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INJURED PRISONERS MAY SUE COUNTY

MAN RUNS AMUCK IN JAIL, STABBING THREE INMATES BEFORE OVERPOWERED.

Damages against Thurston county and Sheriff Fred W. McCorkle may result from the fracas which occurred in the county jail about 1 o'clock Tuesday morning when Ernest Reisch, 38 years old, ran amuck and, using a large pocket knife, stabbed and severely cut three other prisoners, William Thompson, J. W. Miller and Fred Kusah. Reisch was not searched when locked in the jail by Deputy Sheriff Jack Gifford.

Reisch's attack was made without warning and without provocation, when the three prisoners and J. F. Gillies, the other inmate of the jail, were sleeping. Reisch first attacked Thompson, who was sleeping in the bunk above him, stabbing him twice in the back of the neck. Thompson called to his fellow prisoners for help, Miller and Kusah responding while Gillies ducked under the bed. They were unable to turn on the lights before Reisch attacked them and the fight with the maniac was carried on in the dark, until he was finally overpowered.

Injured Men at Hospital.

Game Warden Fennell, who sleeps at the jail, was unable to assist in overpowering Reisch, as he had no keys. He called Sheriff McCorkle and Drs. H. W. and K. L. Partlow were also called to treat the injured men, who were then removed to the hospital. They are still confined hospital. Kusah and Thompson were injured the worst, and were weak from loss of blood, but improved so they could be removed to the county jail Thursday. The fact that Reisch's knife was dull doubtless saved their lives.

Reisch, who was considerably battered up, was tried before a sanity commission in the superior court later that morning and committed to the Stellation asylum, where he was taken Tuesday evening. His story was that the other prisoners had "tried to get" him.

Reisch was first arrested in Shelton last week, because of his peculiar actions in that vicinity. He was brought to Olympia last Friday, but as both Sheriff McCorkle and Deputy Jack Gifford were out of the city at the time, he was turned over to the city police and spent that night in the city jail. Saturday morning he was turned over to Deputy Gifford by Chief Caton, Sheriff McCorkle being Seattle, and the deputy failed to search him before he locked him in the county bastille, assuming that the city authorities had done so. They had, but had returned Reisch's belongings to him.

Injured When a Boy.

Reisch had been making his home with his mother, brother and sister near Kamilche, where his brother owns a ranch, and his brother had visited him at the local jail. The county authorities, investigating the man's history, report that they learn he has been mentally unbalanced since he was struck on the head with a hammer when 14 years old, by a shoemaker to whom he had been apprenticed at his home in the old country. Tuesday morning was the first time, however, that he had ever become violent. He had made his home with his brother for the last 10 years.

Thompson, one of the injured men, is the alleged brass thief who tried to break away from Policeman La-Barre last week; Miller is the contractor who is held on a charge of stealing logs from a timber tract near Hogum Bay, and Kusah is the man arrested in Tenino for stealing a belt from one of the mills there.

Auditor Lets Bowers Go.

County Auditor Annie Gaston this week announced that L. L. Bowers of Little Rock had been relieved of his duties as deputy sealer of weights and measures for this county, a place he has filled for the last three years, and that the work would be performed hereafter by R. A. Cruikshank, deputy auditor. Bowers will still serve as wide tire inspector, however. The change means a reduction of \$60 a month in the payroll of the auditor's office, it is said.

OYSTER BAY SCHOOL LEADS.

Sets Record for Spelling. With All Four Grades Reporting 100.

Every grade in the Oyster Bay school reported an average of 100 in spelling for the month of April, setting the record for the schools of the county, according to the averages compiled by Superintendent O. C. Goss this week. Spurgeon Creek came next, with three of the four grades scoring 100.

The pupils in the fifth grade of the Bush, Johnson Creek, Spurgeon Creek and North Star districts also averaged 100 in spelling; as did the sixth grades of the Lacey, Plum Station, Gibson, Stony Point, Gull Harbor and Spurgeon Creek districts, the seventh grades of the North Star and Bordeaux districts, and the eighth grades of the Delphi, Bush, Plum Station, South Union, Summit Lake and Spurgeon Creek districts.

HOPE TO START TESTING MONDAY

ORGANIZATION OF COW-TESTING ASSOCIATION HERE IS NOW COMPLETED.

Testing of the milk production of cows owned by members of the Thurston County Cow-Testing association is to be inaugurated next Monday, unless W. S. Thornber, director of the extension division of the Pullman State College, fails to supply by that time the expert who is to conduct the official testing.

The association was finally organized and officers elected at a meeting of the members in this city last Saturday, and O. E. Gibson, the government organizer, was instructed to advise Mr. Thornber to put a man on the job here by May 15. Up to Thursday the officers of the association had not heard from the Pullman official but were confident that the official tester would be appointed in time to begin the work next Monday.

