

THE TACOMA TIMES

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Andrew Sjovin, Hero

You will look in vain through social registers, blue books and Who's Who for the name of Andrew Sjovin. Had you been interested in him, your search would have led you to employment agencies at seaports or to the lists of crews of sailing vessels and steamships. Had you wished to see him, you would have walked along docks, perhaps into barrel houses and certainly into cheap sailor lodging houses.

Yet in the lists of heroes who have carved their names eternally in the rock of fame, Sjovin looms large. When the ill-fated Monroe went down off the Virginia coast, and 40 passengers perished, an inquisitive commission began to probe—and it found Sjovin, able seaman, as the one bright spot in a story that reeked of cowardice and inefficiency. "Life was sweet," said the wireless operator as an excuse for deserting his key—and life seemed sweet to officers who seemed unkindly of the women and children and hasten to the lifeboats. Life was sweet, too, to Sjovin—but duty and the man's task of saving woman was sweeter. How he battled with the waves, how he struggled to get boats and life preservers, how he fought back the maddened, death-panted crowd until women were safe, how he finally leaped into the sea with his arm around one woman in a futile effort to save her is written into the cold documents of the commission. Gold lace never made a hero. Rags never made a coward. Andrew Sjovin, able seaman, proved his worth in an hour of crisis—and he needs not mind the fact that those who write social registers have overlooked him—and will continue to overlook him. His name is recorded in the company of those illustrious ones who need no such testimonials.

There is no grief without some great provision to soften its tenderness.—G. D. Prentice.

A Conversion

The standpat crowd which has been howling "freak legislation" at everybody who proposed anything really progressive has been given an awful jolt by the announcement by President Daniel Guggenheim of the American Smelting & Refining company that he is a complete convert to the idea of government ownership of the railway and telephone and telegraph lines. Guggenheim says the success of the government in handling the parcel post has convinced him that Uncle Sam can handle the railway and telegraph and telephone business, too, than a private corporation or anybody else. Even the big fellows who have been fattening on special privileges and monopolies are beginning to see that the system that has made them rich at the expense of the masses is doomed to break down, and that after all the only true principle for permanent success and happiness of a people is service for the whole people at a minimum cost.

From the lowliest depth there is a path to the loftiest height.—Carlyle.

A Jolt in the Jaw

Down near Hampton Roads the other night an athletic young naval officer took offense at the manner in which another chap was tangling with his wife at a public ball and next day, meeting the other man in a hotel lobby, knocked him down. What he said or did to the wife is not recorded. Wives who need such drastic guardianship happily aren't many—though, truth to tell, the disappearing dancing dementia caused quite a number of usually estimable women to act rather foolishly at times. To be sure, the fist as a weapon of social reform is somewhat primitive, but on general principles, we're glad this husky servant of Uncle Sam used it. Such a jolt on the jaw may help a number of men to regain a due respect for womanhood, even in cases where women themselves fail to remember it. Jollity is fine, when clean. And that's a mighty good reason for keeping it clean, don't you think?

LONDON Royal Arts society describes a method of making sugar out of sawdust. Well, that's softer than sand anyhow.

Two Months after Christmas

Here it is, not a great while past Christmas, and how much of the Christmas spirit remains at work in your system? It takes a very little, oh so very little, to make a child happy. A flower, a candy, a penny toy will do it if love go with the gift. For the mind of a child isn't moved by the gift itself, but by what its imagination can make of it. And when love prompts, the imagination simply needs a starting point; given that, it will gild its own dreams. So it isn't the expense that excuses neglect to make the spirit of Christmas—the spirit of love, which is unselfishness—permanent throughout the year. What excuse have you, if not the excuse of carelessness?

CLOTHING Cutters' association is said to have decided on trousers slit above the ankles, for men, this spring. It'll be open gunning season all the time west of the Hudson river for males wearing slit trousers.

JOE M'GINNITY has completed his ball club, which means that he has selected a bunch of Tigers whom he thinks will win the pennant. We hope Joe's judgment will be justified when the season is half over, for we all like rip-sporting ball clubs, we do.

NOW that an army of deputies and police are hunting for clues that might lead to the capture of the desperadoes who robbed the Great Northern and the Interurban, the opportunity arises for some brave lad to hunt the robbers instead of clues.

