

## Town Gossip and Stories

By The Tattler.

Green Eyed Saturday afternoon in Monster district court there was Gets Busy, a little argument regarding the qualifications of a certain man to sit on the Williams jury, the attorney for the defense objecting to the man on account of certain statements the prospective juror was reported to have made. And the attorney introduced a witness to prove that the statements had been made, but his challenge was overruled. Of course, the attorney peremptorily challenged the juror in question.

It has since developed that the witness at the trial of challenge in question had more than one object in attempting to discredit the sworn word of the juror to the effect that he could be fair and impartial and still make the statement that all of the defendants in the rape cases should be hanged. For it is very evident from happenings at a local saloon Saturday night that the green eyed monster entered into his calculations. That is, he is jealous. His jealousy, however, led him to overlook a bet, for, had he kept still and allowed his rival to sit on the jury, he would have had several days uninterrupted association with the woman in the case.

Of course, it all ended in a little mixup, or, rather, in two of them. Just which got the best of the matter is not stated, but it is learned on good authority that the prospective juror had possession of the highly prized piece of jewelry yesterday morning.

**Musician** Fairbanks is again with Flies The out a musician. That Coop Again, is, the amusement music producing element of the city is without a first class violinist. For Victor Durand, following the frontier to his wildest and woolliest places, as he has always done, has gone to Woodchopper, to which place the finer elements of law and order have not yet penetrated.

Just when Victor will return to Fairbanks he did not state before leaving. He is to be regularly employed in the Carroll & Burns amusement emporium and his abilities as a musician are sure to be recognized by the dance-loving public of the lower river camp.

It is therefore certain that Victor made a good move, as far as he himself is concerned. Of course, he leaves Fairbanks and Fairbanks dance lovers in the lurch, for there can be no violin music here with him absent unless another violinist comes or is imported.

Mr. Durand has always made a

livelihood with his violin, and has done nothing else. But it seems that the time has now arrived when a professional violinist cannot make the big money which, in former days, readily fell into his hand for a very few hours' work. And it would therefore seem that it is up to somebody, probably the commercial club or some fraternal organization, to see that Fairbanks gets another good violinist.

All of which means that if a man cannot make a living here playing the fiddle, he had better do something else on the side.

**Oddities** There were numerous Of The queer and amusing Election. things connected with the city election held last Tuesday, some of which will bear recounting. It appears that most of them were done by those who voted the ballots through ignorance of voting under the new election law, for a large number of the voters seem, by their ballots, to have forgotten that the election was for a mayor as well as for councilmen.

On a few of the ballots the name of Mayor Myers, the only candidate had been scratched out, and another substituted. By far the largest number, however, did not mark the mayor at all. Which fact was probably the reason that the mayor did not receive more votes.

One of the ballots contained the name of Mrs. Myers as a substitute for her husband. Henry T. Ray, who ran ahead of the councilman ticket, received one vote. John A. McIntosh, one of those elected to the council, also received one vote, while Dan Callahan, though in jail, was remembered by eight of his friends with six votes for mayor and two for councilman. Even Billy Butler got one vote.

Straw votes were taken in the Federal jail and at the school house. In the jail Callahan, Adams, Moore and Mrs. Hamilton were unanimously elected, the number of votes cast being 12. The embryo voters at the school house picked all of the candidates who were elected at the regular election. And in order that there might be some contest for the mayorship and for councilmen, an extra ticket, composed of boys of the school, was in the field. The voting was done by the pupils of the eighth grade and the high school.

**Liquor** Apropos of the fact Business that Seattleites are now Is Good, consuming an enormous amount of liquor brought from other places on the coast, in

consequence of Seattle being a dry town, W. F. Thompson, but lately returned home from the Outside, tells an interesting story of a former Fairbanks. And it is a story of the fall and rise of a business man who now, although when Mr. Thompson saw him in Cordova last fall was flat broke, is in a fair way to make a fortune through his dealings in liquor with residents of Seattle.

