

The Daily Capital Journal

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NO. 12.

DEATH LIST GROWING, NOW 150

Plot to Destroy Popular Legislation System

POLITICAL GAMESTERS PREPARE FOR BATTLE

Hope to Elect Legislature Inimical to Statement No. 1, and Return To Old Conditions

The Peoples Press, an independent wide awake Portland newspaper, in its issue of Jan. 11, says:

Events transpiring during the last few days in Portland and Oregon political circles indicate that the people of the state are in imminent danger of losing the entire system of popular legislation that has during the three years made Oregon envied a remarkable among the states of the Union.

Despite all the work that has been done by the state grange, the labor bodies of the city and state, the push for forces and improvement bodies over Oregon, and by men who have sacrificed money, time and the most endeavor for this entire system of the direct primary, the direct election of United States senators and the direct control of the state government, it seems probable that as the result of the work of these men and public bodies will be lost through the indifference of the great mass of the voters to the shifty manipulations of the astute and crooked politicians who would see the old order again restored. Dirty politics had the funeral bells tolled over cold, still form, but dirty politics have more than nine lives, and is even now, yes this very hour, stirring it in a dozen secret places in Portland and stirring itself for but the dominant motive—to bring back the old order and to bow the neck of the people to the yoke of the machine.

Men who are politically wise and know what is happening, understand thoroughly that in the last few weeks this movement against the present popular system of legislation has come to a focus and behind the scenes the mine has been dug which is hoped will blow up the bulwark the voters ever had against the aggressions of the predatory politicians and elusive grafting men and jobbers in fat things for a few. This movement has even found expression in the daily press, which suddenly seems adverse to staunchly supporting the direct primary as it once did, and when the men learn that W. F. Matthews again emerged and that the old order is openly fighting Statement No. 1, the wise men fear. And though this attack against the direct primary and especially against statement No. 1 is generally known in newspaper circles, there is scarcely a newspaper in the state that has tied hand and foot. There is loud emphatic roar from the editorial sanctuaries for Statement No. 1, there was before the election of Senator Bourne. The Oregonian has had its popular trumpets and the press seems to be tagging quietly smothering all hint of opposition against the attack of the political pirates.

The time was opportune for the attack. These political gamblers had watched their chances through the years when the people were awake, knew that the financial interests had diverted the popular interest from politics to bread and butter from candidates and their promises to bankers and their certificates, that what was to be done could best be performed now while the people slept. Then, too, these wise men felt that Senator Bourne had reached the pinnacle of his ambition and the assumption of the senatorial office and that he no longer took the

deep and personal interest in Statement No. 1 that he once did, and without at least one aggressive leader to repel the attack, all seemed safe for the bucaniers. It is alleged that even the men who before were Statement No. 1 leaders have gone over to the enemy. It is asserted that John B. Coffey, John Driscoll and men of the same class who were leaders in the last campaign for Statement No. 1 are now allied with the practical politicians. (Continued on page four.)

THIS BANK IS SOLVENT

(United Press Leased Wire.)
New York, Jan. 14.—The Hamilton bank has been found solvent by the examiners of the state department of banking, and it will be reopened January 20. The re-examination of the bank has been in progress for a week. In this examination neither the \$50,000 which grew out of the sale of the Providence Savings Life Assurance Society, nor the \$200,000 bonds to F. Augustine Heinze and his brother were put among the assets. The bank will have on hand \$1,800,000 when it reopens.

COURT ADJOURNS TO MARCH 30

The following docket entries were made by Judge Burnett yesterday in department No. 1, of the Marion county circuit court:

John Walling vs. J. H. Peterson, action for money; plaintiff's motion for order for sale of perishable attached property overruled.

J. W. Meyers vs. T. A. Livesley & Co., action for money; motion for new trial filed by defendants overruled.

S. Page vs. C. W. Brasher, demurrer to new matter in answer argued. Mike Jacob & Co. vs. H. G. Bruer, action for money default and judgment, with order to sell attached property. Court adjourned to March 30.

Wood Alcohol in Marines' Liquor.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Vallejo, Cal., Jan. 14.—James G. Hayes and Harry Wilson, marines, attached to the cruiser St. Louis, at present stationed at Mare Island, in the capacity of blacksmith and fireman, respectively, died in the sickbay of the cruiser early this morning from the effects, it is believed, of having taken a concoction of wood alcohol.