L. R. Campbell of South Union, president of the Dairymen's association and prime mover in the formation of the cow-testing association, was elected president of the latter organization last Saturday; C. C. Aspinwall of Mud Bay vice president, and Charles E. Starr, also of Mud Bay, secretary-treasurer. These three, with D. J. Bigelow, A. H. Kaiser, John Hackman and Fred Sleater, all well known farmers of the county, composed the board of trustees.

Arrangements have been made so that members of the association can make their first quarterly payment of dues to Frank M. Kenney, cashier of the Olympia National bank, President Campbell announces. Mr. Kenney will furnish the members with receipts and will turn the money over to Mr. Starr, the secretary-treasurer of the association. This arrangement was effected to make it more convenient for members to pay their dues, which must be paid by June 1, according to the by-laws of the association.

President Campbell also announces that the Dairymen's association will meet at the Chamber of Commerce at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon, May 20, and the members of the cow-testing association are invited to attend. Now that this organization is a reality, the Dairymen will probably take up the feeding question, which will also include the discussion of silos.

McKinley School to Re-open.

After having been closed for two weeks, during which the building was thoroughly fumigated and the threatened epidemic of scarlet fever in the neighborhood was put under control, the McKinley school will be re-opened next Monday, at the direction of Dr. H. W. Partlow, county health officer.

Principals Meet Saturday.

Principals of Thurston county schools will gather at the public library Saturday morning for the regular association meeting, when N. J. Alken will discuss the question, "Can the School Be an Effective Force for Peace?"; E. H. Evans will talk on "The Pupil's Scholastic Progress," D. A. Drew on "The Pupil's Moral Development" and Superintendent O. C. Goss will discuss miscellaneous features of the school work.

INVESTIGATE PLANS TO CELEBRATE JULY FOURTH

Chamber of Commerce Receives Proposal for Four-Day Event.

Plans for a big Fourth of July celebration in this city, to be staged for three or four days, were discussed at a general meeting of the membership of the Chamber of Commerce Monday evening, when President P. M. Troy was authorized to appoint a committee to consider the proposal further.

This committee will probably be appointed within the next day or two and will discuss final arrangements with an amusement promoter who has offered to assist in the celebration. The program, as suggested by him, contemplates the election by popular vote, in a contest during June, of a Goddess of Liberty, who will be crowned July 2 and have full sway during the four days' celebration, which is to begin Saturday, July 1, with the opening of a midway, a baseball game, and a band concert.

Sunday the band is to give a sacred concert, according to the proposed schedule, and Monday there is to be a balloon ascension, a baby carriage parade with prizes for the best decorated carriage, and a civic parade for the schools, lodges and merchants, when prizes for the best floats will be given. In the afternoon there is proposed a baby contest; in the early evening a first aid and safety first exhibition, and later a fireworks display.

Tuesday, the Fourth, is proposed as the big day of the celebration. In the morning a merchants' parade, to be participated in also by lodges and autoists, is suggested, a public wedding contemplated, and in the afternoon and evening a street dance and mardi gras, with fireworks.

ROCHESTER GIRL WINS COUNTY ESSAY CONTEST

W. C. T. U. Announces Prize-Winners in its Annual Competition.

Miss Ruth Fletcher of Rochester was awarded the prize of \$5 for the best temperance essay in the county-wide contest conducted by the W. C. T. U., her subject being, "Changes in the Medical Use of Alcohol." The prizes for the Olympia high school were awarded to Misses Vivian Johnson, first, and Florence Townsend, second. The winners were announced by Mr. J. M. Hitt, chairman of the judges, while Mrs. H. M. Wallace, superintendent of scientific temperance instruction, presented the prizes, the first of \$5, the second a book.

In the tobacco essay contest, Dorothy Wallace of the Central school won the first prize of \$5 given seventh and eighth grade pupils, Ellen Backman of Rochester the second prize of \$2 and Dorothy Rose of the Lincoln school the third, a book. Dorothy Wallace also won the first prize of \$2 for the best essay by an Olympia pupil, and Dorothy Rose the second prize of \$1.

In the county hygienic contest, Margaret Ganfield of the Garfield school won the first prize of \$2 and Rena Norris of Gull Harbor the second prize of \$1. The three next best, Muriel Hoage, George Mills and Stanley Knox of the Olympia schools, were each awarded a year's subscription to the temperance paper, "The Young Crusader."

In addition to the county contest, a number of prizes were awarded to pupils in the various grade schools of Olympia, a total of 18 books and 20 subscriptions being distributed.

Fog Saves Fruit and Berries.

