bother with it as she was not feeling well, whereupon that woman went to the court house and made an insanity complaint against my client and the authorities served a writ of commitment and arrested her at 7 o'clock on Saturday night.

The examining physician on Monday decided that there was no ground for the complaint at which hearing the complaining witness never appeared. She had accomplished her purpose in causing my client annoyance.

There is also a case well known to the people of Portland of a blind woman who was taken out of a sick bed to the court house and there into court and the whole proceeding was based on a complaint made by a hired complainant as was admitted in the hearing of the case.

Should Throw Case Out. Would that our courts were on such a high plane that, when it becomes evident that a complaint is brought, it would be thrown out of court immediately upon the initiative of the judge without requiring the defendant to even appear in court.

The law in regard to insanity cases states, "The county judge, upon being notified in writing, that any person, by reason of insanity, is in need of care, or is suffering from exposure or neglect, shall cause such person to be brought before him at such time and place as he may determine, and shall cause to appear one or more competent physicians who shall proceed to examine that said person as to his mental condition."

This law should certainly be changed so that it would not be possible for an irresponsible person, because of a personal grudge, to make a complaint against another. The law protects our property and it is impossible to attach it without first giving a bond, is it not much more just and right that a bond should be required before a person could make a complaint against another of such a kind that the stigma of it may last during the rest of one's life?

Insanity Not Crime. Not only should this be done, but even though one is insane, it is no crime and one charged with insanity should not be thrown into jail with criminals and have their names booked with criminals. Insanity is a disease and there should be a place in the county hospital for such people where they would be in the care of nurses and doctors instead of jailers and sheriffs.

Some investigation of the merits of the complaint should be made before an arrest is made so it would be impossible to railroad a person into the insane asylum or use the threat that they will do so, in order to force another to do something against their will. It should be ascertained whether any member of the examining board is in any way prejudiced against the party against whom the complaint is made. Our courts should be a place where justice can be obtained and not a place that can be manipulated as a club to force people to do things against their will.

LIDA M. O'BRYON.

Hood County Now Is Running Light. Death and Resignations Combine to Reduce Official Family—Vacancies Will Be Filled Soon by Election.

Hood River, Or., Feb. 1.—With the death of County Treasurer F. A. Bishop last week the county is being run by four officers, as County Superintendent C. D. Thompson has resigned and taken up the work of horticulturist in Jackson county, and Murray Kay has resigned as county surveyor to take up work with the engineering department of the S. P. & S. railway at Portland.

Selection of Pastor Not Made as Yet

Deen Ministers Being Considered in Quest for Successor of Dr. Hanson of the White Temple.

F. E. Hilton, chairman of the committee of the White Temple Baptist church whose duty it is to recommend to the congregation a successor to Rev. Walter B. Hanson, today that the committee had no report to make but that a dozen men were being considered for the position.

In the meantime prominent men are being brought here to fill the pulpit of White Temple each Sunday. Sunday Dr. Walter B. Hanson of the "Fire" Baptist church of St. Paul, Minn., preached to the White Temple congregation on "What Is the Matter With the World?" Hanson answered the query by saying that man was out of harmony with his God.

BUSINESS INCREASES FOR PAST YEAR ARE MOST ENCOURAGING

Philip Clay of Sherman, Clay & Co., Finds Conditions in Portland Field Satisfactory

Phillip T. Clay, vice-president of Sherman Clay & Co., arrived in Portland yesterday to inspect the company's local branch and found snow, lots of it, and something he has been looking at steadily for the last two weeks throughout the northwest.

"Sherman Clay & Co. is cheerful and we are more optimistic. During 1915 our Portland house, and all our northwestern houses showed very good increases in business as compared to 1914. We are planning on bigger things still for 1916. In fact we are sure of more business right here in Portland for example.

"You have had good crops, the lumber situation is growing better and the general prosperity wave will strike us from the east most certainly. Times for the northwest look good."

In San Francisco Mr. Clay's home, general business is picking up after the exposition's close, he says. Shipbuilding plants are working overtime and every line of business reports good conditions.

