

ROAD BOND ISSUE DOWNED BY COURT

SUPREME COURT HOLDS THAT COUNTY COURT CANNOT ORDER SPECIAL ELECTION TO VOTE SUCH SECURITIES

SALEM, Jan. 25.—In a decision written by Justice Burnett, the supreme court has reversed the decision of the circuit court of Jackson county, and held that the bond issue of \$1,500,000, voted by the people of Jackson county in September, was invalid. The court held that the county had no power to call a special election for the purpose of voting road bonds.

In his opinion Justice Burnett held that as a negative restraining power against incurring indebtedness the amended section of the constitution is self-executing; that the powers of the county court are the same as they were before the amendment only the form of the restriction upon indebtedness being changed and that although the legislative power of the state had provided the method of voting on the election of officers and upon direct legislative measures, it had never established any plan for voting on county indebtedness, in the absence of which there was no authority for holding the election in question, and it would not validate the proposed indebtedness, the amendment being in that respect not self-executing. The court further held that the county orders or warrants are the only form in which county indebtedness may be evidenced under the present state of legislation, and that the counties have as yet no power to borrow money or issue bonds.

The action of the supreme court in turning down the million and a half bonds voted by the people of Jackson county for the construction of good roads, while unfortunate for Jackson county as well as all the counties in the state—since now the matter will have to wait for an enabling act by the next legislature before a statute can be enacted which will provide for the manner of the holding elections—proves that the county court of Klamath county acted wisely in going into the general fund last year for road work. It never has been, up to the present time, possible to bond for road construction. The only way being to make a levy for such purposes or drawing on the general fund for such sums as might be needed for road construction. The decision of the supreme court of late, emanating from an appeal in Lane county, proved that the court was right in going into the general fund, and now that bond issues cannot be made for at least another year, accentuates the action of the court in the course it took last year. At its first term it had to meet the situation by either making a large and burdensome levy for road construction or to secure the same from some source which could be paid hereafter by the citizens of Klamath county other than the ones who would have to bear the burden now under a levy, and the only way possible under the law to do this was by the issuance of warrants on the general fund, and while it is unfortunate that warrants were forced to a discount, still it is believed that the showing of Klamath county with a \$15,500,000 tax roll, and something over \$200,000 indebtedness, is sufficient to warrant the sale of county warrants at a mere bagatelle.

The action of the court in making a seven mill levy for road construction during 1912 was wise, for the reason that it gives it available cash to do considerable work, which, added to what was accomplished last year will mean a great deal to Klamath county.

Thus it is easy to see that the court has accomplished in a way for last year what might have been accomplished by a bond, by the issuance of warrants which draw six per cent, and can be paid at a later date. The action of the court in refraining from going into the general fund to any great extent hereafter, and making a levy for road work should relieve the situation and put the county's credit on an enviable basis.

CONFESSION REPUDIATED BY SARTORIAL FIREBUG

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 26.—Now denying absolutely that he is guilty of arson, David Abrams, the tailor who confessed to firing the Broadway flats, for which crime Mrs. Nettie Rouda was at first arrested, has renounced that confession. Abrams is in the Emergency hospital.

"I don't remember making or signing any confession," Abrams declared. "If I did I was not in my right senses. I attempted to take my life simply because I have thought of suicide for some time."

Mrs. Rouda is consulting her attorneys with a view to bringing suit

for damages against the city for false arrest and imprisonment.

TRAINMEN'S NEGLIGENCE CAUSED OFFICIALS' DEATH

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Negligence on the part of three trainmen contributed to the Illinois Central wreck at Kinmundy, Ills., Sunday night, in which J. T. Harahan, former president of that road, and three other railroad officials were killed. It was held by an investigating committee here.

The trainmen are: R. J. Stuart, engineer, who was running train No. 3, which crashed into train No. 25; John H. Brainard, conductor of train No. 25; Harry J. Boeckler, a flagman on train No. 25.

GABY DESLAYS WEDS AMERICAN DANCER

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Gaby Deslys cabled to theatrical friends from London:

"Married Harry Plicer this morning. Am very happy."

Plicer is an ex-member of the Wonder-Garder company here, and is an athletic dancer.

Friends think the pair were married in London. They are now en route to Paris. Gaby is a French singer and dancer who led King Manuel of Portugal a merry pace, and finally off the throne.

SPRING PLOWING BEGUN AT OLENE

ON WORK OF PREPARING THE GROUND FOR SOWING OF SEED, FROST BEING PRACTICALLY ALL GONE

Farmers in from Olenne and the farming district out that way report that the spring plowing has begun, which is much earlier than usual. The work of turning the soil has been started on the Grigsby, Harris and other ranches in the vicinity, and the plowmen have found the ground in good shape for the work.

The frost is gone, and the conditions seem to be first rate for the undertaking. Usually the spring plowing does not begin until in February.

The moisture which has fallen in the city last night and today is being gladly welcomed by agriculturalists, who believe that practically every drop of it will be of great benefit to the ground. Most of the frost is gone from the earth near the city, at least enough to let most of the water soak right in.

