

## SIDELIGHTS UPON COUNTY JURY SYSTEM

By E. L. THORPE

Three weeks on a jury is not only an illuminating experience, but it opens up a far-reaching vista as to where some of the tax payers' money goes. The experience all belongs to the individual juror and the money he gets belongs to him likewise, because he has put in his time, although it cannot be said that he earns it by any stretch of hard work, either physical or mental. He is a part of the judicial system and must remain on duty until he is excused, whether called up to help decide a case or not.

That the jury system of Multnomah county is an expensive piece of machinery to operate has been observed before. Some have gone even further and have said that the judiciary is much to blame for the excessive cost of trying cases in Multnomah county, which is manifested by the great delays in trials and lawsuits that so many complain of. Judge Henry E. McGinn is one of these. When on the bench he opposed an increase in the number of circuit judges, saying that there were then enough to transact all the business of the county if they would only get down to work and not fritter so much time away.

The observing person will notice, however, that the lawyers who try cases are the greatest delinquents and losers of time which the county and litigants have to pay for. Perhaps the judges who have to hear the cases are somewhat to blame in allowing the attorneys to have their own way in selecting jurors and examining witnesses. They might be more drastic; they might drive the lawyers a little harder and thus end many cases sooner, but that would make them unpopular with the profession. The tax payers don't seem to be considered in the matter, and when two litigants put up the costs of a trial it seems to be the policy to let them go to it to the full extent of their ability to pay—and sometimes further.

A remarkable case in point was that of McIntosh vs. Rosenfeld, tried before Judge Gantenbein last month. It was called for trial at 9:30 on a Tuesday morning. The other departments had cases on trial but there were thirty-five jurymen not assigned to any case and they were all sent into Judge Gantenbein's courtroom where they had to remain until the twelve men were drawn who were to try the case. Examinations of witnesses began and when 5 o'clock came only six had been "accepted for cause."

Accepting for cause means that any of the jurors may be excused at the whim of the lawyers for any real or apparent cause, but the first twelve chosen are required to sit in their chairs until they had all been fully questioned as to their qualifications. Then comes the elimination. Each side has a certain number of pre-emptory challenges, and in such a case it means that about one-half of the twelve are finally excused and the process of selecting their successors has to be gone through with again.

In this particular case, but six men had been examined the first day. A little more speed was observed the next morning and about 11 o'clock the entire twelve men had been passed. Then came the challenges, and some of the man were excused for "cause" until next day. By 5 o'clock on the second-day of the trial the jury to try the case was finally sworn in and the trial was ready to begin at 9:30 on the third day.

Now here is where the cost came in: Thirty-five jurors were held for two days, at an expense of three dollars each per day, in order that twelve might be selected. The reader is invited to figure it out. In most cases the litigants put up the cost, but the case proved to be so trifling that after four days it was thrown out of court. The opening statements of the attorneys forecasted almost the identical thing that happened. The trial was based on an alleged written contract, which, if really in existence, was evidence enough for one man to decide the issue in five minutes. Now another trial is promised on different

Continued on page 3

## LETTER FROM VICTIM OF TUSCANIA DISASTER

The following is the full text of a letter written by Cecil Duke, who was on board the Tuscania when she was submarined, and who was reported among the missing. Cecil is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Duke, living a few miles east of Gresham. The letter was received by his parents yesterday and is the first word received since the disaster:

Ireland, February 14, 1918.

Dear Folks:—Just a line to let you know that I am feeling fine. Have been in Ireland for about 10 days now, at a little isolation hospital. I took the mumps while on the boat, and as soon as we landed nine of us boys were sent to the hospital where we have been getting the best of care from the people at this place. We have had a nurse and a doctor, but we really didn't need any medical care. Yesterday a photographer took our picture; also the nurse and doctor were in it. If possible I will send you one. I think there is going to be one in the paper. Will try to send one of the papers. A lady was here from the American Red Cross yesterday and brought us some candy, oranges, grapes, cigarettes and tobacco and some games, so we have something to occupy our time. Tell the people that the Red Cross is doing all that could be expected wherever I have been. I will join my company in a few days, for my mumps are about well.