The Plague Stamped Out.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Plague has been almost completely stamped out in San Francisco. According to an official report issued by the board of health today, only two cases remain. Since the discovery of the first case there has been a grand total of 74 deaths. Sixty-one patients recovered.

RUEF IS PROMISED COMPLETE IMMUNITY

It Remains Only For Heney to Indorse This Action to Make Some Big Ones Nervous.

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Complete immunity has been promised to Abe Ruef by District Attorney William H. Langdon, and unless Rudolph Spreckles and Francis J. Heney object to having it extended, sleeping powders will be in great demand among men of millions in San Francisco when the absolute nature of the contract becomes known.

Neither Heney nor Spreckles were present when Langdon and Detective William J. Burns, of the graft prosecution, conferred with Ruef, but the interpretation of the result of the conference was almost general in its positiveness.

There was only one thing that they could not reconcile with this generally accepted result, and that was the attitude of Heney toward Ruef.

Heney has frequently declared since Ruef shed tears in the temple Sharith Israel that the fallen boss would be sent to jail.

"If only one man is sent to the

penitentiary as the result of the graft prosecution, that man will be Abe Ruef," was the repeated announcement made by Heney prior to the recent municipal campaign. Heney has reiterated this since, but may have been led to change his mind.

Heney Is Sore.

Portland, Or., Jan. 14.—Francis J. Heney was far from pleased this morning when he read the news of Ruef's apparent victory over Langdon and Burns yesterday, and their alleged promise of complete immunity to the ex-boss, if he would testify in the graft cases now coming up. He scowled as he read a United Press dispatch containing this news, but refused to talk. "I have nothing to say," he snapped, "not a word." Then he scowled some more. He was still angry when he arose to address the court in the Hall case, but he persisted in declining to talk about the San Francisco situation.

TO THE PUBLIC On and after January 15 the banking hours for all Salem banks will be from 10 o'clock a. m. to 3 o'clock p. m.

EVIDENCE OF INSANITY IN THE THAW CASE

Defense Is Trying to Show Insanity in Remote Branches Of the Family

(United Press Leased Wire.)

New York, Jan. 14.—Dr. John T. Demar, who has been the Thaw family physician for many years, was the first witness called by the defense this morning, when the trial of Harry Thaw was resumed.

There were a few spectators in court when the physician took the stand. Harry Thaw entered the room with a depressed look, even more pronounced than the one he wore yesterday. Evelyn Thaw was an early caller, but, with other witnesses, was excluded from the court room.

The proceedings were not opened until 10:30 o'clock because of the fact that Justice Dowling was delayed in a blockade in the subway.

Dr. Demar was questioned by Attorney Littleton. The witness said he had known Harry Thaw since his birth, and that when he was a child he was curious and the victim of St. Vitus dance. He declared that Henry W. Copley, brother of Mrs. William Thaw, was an imbecile six years before his death.

District Attorney Jerome objected vigorously when Littleton asked Dr. Demar concerning John Ross, son of Mrs. Thaw's sister. Jerome thought the Ross family was not closely enough related to Harry Thaw to make any difference. Littleton argued that he had a right to bring in any allegations of insanity affecting even the farthest removed relatives.

Justice Dowling ruled that the question must be prefaced with an inquiry as to whether there was insanity in the Ross family. Thereupon, the direct examination ended abruptly.

Old Landmark Gone.
The Dalles, Or., Jan. 14.—Another historic landmark on Garrison Hill has passed away. One of the five officers' residences at old Fort Dallas, belonging to Fred Benzer, was destroyed Sunday morning a little after 1 o'clock by a fire of incendiary origin. Benzer lives in the old garrison bakery, where, from 1859 to 1879 he baked loaves for Uncle Sam's boys. In 1877 Benzer, who is now past 70, bought the house destroyed yesterday, and in 1883 he obtained, so he claims, a deed for the dwelling from Uncle Sam. "Uncle" Benzer claims he had about \$400 worth of furniture in the house, some of which had been brought across the isthmus in 1863. It is inferred that the historic dwelling was burned to clear Mount Hood street, for the improvement of which the council had appropriated \$200 at the request of the Mill Creek Good Roads Association. Benzer's dwelling was in the center of the street. At the time the aged man bought the house the surrounding land was not cut in lots, nor were there any streets.

