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## JEROME, SMASHER OF BOSSES

Personality of the Man Who Has Been Elected District Attorney of New York in Defiance of Political Machines.

Became a National Figure by Daring to Be Independent—Declined Nominations For Governor and Mayor Because He Wanted to Raise Moral Issue.

**T**HERE is a new school of politicians abroad in the land. Some will say that this is a good thing, for whatever the new sort is like it must be better than the old. That does not necessarily follow, but as a matter of fact this latest brand does seem to be an improvement. For one thing it is a winner, and that counts for much, especially in politics. For another it is young, breezy, vigorous and original. For still another it is independent, frank and honest. It talks "right out in meetin'" and not only says things, but does them. It goes after corruption and rips up the boss. It may be spectacular, but it is interesting. It may talk slang sometimes, but it is clean. It strikes

yet he was elected. The people evidently believed in a man who would take a crack at every boss in sight. His new style of whirlwind campaigning was a revelation and a winner. That election was for four years, while the rest of the ticket only went in for two. When he took office he rented a house on the east side, as he had promised to do. Here he established a branch office, where the poorer citizens who were not able to get off during the day could come to him for justice at night. At first few appeared.

The sort of officers with whom they were familiar had always demanded money in the form of "shaketowns." Soon they learned the true character of this man, however, and now when the poorer denizens of the east side want a square deal they "appeal to Jerome." Outside of this tenement—for it is little more than that—Mr. Jerome has a summer home in Connecticut, where before he took office most of his time was spent. Despite his rippling way of making campaigns and his hammer and tongs methods of going after gamblers and grafters, he is a very domestic man, quiet in manner, studious and a gentleman both by inheritance and instinct. After all, it is these quiet, earnest people who stir things. The loud brawler seldom moves anything except the atmosphere.

### Lives Up to His Theories.

In office Jerome is said to be efficient and to keep his work even with the calendar. It is his theory to crowd through every criminal case on the jump, and he is the sort of man that lives up to his theories. He has few, by the way, being too busy to think of them.

The most sensational thing he has done in office was to drive out gambling. That is a story in itself, an old one, but worth retelling. The first effort was a failure because of deficient laws. Then Jerome shifted his base of operations to Albany and had the law amended. It took a fight to do it,

was practically offered the fusion nomination for mayor, which would probably have meant his election. He declined. He wanted to be re-elected district attorney, he said, and nothing else. Moreover, he wanted to make a fight against the bosses of both parties. He wanted to show the people of New York that a man could be elected without any machine behind him. He believed it time to raise a moral issue, to declare again for individual liberty. Since no one else seemed ready to do this, he would do it himself. He did it. In the beginning every newspaper in the city practically declared that he had cut his own political throat, that he had prevented fusion and many other dreadful things. Anyway, he went on the ballot by petition. All the regular conventions refused to nominate him. The betting was all against him, the odds in the start being overwhelming. It was interesting, however, to note the way those odds came down as Jerome warmed up in the campaign. Before it was half through they were even. Then the Republican candidate withdrew, and the convention of that party substituted the name of Jerome, although it was so late the courts knocked out the action. From that time forward the betting odds set in Jerome's favor, and before the fight ended they were as heavy for him as previously they had been against him.

Jerome's issue throughout was a declaration of independence against the bosses, and he could not be diverted from that line of attack. One of the most illuminating incidents of the campaign was furnished by the Tammany candidate, James V. Osborne, formerly an assistant in the office. He spoke of the great number of opportunities the district attorney had for getting graft and remarked that "if Jerome didn't get it he was a fool."

When the statement was shown to Mr. Jerome he looked pensive for a moment and said gently, "Poor Jim!" It stuck. Mr. Osborne remained "Poor Jim" throughout the campaign, and he will be fortunate to lose the appellation during his life. Jerome's campaign slogan against Murphy has been, "Where did he get it?" varied sometimes by "Where did he not get it?" These two he has made as famous as "Poor Jim."

### A National Figure.

The issue started by Mr. Jerome grew beyond the dreams of its author. Before the end it became a great moral crusade for the wiping out of boss control, a civic reform wave sweeping all before it. The whirlwind campaign developed into a cyclone of ballots by election day. The revolt against machine methods found such widespread response that it made of Jerome a national figure. Seldom, if ever, in modern political history has there been so unique a fight, one so involving the element of doing the right thing regardless of consequences, one so appealing to the imagination and the spirit of righteousness.