Write often and I will write whenever I can. Lots of love.

CECIL O. DUKE.

## DIES IN A HOSPITAL AFTER BEING BURNED

Carl J. Osterdahl, grandfather of Albert and Miss Alice Ekstrom of Gresham, was so badly burned while clearing land on Salmon creek near Vancouver, last Tuesday, that he died the next day in St. Joseph's hospital.

He had been making his home with his son and they were burning stumps when the accident occurred. The son went to the house, and, returning, found his father lying on the ground with his clothes nearly burned from his body. Mr. Osterdahl was born November 15, 1832, in Sweden. He is survived by a son, C. J., of Portland, and the son with whom he made his home, also two daughters, Mrs. Caroline Backstrand, and Mrs. Augusta Johnson, both of Portland.

The body was brought to Portland where the funeral was held on Friday morning. The interment was in Riverview cemetery.

## EARLIER TO PRESS PUBLICATION DAYS

Advertisers, correspondents and all others are again reminded that all matter for publication in the Outlook must be in by 12 o'clock on publication days, Tuesdays and Fridays. The Outlook is going to press earlier these days on account of the pressure of other work which has had to be speeded up considerably. The Outlook office is handling several other publications and has recently added a new one which for a time will tax the force with the two linotypes to the utmost. In fact the office is now and has been for a few weeks running night and day. Several new helpers have been put on and the force is as busy as a beehive in early summer.

It will greatly assist the work in all lines if our kind friends will be more prompt in turning in copy and ads.

## FRUIT GROWERS ORDER SPRAY MATERIAL NOW

Fruit and vegetable growers who expect to join in the patriotic movement of systematic spraying and seed treatment to increase food production by cutting down the loss due to disease and insect pests, are urged to order their spray materials and equipment now. Prof. H. P. Barrass, western member of the War Emergency Board of American Plant Pathologists, has just returned from Washington, where reports of manufacturers were made to the effect that no assurance of being able to supply the demand can be given unless orders are placed a long time in advance.

## New Telephone Directory.

The new telephone directory goes to press about April 1st. Any one desiring advertising space should telephone, write, or call at the telephone office, Gresham.

MULTNOMAH-CLACKAMAS MUTUAL TELEPHONE CO.

Following suggestions made by farmers willing to employ high school boys, the educational authorities of Illinois have arranged an extensive farm course, from February 1 to May 1.

We really can spare the wheat and the meat.

## PROGRAM OF JUNIOR DRAMA TO BE GIVEN ON FRIDAY NIGHT

The Junior class of Union High School No. 2 is in active preparation for the production of the annual class play which will be given in Regner's opera house on Friday evening this week, March 15. The drama to be produced is entitled "Mary Jane's Pa." and will be given under the direction of Mrs. E. Sanford Large. Seats are on sale by members of the class and their success so far assures a triumph in attendance.

Following is the program, synopsis and cast of characters:

**PROGRAM**

Our Students March.  
Blue Bird Waltz.

**ACT I.**

Scene—Home of Portia Perkins, the editor of the "Clarion," which is the democratic paper of Gosport.

Ten years before the opening of the play Portia Perkins, a deserted wife, has come to Gosport with her two young daughters. She passes as a widow and has unconsciously won the love of Rome Preston, the democratic nominee for Representative, for whose election the "Clarion" is fighting. At this juncture her husband returns and is hired by Portia to do her housework. No one else knows his identity.

A Summer Night ..... Forman  
Treble Clef Club

One Fine Day ..... Madame Butterfly  
Miss Georgia Cross

**ACT II.**

Scene—The Clarion office.

Complications are caused by the appearance of Perkins in Gosport. He becomes interested in his two daughters though they do not know who he is. Skipper's March.  
Traumerel.

**ACT III.**

Scene—Portia's house and yard.