The fog which settled over this section shortly after midnight Wednesday was all that saved fruit, berries and vegetables from destruction by a heavy frost, farmers report. All day Wednesday the weather was quite wintry, and in the afternoon there was a heavy hail storm, accompanied by some snow.

City Engineer J. B. Weddell thinks the city should pave East Bay avenue to Priest Point park and says an excellent 18-foot roadway of concrete or asphalt can be constructed for about \$2.50 per linear foot.

COUNTY SPELLING BEE TO BE HELD SATURDAY

Two Representatives From Each School Expected—Four to Get Prizes.

Some 100 pupils, representing every school in the county, are expected to participate in the second annual county spelling contest to be conducted in the high school auditorium Saturday afternoon. Each school is entitled to send two representatives, and the contest is open to all pupils below the high school.

The contest will begin promptly at 1 o'clock with a written test of 100 words pronounced by County Superintendent Goss, in which the principals of the city and county will be the judges. All contestants receiving 90 per cent or more in the written test will enter the oral "spell down," and the last four contestants standing will receive valuable prizes.

E. R. Thoma of the commercial department of the Olympia high school will pronounce the words for the "spell down," State Librarian J. M. Hitt will again act as referee, and Miss Edna Foxwell of the Central school will act as judge. A large crowd of parents and patrons of the various districts is expected to attend.

MAY 18 REGISTRATION DAY AT SOUTH UNION

Voters of County Precinct to Hold First Affair of Kind in State.

Something of an innovation is to be tried out in the South Union voting precinct in the form of a registration day picnic to be held near the hall next Thursday, May 18. It will be the first affair of its kind in the state, so far as known.

This has been planned to overcome as far as possible the difficulties placed in the way of the farmers' vote, and the signing of the initiative petitions through the new requirement that the farmers must register, as well as city residents. Through such a special observance it is believed that a large registration will be stimulated, while otherwise the new duty, considered by many to be irksome, might be overlooked.

It is hoped that every voter in the precinct will attend, register, sign the petitions, bring a lunch, have a good picnic dinner, hear the addresses which various Olympia speakers have promised and have a good time, all in one day.

NORTON BROUGHT BACK.

Safecracker Again Held at Montesano Jail—Robbed Rainier Depot.

Solomon Goldberg, alias Joe Norton, who last October blew the safe in the Northern Pacific depots at Rainier and Montesano and later broke out of the Montesano jail, following his arrest in this county, is again in the Grays Harbor jail, Sheriff Matthews of that county having returned with him this week from Oklahoma.

Goldberg was arrested by Northern Pacific detectives and lodged in the local jail over night, being then taken to Montesano. After his escape from that bastille, he was next heard from in Alabama, where he serving a short sentence for a minor offense. He broke away from a convict gang in a coal mine there, also, but was finally caught at Oklahoma City, where Sheriff Matthews took him in charge.

Crescent Oil Property Sold.

S. A. Miller of Seattle bought in the Crescent Oil company's property at the sheriff's sale at the well Wednesday morning, for \$441.05, the amount of the judgment obtained by H. J. Carter. It is believed it will be turned over to John C. Slater of Seattle, who Wednesday paid two years' delinquent taxes on the property, amounting to \$221. What Slater intends to do with the property is not known.

M. J. Neylon of Delphi is suffering from a slight attack of blood poison in his right hand.

RUSH REPAIRS ON ROAD.

Heavy Logging Train Jumps Track Near Delphi Wednesday.

Two crews of men are working night and day to repair the damage caused Wednesday afternoon when a heavily loaded logging train on the Thurston County railroad in the Mud Bay district, jumped the track on the line near Delphi, wrecking four heavy cars, tearing the rails for a distance of 100 yards and scattering logs along the track. The damage amounts to several thousand dollars.

The train was travelling toward Mud Bay at a fair rate of speed at the time and a remarkable feature of the accident was that no workmen were injured. The heavy engine was stopped before it reached the broken portion of the track. The wreckage has closed the Waddle Creek wagon road temporarily and the accident may force several mills to shut down for a short time, owing to a shortage of logs.

MOUND PRAIRIE CLUB DEDICATES NEW HOME

GOVERNOR PRINCIPAL SPEAKER AT ELABORATE EXERCISES THURSDAY.

With Governor Lister as the guest of honor and principal speaker, President P. M. Troy of the Chamber of Commerce delivering Olympia's message, and other prominent speakers from Centralia and Chehalis on the program, the members of the Mound Prairie Farmers' club dedicated their new home at Essex, a mile north of Grand Mound, with elaborate exercises Thursday afternoon.

