

# Grand Jury Passes Buck In Hoff Case

(Continued from page one)

make the fact known and give all of its agencies, or the holder of obligations of its agencies, an opportunity to submit their securities to the state for investment."

That the system to which the grand jury refers in its report is one of long standing is indicated in two paragraphs thereof. One of these condemns "the system that has obtained in the office of the state treasurer for these many years of making advances on salaries and claims against the state before the same have been audited by the auditing officers of the state, namely the secretary of state."

The most flagrant example of excessive profits paid by State Treasurer Hoff to Morris Brothers in the purchase of municipal bonds is pointed out in the report as evidenced in the sale of \$100,000 water bonds of Reedport to the state treasurer.

"We might remark," the report states "that this is an impressive illustration of the cost of doing business through a middleman. The state of Oregon, in purchasing the bonds of one of its own municipalities, permits a middleman to exact a gross profit of \$16,019.90, a condition that should not and must not longer exist."

The investigation developed the fact that bonds were often paid for delivery thereof; that at the time of the investigation all sums paid for undelivered bonds were secured with collateral, the report states, adding: "The records further reveal that bonds which were not yet in existence had been sold by Morris Bros., Inc., to the state treasurer in full made thereon by the state treasurer. It is claimed, however, that delivery of the bonds to the state treasurer was secured by bonds deposited as collateral."

The apparent right given Morris Bros., as evidenced by correspondence introduced during the probe, to withdraw securities sold to the state is severely criticized in the report which states that some of these bonds were offered for sale by Morris Bros. while they were yet held by the state treasurer. "There should be no strings upon any bonds purchased by the state of Oregon," the report declares.

The apparent partiality of the state treasury department toward Morris Brothers is explained in the statement of J. G. Richardson, deputy state treasurer, embodied in the report to the effect that by a special arrangement with the Portland bond brokers the state treasury had invested some \$300,000 of industrial accident funds in securities through this firm with the understanding that they could be resold to the same firm at the purchase price at any time the money might be needed, the state to draw interest on the bonds at the rate of four percent a year. This, Mr. Richardson's statement explains, was regarded as being a much more advantageous arrangement, so far as the state is concerned, than the previous policy of the department which maintained this huge sum on deposit in banks at only two per cent interest.

Gideon Bink, foreman of the inquisitorial body in presenting the report intimated that the report was not altogether final and that the jury might make further investigations into the conduct of the department.

## Appropriation Of Water Is Sought

Application for the appropriation of water from Ditch creek for placer mining purposes was filed with State Engineer Cupper here Friday by Walter Crittiser of Marial, Or.

Fred N. Neal of Monument, Or., filed an application for permission to appropriate water from Cochran Hollow creek for the irrigation of a small tract in Grant county.

Mrs. Charles Soley, president of the Associated Charities of Hood River says that prohibition has ended the need for the organization.

## CONCERNING MUSIC

By C. A. DAVIDSON  
(Director of Music for Salem Schools)

### Senior High School Concert.

There are several events of a musical nature coming soon. One in which Salem folks should be interested is the concert by the music department of the high school, Friday evening, May 21, at the high school building. It is planned to give at least one concert each semester. This affords an opportunity for all parents and others who are interested in the work of the schools to see what the young folks are doing and to observe the progress and growth of the various organizations from time to time.

An effort is made to provide a program which is neither trashy nor too heavy. There is a happy middle ground whereon 'tis safe to tread, and whereon all listeners may feel perfectly at home and may thoroughly enjoy themselves for an hour and a half and then go home without that feeling of boredom which so often goes with a recital or a concert. For oftentimes the amateur organization attempts music which is beyond its reach, while the professional often attempts music that is beyond the reach of two-thirds of the audience.

Besides the band, orchestra and glee club, we have an admirable array of good talent to draw from for vocal violin, cornet, cello, and piano solos. So we invite you to be with us in our second concert of the season, Friday, May 21.

### Apollo Club Concert.

May 26 and 27 comes the second concert of the Salem Apollo club. The repertoire is well under way, the active and associate memberships are larger than ever before and there is no apparent reason why this concert should not be the most glowing triumph in the club's history.

Madam Fahey is to be the soloist, and her charms are absolutely familiar to Salem music lovers. Many interesting press notices are at hand, but only a few of them are needed to convince one that "another singer from the west has made good in the east." For instance, one critic speaking of her Aeolian hall appearance in New York last February says she has "a voice of excellent natural quality of richness, of range, and of abundant power at both extremes as well as in the intervening part; a voice offering admirably large possibilities and interesting to hear." Another critic says she "proved herself a musician of talent and attainment in a program of versatile demands." Such notices as these are encouraging when we think of them as coming from men whose business is to find fault, and who hear so much music that they are fairly satiated with it.

