

The Pensacola Journal

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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 30, 1911.

PETTY POLICE COURT CASES COST COUNTY MUCH MONEY.

Just how interesting to the readers of The Journal these fee case examples are we are unable to determine, but they constitute in concrete form some illustrations of the cost and effect of the fee system that ought to prove impressive. Here now are four more cases:

EXAMPLE NO. 28

Case—State vs. Steve Screws, in Escambia county.
Charge—Profanity.
Examination—November 9, 1910.
Plea—Guilty.

COSTS.

Justice of peace	\$ 2.41
Sheriff (including \$9.00 board)	11.85
Clerk	2.57
Solicitor	5.00
Total costs	\$21.83

EXAMPLE NO. 29

Case—State vs. Ed Smith, in Escambia county.
Charge—Common drunkard.
Examination—Aug. 10, 1910.
Plea—Guilty.

COSTS.

Justice of peace	\$ 2.53
Sheriff (including \$2.10 board)	5.65
Clerk	2.57
Solicitor	5.00
Total costs	\$15.75

EXAMPLE NO. 30

Case—State vs. Wash Campbell, in Escambia county.
Charge—Drunk and disorderly.
Examination—Jan. 16, 1911.
Plea—Guilty.

COSTS.

Justice of peace	\$ 1.90
Sheriff (including \$2.60 board)	7.80
Clerk	2.57
Solicitor	5.00
Total costs	\$17.27

EXAMPLE NO. 31

Case—State vs. Will Irving, in Escambia county.
Charge—Vagrancy.
Examination—Jan. 18, 1911.
Plea—Guilty.

COSTS.

Justice of peace	\$ 1.59
Sheriff (including \$2.60 board)	17.30
Clerk	2.57
Solicitor	5.00
Total costs	\$26.46

These four cases, which cost the county \$81.31, are nothing but common, ordinary police court cases and the police court is where they should be treated when an arrest is necessary.

Think of burdening the tax payers of the county with cases of vagrancy, drunk and disorderly, and profanity! How many of these cases would have got into court if it had not been for the big fees which the criminal court officers got out of it? And, when it is necessary to handle such cases, is there any reason why they should cost an average of more than \$20 per case?

Over in Tallahassee the county fee officers have a lobby whose business it is to prevent any change in this nefarious fee system which these same fee officers farm for a living. The fee officers constitute the biggest single political power in every county in the state, and from a majority of the counties they are able to absolutely dictate what legislation shall, or shall not, be enacted by the state law-makers.

How much longer are the people of Florida going to submit to this legalized graft on the part of their county officials? And how far are they going to allow this fee office machine to dictate their laws and policies?

Do Not Hamper the Railroad Commission.

The bill introduced by Speaker Jennings which would prohibit the employment by the railroad commission of special counsel, when litigation or legal advice is required, should not pass.

Mr. Jennings bases his bill, we understand, on the idea that the attorney general can do the work of the railroad commission and that the employment of special counsel by them is that much waste of money.

We do not believe that the attorney general can do this work satisfactorily either to himself or to the board. It is a special work that requires not only special qualifications but a great deal of time as well and it can be performed to the best advantage only by some one who is under direct employment by the commissioners themselves.

If this bill passes it will not only hamper the work of the railroad commission, but in The Journal's judgment will practically destroy that board's usefulness.

Let us give the railroad commission all of the power and facilities possible for doing an important work which is

at best fraught with the hardest kind of opposition on the part of every public service corporation in the state.

More Rigid Inspection For Boats.

The tragedy of the steamer Belle in Choctawhatchee Bay was but a small affair compared with what may befall some of the Pensacola Bay passenger boats one of these days if a more rigid observation of the passenger limit rule is not required.

The excursion season is now on and the number of people who patronize the bay excursion boats will probably be larger than it has ever been before. Unusual vigilance therefore is required.

Ordinarily a government inspector is on the dock to see that no excursion boat takes more passengers than are permitted under her license. This is all right so far as the going trip is concerned.

But how about the return trip? No inspector is on hand to limit the passengers who board the boat when she gets ready to come home and no effort is ever made, so far as we know, to see that the government rules are observed as to the passenger limit. Boats frequently come over to the city loaded

to the gunwales and some day one of these boats will go down.

