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SCHLEY'S CASE.

Let the Schley court of inquiry return any verdict it choose, the people of the United States will not alter their virtual unanimity in favor of the rear-admiral. The evidence in the case has gone to the people in amplified form through the press reports, and based upon it, the citizenship of the country has made up its judgment. This judgment is that the charge against Schley are absurd in the extreme, and that jealousy and bureaucracy caused the hailing of the gallant old sea dog before a court of his own making.

If actual victories won, valuable services performed have any virtue, as against the technical arguments of these who through too intense professionalism are prone to strain at gnats and swallow camels, then Rear-Admiral Schley will not go down into history with aught but glory attached to his illustrious name.

The people have already acquitted Schley, and, furthermore, have written him even higher in the scroll of fame than they had before the court of inquiry held its sessions.

NO COUNTY DIVISION.

Umatilla county will not be divided at the coming session of the legislative assembly. This appears to be a safe prediction, according to the judgment of the East Oregonian.

The support of Weston and Atherton is essential to a successful division scheme, and this support will not be forthcoming. The Athena Press and the Weston Leader both oppose the idea as promulgated by Mr. Elam, of Milton, and these papers doubtless reflect the sentiment in those towns.

It is even probable that in Milton there is not a united sentiment in favor of the plan, and some well posted citizens of the county believe that, were the question submitted to the people there it would fall to carry.

In the event the question were injected into the county campaign, at the coming election, it would have some effect upon the outcome, but beyond such effect, none would be wrought.

The people of the county will succeed in defeating any plan for the present division of the territory into two units of state government.

WORK OF FIENDS.

If evidence be adduced sufficient to fasten upon the suspected persons the crime of wrecking the O. R. & N. train near the Dalles, as seems to

be most probable, the court that tries the case should take on its most stern aspect, and impose the utmost limit of the penalty provided by statute. People of normal moral natures find it almost impossible to conceive the feelings dominating the fiends who could perpetrate so dastardly an outrage upon their fellow beings. Fictionists frequently write of acts of unaccountable cruelty, and readers of such regard the stories as products of wild imagination. Yet, from time to time, occur events fully as awful in their evidence of moral depravity as any conjured up by the brain of any literary man.

The Dalles case is one in point. Conviction should be followed by a kind of justice that for the nonce does not exhibit too much of the element of mercy. It would be manifestly sentiment to do otherwise.

GREATER THAN THE LAW.

What signifies, on the part of the Northern-Great Northern directors, this sudden rush to cover? Why do they announce that changes will be made more in conformity to the desires of the western states, as expressed statutes, utterances of governors and threats of special sessions. The amalgamation proposed to be within, or at any rate beyond the reach of the law. Its principal men laud Governor Van Sant to scorn, and assure themselves that they are legally impregnable. Why, then, this trepidation?

The answer is that, while the Northern Securities Company may circumvent the law, it cannot circumvent a force greater than the law, and that force is the American people. All the laws and all the government and all the decrees of all the courts in the United States will avail these stock manipulators nothing if the \$400,000,000 of their securities about to be thrown on the market hit the floor of the New York Stock Exchange with a dull thud, and nobody so credulous as to buy them. Capital is very sensitive. Though the combination may be within its legal rights, it cannot afford to encounter public hostility on a move like this, which is successful only to the extent that it can command the confidence of the investing public. Thus the "strong talk" of the governors may defeat the new combination as effectively as a decree of court by causing the public to view it with suspicion. It is scarcely to be expected that the plans for community of interests will be broken up, but it is entirely probable that the obnoxious "trust" will fail to accomplish the object for which it was organized.

There is also the well-defined prospect, through this amalgamation, of a revival of Grangerism. It is certain that the state legislatures have great power over railroad rates and general control of corporations—larger power, indeed, than they have yet exercised. And the authority of congress over them, through its right to regulate commerce between the states is vastly larger than has yet been asserted through legislation. The great combinations have produced an unrest which will very certainly assert itself through political action. There are many signs of it. Not unlikely this question will be forced to the front in the form of a demand that the general government shall assume the ownership and proceed to the operation of interstate railroads, with the corollary that the shorter lines, wholly within a single state, shall virtually become state railroads.

These ideas have been thrown out widely already as affording the only remaining resource through which the railroads may be controlled by the people, instead of controlling them. It is undoubtedly true that any investor can buy stock in as many roads as he pleases, and may become a director in them all. Nevertheless, these vast combinations may move the people to more vigorous action for control or regulation of the railroads than they have yet taken.—Portland Oregonian.

BENEFITS AND INJURIES.

