

**A GRAND OPPORTUNITY.**

U. S. District Attorney Charles Jones has earned the admiration of the citizens of the whole State by his able and indefatigable work in pressing the mint suits on behalf of the United States Government.

When he began the task of criminally prosecuting the Mint thefts many predicted that he would fail. There were indeed many reasons for assuming that he might fail. He was obliged to pit his youth, and to some extent his inexperience, against a banded combine the like of which no official in the discharge of his duties ever had to face before.

He knew that he would have to fight the lavish use of money, allied with men of long experience in jury bribing and past masters in the arts of witness fixing and the thousand and one methods of chicanery that for years has nullified the actions of courts in this State and rendered legal proceedings of any magnitude a stench and a byword in Nevada.

When he entered upon this task it was one before which any but a man of grit and determination might well have paused. But he buckled on his legal armor, called to his aid General Clarke, a man whose ability and honesty would be a tower and strength in all emergencies and threw down the gauntlet of battle to the ring.

For a long time his efforts were met with derisive laughter. The ring was so firmly entrenched that it only laughed and chuckled at what they regarded as so much time thrown away on the part of the Government. But the coils of the law were woven about the combine and presently the derisive laughter and the merriment that greeted Jones' efforts died away and then the ring began to resort to profanity and vituperation, next the coils began to tighten day by day and they never relaxed a hair.

Then the defense began to realize that the situation was serious. It called for funds and money flowed in like water from parties behind the scenes who didn't want any further Government investigation. This money was a corruption fund to hire perjurers, corrupt jurors and bribe witnesses.

The ring sent out its whips and compelled men to go on the stand and swear to things they did not believe to be true, until they became a laughing stock with their neighbors. It was pitiful to see men who ought to have had sufficient manhood to have defied the ring, allowing themselves to be made the tools of thieves because the political, social and business lash was cracked over their heads.

Some however hasten to place themselves at the disposal of their masters and hasten to get the opportunity of groveling in the dust, in order to earn the favor of those whom they had been assured would eventually be the winning side. But the defense found some difference between a jury roaming all over the western end of the State on Sunday and one locked up in an upper room of the Government building.

Already two birds are in the cage. They no longer laugh at the efforts of the public prosecutor and predict that he is too young to grapple with a case of such magnitude. He has Uncle Sam at his back and neither threats nor cajolery have effected him in the conscientious discharge of his duties. The case for the people hinges on his ability and his honesty, and in neither has he been found wanting. When he gets through his work we are of the opinion that the use of slimey corruption money in the courts of this State will be a thing of the past.

The acts of men, whose characters are blacker than the defendants named in the indictment, have poisoned the fountains of justice and made the terms of law and equity almost obsolete in this State. A law case has become the question of the largest sack and the lawyer who could handle the corruption money the most recklessly has been the one who could command the most lucrative practice.

Jones has the grandest opportunity of any man in this State to make a monumental reputation and he can rest assured that now he has the whole law abiding, decency-loving element in this State at his back and wishing him God speed in his work.

The Gazette Company announces that it does not believe that those who have had charge of the mint in years past are the greatest thieves in Carson. Wonder who it suspects outside of the mint fellows?

We agree with the News that the controversy between the A. P. A. and Catholics in San Francisco comes a long way from interesting anyone.

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