

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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JUDICIAL REFORMS AND THE LAWYERS

WE don't agree either with those who would abolish the jury system entirely, or those who would keep it as it is, as something sacrosanct, which must not be materially changed.

In fact, all of Justice Belt's suggestions regarding judicial reforms, were in our opinion excellent. It seems to us that he combines, to a rare degree, that sound judicial judgment, with a clear vision and liberal viewpoint, which is so necessary, if needed reforms are to come partly from within, rather than entirely from without, the ranks of the legal profession.

WE were particularly interested in his suggestion regarding the insanity plea, for the absurdity of the present practice is something upon which we have frequently commented in this column.

Under present circumstances when a person accused of murder has no legitimate defense, insanity is invariably the plea, and invariably high-priced insanity experts, for the defense, testify the defendant is crazy, and equally high-priced insanity experts for the state testify he is sane.

One group of experts counterbalances the other, and necessarily the conscientious juror doesn't know which to believe.

Justice Belt would give the judge authority to choose his own insanity commission. This paper has advocated the appointment of a permanent state insanity commission, which would be called in by the court whenever an insanity defense is offered.

THERE is a great deal of talk about the law's delay. This talk is justified. If anyone doubts it, we would suggest they compare the American practice with that of Canada or England. With systems of jurisprudence fundamentally the same, it takes on the average five times as long to secure a conviction in an important case in this country, as in any portion of the British empire.

If two of Justice Belt's suggestions were followed, two major causes of unnecessary delay would be eliminated. He would have the court, instead of the lawyers, question prospective jurors, and he would give the defendant the right to choose whether facts in the case should be determined by a jury or by the presiding judge.

With the decision resting with the accused we fail to see how there could be serious objection to the second suggestion. We all know that where public feeling runs high, or a mob spirit prevails, a fair jury trial is practically impossible. Nevertheless under the present code it is mandatory.

Giving the defendant the right to leave the determination of the facts up to the court or a jury would merely strengthen the corner stone of American jurisprudence, which is that the accused has the right to have his innocence assumed until his guilt, beyond all reasonable doubt, has been proved.

AFTER listening in on the two-day session of the State Bar Association we should say that one of the greatest obstacles to needed reform in judicial procedure comes from the ultra-conservative spirit of the legal profession itself.

We may be mistaken, but we got the distinct impression that not one suggestion of any material change met with the approval of the delegates assembled. The only enthusiasm was detected when some speakers said nothing of importance but said it well, or when the burden of the discourse was to the effect that all is right in this most perfect of legal worlds, that all this talk about the failure of our judicial system, and the need of radical reform, proceeds from a Bolshevik minority on one hand, and a loose-thinking press on the other.

ALL of which is unfortunate. For no prompt betterment is possible without the co-operation of the lawyers themselves, proceeding from a realization on the part of the profession as a whole, that reforms and some radical changes are really needed.

That is why Justice Belt's talk was so welcome. For he is the type of man and type of lawyer who can combat this lethargy and complacent self-satisfaction and assist such men as Chief Justice Taft and Justice Holmes to bring about judicial reform from within the ranks of the legal profession, rather than to wait for them to be forced upon the profession by an outraged public opinion.

If you think it is a simple matter to establish naval parity, figure out how many cows equal six sheep.

Feminism would make more progress if those who demand most for their sex had more sex.

Mexico has taken up football. We feared those revolutions would develop a habit and lead to something dangerous.

LITERARY COURSE BY DR. COLLINS AT JUNIOR HIGH

Dr. Wilkie Nelson Collins, a professor of English widely known as a writer, and who recently assisted Hugh Walpole in the preparation of his latest novel, will conduct an extension course at the Junior High school building in modern twentieth century literature during a period of twelve weeks, beginning October 2.

points, the return of the vogue of essays, and the social changes induced by literature. The modern short story will be studied with the works of Sherwood Anderson and Katherine Mansfield as typical of the ultra-modern spirit.

DISCUSS PLANS OF C. E. CONVENTION

At a committee-meeting in Astoria Friday evening, plans were made for the Christian Endeavor convention rally to be held in Phoenix October 4. The program has been arranged, with Rev. W. O. Johnson of Phoenix as toastmaster, and Rev. Carman E. Mell of the local Christian church as pep song leader.