William Travers Jerome was born in New York April 18, 1859. He comes of a distinguished family, his father, Lawrence R. Jerome, having been one of the best known men in the New York of an earlier day. He, too, was a politician, but without any reform proclivities. Millionaire banker, promoter, patron of sports, literature and art, practical joker and after dinner speaker, Lawrence R. Jerome was considered a prince of good fellows. The story of the son's christening is worth telling. The elder Jerome was dining downtown with William R. Travers when a telegram was handed him announcing the boy's arrival.

"What's the d-duffer's name?" stammered Travers.

"William Travers Jerome," announced the proud father, little knowing just how famous that name was destined to become.

Another story is told of the senior Jerome that, though old, may have been new when he sprung it. Being in a crowded Broadway bus, the father took William Travers, then a boy of ten, on his knee. A stunning young lady came aboard and was compelled to stand. "Travers," reprovingly remarked the father, "why do you not get up and give the lady your seat?"

There is a story told of the young man's youth indicating that he himself was not exactly a Sunday school boy. His mother remonstrated with him for playing cards, asking him if a great deal of time were not lost in playing the game. "Yes, mother," he smiled in reply, "there is—in shuffling and dealing."

An uncle of the district attorney, Leonard Jerome, was the man for whom the famous Jerome race track park was named.

A cousin is Lady Randolph Churchill, of whom Gladstone once said that she could make more votes than any campaign orator in England.

### Greatest Fad His Machine Shop.

When a young man William Travers Jerome was very delicate, being forced to leave college before graduation on account of a breakdown. He then began outdoor exercises to build up his body. He plays golf and used to be an enthusiastic bicyclist, but now substitutes automobile campaigning for that sport. Perhaps his greatest fad is his machine shop in the basement of his Connecticut home, where he makes clocks and all sorts of odd and curious things to present to his friends.

Mr. Jerome is a confirmed smoker, one tale crediting him with burning twenty cigarettes a day. Another story says that he has given up cigarettes for cigars, but that he only indulges in a cheap brand because he does not wish to form an expensive habit. A third account says that he has abandoned both cigars and cigarettes for a pipe. At any rate, there is one thing certain—he smokes. He also causes the other fellow to smoke. But that remark is too obvious.

J. A. EDGERTON.

### REPORT OF THE CONDITION

OF THE

### Plattsmouth State Bank

of Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Charter No. 786

Incorporated in the State of Nebraska, at the close of business, Nov. 9, 1905.

RESOURCES:	
Loans and Discounts	\$ 50,999 08
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	9 95
Stocks, securities, judgments, etc.	NONE
Banking house furniture, fixtures	714 50
Other real estate	11,984 45
Current expenses and taxes paid	2,230 01
Cash items	52 70
Due from national, state and private banks and bankers	\$1,372 34
Cash	2,796 30
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 63,290 57</b>

LIABILITIES:	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 30,000 00
Undivided profits	4,400 00
Individual deposits sub-	
ject to check	\$ 43,021 51
Demand certificates of deposit	132 50
Time certificates of deposit	7,736 56
Due to national banks	NONE
Notes and bills re-discounted	NONE
Bills payable	NONE
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 83,290 57</b>

STATE OF NEBRASKA.)

County of Cass, ss.

J. M. ROBERTS, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is correct and a true copy of the report made to the State Banking Board.

J. M. ROBERTS, Cashier.  
J. P. FAULTER, Director.  
W. H. NEWELL, Director.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of November, 1905. MAE MURPHY, Notary Public, (State). My commission expires November 10, 1911.

### TAXES LIEN OF RIGHT OF WAY

So Decides the Supreme Court in a Matter Taken Up From Cass County.

In the case of the state of Nebraska vs. several parcels of land and the Missouri Pacific railway, appealed from Cass county, the court holds that the statute requires the county clerk in making up the tax list to prepare a complete statement of all the lands and lots in his county on which the taxes for one or more years are delinquent, but if this duty is neglected by the clerk, the lien of the taxes is not thereby lost.