The dedicatory program began at 2:30 and occupied the greater part of the afternoon, and in the evening young and old people of the neighborhood joined in dancing. The slogan of the day was "The prairie's right when handled right," and the ceremonies attracted a large crowd.

Purpose of the Club.

The club is instituted to study agricultural conditions of the Southwest Washington gravelly prairie lands. The men and women composing it have decided, after four years of experimentation, that this prairie land, scientifically handled, will prove sufficiently fertile to warrant its cultivation and settling by large numbers of small ranch holders.

Their greatest problem, at the present time, is the profitable marketing of produce. The club has just erected a very nice building which is to be devoted chiefly to this problem and to matters of community welfare generally.

This club was organized May 6th last year and has a membership of 61 earnest men and women who are accustomed to labor hard with both their hands and their heads, and anything they attempt to do is something entirely practicable.

The Club's Officers.

Mr. F. W. Nye, a poultryman, is the president; E. C. Dens, vice president; W. S. Whipple, treasurer, and C. L. Drake, secretary.

That the extent of the gravelly prairie lands makes their proper development a matter of statewide interest is evidenced by the interest taken in the activities of this club by Governor Ernest Lister, who attended the exercises Thursday and delivered the dedicatory address. This evidence of the state's attention to their doings will prove one of the best of incentives toward a continuance of the work so officially sanctioned.

New District for Offut Lake.

County Superintendent O. C. Goss Thursday gave an order forming a new school district in the Offut Lake neighborhood, as petitioned for by the residents of that vicinity. The new district is a compromise, composed of parts of Districts Nos. 15, 45 and 47, and given enough of the section in which the railroad property is located to make its valuation approximately \$140,000. The proposed change was discussed in a public hearing before Superintendent Goss last Monday, when Plum Station residents objected to any re-arrangement which would take the railroad property from their district and so reduce its assessed valuation.

NEW OFFICIALS ARE GREETED FAVORABLY

GOVERNOR APPOINTS WILSON, OLSON AND GILL ON INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

General commendation and approval has been voiced on all sides over the appointment by Governor Lister Wednesday of Assistant Attorney General John M. Wilson, State Labor Commissioner E. W. Olson and Deputy State Bank Examiner F. I. Gill as members of the industrial insurance commission succeeding Floyd L. Daggett, A. B. Ernst and Clarence Parker.

The new officials take charge of the department June 1 and a complete re-organization of the system in vogue there will be made, to prevent as nearly as possible the recurrence of such frauds as looted the departmental funds of some \$20,000 and resulted in the conviction of J. F. Gillies, former chief claim agent.

Rumors that the personnel of the commission would be changed in a "clean sweep" by the governor had been current for some time and were given official recognition upon the governor's return last Friday from an Eastern Washington trip. Then he announced that successors to Commissioners Daggett, Ernst and Parker would be named.

Parker First to Resign.

Up to that time he had not received the resignations of any of the commissioners, and all three had previously denied any intention of resigning. Mr. Parker, however, presented his resignation after a conference with the governor Saturday, and Commissioner Ernst's was received from Seattle Wednesday.

The chairman of the new commission was not designated by the governor, but will be chosen by these officials when the new board is organized. The appointees all have excellent reputations for ability and capacity in handling the affairs of the different departments from which they are promoted, and will enter upon their new duties with the confidence of the public generally.

E. W. Olson has made an enviable record as state labor commissioner during the last three years, reviving and revitalizing the work of that department, putting into operation the minimum wage, the eight-hour public works and the women's eight-hour laws, increasing the efficiency and work of the factory inspection department and inaugurating many new features of departmental activity, including the establishment of safety committees in many of the mills and factories of the state, which have effectively reduced the number of accidents to workmen. His administration of the department has been generally praised both by labor leaders and by employers and his work there has been closely allied to that of the industrial insurance department.

Gill an Accountant.

F. I. Gill was appointed a deputy in the state bank examiner's office nearly three years ago, after years of experience in the banking business and is an expert accountant. His work as examiner has taken him to most of the state banks of Washington and among the officers of these institutions, who know him and his work, he is generally commended.

John L. Wilson is well known to Thurston county residents, having served as prosecuting attorney for two terms, and he is known throughout the state as the man who conducted the trials, for the state, of J. F. Gillies, resulting in Gillies' conviction of forgery and grand larceny and his sentencing to the state penitentiary for approximately seven years. Mr. Wilson was appointed an assistant attorney general two years ago and since then has acted as legal adviser for the industrial insurance commission, so that he is thoroughly familiar with the work of the department.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican, while Messrs. Olson and Gill are Democrats.

Appointments as commissioners were offered J. D. Trenholme, a leading Democrat of Seattle, and Attorney General W. V. Tanner, Governor Lister said in his first announcement

(Continued on page 5.)