ELKS WILL HOLD FIRST SESSION OF FALL, THURSDAY

The long summer vacation of the local Elks lodge comes to an end next Thursday night when the first formal meeting of the lodge will be held since the last of June.

With this session the Elks will begin to swing into their usual fall and winter activities. During the vacation season only one meeting a month was held, and that only attended by officers and a few members.

Last Monday, the 26th birthday of the local Elks lodge, was an occasion of countless reminiscences on the part of Medford pioneer members.

Charter members who appear on the records in the local temple, together with the cities in which they were affiliated with Elks lodges before they came to Medford follow:

- T. E. Daniels, Portland; G. E. Hollis, Salem; J. D. Olwell, Roseburg; A. H. Miller, La Porte; W. S. Crowell, Medford; W. W. Eifort, Ashland; J. H. Cochran, Roseburg; R. P. Antle, Astoria; L. E. Wakeman, McCloud; C. W. Palm, Ashland; I. L. Hamilton, Roseburg; J. Court Hall, Roseburg; H. L. Montgomery, Phoenix; J. W. Jacobs, Watertown; J. T. Phlegar, Lexington; Ed R. Van Dyke, Ashland; E. D. Elwood, Roseburg; E. H. Colvig, Ashland; E. C. Gadsis, Ashland; D. B. Russell, Ashland; John S. Orth, Ashland; John H. Wilkinson, La Porte; H. E. Morrison, Ashland; Martin J. Roddy, Ashland; C. F. Burke, Roseburg; A. A. Davis, Astoria; J. D. Heard, Ashland; P. A. Hussey, Ashland; E. R. Seely, Ashland; Grover Corum, Ashland; T. E. Pottinger, Ashland; H. Von der Hellen, Grand Junction; S. G. Van Dyke, Butte Creek; C. E. Whistler, Waterbury; R. J. Conroy, Roseburg; W. J. Martin, Ashland; J. G. Goble, Ashland; George H. Merritt, Ashland; L. L. Jacobs, Kankama; C. L. Keenan, San Luis Obispo; O. C. Boggs, Charles, California; George A. Buth, Merrill; W. H. Brown, Brookfield; W. H. Canon and A. C. Burgess, Medford.

"BILL" DOLLAR ARRIVES

(Continued from Page One) at the door with a handshake, and lets you out again with a real come-again good-bye. "He is the fellow who meets and greets you on the street every day in the year, and takes a neighborly interest in your family affairs.

"He is the fellow whose clerks and bookkeepers and other employees live in Medford and spend their money with you and other people.

"He is the fellow who helps support Medford churches and hospitals and lodges and talks and boosts for Medford every day in the year.

"He is the fellow who visits you when you are sick and sends flowers to your family when you die, and follows your body as far as human feet can travel with the dead.

"He is the Medford merchant—your neighbor—your friend—your helper in time of need.

"Don't you think that you should buy from him and be his friend and his helper?" "Don't you know that every dollar you spend out of Medford for groceries and supplies of any kind is sent to strangers—to men who never spend a dollar in Medford to men who would not trust you for a box of matches.

"You don't save much, frequently nothing, of times pay more, when you send your money out of Medford, and you take all the risk yourself of short weight or measures, and of getting damaged or inferior goods.

"And don't you know that the growth and prosperity of Medford depends very largely upon the success and prosperity of Medford merchants?"

"Out-of-town people judge our city by the appearance of our stores and the degree of enterprise shown by our merchants."

"I hope," said "Bill" Dollar, "that I won't fall into the hands of some thoughtless citizen who will send me away from here, for I like it in Medford, and I want many of my neighbors to settle here as quickly as they can. I was made to work and I want to work in Medford. Help keep me here." (Copyright 1929, Fred Mozart)

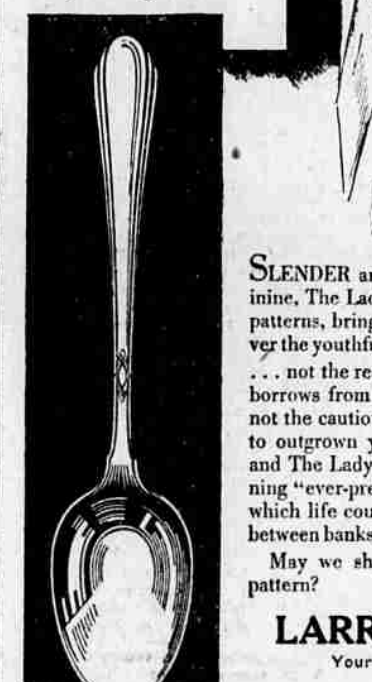
-Dear Lois- (extract from Norma's letter)

I told Laura I got a real thrill when I tried on my new coat. I get the same thing every time I put it on. You know it came from

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WEDDING

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And the new Gordon colors... not only the costume but the woman herself is considered! They are planned to match skin tones (whether pale or sun-tanned)—distinctly a modern note in colors.



