

The Coconino Sun

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DELEGATE SMITH'S NEW BILLS

Supreme Court for Three Territories— New System Mineral Leases.

Delegate Mark Smith, of Arizona, has a bill to establish a supreme court for the territories of Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Mr. Smith urges that the territories are similarly situated, have many of the same interests in common, and that it is very desirable that a change be instituted in a manner of disposing of the legal business of the three districts. The bill offered provides that the three territories shall constitute one judicial district for all purposes of appeals from the district courts, and that the court shall have all of the powers now vested in the supreme courts of the territories. The court shall have three judges, one of whom shall reside at the capital of each of the territories. It is provided that the court shall sit at least twice a year in each of the territories, and that no case shall be heard or decided except that all the judges are present.

Delegate Mark Smith, of Arizona, will make an effort for a new method of operating mineral claims on Indian reservations. Under the present system the Indians, in some cases at least, have authority to make leases, subject to the approval of the interior department. Mr. Smith has offered a bill in the house which provides that all of the mineral lands on Indian reservations in Arizona shall be opened to entry, location, development and operation by citizens of the United States, subject to the laws now in force with

reference to other public mineral lands. It is provided that, in addition to the requirements of the general law, all parties locating and operating such claims on mineral lands shall pay to the secretary of the interior 5 per cent. of the net profits derived from such mineral claims. Such payments are to be used as a trust fund for the benefit of the Indians upon whose lands the claims are located.

County Taxes.

County Treasurer Hoxworth is busy receiving taxes this week. The Santa Fe Pacific Railroad Company turned into the treasury on Thursday \$12,570 as their proportion of taxes for 1901. On the same day the Saginaw-Manistee Lumber Company paid \$5,200 to the treasurer. In all \$30,000 has been paid into the county treasury for taxes for 1901. Monday is the last day for paying taxes without the penalty, as after that date five per cent under the law will be added to all delinquents.

The trial of the case of the Copper Queen Mining Company vs. The County of Cochise, whereby the company seeks injunction to restrain the collection of taxes on increased assessment, is attracting considerable attention over the territory.

The Arizona Copper company, of Clifton, last week presented to the Clifton Presbyterian church a \$1,000 check, which will be used to purchase a new organ and add other comforts and decorations to the church interior.

Tucson republicans elected two out of three councilmen at Monday's election, giving them a majority of two in the city council.

Coconino Commercial Club.

An enthusiastic meeting of the business and professional men of Flagstaff was held at Elks' Hall on Wednesday evening, with the result that the proposed Coconino Commercial Club became a fact. A permanent organization was effected and already some sixty names have been enlisted.

The headquarters of the club will be at the Rickel & Verkamp building, and it is proposed to fit up the rooms attractively, putting in gymnastic apparatus in addition to the features which the quarters already possess, supplying reading matter and other means of healthful and pleasant recreation.

Messrs. E. S. Clark, A. N. Taylor, F. C. Reid and others addressed the meeting on Wednesday evening, and their remarks made evident the advantages to be derived from the organization. It is expected that every business man in town will lend his endeavors in working out the success of the new organization, and it is also expected that the young men of the town will see it to their advantages to join forces with the older heads in an effort to make the club a credit to Flagstaff and to Coconino county. The next meeting will be held at Elks' Hall on Wednesday evening, the 18th, at which officers for the ensuing half-year will be elected. All those interested in the movement should attend.

Lucky Editor.

Sometimes editors are lucky. Not often, to be sure, but just once in a while, just to show that luck loves to strike in unlikely places. What causes this short dissertation is the news that

comes from Honolulu that Ed. S. Gill, well known in South California as well as in the east, has been bequeathed a large fortune by Mrs. Tittell, of Cincinnati. The Enquirer, of the latter city, is authority for the news. Ed. Gill has lots of friends who are ready to help him rejoice in the acquisition of any good fortune.—Redlands Citigraph.

Mr. Gill is well known in Arizona as being one of the founders of the Phoenix Republican, and later, clerk of the district court of Maricopa county.

District Judges for the Territories.

A press report of the 11th instant from Washington says: At a conference between the president and Attorney-General Knox, the president decided to reappoint the following United States judges:

Arizona—Associate justices, George R. Davis, Fletcher M. Doan, Richard E. Sloan.

New Mexico—Chief justice, W. J. Mills; associate justices, John R. McFie, Frank W. Parker.

Oklahoma—Chief justice, John H. Burford; associate justices, Baynard T. Hainer, B. H. Burwell.

Censured By Coroner's Jury.

The jury at Kingman empanelled to inquire into the Franconia wreck on the Santa Fe on the morning of November 20, and place the responsibility, last Saturday rendered a verdict holding the crew of the west-bound flyer and the railroad company equally responsible for the wreck and consequent loss of life. The company is censured for running fast trains against each other on short time.