The most pretentious number by the club is Dudley Buck's "Bugle Song." This is the good old-fashioned sort of diatonic harmony and melody that everybody can enjoy without wondering whether the notes were misprinted or whether they were actually intended that way.

In lighter vein are "Swing Along," a stirring negro song which the Portland Apollo club recently used to good success, and two old-fashioned folk songs which are being worked out with an interpretation and finish that ought to place them in new light before the audience.

The concert will be given this time at the Grand opera house and will have to be repeated to accommodate the large number of associate members, to say nothing of the single admission.

### Gall-Curel.

Gall-Curel is with us at last—that is she's in Portland next Wednesday evening May 12. Its hardly worth while to mention it tho, for all the seats were sold out several days ago, and those who haven't tickets are out of luck.

## Florists Deny Profiteering On Mother's Day

Washington, May 8.—Acting for the Society of American Florists, W. F. Guide, its Washington representative, has issued a denial of the statement by Miss Anna Jarvis, president of the Mothers Day association, that florists profited in white carnations, the symbol of observance of Mother's day last year. Miss Jarvis had called on observance of the day this year to abandon the carnation and display American flags.

All members of the society, throughout the country, Mr. Guide said, have been urged to sell white carnations at the usual market rate on Mothers day, Sunday, May 9.

Delhi May 8.—Industrial unrest is increasing and the trade union spirit is growing in Bombay, according to information received by the authorities here. The vicary's council has been notified that 86 strikes have taken place recently in India and that 28 of these were in Bombay.

## Public Forum

### CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

To the Editor: The time is now close at hand when the people of Oregon must decide whether they will succumb to the forces of reaction induced by a protracted and brutal, though perhaps necessary war, or whether they will press forward to the attainment of a higher degree of civilization to end in the recognition of the complete brotherhood of man.

A reactionary legislature has submitted to the voters, for their acceptance or rejection a proposed amendment to the constitution reestablishing capital punishment in Oregon.

Six years ago the question of capital punishment was submitted to the voters, and was rejected.

What has happened in the last six years to change the sentiment of the people on this important question? To be sure there have been several brutal murders committed in the state during that time, but statistics show that they have been less frequent in Oregon, according to population, than in other states where capital punishment is sanctioned.

There are two theories advanced for the punishment of criminals—one is vindictive, and follows the old Jewish law of "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth," the other is repressive, and is intended to protect society, and is more in harmony with modern civilization than is the former.

In earlier times in Oregon, under the old regime, executions were public, and fathers took their sons to witness them in order to impress their young minds with the awful scene so that they would refrain from committing similar crimes for fear of like punishments.

I remember well when my father and his neighbors took their boys to see what was perhaps the first public execution in Salem. A man had murdered his wife, and was sentenced to hang for his crime.

The scaffold was set up somewhere east of South Commercial street now, as I remember it, from where the building of the Salem Fruit Union now stands. The victim was led upon the scaffold and some minister, I have forgotten his name, knelt and offered a prayer, and then they sang that old hymn beginning:

"Show pity Lord, O Lord forgive Let a repenting rebel live."

The victim was pale as a ghost and trembled so that it was easily visible from where I stood.

The religious ceremony having ended, the sheriff adjusted a cap over the prisoners eyes, placed the noose

around his neck, and cut the rope that help the trap, and dropped the victim several feet, where he vibrated back and forth like a pendulum.

Through his outer garments, I could see the awful contortions of the muscles of his body until death finally put an end to the torture.

A doctor stepped up, examined the body, and pronounced the victim dead, and the law was vindicated. Never, since that time, could I hear that old hymn sung without its recalling vividly to my mind, the minutest details of that legal tragedy.

Some years after the public execution just described, Salem had another one when two men expiated their crime on the scaffold. Those men were convicted of killing an old man near to where the town of Turner now stands.

After a fair trial, and a verdict had been rendered against them, they were sentenced to be hanged.

When the day for the execution arrived, there was a large crowd in attendance, and some enterprising fellow possessed of the spirit of the modern profiteer set up a merry go round in full view of the scaffold, where his patrons for the small sum of twenty five cents, could not only have the thrills of a ride, but could also get the moral lesson which is supposed to be impressed on the mind by a legal execution.

Blood lust grows on that on which it feeds; and its principal sources of food supply are wars, murders, rapine, greed, inequity, violence and legal executions. Not content with providing capital punishment for first degree murder, our reactionary legislature has added another capital crime, treason.

Let us take our constitutional definition of treason: From article II, sec. 24 we read, "Treason against the state can consist only in levying war against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid or comfort."

The only place then, where this provision of the state constitution could apply would be where there was insurrection or rebellion within the state. In this case the state would be in the same relative position to the U. S. as to the one that precipitated the civil war.