Mr. Clay has already inspected the company's branches at Seattle and Spokane. After a few days in Portland visiting with Mr. Dundore, manager of the Portland branch, he will return to San Francisco.

Registration in Reed College Is Delayed

Condition of Weather Keeps Number of Students From Turning Out Yesterday—Students Named.

Registration at Reed college for the second semester was not completed yesterday because a few of the students did not want to brave the snow. About 245 were registered, and the total number will exceed 250 when the last enrollment is received. Fifteen new students were admitted, all except one of them going into the freshman class. These will be a little more than make up for the students who are either finished or leaving, in some cases only for a semester.

The new students are nearly all from Portland high schools. They are: Miss Lulu R. Maxwell, Jefferson High school, Portland; Miss Frances E. Bergman, Spokane; Miss Jennie K. Hanson, Oregon; Miss Mary Townsend, Washington High school, Portland; Marion R. Kelley, Jefferson High school, Portland; Miss Margaret Voorhies, Portland; Glenn C. Quillet, Stadium High school, Tacoma; George A. Biles, admitted by examinations, Portland; Harry M. King, Jefferson High school, Portland; Frank S. Glyod, returned after year's absence; Miss Barbara Bartlett, graduate of Cambridge School for Girls, and from Lewiston, Idaho; Miss Margaret W. Hewett, St. Helen's Hall, Portland; Hushing Wong, from the Canton high school, Hongkong, China; Miss Mary Towand, sophomore, returned, and William M. Baden, from Washington High school, Portland.

Provision is made for the new students to take second semester courses, which are not continuous throughout the year. The freshman English course for the first semester is required for them, and they take it in conjunction with the second semester work.

Goldman Retires to Take New Position

Well Known Insurance Man Quits Management of Manhattan Life to Join the National Life.

William Goldman, better known all over Oregon as "Bill," has retired from the general management of the Manhattan Life Insurance company and today begins his affiliation with the National Life Insurance company of Montpelier, Vt.

Coming here in 1880, Mr. Goldman has resided here ever since and has identified himself with almost every progressive movement in the city. He helped organize the Pacific Northwest baseball league and was a director for three years. For some years before entering the insurance work, he traveled out of Portland for Fleischner, Mayer & Co., but has been handling insurance for more than 20 years.

Gideons Will Place Bibles in All Hotels

"The Gideons," the Christian Commercial Travelers' association, held a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday and passing out permits for placing Bibles in some of the most prominent hotels in Portland, and arranged for a completion of the work. They are determined that Portland shall take its place with other large cities in this respect. Over 200,000 Bibles have been placed in the hotel rooms in the United States and Canada.

G. W. Butterworth is president and James D. Ogden secretary of the local camp.

W. S. Stark of Portland is handling the case for the property owners, and George R. Wilbur is defending the city.

BOYS' CLIPPER SLEDS—WE HAVE THEM—TOY DEPARTMENT—FIFTH FLOOR

—Shirts accordion, box or knife pleated, \$1 — We cut, sew, hem and pleat. Shirts cut to measure free when materials purchased in our Woolen Dress Goods Dept.

—Get "Ready-to-Make" Lumber and "Do It Yourself." We are exclusive agents. Working Drawings and full instructions. See our Basement Display.



—Every one should visit the Industrial Exhibit on Sixth Floor. See the splendid examples of Practical Training as given in the Portland Public Schools.

—Consult our Expert Chiropodist in the Manicuring Parlors. Make appointments by phone or personal visit. Satisfaction assured—Fifth Floor.

Wednesday—Homefurnishing Day—Brings Added Interest to Meier & Frank's February Exposition—Sale Homefurnishings!

NEW Handsome Filet Curtain Nets A 30c Grade—Subject to Stock on Hand at Yd. 23c —1000 yards just in. Fine, firm weave filet net, in about a dozen different patterns—small conventionalized designs. —Seventh Floor, Sixth Street

Look to FURNITURE Needs!

Easy Terms of Payment Arranged if Desired. Includes images of a dining chair, dining table, and a cot with dresser.