Skinner, who has been running in opposition to Preston, takes his defeat in the manner common to men of his character. Preston learns that Portia cannot become his wife and accepts this fact in a way befitting his character. All of the minor troubles are set right in this act and the play ends with a beautiful home scene.

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

PORTIA PERKINS, the printer of Gosport ..... Edna Benson  
LUCILLE PERKINS, Portia's daughter ..... Mabel Michel  
MARY JANE PERKINS, Portia's daughter ..... Eva Tacheron  
IVY WILCOX, a neighbor's daughter ..... Nora Teevin  
MISS FAXON, the Gosport Milliner ..... Gladys Wright  
BARRETT SHERIDAN, a young actor ..... William Butler  
STAR SKINNER, the rich young man of Gosport ..... Loren Myers  
JOEL SKINNER, his father, nominee for Representative ..... Robert Childers  
CLAUDE WHITCOMB, a dealer in wood ..... Roy Magnusson  
LINC WATKINS, the bus driver ..... Oren Stanley  
ROME PRESTON, Democratic nominee for Representative ..... David Peterson  
HIRAM PERKINS, Portia's husband ..... Glenn Russer  
EUGENE MERRYFIELD, foreman of the printing office ..... Glenn McCormick  
LEWELLYN GREEN, office boy ..... Melvin Brugger  
JOHN WHIPPLE, lawyer ..... Melvin Peterson  
MRS. WILCOX, Ivy's mother ..... Bertha Spencer

## GRAIN ESTIMATES ON OREGON FARMS

The Bureau of Crops estimates show that Oregon had 1,281,000 bushels of wheat on its farms on the first of this month. Last year at the same date there were 2,737,000 bushels. Of oats there were 2,250,000 bushels at the same date this year, against 4,666,000 bushels last year. Barley and corn also show a falling off in quantity.

However, the report says that the four cereals show larger stocks on hand throughout the United States this year than the same period last year, the amount of wheat on hand two weeks ago being 111,272,000, against 100,550,000 bushels last March. All other cereals show a greater volume than a year ago, especially corn which is nearly double, with a present stock of 1,292,905,000 bushels. However, the merchantable percentage of the corn crop is much below the usual, owing to faulty curing last fall on account of scarcity of help during harvest.

These figures were compiled by Mr. F. L. Kent, field agent at the Portland custom house. These stocks are all on the farms and take no account of the quantities that are in the elevators or in process of shipment.

## HALL AT DAMASCUS DESTROYED BY FIRE

"German Hall" at Damascus was destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning following a dance which closed at 3 o'clock. The cause of the fire is not known but is supposed to have been incendiary.

The hall had been used for dances and other gatherings. It was owned by some Germans and had been the gathering point for some suspicious meetings during the past winter. Anti-war persons from Gresham were known to have attended meetings there.

The building was insured and may be rebuilt as it was the one best hall of the community.

## ATTRACTIVE MENU FOR ST. PATRICK'S LUNCHEON

Following its custom of other years, the Ladies' Aid society will give a St. Patrick's luncheon, which will be held this year at the grange hall on Thursday, March 14, at the noon hour. A substantial meal will be offered at 25 cents a plate, which will include meat loaf, baked beans, potato salad, bread and butter, jelly, pickles, coffee, tea and banana pie. It is expected that a large number of men and women from the stores, offices and school, as well as others, will patronize the luncheon.

Subscribe for the Outlook for "the boy." It will follow him to the camp and its twice-a-week visits will be just like letters from home.

Everybody Hooverize! Every little bit helps!

## MILK FAMINE FEARED WHEN DAIRYMAN GOES

John Streich, one of the two dairymen who have been supplying Gresham and vicinity with milk for the past six months, has advertised a sale of his dairy herd and will quit delivering milk on March 20th.

He has been supplying a greater number of Gresham residents with milk than his only competitor, H. J. Pulfer, and there is great consternation among many of his customers as to where they are going to get their supply after the 20th. Some of them may be able to get milk from their neighbors who happen to own a cow, but there are not enough one-cow dairies to fill the demand.