Now the U. S. constitution has the identical provision against treason as quoted above, and that provision that is found in the state constitution was a part of the national constitution in full force at the time of the civil war.

Suppose that there had been a law on the national statute books conforming to the provisions of the state law against treason, as passed by our last legislature, and that we had had a brute at the head of the "Army of the Potomac" instead of the magnanimous Grant, and a reactionary instead of the humanitarian Lincoln in the White house.

Just draw on your imagination, if yet returned.

you can, and try to realize the consequences.

On the capture of Richmond the victor would have stood Lee and his army up against a stone wall, and riddled them with bullets, and a reactionary in the white house would have hailed the southern people before the courts, and after a trial, would have consigned all who took part in the insurrection, and all who aided them, or gave them comfort, either to life imprisonment or to the gallows, and the south would have become a graveyard and a wilderness.

Many a southern statesman who has been of uncalculable service to our country in the period of reconstruction would have lost his life in his young manhood, and many a khaki clad youth who helped to carry the stars and stripes to victory on the shell torn fields of France, would have perished in embryo.

But Grant, warrior that he was, permitted the officers of Lee's vanquished army to retain their side arms, and paroled the common soldiers, allowing them their horses on the plea that they would need them again in building up their war impoverished country.

And the great hearted Lincoln, had his life been spared, would undoubtedly have used all the power and prestige of his exalted position to heal, as far as possible the wounds caused by this fratricidal conflict.

Now it is up to the electors of Oregon to say at this coming election, May 21st, whether this state shall retrograde to sixteenth century conditions, or whether it shall still remain in the vanguard of twentieth century progressive states.

A majority vote against reinstating the death penalty will not only defeat the barbarous amendment itself, but will also defeat three other extremely reactionary measures as set forth in chapters 19, 20 and 21 of the general laws of Oregon for the year 1920.

—JOHN W. JORY.

## Stayton Students To Present Annual Program May 14

Stayton, May 8.—The Annual Junior Class Day will be Friday, May 14th. The following program will be given at the auditorium, beginning at one o'clock: Speech, president of the class, Leo Willing; faculty take-off; piano solo, Clara Minden; stunts; song, Misses Spaniol, Mielke, Sestak and Brown; class phrophecy, Edmund Klecker; male quartet, Worth Smith, Wm. Smith, L. Willing, Norval Fisher; reading, Albert Lulay; costume dance, Silva Sestak and Wava Brown; stunts.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mayo went to Portland Wednesday where Mr. Mayo will consult a specialist in regard to the trouble he has been having with his stomach lately. They have not yet returned.

T. C. Crabtree, who was taken to Salem last week suffering from hemorrhoids, has been relieved of his trouble, but is not yet sufficiently recovered from its effects to return home.

The mail route between Stayton and Kingston, which was discontinued the latter part of last month, has been re-established and running since the 5th. This is as it should be, as the route between this place and trains on the C. & E. is very necessary to Stayton people as well as those in towns up the line.

Word was received here Wednesday that Dr. G. F. Krolnek, well known here, had been operated on that morning for appendicitis. Miss Maryann Alexander, left the next day to be with her sister, Mrs. Krolnek, until the doctor is able to leave the hospital. Late reports from him state that he is doing nicely.

L. A. Thomas has just finished painting the interior of the Sestak & Thomas market. It now presents a very neat appearance.

The outside walls of Urban's concrete garage are now receiving the finishing coat of plaster. When this is completed the building will be much improved in appearance.

Mrs. N. J. Gehlen will have a sale of farm machinery and live stock at her home Saturday, the 15th. She expects to build a home on her land northeast of the cemetery during the summer, where she and her children will reside.

Jonas Sheard has arrived in town from Long Beach, Calif., and will be employed in the woolen mills.

The High school pupils will give a rally and program at the Masonic grove Wednesday eve, the 13th, in honor of the clearing of the gym from

debt. Everyone is invited to bring basket lunch and attend. Stayton High and Mission schools are playing base ball this afternoon on the local grounds. It is the hope of the home boys that subsequent return covered with crepe, but happens not.

Miss Frances Freeman was the declamatory contest at the school Friday evening. She will go to Salem the 15th, where she will enter the Marion county contest, and the same reading, "Some Other Days Are Taught To Fly."

COUNTESS ASKS DIVORCE  
Los Angeles, Cal., May 4.—Countess D'Aleria, who was formerly the widow of the late United States Senator George S. Nixon of Nevada, has filed suit for divorce from Count Armand D'Aleria. They were married three months ago at San Francisco. The complaint names another woman.

On the first day of the drive citizens pledged \$150 of the \$1000 fund in the Salvation army drive.

## Free Lecture

BY

## Daniel Toole

Of New York representing the

## I. B. S. A.

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