The man in question is Harry Hamburger, well known in this city and other interior Alaskan towns. Mr. Hamburger is known here as a shrewd business man, and it wasn't everybody who could worst him in a deal when he was in business in Fairbanks, but hard luck overtook him and he was practically up against it when Mr. Thompson saw him at Cordova.

The scene of the story now shifts to San Francisco, to which place it seems that Mr. Hamburger had managed to get. And from this point on, Mr. Thompson's story is purely hearsay.

But, at any rate, after Mr. Hamburger had reached San Francisco he was met one day on the street by Fernand de Journal. He looked very seedy and told Mr. de Journal that he was hard put to know every day just where his next meal was coming from or where he was going to lay his head when night came. But the next time Mr. de Journal met Mr. Hamburger, or about the end of the next six weeks, there was a great difference. For Mr. Hamburger, was all spruced up, so to speak, and looked like a million dollars all done up in one package. "How did you do it?" asked Mr. de Journal, and Hamburger said, "It was this way—"

And then he told a story of how he noticed in a Seattle paper that the courts of the State of Washington had decided that the residents of the state might keep liquor in their homes and not be prosecuted. He immediately conceived the idea of going into the liquor commission business and, accordingly, went to a wholesale house and laid his plan before the manager of the place. The result was that he was financed to the extent of a few dollars for the purpose of getting out a circular letter to the effect that he was in the liquor commission business, which he mailed to a number of his friends in Seattle. The returning mail brought orders from practically all to whom the letters were sent, and from that moment the possibilities of the business opened themselves to Mr. Hamburger.

Therefore the former Fairbanks is double shooting the turn. That is, he gets a commission from the liquor house with which he does business, and from his customers in Seattle and other Washington cities. And, according to the stories told, he is reaping a profit of approximately \$5,000 per month.

**Dillon** The chief topic of conversation among the many friends of Judge John F. Dillon, who returned to Fairbanks from the Outside during the past week, is concerning how well the judge is looking. For it is the consensus of opinion among those who have seen and talked with him, that Judge Dillon never looked more hearty than he does at the present time.

The operation he had performed, Judge Dillon states, was a complete success in every way. And he attributes his quick recovery from a trouble which was wasting him away when he left Fairbanks last summer, to the skill of the surgeons at Mayo Brothers' hospital.

But that is not all. For when Judge Dillon went east after recovering from the operation, he went to his sister's country home in Wisconsin, where he was turned loose among about 400 yellow legged chickens. Asked by a friend if the chickens were all there when he started away, Judge Dillon said, "I didn't take an inventory to see."

### More People Are Headed This Way

Practically all information received in Fairbanks from Cordova or Chitina is to the effect that a great many more people are now headed this way from the Outside. Two big stage loads arrived during the past week, while two more are enroute, the last having left Chitina Friday morning. It was reported on the signal corps bulletin yesterday as having passed Copper Center yesterday morning at 5:30 o'clock. It has 12 passengers, but no first class mail. The passengers are as follows: Julius Guis, Jack Reagh and son, Captain Depuv, George Holvoin, Minnie Rose, Mrs. Axel Carlsten and son, Mrs. John Lappi and two children and Mary Taper.

One stage reached Fairbanks Friday about noon. The passengers brought were Pat Meehan, John F. Dillon, E. T. Sullivan, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. E. Herbert, William J. Nolan, Mrs. Clara Allred, J. H. Johnson, George L. Sheppard, Miss V. Wright, Miss B. Burnett. On a stage arriving earlier in the week were Wallace Langley, J. H. Trout, J. Dobler, J. Watson, J. O. Ellis, W. W. Hunter, H. Henshaw, J. H. Langley, Bob Kelly, Miss R. Martin, Miss Ella Knudson, Mrs. Ofenbach and J. F. Forgsen.

The mills of the gods seldom shut down for repairs.

## JUDGE BUNNELL IMPOSES FIRST RAPE SENTENCE

WOOLDRIDGE GIVEN SIX YEARS IN PENITENTIARY—TWO OTHERS SENTENCED.