While some of the soil experts believe that it would have been as well for the ground to have remained hard for a while longer, if there is plenty of precipitation, they consider that the crops will have good prospects.

GYMNASIUUM BOUT RAIDED AND TWO BOXERS ACCUSED

CHICAGO, Jan. 26.—Detectives raided a gymnasium conducted by Billy O'Connell, a former pugilist, here, and arrested O'Connell and two boxers, who were charged with prize-fighting.

Nearly 300 spectators were crowded around the ring when the raid was made. Admission tickets entitling the holder to "one day's exercise in the gymnasium" were sold for 25 cents each, according to the detectives.

The boxers gave their names as Tommy Garo and Young Ketchell. O'Connell has conducted a boxing gymnasium in the heart of Chicago's business district for years. Police claim the contests were prizefights for the reason that an admission fee was charged to witness them.

HOLD UP WAS JOKE, THOSE GUILTY, WHEN FOUND, SAY

HUNTINGTON, Ore., Jan. 26.—The men found guilty of holding up the Oregon cafe in this city have been located by the officials.

They were found to be two local young men just out of their teens. One of them had just established a small business. Part of the money was found in their possession.

They claim it was a joke, and in consideration of the return of the loot there is to be no prosecution.

GOVERNOR GLASSCOCK HAS CONFERENCE WITH TEDDY

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Colonel Roosevelt participated in an important conference with Governor Glasscock, who recently declared the Colonel the logical candidate.

He lunched with Roosevelt, later conferring with him secretly.

Governor Glasscock refused to talk. It is reported that he asked the Colonel to tell him and five other governors whether he would accept the nomination if it were tendered him.

Billy Delaney, famous prizefight promoter, who brought out Jeffries, died Wednesday night at Oakland of liver trouble. He slept away after being ill for weeks.

ELKS, FREE OF DEBT, CELEBRATE DE LAP WILL SEEK ANOTHER TERM

WITH MEMBERS WHO GATHER TO WITNESS CEREMONY OF BURNING NOTES WHICH SYMBOLIZED OBLIGATIONS

Thursday night was a great event in history of the Elks Lodge of Klamath Falls, it being the time set for the celebration of the paying off of the indebtedness of the lodge, due to installation expenses, and the burning of the notes. The entire lodge room was literally packed with members of the order and visiting brothers, all imbued with a feeling of pride and gladness to be able to announce to the world that the Elks of Klamath Falls had made good and had been able in the short space of six months to wipe out every cent of indebtedness caused by the instituting and organization of the lodge. The members are also proud of the fact that they have an exceptionally comfortable home that is open every day and evening of the week for the enjoyment and social intercourse of all Elks.

Klamath Lodge No. 1247 was instituted on June 26, 1911, with 74 charter members. Today the lodge has 158 live, hustling, enthusiastic members, with new classes being taken in every weekly meeting.

Exalted Ruler E. B. Hall, after the regular business of the lodge, explained to the members in a short address how the money had been raised for instituting Klamath Lodge No. 1247, and told of some of the early difficulties which were overcome by the charter members. He gave a plain, personal talk to the individual members of the local lodge, and outlined a policy which he advised them to follow in the future. Now that the necessary indebtedness of organizing the lodge had been wiped out, he believed they should pay for everything as they went along and keep out of debt.

After the finish of his talk the ceremony of burning the redeemed notes was carried out, and was officiated in by the four principal officers of the lodge. Exalted Ruler Hall, Esteemed Leading Knight W. H. Dolbeer, Esteemed Loyal Knight Hunter Savidge and Esteemed Letouring Knight Chas. I. Roberts, each bearing a \$500 note, marched from their several stations to the center of the room, meeting at the altar, where they placed the paper on a metal tray. When the match was applied by the exalted ruler every Elk in the room was on his feet, and amid cheers and rejoicing, watched until the last flicker of the flames proclaimed that the mortal remains of the debt of Klamath Lodge No. 1247 was no more. Later in the evening the ashes were taken in charge by Coroner Whitlock, and will be properly sealed in a glass jar and kept as a reminder to the members of the early history of the lodge.

In the absence of Judge Henry L. Penson, who was to have addressed the meeting, Chas. J. Ferguson was called upon and gave a short history of the lodge, in which he told of the struggles and hardships overcome by the small band of Elks who first conceived the idea of rounding up the stray "Bills" in an organization, which, when Klamath Falls would reach the proper size, would be the nucleus of an Elks Lodge. The Antlers Club was the result, and mention was made of the misunderstanding among outsiders of the real purpose and principles of Elkdom. Even after Klamath Falls reached sufficient population to secure a charter, it was not all clear sailing, as there were financial problems which had to be met and solved. However, these were undertaken with the determination and enthusiasm which seems one of the characteristics of the true Elk, and the money secured. Mr. Ferguson commended the work done by some of the early members, and complimented the lodge on its excellent choice of officers, who had showed a proficiency seldom found in any lodge. He spoke of the first memorial service which was held at one of the churches by a small body of members of the Antlers Club, and the curiosity displayed by those who did not at that time know what Elkdom meant. He finished his talk by calling the attention of the lodge to the necessity of making a good showing at the Grand Lodge in Portland, an opportunity which the Elks of Oregon will probably not have again in years to come. He also suggested that now was the proper time to start a lodge history, while the facts were fresh in the minds of the members.