Mr. Pulfer is being besieged by dozens asking for milk when Streich quits business and he is endeavoring to get a few more cows. He hopes to be able to take over the Streich business, but if he fails to get the cows he is after some families will have to put up with the canned stuff until they can secure a supply of the fresh variety.

## EFFORTS TO LOCATE FACTORY A FAILURE

An attempt to persuade a manufacturing establishment to locate in Gresham was made last week by about twenty business men, but the attempt seems to have resulted in failure. It was reported that the Blewett Manufacturing company of Pendleton has determined to locate elsewhere and that it was looking for a site which should be donated for factory purposes. It is now stated that the concern has gone to Seattle.

The company manufactures combined harvesters and traction engines and employs about 125 men. Its managers were looking over Portland and were offered a site on the Peninsula and had offers at Montavilla. It was thought to be good business to make them an offer here which a committee was empowered to do. A tract near the Beaver Motor works was to be had and the committee, consisting of Mayor Kenney, B. L. Walrad and John Brown, made every effort to persuade the company to take the land as a gift and locate here.

Seattle seems to be the winner for it is said that a bonus of \$225,000 has been put up and that the company will accept. Portland might have done the same, but the Seattle spirit is again in evidence and Portland has again been too slow.

The spirit that actuated the donation of 15 acres of land here may yet bring some other concern that is looking for a location. It would no doubt be offered again for some legitimate enterprise.

The entire wheat crop in France has been requisitioned by the French government.

Stir your coffee!

## PLEASANT HOME BOY SEES ALLIGATOR FARM

Glenn Andre, who is in a training camp at Jacksonville, Florida, writes an interesting letter to his grandmother, Mrs. S. F. Cline, of R.-A. Gresham. He acknowledges the receipt of home-knit garments and a box of home-made candy and describes scenes and conditions in the southern city. The following are extracts from his letter, which was written under date of February 23:

Everything is high here. They charge as much for fruit here as they do there and there is lots of it raised here. The cheapest bananas are eight for 10 cents, and oranges two for 5 cents.

Yesterday was Washington's birthday and it was the same as Sunday to us. We did not have to get up so early. On Sunday we have breakfast at 7:30 and on week days at 7. We are getting some pretty good eats now we have a new head cook. I was at Jacksonville yesterday. I got in town about 10:30 a. m. and did not get back until 10 at night. There were four of us went in a Ford truck.

I had a dozen and a half pictures made. I don't think they are very good, they are so dark and I look too sober. Most photographers will make you smile or say something funny but he did not. I will have more taken later on. Wish I had gotten them taken down home. They do not take as good pictures here as they do out there.

Well, I guess I will be transferred most any time. My name was called out the other day. The fellows were called out as machinist helpers. I don't know what they will put them at.

When I came back from Jacksonville I had a fine ride on the boat up the St. Johns river. It was certainly a fine ride. They have boats running every hour on Saturday and Sunday. A person can see lots of beautiful scenery. Jacksonville is a beautiful place.

We passed through a steel railroad bridge on the Atlantic Coast line. It certainly is a long bridge. There are quite a few different railroad lines coming into Jacksonville. You asked me if I had seen any alligators. They have a regular alligator farm across from the city. They also have them along the street in town. They have cages with water for them to be in. They are baby alligators that I saw there. They get to be large when full grown but they say it takes a good many years to get their full size. I have seen some quite large ones too. They are hatched from an egg which lays so long in the sun. The eggs are about the size of a duck egg, only they are longer. I was talking to an old gentleman and he was telling me where they were found. He said the alligator has teeth like a dog and is awful ugly.

Well I did not get your letter finished last night so will finish it this morning. It is certainly a fine morning. The sun is shining nice and bright. Another fellow and myself were over to the Y. M. C. A. No. 3. They had moving pictures over there and they were fine. I am going to church this morning. Services are held in the Y. M. C. A. That certainly was a beautiful letter that Murrel Harris sent me from the Pleasant Home Christian Endeavor society.