The Journal would suggest that boat owners look this matter up and that the inspectors see that the rules are observed on the return as well as the going trip.

Racing Is Ended In Florida.

When the last race was finished at Kupfrians' park, in this city, yesterday, the curtain was rung down on racing in Florida for this season—and, we trust, forever.

Sentiment in Florida is strongly against racing, and although the racing bill has been held up in Tallahassee, it is probable that it will pass before the session of the legislature closes. The bill is being held up by those in favor of racing who are trying to get in a clause to allow racing in conjunction with fairs.

But this clause will not have much weight with the legislators, for the public does not want racing in any form, either at the fairs or when conducted by so-called fair associations.

Under the present law racing has been allowed when conducted by fair associations, but the law intended that racing should be allowed only when run in conjunction with the fairs. The law was never intended to allow races to be run as they have been in Pensacola, Tampa and Jacksonville.

The racing people should not expect anything from the legislature. They have broken faith with the state and have not held the state fairs as it was intended that they should, and the races have been conducted only for the profit of the promoters. The state has not received any benefit.

There are a number of good men lending their influence to keep racing in the state and the Jacksonville race promoters promise to give away large prizes to farmers and stock raisers. If they had done this at first the sentiment might not have turned so strong against them, but the move has been made too late and the people have had enough.

Florida is going to become a great agricultural state and the state fairs would be of untold benefit, but the fairs can be conducted, as was proven by the success of the Inter-State Fair in Pensacola, without race track gambling.

The Good of a Lieutenant-Governor.

The majority of the senate, though not the necessary majority to carry the point, are in favor of Florida having a lieutenant-governor. To some it might seem an altogether useless expense for the state to create this office, but really it would be of benefit and the salary is practically nothing.

The office would be one sought by dignified men and not by politicians, for unless the governor should die, there would be little but honor attached to the office, and then it would give the people a chance to select their chief executive in case of the death of the governor.

At the present time, if the governor should die, the president of the senate would succeed him, and while in some cases it might work satisfactorily, he would not be the choice of the people for he is selected from one district and is chosen by a majority of the other senators to preside over them.

This is a day of people's rule and the people are very desirous of selecting their officers direct, as was evidenced by the unanimous demand of the people for a primary to select the United States senator after the death of Mr. Broward.

The Journal believes that the people of the state would prefer that the office of lieutenant-governor be created and give them a chance to select the presiding officer of the senate, and, in case of the death of the governor, the one to succeed him.

Brazil wants the steel trusts and we are willing to use that country as a garbage pile.

The labor unions, in keeping with their usual custom in such cases, are throwing all of the obstacles possible in the way of the officers who are trying to locate the perpetrators of the Los Angeles Times outrage. When labor unions become as aggressive in upholding the law as they are in defeating the prosecution of crimes charged to some of their members they will command a respect and support from the public at large that they can never otherwise get.

No, dear reader, the cannon that exploded on Monday was not Uncle Joe Cannon.

Colonel Toomer, of Jacksonville, will oppose Frank Clark for congress from the Second district, which will insure a lively and spirited race.

Doctor Elliot believes in moderate drinking and going to excess in the baby production.

Everyone admits that Florida handles its convicts better than any other state, but the lease system is wrong and Floridians want to be right.

The housefly is called everything in the cuss-word vocabulary, but the nasty things deserve all of the abuse.

Next to Florida, New Jersey was about the best governor we know of.

Of Interest to Men

Here is a List of New Arrivals Which Have Reached Us By Express This Week:

This season's very latest creation in Men's wear. A special shipment of handsome zephyr-weight Mohair 2-piece Suits, Schloss, Baltimore-made; the real, cool thing for the coming hot weather, \$18, \$20 and \$25.

The swellest thing you have seen in straws—B. and C.'s latest importation; new Ventilated Cling-Tight Sweat Band, and only \$3.50.

"The Whitney," an elegant Panama, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.00, the very light, yet durable.

A bunch of the new, stylish, soft Shirts, soft rolled-back cuffs, two separate collars with each shirt.