PIANOS TO BURN, AND IT'S NO IRIDESCENT VISION

ATLANTIC CITY, Jan. 26.—More than 300 old square grand pianos will go up in smoke here during the convention of the National Piano Dealers Association in May.

The instruments will be shipped from all parts of the country, placed in a heap fifty feet high on the edge of the meadows, and the torch will be applied.

COUNTY CLERK COMES TO THE FRONT WITH ANNOUNCEMENT, WHILE SHAW WOULD BE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

County Clerk Charles R. De Lap has announced himself as a candidate for another term on the republican ticket. Mr. De Lap has been a careful, painstaking and efficient official, and has always shown himself accommodating to the public. It is believed he will make it highly interesting for anyone who might see fit to oppose him for the place, as he is the possessor of a host of friends, both social and political.

Some mention has been made of Deputy County Clerk George Chastain, democrat, in connection with the office, but as yet the deputy has not made any announcement on his own behalf. The fact that the two men are very friendly and used to team work with one another makes it appear to many as unlikely that Mr. Chastain will come out for the office. He was formerly county clerk.

Attorney W. H. Shaw has come out with a declaration of his intention to seek the office of justice of the peace on the republican ticket. Mr. Shaw is a well known young attorney, and for a while was assistant city attorney of the city of Klamath Falls.

Justice of the Peace Charles Graves, democrat, who is serving his first term, has not stated publicly whether he intends to try to succeed himself. He has a strong following and is a popular man.

CLUBS MAN TO DEATH AND WALKS MILES TO SURRENDER

FRESNO, Jan. 25.—Joseph E. Maria Corpio, jailed as the murderer of Marcel Marino, whom he says he killed with a club two days ago at Wood Camp near Medota, claims that Marino attempted to kill him with a shotgun. He walked in to surrender.

FIGHT HOME RULE OBJECT OF MANITOBA ORANGEMEN

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Jan. 26.—Orangemen in Manitoba have a fund of \$5,000 with which to fight home rule. The amount was collected last March at their grand lodge, and will be used to defray the cost of a hall and speakers in England.

HADLEY WANTS PRESIDENCY CLAIM FOLLOWERS OF TAFT

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 25.—Taftites declare that Governor Hadley is trying to create a situation leading to his own presidential nomination. They charge him with breach of faith. They say the Hadleyites think Roosevelt, realizing that he cannot get the nomination, will support Hadley.

HUSBAND'S "WICKED EYES" CAUSE WOMAN'S HYSTERIA

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 26.—Mrs. Margaret Armstrong Howell, the Spokane "spinster bride," is recovering from hysteria which seized her when brought face to face with her husband in Judge Rives' court, where she is petitioning for a guardian.

"Oh, stand between me and that awful man!" she cried to her attorney when Howell appeared. She then testified that she had not recognized that Howell had "wicked eyes" while he was importuning her to marry him. "But I do now," she cried. "Oh, I do now!"

Women friends took charge of Mrs. Howell at the conclusion of the session, and took her to their home.

JOHN BULL'S ANGER AROUSED BY ITALY

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The Italy Red Sea flotilla today seized a British launch off Hobohda, according to advices to the British consul.

He urges the government to send a cruiser.

The Italians are threatening to bombard Hobohda. A telegram was sent to Rome demanding an immediate explanation.

BETTER WORKMEN'S STATE DESIDERATUM OF PARTY

BIRMINGHAM, England, Jan. 29.—Organization of the workingmen of the United Kingdom for better industrial and social conditions is the watchword of the annual convention of the British parliamentary labor party, which met here under the chairmanship of J. Ramsey McDonald, M. P.

The party which represents 2,500,000 trade unionists and already has 42 members in the house of commons, is preparing to wage a vigorous campaign to secure a more representative proportion. Among other things it is proposed to start a daily newspaper. Hitherto handicapped by the necessity of paying salaries to its members elected to parliament, now that under the government bill passed at the last session, every member of the commons

receives a salary of \$2,000 a year, the labor party will be able to devote its funds to other purposes.

During its three days' meeting the convention will discuss thirty-five printed pages of resolutions. Some of these favor general adult suffrage for both men and women; the nationalization of railways, canals, and mines; reduction of the old age pension qualifying limit from 70 to 60 years, and the reduction of contributions paid by workmen and employers to be national industrial insurance fund.

The insurance bill is booked for a lively discussion, and it is likely that a number of amendments will be urged.

Attempts of employers to secure the repeal of the trades dispute act, which gives unions the right to picket premises under strike, will be censured, and the convention will direct the executive committee to take steps to prevent such repeal.

One resolution which will likely be passed calls for a general strike in event of interference with the act.

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The Central barber shop and the Oregon Harness company have moved to the store room in the Jacobs block, Sixth and Main streets, formerly occupied by the Owl pool room, the room having been divided for use separately by the enterprises.

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