It was sought to enforce the collection of taxes upon certain lots upon which the railway company had acquired a right of way. The district court held that all taxes levied after the railway company acquired its right of way were void, because the right of way should be assessed by the state board and was not subject to local taxation. The district court also held that the taxes assessed before the right of way was acquired by the railway company were a lien upon the lots and upon the right of way of the railway company. It directed that the fee of the lots should be first offered for sale, subject to the easement of the railway company to satisfy this lien, and that if the fee subject to said easement could be sold for a sufficient amount to satisfy the tax lien, the easement for the railway company should not be disturbed, but if no bid could be obtained sufficient to satisfy the taxes, then the fee and the easement of the railway company should be offered for sale. The railway company appealed and complained of so much of the decree as charges its right of way with the lien of these taxes. The judgment of the district court is affirmed by the supreme court. Some of the lots were obtained by the railroad company upon contract and others by condemnation proceedings. The court holds:

"A railway company in condemning land for its right of way and depot grounds is not the agent of the state. The state has no ownership in these lands by virtue of condemnation proceedings.

"If a railway company in condemnation proceedings for its right of way and depot grounds fails to make all parties interested in the land parties to the proceedings or to give them notice of the proceedings so that their rights may be protected, it takes the land subject to such liens as are prior to the rights of the parties to the proceedings.

"Real estate cannot be taken by condemnation proceedings unless payment therefor to the owners is first made or secured. All parties having an interest in the land are owners within the meaning of the statute. A lien for taxes is such an interest in the land."

### We Must Be Fair.

The arrest of John Burke of Pacific Junction, Ia., Monday and the fine imposed him for disturbing the peace has created considerable comment, many of our people believing that the wrong man was made to suffer when the other fellow, who was "deeper in the mud than Burke was in the mire" should have also been fined. It is a bad precedent to establish by authorities to arrest and throw in jail men from tributary towns and country who come here and let home offenders go. Partiality thus displayed will do more to kill a town than any one can possibly imagine. The Journal believes in punishing all evildoers, but it does not believe in punishing outsiders and letting the insiders go, especially when they are more to blame for such disturbances. Right is right, and should prevail in the minds of the authorities.

### GEORGE PITMAN ACQUITTED

The Case Elicited Considerable Interest and Went to Jury Late Last Night.

### MANY WITNESSES WERE IN ATTENDANCE

The Excellent Character of the Young Man Endorsed by His Neighbors.

George Pitman is innocent of statutory rape, as charged in the complaint against the young man. That is what the jury said late last evening, after deliberating less than twenty minutes.

George Pitman is a young man about eighteen years of age, and is a son of C. W. Pitman, who lives near Weeping Water, and the family is considered among the best in Cass county. The young man had always borne the very best reputation up to the date that this charge was brought against him, and it startled the neighborhood when he was arrested last spring. With some it was then considered a trumped-up charge in order to extort a sum of money from the young man's father, who is well-to-do.

No matter how much truth there may be, either pro or con, in the case the young man has been honorably acquitted by a jury of our common countrymen, and this will perhaps be the last of the matter. The case occupied all of yesterday and until late in the evening.

While there was considerable sympathy expressed for the young girl, who is yet in short dresses and claims and looks to be less than 13 years of age, it is believed that her father is to blame for bringing the matter into court and thus place a blot upon her character which time cannot erase. This was done in face of the fact that some of the best people in Cass county were ready to swear to the excellent character of young Pitman, who had lived in the neighborhood all his life.

This case drew a large audience, and the interest taken in it by the old baldheads about town was truly amusing, many of them not even taking the time to go home to dinner.

### Lived In a Well for Three Months.

The Weeping Water Herald of this week tells the following story, which touches on the amazing vitality of a common little dog:

"Three months ago A. B. Rockwell's family missed their canine. He was not so valuable, but was a household favorite. Last Sunday the children were playing in the timber west of their house, and found an old unused well, and in the bottom discovered the missing dog. They were not long in bringing it to the surface, and his dogship was about the rockiest specimen ever seen. Just a pile of bones with skin over them. Doggy was too weak to even bark, but was alive and bids fair to soon gather strength enough to perform his usual duties. How the dog subsisted so long is a mystery, as the bottom of the well was dry, and nothing was in there to eat but the bones of a calf."

### Lecture.

James Stander, delegate to the World's Fourth Sunday School convention at Jerusalem, will give a talk on "Egypt, the Pyramids and Sunday School Work at Cairo," in the M. E. church of South Bend, Sunday evening, November 20th, beginning at 7:30. Under the auspices of the Sunday school. Everybody is cordially invited. Admission free. Turn out and hear the story on the River Nile country.