Saturday was sentence day in district court. And upon that occasion three men, whose cases have gone through all of the legal proceedings, including motions for new trials usually presented by attorneys for defendants, were sentenced by Judge Charles E. Bunnell. W. H. Wooldridge was given six years for an attempt to commit rape; C. Myers was given an aggregate sentence of five years for obtaining money and goods under false pretenses, while Carl Johanson was given eight months in the federal jail for larceny.

When the Wooldridge matter came up Judge Bunnell asked the defendant in the proceedings if he had anything to say. And Wooldridge answered in clear tones: "Yes, I have, judge. I am not guilty of the crime of which I was convicted, but I realize that the court has its duty to perform and I am ready and willing to listen to what the court has to say." Blon A. Dodge, attorney for Wooldridge, then stated that he had nothing to say.

Picking up the compiled laws of Alaska, Judge Bunnell read the section which applies to attempts to commit crime when there is no special provision of law covering such crime, and which provides that sentence in such cases can be just half what they would be under conviction for the crime itself. Several other legal points were also mentioned by the judge, who then took up the compiled laws and turned to the sections which provide punishment for the crime of rape and which show such punishment to be from three to 20 years in the penitentiary. He then said that the attempt of which Wooldridge stood convicted would be punishable with from 18 months to 16 years in the penitentiary.

Continuing, the court said, in effect: "It is hardly necessary to go over the evidence in the case. The jury found you guilty and I think you are guilty. I will even go further and say that I think you are lucky that the jury found you guilty on the second count and not guilty on the first count. I am not disposed to rectify all of the elements of the case from innuendo to some most deliberate attempts to prevent the administration of justice. Many seem to think, and you seem to share in the opinion, that the methods used would be all right against anybody except you." (Judge Bunnell was undoubtedly referring to the efforts of the defense to prove that Wooldridge was being railroaded by the federal officials in that a trap was laid to catch him by representatives of the marshal's office, although he made no statement of fact.)

"You are a man of some ability and have had some advantages. In spite of the fact that you say you are not guilty, several developments at the trial concerning your associations with this family (Herrington) tended to prove you guilty. Some evidence was introduced to show that you carried whiskey to the woman, (Mrs. Herrington), and I don't think you would have come down there simply to give those potatoes to the family as an act of charity."

"May I say a word here?" questioned the defendant. "Certainly," said Judge Bunnell. "Your honor I never meant that I went there on a charitable act. I went there to sell them potatoes; to sell them on time, as I knew the family to be hard up."

"Another question is, what to do in your case?" continued the court. "Some might think that conviction on such a charge alone, would be sufficient punishment. That might be true. Others might think that the court should take your family into consideration when passing sentence. That might also be true. I do not intend to impose the maximum sentence upon you, neither do I intend to give you the minimum."

Continuing, the court spoke of the danger to society of stealthy criminals. He said people generally had some respect for the thief who attended to his nefarious business in the open and at the point of a gun, but that they had little or no respect for the man who would enter a house and steal \$20 from a girl earning \$150 per week. And then the sentence was passed.

When Wooldridge broke in upon the judge's talk and denied that he had attempted to be charitable toward the Herringtons, his voice shook with emotion. Otherwise, he took the sentence calmly walking from the court room with a firm step, and stopping to speak for a moment with Marshal Erwin as he passed the place where the marshal was sitting.

**Myers Sentenced.** C. Myers did considerable talking when asked by the judge if he had anything to say why sentence should not be pronounced upon him. His attorney, L. R. Gillette, also

said a few words in a manner insinuating that the court should be lenient with Myers, on account of the fact that insanity on the part of the defendant had been an element in the trial. District Attorney Roth, in a short talk, stated that he thought Myers deserved the limit, as all of the evidence concerning him or his actions while in Alaska show that if he is insane at all, it is on the matter of committing crime.

The court questioned Myers at considerable length and ended by saying: "Well—you certainly are a mystery. I think you are guilty and that you are one of the most foxy criminals I ever saw. And I am thoroughly of the opinion that the longer you are locked up the better off society in general will be."