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Service, Quality, Hospitality. The MANX HOTEL SAN FRANCISCO. Read what Will Rogers writes about LEVI STRAUSS OVERALLS. Bad Year for City Slickers, Says Rogers. NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—Says our champion New York university team looked like Man o' War till that bunch of Oregon apple knockers got a hold of 'em this afternoon.

Smudge Smoke

Legal lights of the state have been shining around here for two days. There is nothing so useless as a lawyer, when you have no work for him, and nothing so noble, as when you do. When one needs a lawyer, one NEEDS him.

Col. Touville of J'ville is riding around in evidence of a bountiful pear crop.

G. Washington Maddox, the eminent Methodist and abolitionist, executed a couple of old songs for the Lions' Wed. The executor has a good pair of lungs, and he let them play.

J. Ferguson Heath was up from Grants Pass Thurs. eve. He says his boy Bend, is as smart, as if he lived in Medford.

It looks like nothing would bring the much needed rain, except a parade. The farmers have not much hay done, but no results were obtained.

The Paris edict that women's skirts be longer, is not being obeyed to any extent in these parts.

The deer season opened Thursday, and there will be considerable passing of the buck, it is expected.

Herb Hoover's brother was here Wed.

Hobias Deuel was elected Am. Leg. commander last week. Com. Deuel said he intended to saw wood during his regime.

Quite a bit of neuralgia has been going around. It is a lively ailment with a fondness of doing its dirty work in out-of-the-way places of the human anatomy, making it hard to get at effectively. Its favorite stamping ground is the round thing on the shoulders.

There has been some fine weather on tap, no local agency, trying to be sensational, taking the blame for same, however.

F. Dreston, of the Appellate, fell off his horse, and hurt his arm one day recently. The Prince of Wales could have done no better.

There was a light rain Thurs. but not enough to make a 4d going too fast at a corner, skid.

There will be a football game next Sat. here with Marshfield. A Portland high school crushed Vancouver, Wash. 15 to 6. It does not appear like much of a crushing.

Brisbane's Today

(Continued from Page One) Strangely enough, here we have prohibition, with crime increasing. In Britain, with no prohibition, both crime and drunkenness diminish.

Cesare Rossi, conspiring to murder Mussolini, goes to jail for 30 years.

Even if all his enemies say of Mussolini were true, it would be an unpatriotic blow at Italy's welfare to endanger Mussolini's life.

Whatever history may say of him, 100 years hence, Italy needs him now.

Peacox, who strangled his wife then poured kerosene over her body and set fire to it, possessed a lawyer who personifies Isocrates, saying, "To convince others, be yourself convinced."

This lawyer told the jury he would stake his life that his client "never meant to kill."

If strangling a woman to death and then setting fire to her does not indicate intention to kill, "what in your opinion would indicate such an intention?"

REPORT EPIDEMIC BICYCLE THEFTS

Nine reports came into the city police station last night of bicycles having been stolen. The reports were received between seven and nine o'clock. Four of the bicycles were taken from Hunt's Criterion, three from the Bixie Theatre, one from the Littrell's Paris shop, and one from behind the Mail Tribune office.

REPORT EPIDEMIC BICYCLE THEFTS

The officials expressed belief that the majority of the wheels would be found today, as the persons taking the bicycles would discard them after using them last evening. The last bunch of bicycles stolen in the city were later found, but had been taken to places, and parts of some put on others.

Wise Investors

DO NOT BUY BLINDFOLDED

It is always best to thoroughly investigate a contemplated investment... study the financial stability of the company and especially the management. We are proud to point to that fact that this institution is owned and managed by Jackson County people, has shown continuous, substantial growth and not one of our stockholders has ever lost a penny. Our Preferred Stock pays



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