Two new styles of those famous Pingree Shoes, right up-to-the-minute lasts, in gun metal and tan; they will make the young fellows sit up and take notice. Just glimpse 'em in our window. Price—why, just 4 plunks.

WATCH for our swell Neckwear window this week. We are going to show you some real live ones, right from Fashion's Heart.

Our buyer picked up a good one a few days ago in the shape of a couple of hundred pair of Men's elegant hand-tailored all-worsted Trousers. They came in Saturday and will be on sale Monday.

BOYS' DON'T FORGET the special sale of Boys' Suits Monday. Remember,

\$4.95

Gives you the pick of over a hundred elegant suits, \$6.00 to \$9.00 qualities, sizes 8 to 17.

We appreciate your trade.

Watson, Parker & Reese Co.

Everything to Wear.

The increase of rubber does not worry us. We buy no automobile tires and our sox stay up without garters.

VOX POPULI.

SENATOR STOKES WANTS TO BE SET RIGHT

Tallahassee, Fla., April 29, 1911. Editor Pensacola Journal.
The Evening News quotes me as saying that I favor abolishing the railroad commission. This is an error. I favor the commission and I am opposed to all measures that will cripple it in any wise. Please publish this fact and put me right.
JOHN P. STOKES.

VOX POPULI—DIFFERS WITH "PASTOR RUSSELL" ON MANY POINTS

Editor Pensacola Journal.

The writer does not belong to that class of men which cannot tolerate opinions differing from his own respecting matters either political, scientific, or theological. On the contrary, he counts among his best personal friends many men from whom he differs widely as to matters in all these departments of knowledge. Men should and must think for themselves, and accord to their brethren the full measure of liberty they claim for themselves.

He does not think, however, that civil liberty, or the institutions that guarantee and safeguard civil liberty, should shelter its own enemies, and destroyers. He entertains the same opinion with reference to theology.

I have been reading the printed outlines of sermons, so-called, of one entitled, "Pastor Russell". How he has managed to get these discourses into so many papers in this country is a mystery.

Those familiar with historical theology will recognize the thoughts he is retailing as a practical gathering together of all the discredited, effete, anti-scriptural vapors of the ages. The trouble about such writings is that so many people who have never studied historical theology, or even general history, imagine they are reading the writings of some profound thinker, whose giant intellect refuses to follow the beaten path of scholars, and is unfolding some new system of theological faith, whereas they are being purposely misled into a total and final rejection of Christianity. His denial of the resurrection of the dead, of the deity of Christ, and of the inspiration of the Scriptures, destroys the foundations of Christianity; and his new application of the old doctrine of soul-sleeping is both unchristian and unscientific. Seeing, then, that he is striking at the foundations of Christianity, and is equally the foe of all forms of theological belief, it is deemed best to put the people on notice of the character of his efforts.

C. W. HUMPHREYS.
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Shoes bought from us shined free and repaired at half-price.

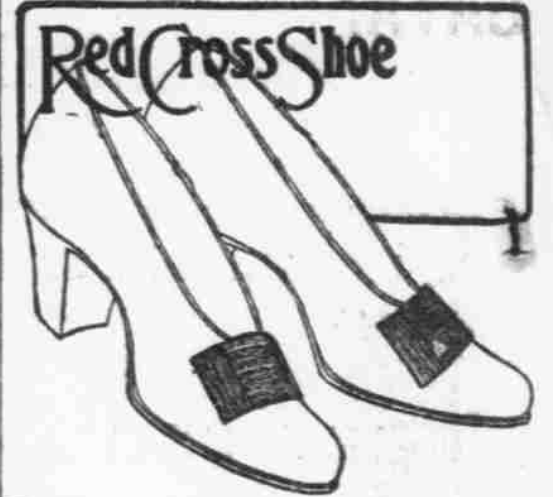


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An old offender was introduced to a new country justice as "John Timmins, alias Jones, alias Smith." "Till try the two women first said the justice. "Bring in Alice Jones."—Argonaut.

If it's underclothes you need, my dear, Pull up a bit and look right here:
\$1 Night Gowns (fine) 69c.
75c Night Gowns (pretty nifty) 53c.
50c Drawers (nicely trimmed) 39c.
25c Drawers (neat and trim) 19c.