And after reading from the compiled laws of Alaska the sections applicable to the case, the judge sentenced Myers to serve 18 months on the first count in the indictment; 18 months on the second count and two years on the third count, making a total of five years. Attorney Gillette then asked that a bond might be fixed pending appeal. Judge Bunnell named the sum of \$10,000.

**Johanson Gets His.** Carl Johanson, the defendant in the larceny proceedings from Chitina, was then called to his feet. He had nothing to say when questioned by the court, but his attorney, Thomas A. Marquam, said a few words bearing on the general good character of the defendant as a hard working man, and asking the court for leniency. He further stated that he believed his client to be innocent of the crime of which he stood convicted.

In his sentencing statement, Judge Bunnell said that he did not think that Johanson should be sent Outside, for the reason that it had been amply proven that he is a hard working man and that he merely got into trouble at Chitina which resulted in his conviction on the charge of larceny. He also read from the statutes the section which provides punishment for the offense, and also a section which allows the court to exercise his discretion in the matter of sentences on conviction of all crime except murder and rape. But he also said that he could find nothing in the law which would permit him to merely fine the man. "And, sorry as I am to say it," concluded the judge, "it is the judgment of this court that you be remanded to the federal jail in Fairbanks for a period of eight months."

### Editor Henry Is Found Not Guilty

Showing that the policy of "freedom of the press" still exists, at least to a considerable extent, even in interior Alaska, the jury which sat on the case of the United States vs. George Hinton Henry in commissioner's court last Thursday afternoon, found the defendant not guilty. Henry, who is the editor of the Socialist Press, since his arrest known as the "Free Press," was charged with criminal libel, the complainant in the case being, George Herrington. The libel was alleged to have been committed against Laura Herrington, a daughter of the complainant, who has figured prominently in several of the rape trials in district court.

The witnesses for the government were Laura Herrington, Clerk of Court J. E. Clark and Grace Carey. The defendant took the stand in his own behalf and Lon Richards was also a witness for the defense.

All of the testimony was to the effect that the conversation printed by Henry in his paper, and which was alleged to have been libelous, took place at the head of the front stairs leading into the court room in the federal building, and not in the district attorney's office, as was stated in Henry's article. It also showed that the girl had said the words "But I wouldn't tell on you," but that she had said them only when Richards had spoken of future friendship between them by saying that he thought he had better stay away from her. It also showed that Richards had accosted the girl, not vice versa, as was printed in Henry's paper, and that he had not used reprimanding words to her, as was also stated. Considerable was also said at the trial concerning a time about two years ago when Richards had something to do with the girl, the talk being to the effect that the district attorney would have had Richards indicted by the

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grand jury for assault had he known the circumstances when that body was in session.

The jury which sat on the case was composed of the following: Alex Hanot, P. A. Rettig, E. W. Griffin, Fred Racy, George B. Wesch, C. A. Boerner, W. Parker, R. T. Kubon, E. H. Mack, R. C. Erchinger and J. Anderson.

### ALFRED SUTTON PLEADS GUILTY ON ONE CHARGE

CHANGES PLEA TO GUILTY OF  
ATTEMPTED RAPE—OTHER  
CHARGE IS DISMISSED.

Last Thursday morning in district court Alfred Sutton, indicted by the recent grand jury on two charges, rape and assault with intent to commit rape, pleaded "guilty" to

the lesser charge. He had previously entered pleas of "not guilty" to both charges, but his attorney, S. H. Millwee, stated, when the time came for trial, that his client desired to change his plea.

The defendant was then interrogated by the court as to the plea he desired to enter. Apparently confused, Sutton said "Not Guilty," but quickly changed the plea to "guilty."

The district attorney then moved that the more serious charge against Sutton, that of rape upon Grace Carey, be dismissed on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence to convict. And the court so ordered.

Laura Herrington is the girl connected with the charge to which Sutton pleaded guilty. And as there were no trials of the charges, the facts and details concerning them have not been made public.

A date for sentencing Sutton has not yet been set. According to the law he faces a sentence of from one to fifteen years.

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