The East Oregonian of Friday last answers the request of the Daily

News for a statement of "the exact benefits to be derived by us from this canal." Condensed, these are stated to be (1) reduced railway freights on goods coming to us, and (2) reduced freights to all the world. It adds that our monopoly of the oriental goods in transit "is a isolation of this region from the balance of the world by means of our natural advantages, which it thinks would be unfair. This altruistic idea will not stand the test. Is it to our advantage? This is the only question involved.

The Daily News will add to these some other values of the canal. It does not propose to hide anything from the people. Two great benefits to the Pacific coast from the canal are (1) higher wheat prices, by shortening the distance to Liverpool, and (2) higher lumber prices by the same route. These are all the benefits we will derive. This benefit now is true because Liverpool fixes prices at present, but soon the orient will fix prices and these results will disappear.

These benefits relate to what we produce. So far as lowered freight rates on what we consume is concerned, it may be remarked that we are doing very well. All our dealings are based on present prices and a general lowering of prices of what we consume would not be of special benefit. But the bad effect of that canal on our people and country is beyond estimate. It would put us 2000 miles north of the lines of commerce. In other words, we would be left in the back woods. The like changes of commercial lines in the history of the world have shown that result. It has dismantled cities and wiped out of existence vast values. Such would be our fate. Not only so but it would mean the expenditure of \$200,000,000 for the benefit of British shipping mostly. It is no wonder that Pan-American concedes everything we demand. The British merchants understand the value to British primacy of that canal which they think to be fool us into building.

The negation of that canal means just the opposite result. It means sending all the commerce of the continent in American bottoms to the Pacific shores. Instead of dividing the fabulous trade among the nations of Europe, we take it all for ourselves. It gives Uncle Sam the primacy in the commerce of the world. It makes the Columbia basin the center of the civilized world. It makes Astoria the greatest seaport in the world and Portland the commercial center of the west. It makes Pendleton a great center instead of a backwoods town. It fills this basin with untold millions of people with the industries of the highest civilization instead of a few pastoral people living on wheat and lumber. Our urban and suburban values will be beyond estimate. It means in a word, civilization instead of barbarism for the Columbia basin. Instead of Uncle Sam expending a fifth of a billion dollars to build a canal for England and Europe, he should spend ten times that amount to prevent such an abdication of that primacy in commerce guaranteed to us by nature.—Astoria News.

The president of the International Olympian committee has asked President Roosevelt to accept the honorary presidency of the Olympian games to be held in Chicago in 1904.



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Mercury AND Potash

Everybody knows that Mercury is a dangerous medicine even when administered in very small doses, and few constitutions can stand it for any length of time. Potash produces inflammation of the stomach and bowels, and a dangerous form of dyspepsia and often chronic diarrhoea follow its use.

Now, the doctors will tell you if you have Contagious Blood Poison you must take these minerals for two years or longer; first, a course of Mercury, and when your teeth get so sensitive and sore that you can't eat, and the gums have a spongy, unnatural appearance, you are told to stop and a change to Potash is made. When the stomach rebels you are put on Mercury again, and so on *ad infinitum*, or until the system becomes so thoroughly saturated with these poisonous drugs that the most disgusting sores break out on the body, the bones become diseased, and the muscles and joints are racked with the most torturing pains. Mercury and Potash drive the eruptions and blotches from the skin, but the virus remains in the blood and the reappearance of the old symptoms and the occasional sore mouth show that the poison is still active, and you can never hope to completely eradicate it by this method of treatment.

S. S. S. is the only antidote for this destructive virus, and an infallible remedy for this peculiar poison. It destroys and eradicates every particle of the poison, and makes the blood as healthy and pure as before the disease was contracted.

When I was about twenty-one years of age, or eighteen years ago, I contracted Blood Poison in a bad form, and am satisfied that the rapid progress the disease was making would soon have made me a life-long invalid or ended my life. As my system came under the influence of S. S. S., the sores, spots and pimples gradually disappeared and soon no evidence of the disease was left. I am now thirty-nine years old, and have seen no signs of it during the past eighteen years. S. S. S. does all you claim for it.

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S. S. S. is the only purely vegetable blood purifier known, and we offer \$1.00 for proof that it contains any mineral ingredient whatever. The general health improves as the Specific purges the system of impurities, and as new, rich blood begins to flow in the veins the unsightly sores and other evidences of blood poison disappear; strength returns and you are forever rid of this loathsome disease.

Our Home Treatment Book on Contagious Blood Poison tells you all about the symptoms, different stages, etc., of this disease. We will mail you a copy free. If you need advice or special directions, write our physicians; it will cost you nothing and may hasten your cure. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.



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