THE United Press is burning its wires red hot losing the long lost Catherine Winters just as fast as the opposition discovers the child in some remote village.

Braxley's Rem Today

KEEP YOUR RECORD CLEAN So live, my son, that when you start A fight of any kind Your enemies can never find A crooked action on your part. So live that they may freely roam Into your past, and snoop about, And comb it with a fine tooth comb, And never dig a blame thing out That's mean or fraudulent or vile. Though every man is sure to make Many an error and mistake, If you have lived upon the square You still can make your fight and smile And never worry, fret or care How much your foes may try to cast The calcium glare upon your past. But if you haven't played the game Your foes will find your hidden shame And you will get the bitter blame, And set it good, And though your fight be just and right—Good night! And so it's simple business sense, Although the pressure be immense, Although temptation may be keen—I SAY IT'S SIMPLE BUSINESS SENSE, TO KEEP YOUR RECORD CLEAN!

RUINED AND—A FELON CHARGES WRONGS TO TWIN BROTHER WHO IS HIS DOUBLE

AN AMAZING STORY IN REAL LIFE THAT SEEMS AS IMPROBABLE AS FICTION—AND YET ALFRED D. OLIVER, GEORGIA BANKER, HAS GONE THROUGH FIRE OF HELL FOR ANOTHER'S DEEDS.

AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 25.—Twin brothers, separated in early boyhood, have furnished for the criminal history of the south its most remarkable case of dual identity. Alfred D. Oliver, ex-banker and ex-social leader, has just stepped out of prison, after serving a sentence for a crime, he alleges, was committed by his twin brother, Louis C. Oliver.

Also, Alfred served a four-year sentence for bigamy because Louis' wife insisted that he (Alfred) was her husband, Louis.

The twin brothers look so nearly alike that their best friends, their relatives even, could not tell the one from the other.

One twin grew up prosperous, respected, honest—he has just come out of a prison cell.

The other is alleged to have grown into the "black sheep"—and to have committed the crime for which the former was punished.

These Oliver twins were born 49 years ago at Climax, Ga. They were dressed alike, and were the image of each other. Even their playmates did not know the difference.

When 9 years old, they were wading in a puddle near their home. Louis stepped on a tin can and the big toe on his left foot was cut off.

Not long after, their parents died and Louis was taken by a family named Harding. Alfred lived with an aunt. A year later the Hardings moved away with

Louis, the twin with the nine toes. He had been legally adopted, and instead of being Louis C. Oliver, he became Louis C. Harding.

Two years later, Louis was arrested on charges of swindling several lumber dealers, was convicted and sentenced to prison for ten years. He escaped.

His photographs were sent broadcast. No trace of him was found. He is now said to be in

Honduras, Central America. Alfred, the other twin, a few weeks later, married Miss Rosebud English, a Georgia belle.

Mrs. Louis Harding, wife of the twin brother in Mississippi, saw a photograph of Alfred Oliver and his bride in a newspaper.

"That's Louis and he's married again," she exclaimed.

Alfred, believed to be Louis Harding, the escaped convict, was arrested as a bigamist. His pretty bride stood firmly by him until Mrs. Harding took the witness stand.

"That's my husband, and he escaped from the prison at Greenwood," said Mrs. Harding, pointing to the accused Georgia banker. Oliver's witnesses who had known him for several years testified that he was not Harding, but the wife's testimony outweighed theirs.

Alfred Oliver was sent to the state penitentiary for four years for bigamy. His wife, believing herself married to Harding, who already had a wife, was granted absolute divorce.

Police sent Alfred Oliver's picture broadcast and one fell into the hands of the sheriff at Greenwood, Miss. He wired to the governor of Georgia that Harding was wanted in Mississippi to serve out a 10-year term under the name of Harding.

So when Alfred Oliver's bigamy term was ended, a sheriff of Mississippi met him at the door of the Georgia penitentiary.

Oliver continued his fight for liberty, insisting that it was his twin brother who wanted, but he was placed in the penitentiary and even identified by residents of Greenwood as Harding.

"I'm not he, and I'll prove it to you some day," he told his jailers. The other day Alfred Oliver went before the court to make a final, determined fight to prove that he was serving sentence for his twin brother; that he served four years in Georgia as a bigamist because of the mistaken identity and lost a wife and fortune, also.

"My twin brother, who now is known as Harding," said the prisoner, "is the man you want."

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