

**Run Ballinger for Governor**

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 18.—R. A. Ballinger, of Seattle, has resigned as commissioner of the general land office at Washington, D. C., and will return to this state so that he may make the race for the republican nomination for governor. That is the choice bit of gossip that has reached here and it comes pretty well substantiated. While it was generally understood, when Judge Ballinger went east to accept the position tendered him by President Roosevelt, that he would remain there but a short time, his interests being all in this state, it was somewhat of a surprise that Ballinger should quit the federal position as soon as he will—quit it in fact when he is just beginning to carry out the policies he had proposed. Of course, when it is understood he is coming back to enter the gubernatorial race, the explanation of the sudden return westward is apparent.

**The New Jail.**

The new jail is completed, and the commissioners have accepted the same. It cost \$16,819. It is a fine building and the citizens of Stevens county have reason to be proud of the jail. It is two-story. The cells are on the upper floor, having room to accommodate 20 prisoners. The first floor will be used by the sheriff for offices. It is up to date in every particular. cells are arranged so that it is not necessary for an officer to go inside of the cage in order to lock each cell, as they are so constructed with the new patent levers.—Reveille.

**County News.**

Colville pays its city officials pretty good salaries. The clerk gets \$40, the night marshal \$70, day marshal \$70, water commissioner \$70, city attorneys \$50 and the city engineer \$125 per month. A committee from the Stevens county bar association met at Colville last week and arranged a new schedule of fees to be charged hereafter.

The Metaline correspondent of the Statesman-Index takes the following shot at pipe dreamers:

The Anshell Automobile line will soon be running between here and Colville. Sam says they can run their machines through or over five feet of snow on skees. It seems to us unenlightened people that a forty horse power machine that can travel on snowshoes over the mountains is about what the millionaires want that are going from New York to Paris with their autos. It is also reported that Mr. Anshell will build a seven story block here in the near future, the material to be taken out of the marble quarries at the canyon. We did not learn whether it would be white or rose color. Then we are to have railroads galore. The Washington & Idaho will build down on the east side of the river and the Great Northern comes down the west side. The Colville Metaline & Pacific will come cross-lots. Now don't get excited and all rush in here at once as our accommodations for taking care of large crowds are limited.

Dr. A. E. Baldwin and Charles J. Webb, of Kettle Falls, have filed a petition with the board of county commissioners for a franchise over highways of Stevens county, between Kettle Falls and the mouth of the Spokane river, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a railroad between the two points. The application states that it is proposed by the associates of the petitioners to organize the Kettle Falls & Columbia River Transportation company, and that the proposed new company will construct the line. The new road will traverse the rich Columbia river valley and will be about 45 miles in length. It is probable the road at the start will be operated by steam motive power. The petition will be heard Feb. 15.

The town of Chewelah has expended the sum of \$10,563.55 on its new electric light and water systems.

**SWIFT JUSTICE**

(Original.)  
"Will your excellency have a boat?" asked a soft voiced, soft eyed Italian of an Englishman on the bay of Naples.

The hour was sunset, the air balmy and the waters smooth. The Englishman hired the boat and was pulled out into the bay till the island of Ischia stood on the one hand and Capri on the other, while the broad Mediterranean stretched before him. He was thinking what a beautiful region and what a degraded people. Cavour had not at that time by statecraft welded the Italian states. Garibaldi had not risen like a rocket with his military achievements. The government of Naples was especially despicable. The Englishman, being too warm, took off his coat, laying it on a seat. When he had gone as far as he wished he directed the boatman to turn about and pull back. Then, when the shore was reached, he took up his coat and went his way.

An hour later he missed his purse. Certain that it had dropped from his coat pocket when he had laid it on the seat, he went to the shore. The boatman had just come in from another trip on the bay. He looked very much hurt out of his soft eyes when the Englishman told him that he had dropped his purse in the boat, saying that he had found no purse.

The Englishman did not doubt that the boatman had appropriated his purse and its contents, but had no proof of the theft and would not have proceeded against him in any event. What could be expected of a people living under such a government? He went to his hotel angry with himself at his carelessness and angry with the despicable way that prevented the Neapolitans from getting an honest living. Meeting some countrymen of his own in the cafe where he dined, he told them of the circumstance of the loss of his purse, inveighing bitterly against the government.

"In a land oppressed by tyranny," he said, "it is impossible to have a prosperous people. A people who are not permitted to keep what they earn must steal. Here all they earn must go to the government. In our country our workmen are lightly taxed, and when crime is committed there is a police force to ferret out the criminal and courts to administer punishment."

He spoke in English, not supposing that he was understood at any one of the neighboring tables even if overheard.

"Softly," interrupted one of his companions in an undertone. "That well dressed, gentlemanly Italian over there is listening, I'm sure."

"What makes you think so?"

"I have seen the color rise to his cheeks and his nostrils dilate. He is suppressing wrath. Look out for yourself during the rest of your stay here. Don't go through the narrow streets lest you get a stiletto in your back."

"They dare not murder an Englishman. At this time they don't wish to make an enemy of a powerful nation."

"Not openly. You will be missing. That is all."

The Englishman visited the buried cities near Naples and the volcano that buried them; then, the evening before his departure being fair, he took boat and visited Capri. When on returning he stepped ashore he was accosted by a gentleman whom he recognized as the one who had been suspected of listening to his conversation at dinner a few evenings before. The man spoke in English, with an Italian accent.

"You are Lord B., I believe," said the Italian.

The Englishman, who was traveling incognito, was surprised. He inclined his head in assent.

"And leader of the opposition in the British house of commons?"

Again the Englishman nodded his head.

"You lost a sum of money a few days ago?"

"I did."

"How much?"

"Eighty pounds."

"You are mistaken. There were £80 and 2 napoleons."

"I believe you are right."

"In what did you keep them?"

"In a silk purse."

"Of what color?"

"Different colors."

"The rings were?"

"Of gold."

"Where do you think you lost your purse?"

"In one of these boats while out on the bay."

"Do you suspect any one of taking it?"

"Possibly the boatman."

"Should you recognize him?"

"Certainly."

"Please step this way."

The Italian led the Englishman to one of the boats that lined the shore. It bore the name of the one in which he had lost his purse. Something lay in the bottom. It was covered with a dirty cloak. The Italian lifted the cloak, and there lay the man who had rowed Lord B. on the bay, dead. In his hand was the purse. The Italian took it from the cold fingers and handed it to the owner.

"Will you count it?"

"No," said Lord B., at last rebellious.

"Very well. I trust that when you return to your country, where your boat of your justice, you will not malign the government of Naples, where you have seen how swiftly punishment is meted out for crime. His majesty the king directs me to give you his compliments and say that, though so important a man, it would not be wise for you to again criticize his rule in his dominions."

HELOISE AMES.

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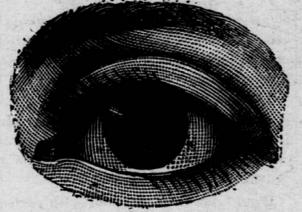
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