## TWO TRACTORS SOLD BY HESSEL LAST WEEK

Hessel's farm machinery store sold two tractors last week for use on farms in this vicinity. A Moline Universal was sold to Lauderback & Miller at Pleasant Home, T. Harauchi a Japanese farmer at Troutdale has bought a Case 1918 kerosene tractor, also a gang plow and discs.

A Cleveland tractor sold to the Mountain View farm last year is doing all the plowing, discing and harrowing on the farm. It is giving universal satisfaction. Another is in use on Mr. Cotton's Newberg farm.

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF FIRST STATE BANK

At Gresham, Oregon, at the close of business March 4th, 1918.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$207,746.92
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	None
Bonds and warrants	36,433.29
Stocks, securities, judgments, etc.	160.00
Banking house	25,000.00
Furniture and fixtures	4,150.00
Other real estate owned	2,550.00
Due from banks (not reserve banks)	543.36
Due from approved reserve banks	61,570.96
Checks and other cash items	866.88
Exchanges for clearing house	98.85
Cash on hand	11,918.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$351,038.53</b>
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 30,000.00
Surplus fund	20,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	1,858.86
Postal savings bank deposits	3,771.49
Individual deposits subject to check	161,076.95
Demand certificates of deposit	2,193.43
Cashier checks outstanding	3,258.99
Time and savings deposits	128,878.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$351,038.53</b>

State of Oregon, County of Multnomah, ss.  
I, C. J. Lundquist, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
C. J. Lundquist, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of March, 1918.  
L. NYSTROM, Notary Public.  
My commission expires April 8th, 1920.

Correct Attest: A. Meyers, Theo. Brugger, C. J. Lundquist, Directors.

## OPERA "AIDA" TO BE GIVEN IN GRESHAM

The name sounds well and the chorus itself sounded well in the concert given February 13th at the opera house. In fact the work done by this new singing society was so good that it becomes the duty, and should be felt a privilege to join and help along an organization which means so much musically to Gresham. It is not often that a city the size of Gresham is so fortunate as to have directing a chorus as well trained and experienced a musician as Joseph A. Finley, of Portland, who is supervising the music in the Gresham grade schools. Mr. Finley, who received his musical training in Boston, that musical city of the Atlantic coast, has had a wide experience during the past fifteen years conducting male, female, children's and adult mixed choruses and directing church choirs in and near Boston, Oklahoma and for the past seven years in and near Portland. He was for four years choirmaster of Centenary M. E. church of Portland, having a choir numbering sixty voices. He organized The Portland Oratorio Society, now in its sixth season and numbering sixty voices and has during the past six years given as many renditions of Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," two of "Elijah," two of "The Creation," one of "The Redemption," a number of miscellaneous programs and is now studying the beautiful opera "Aida" which will be given by the combined choruses of the Gresham Choral Society and the Portland Oratorio Society about May 10 in Gresham and a little later by the same chorus in Portland. Some of Portland's best soloists will assist and there is a possibility, though definite promise cannot be made yet, that The Etude Club Orchestra will accompany. There are many people in Gresham, blest with fine voices, who should join in this work and help make a success of a movement which makes only for the betterment of the city. The only cost is \$1.25 which includes the music, the members owning the music. The grade schools, E. S. McCormick principal, will sponsor the May concert.

The society meets every Wednesday evening at the grade school auditorium for practice.

## SNIPPING PARTY BY TERRY RED CROSS

A snipping party will be held at Terry schoolhouse tomorrow evening, to which all are invited. Coffee and sandwiches will be served during the evening and a silver offering will be taken for the benefit of the Red Cross.

## Concert and Dance.

St Patrick's eve, Saturday, March 16, Regner's opera house, Gresham, Oregon. By the boys of the U. S. Army and Navy Medical Reserve, students of North Pacific Dental college. Solos, duets, trios, quartets and some Jazz. Music by the former original Rizz Razz Jazz orchestra. Good clean dance. Concert 8 p. m. Admission 25c. Dance \$1.