—We have just completed our Annual Inventory — Unadvertised Bargains in After Inventory Clean-ups Will Be Found in Many Departments.

Come Here for Notions

- 20c Nainsook Shields, 5c white; sizes 3 and 4, pr. 25c
75c Shawl Straps, with handles, set 25c
5c Charter Oak Thread, in black and white, 200-yard spools, 7 for 25c
10c Dexter's Silko Cordonnnet Mer. Crochet Cotton, 3 for 25c
Rarus Spool Silk, all colors, 100 yards, spool 10c
Rita Hair Nets, with rubber, 3 for 10c
15c Cab-Jet Wire Hair Pins, 400 count, assorted, 10c
50c Tango Garment Shields, all sizes, pair 20c
Darning Cotton, black or white, box 15c
25c Ideal Folding Skirt Markers, each 17c
50c Alco self-heating Curling Irons, each 25c
25c Net-Top Sanitary Aprons, each 19c
25c Sanitary Pads, box of six 19c
25c Sanitary Elastic Belts, each 15c
—Main Floor, Sixth Street

—White Enamel Iron Bed. Single or full size, \$3.50. —Iron Bed, Vernis Martin or white enamel, full or 3/4 size, \$3.95.

Sale of Ostermoor Mattresses. —The famous mattresses that are "built, not stuffed," of hundreds of fibrous Ostermoor sheets. Hand-laid and built, they never become hard, uneven or lumpy. Includes image of a mattress.

Scarfs - Sets 95c \$1.25-\$1.75 Styles —75 soft Angora Scarf and Cap Sets. —Several pretty color combinations—all with fringed ends and with smart caps to match the scarfs.

Neckwear 25c 35c, 50c, 65c Grades —150 pieces, embracing over 25 different pretty styles. Separate collars, gumples, sets and vests and pretty wash scarfs. Dainty materials.

Gloves 79c \$1.25 to \$1.75 Grades —200 pairs, broken lines but a good assortment of sizes, 5 1/2 to 7. —Black, white and tan, in cape, suede and glace finish, with plain or embroidered backs. —Main Floor, Fifth Street

Women's Fine Hose 17c 'Mill Run' 25c Grade —Black, white and tan mercerized cotton, light medium weight. Seamless feet, linen-finished heels and toes, wide elastic garter welts. All sizes. 3 pairs 50c. —Main Floor, Sixth Street

Do Your Windows Need New Curtains? —Whether you plan to buy curtains ready-made or make them yourself, you'll find it to your advantage to see these specialists tomorrow! Includes list of products and prices.

Rich Oriental Rugs at Savings. —Since the war has practically stopped the importation of all Oriental Rugs, the demand for these beautiful floor coverings has almost doubled. Includes list of products and prices.

Valentine Novelties —Sweet, old-fashioned sentiments or smart poster effects. Books, booklets, valentines—hundreds of them! —Riley's "An Old Sweetheart of Mine." —Special Edition, 50c. —Basement Balcony

Women's Fancy Suits In 2 Big Groups. —There are about 100 suits in each of these groups, and it isn't easy to describe them because there are just a few of each kind. Includes list of products and prices.

Our Annual Sale HURT GOODS. —Every year, about this time, we hold this sale—and this year it offers better values than ever. Moving and settling in our wonderful new basement store has brought to light Hundreds of Shopworn, Slightly Marred, Chipped and Imperfect Articles 3c to \$12 for 6c to \$24 Values. Includes list of products and prices.

Tub Frocks For Big and Little Girls. —Indispensable for all year 'round wear for house and school! We've underpriced some pretty new models for kiddies from 1 to 14 years. Includes list of products and prices.

Bed Spreads \$2. —Colored stripe, crinkled Bungalow Spreads, plain hemmed, full-bed size. Yellow, light blue, pink and green stripes. A very special offering tomorrow at \$2.00. Includes list of products and prices.

Meier & Frank Co. THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND. —Established 1867. Includes list of products and prices.

Sliced Peaches 12 1/2c. —No. 2 1/2 cans, solidly filled, bought to sell at 20c. Includes list of products and prices.