

ALASKA DAILY EMPIRE

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GRAND JURY DRAWING WAS HONEST.

THE second issue of the new Socialist newspaper says it did not charge that there was anything "crooked" with the drawing of the last grand jury. That is tantamount to an admission that the drawing was conducted in regular and lawful manner. However, it is not strange that people had regarded its first statement that an attorney for one of those whom the grand jury was called upon to investigate had succeeded in getting two brothers on the jury was intended to mean that there had been "crooked" work. The names of these two men were included in the jury list among those of more than 300. Twenty-three grand jurors were selected from the 300. The chances were as more than twelve to one against any one name on the jury list's being drawn at a fair and impartial drawing.

However, whether the second statement is regarded as the withdrawal of a charge or the admission of a mistake, the situation is that no charge of unfaithfulness is laid at the door of those who drew the grand jury.

Judge W. D. Wood has withdrawn from the Seattle mayoralty race. This leaves nine candidates from which two will be selected tomorrow to run at the election that will take place the first Tuesday in March. Polls of the voters that have been made by Seattle newspapers and various organizations indicate that the race for the nominations has developed into a three-cornered elimination contest among J. D. Trenholme, Austin E. Griffiths and Hiram C. Gill.

A WORTHY APPOINTMENT.

THE appointment by President Wilson of John F. Henson, of Douglas, to be postmaster of that city was an excellent selection. Mr. Henson is a Western boy who has spent his whole lifetime on the Pacific coast, and most of it in Alaska. He possesses all the required qualifications for a good official. He has ability, industry and integrity. He is a worthy son of worthy parents. In politics he is a Democrat and the member of a Democratic family. Those who have known him from his knickerbocker days know that he will make good as a servant of the people and of the administration.

A movement, originating with business men of Portland, to inaugurate a commission form of government in Oregon, is now in full swing. It is proposed to select a commission of from 12 to 15 men to exercise the legislative and executive functions of the State. Those who are advocating the measure believe that the direct method of legislating through the initiative and referendum has made the large legislature unnecessary.

"STROLLER" AND THE GROUND-HOG.

THE winter is not over. This is official. "Stroller" White, of the Whitehorse Star, observed in this office yesterday: "This is ground-hog day, and the poor little devil cannot see his shadow. He will have to hole up again for a spell."—Prince Rupert Empire. The New England originators of the ground-hog theory is that the little animal stays out and plays that winter is over if he fails to see his shadow on the second day of February. But what could one expect of a fellow who has lived all his life in Florida and Yukon Territory, as "Stroller" White has, to know about cold climate legends?

The decision of the New York Progressives to go it alone suggests that Senator Borah and the other "evolutionists" in the Republican party will not be able to form the coalition that they hope for this year. Whether they do so next year or not will depend in some degree at least upon the size of the vote received by Progressive candidates next November.

The resignation of another Japanese high official suggests that the tenure of office is usually more secure in a democracy than in a country where the people have not the facilities to register their convictions and desires.

There is now no constitutional government in Mexico.—President Woodrow Wilson. Huerta, Henry Lane Wilson and the Pearsons dissenting as usual.

CLEANINGS OF THE GREAT NORTHERN EMPIRE

The Fairbanks Times says that many small plants are working on Fairbanks creek and that many of the outfits expect to operate on an extensive scale next summer. L. Rogge is working on Pat Meehan's ground at the mouth of Alder creek; L. C. Hess and James Pearsons have men working on No. 1, Alder creek, and on No. 1, above, right limit of Fairbanks creek, the Pastime Mining company has found pay.

United States army engineers have decided that the dredging of the Apoon mouth of the Yukon river is impracticable, according to a letter received by the Mayor of Fairbanks from Major J. B. Cavanaugh in charge of the engineers corps' work at Seattle.

The Tanana Democratic club sent a message of thanks and congratulations to President Woodrow Wilson for the passage of the Alaska railroad bill, and the Fairbanks Commercial club sent a similar message to Delegate James Wickersham.

The Alaska Venture Syndicate has begun operations on the "Old Glory"

mine, Ketchikan district. It is the purpose to work two machines, three shifts in developing the property.

The Prince Rupert Empire quotes E. J. White, of the Whitehorse Star, as saying that the completion of the Grand Trunk railroad will divert much of the Southeastern Alaska trade to that place. He thinks people going to the States will take their trains at that place.

Tongass George, one of the old time Indians of the Ketchikan district, died last week at Ketchikan.

William C. Bruhn and Edwin Cook, reported missing from their camp, located ten miles from the Yes bay cannery by water, were found at the cannery by the forest service cruiser Tahh. It had taken them nine days to make the trip overland and by a raft that they had built. They started to make the trip overland because the water was too rough for their boat. The Ketchikan Miner says their experiences along the rough beach and with the raft they had made with a hatchet were as varied as those of Robinson Crusoe.



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FERRY TIME SCHEDULE STARTING JAN. 14, 1914. Table with columns: Boat, Lvs. Juneau, Lvs. Treadwell, Lvs. Douglas, SHEEP CREEK TRIPS. Includes schedules for Sheep Creek, Douglas, and Treadwell.

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