### "I Thank the Lord."

cried Hannah Plant, of Little Rock, Ark., "for the relief I got from Bucklin's Arnica Salve. It cured my fearful running sores, which nothing else would heal, and from which I had suffered for 5 years." It is a marvelous healer for cuts, burns and wounds. Guaranteed at F. G. Fricke & Co. drug store; 25c.

### Very True.

The fact that we may like or dislike a person neither adds to, nor detracts from their true personal worth. Our best friends may be decidedly lacking in those lofty and sublime traits that we most admire, while our enemies may possess the most noble and commendable qualities of manhood.



WILLIAM TRAVERS JEROME



HIS COUNTRY HOME LAKEVILLE, CONN.



HIS EAST SIDE HOME



IN HIS WORKSHOP

the chord of righteousness in a new way, and that chord never fails to respond.

The most conspicuous examples of this new school are, perhaps, Roosevelt, La Follette, Folk, Weaver and Jerome. It has been said that the last shall be first, and that is so—at least in this article. Jerome just now is very much in the public eye because of the fact that the people of New York have smashed all sorts of political machines to re-elect him district attorney. It takes a man to be elected to office without any kind of partisan support, especially in New York.

### "The Man With the Ax."

Jerome is known around Gotham as "the man with the ax." He gained that title when a justice of special sessions. Learning that the police were protecting vice and crime, he went with the officers to serve his own warrants and more than once wielded the ax to break down the doors of gambling and other disreputable houses. It was then that he made a remark worthy to live, "I do not believe the Ten Commandments have been repealed." It was his record as judge that gave him the unanimous nomination of the anti-Tammany forces for district attorney. That was four years ago. His method of campaigning made him the central figure of the fight. Renting a room downtown, he never went near any of the political headquarters, but arranged his own schedules and went his own gait. His manner of hitting every head he saw alarmed the politicians. He not only went after Croker, the opposition boss, but lambasted Platt, who was supposed to be supporting Jerome's side. The fusion managers begged him to moderate his language, but he only made it stronger. Almost every one thought his impolitic course would defeat him. Bets were freely offered at 4 to 1 against him.

but a loss of temper on the part of the senator representing the gamblers and an attack on the Republican leader, Senator Raines, aroused the ire of that gentleman and caused him to push the bill through.

After the new law was enacted an amusing thing occurred. The Tammany chief of police announced that there was no gambling in New York. Then something happened. Calling the owners of the biggest gambling houses into his office, Mr. Jerome quietly explained to them that he had them "dead to rights." They seemed to agree with him. It was a question as to whether they would close voluntarily or be closed. They decided to close voluntarily. As a result two large rooms at the district attorney's office are packed full of gambling paraphernalia, and some of it overflows into other rooms.

When Mayor Low's term was drawing to a close Mr. Jerome again did a thing which drew around his ears a hornets' nest. Everybody said on the quiet that it was impossible to re-elect Low, and Jerome became convinced of that fact. He is not the sort to say a thing quietly which he thinks should be said openly, so he said loud enough for all New York to hear that he did not think Low should be renominated. Everybody exclaimed, "How true, but how impolitic!" The upshot was that Low was renominated and defeated by an overwhelming majority.

In 1904 Senator David B. Hill offered Jerome the Democratic nomination for governor, provided, of course, that he would be a good Indian and not do things to the machine. The district attorney's language in declining is not on record, but is said to have been vigorous.

### Went on the Ballot by Petition.

When the campaign of this year approached, William Travers Jerome

### SPECIAL

THIS LARGE TALKING MACHINE

with a large cabinet and a 24-in Brass Bell Horn, 1 dozen 10-in. Columbia records and 500 needles, all complete for

\$30.00

Phil Sauter, Plattsmouth Neb.

### PHONOGRAPHS

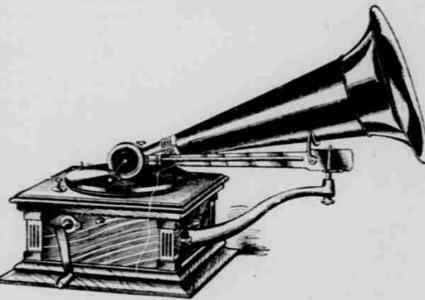
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