Jerome cross-examined Dr. Demar very closely about the exact mental condition of Henry Copley. The physician replied that Copley could not work, and that he was supported by money given him by Mrs. Thaw.

Dr. William F. Butler, of Roanoke, (Continued on page four.)

HUMAN LIVES GIVEN AS SACRIFICE TO FEAR

Cowardice of a Few men Causes Panic In Which 150 Women and Children Perish

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Official announcement was made late this afternoon that, according to the best facts obtainable, the list of killed in last night's theater panic and fire will not exceed 130; that 100 were seriously injured, 20 of whom are expected to die.

The authorities of the city have been at work all day in an effort to determine who could possibly be held responsible for the disaster. It is not improbable that charges of criminal carelessness will soon be made against one or more parties. All saloons and hotel bars have been closed. A squad of the state constabulary have arrived from Reading, Pa., to assist in the rescue work.

Boyerstown, Pa., Jan. 14.—Seventy-five of the victims of last night's terrible theatre disaster, due to a panic and an explosion, have been identified. Investigation this morning shows that the early reports on the number of persons killed were not exaggerated.

Fully 150, the majority of them women and children, are dead, and it is feared this number will be greatly increased by death claiming many of the injured. It is estimated that at least 75 are on the list of injured. All night long the ruins were searched for bodies, many of them being found in a mangled condition.

It developed this morning that the disaster was due principally to the panic that followed the gasoline explosion, which was not serious in itself. It was loud, enough, however, to start a stampede among the women and children.

It was a repetition of the Iroquois theatre fire in Chicago, on a smaller scale. Instantly following the first rush, the one small exit was clogged with bodies. Those who tried to leave there, the main exit, encountered this wall of human forms, heaped one on top of the other. As the panic increased the heap grew. The lives of those nearest the floor were crushed out in a twinkling.

While this scene of death was being enacted in the front of the theater the members of the amateur theatrical company that had been furnishing amusement for the women and children fled through the rear door.

The victims caught in the fire trap were soon enveloped in flames which swept over the audience, in the same way that the sheet of fire attacked the people in the Iroquois theater.

When the stage door was opened by the panic-stricken players a strong draught was created. This current of air fanned the roaring flames, which swept down on the poor wretches caught in the narrow exit.

In removing the charred bodies this morning the police and firemen found the remains of a mother who had died with her baby still clasped to her bosom. The two bodies were burned into a crisp.

Others were found with hands clasped in prayer; others with bones and skull crushed into a mass.

Mrs. Stella Mayes, who had charge of the amateur players, could have

saved her life if she had not tried to save the lives of the members of her company, which presented "Mary Queen of the Scots." She reached the open air in safety, but returned to see if those behind the scenes had escaped.

The flames closed in on her and she perished.

Reuben W. Stover, who escaped from the theater by dropping from a window, makes the statement today that, had it not been for the cowardice of several men in the audience the death list might have been much smaller. In fact, he says, a panic would not have taken place.

"As soon as the children on the stage saw grown up people rush for the door," said Stover, "they lost their courage, and joined in the stampede. The children began to jump over the footlights. In jumping one boy kicked over one of the lamps. A few minutes later the stage was a mass of flames. If the men had kept their seats the little ones would not have lost their heads."

CALHOUN MUST FACE ACCUSERS

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—The trial of Patrick Calhoun, accused of bribing supervisors to pass the overhead trolley franchise, was again postponed today at the request of the prosecution, the case being set for Monday, but District Attorney Langdon could not state positively when it would actually be called for trial.

After court adjourned Langdon and Calhoun's attorneys held an exceedingly heated conference, at which Langdon promised to give Calhoun and the other United Railroad defendants a definite date for the opening of their trials tomorrow afternoon. The conference was the result of the request of the prosecution this morning to have the cases continued until next Monday. When the cases were last set the prosecution promised the defense that in all probability it would be ready to give a definite answer as to when the cases would actually come to trial by this morning.

Robbed the Mail Carrier.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Advices were received this morning by Post-office Inspector Johnston that a mail driver at Marysville, while on his way to the depot last night, was held up by two masked men, and the registered mail pouch rifled. After holding the driver up the robbers forced him to drive into a dark alley, where they struck him over the head with an iron bar, fracturing his skull. They then fled, and have not been recovered.

Society night tonight. Every music for couple only. Everybody welcome.

HEAR HIM TOMORROW NIGHT
J. W. CLARK, the Electrician, at the First Christian Church.