

Sensation at Ballinger Probe.

Washington, Feb. 15.—It is claimed that a box containing some private papers belonging to Louis R. Glavis was broken open by land office agents in the postoffice building at Seattle, Wash. They found, so it is alleged, copies of a number of important letters and telegrams that were missing from the official files of the office which Glavis had then turned over to his successor.

This fact came out in the course of the Ballinger-Pinchot inquiry and created a sensation. Glavis denied absolutely that he ever had the letters after he had delivered his office and its belongings to his successor, A. C. Christensen. He promptly denounced the episode in Seattle as a "frame-up."

Several of the letters were in a list published by Collier's Weekly last fall in one of the attacks made by that newspaper on Secretary Ballinger. When the investigation by the joint committee of congress began, Louis D. Brandeis, attorney for Glavis, requested the committee to call for a number of letters and documents, and this list included most of those which were in dispute. John J. Vertrees, of Nashville, Tenn., attorney for Secretary Ballinger, who conducted the cross-examination of Glavis, explained to the joint committee that Secretary Ballinger called on the chief of the field agents at Seattle to furnish certain letters. The first reply to the request was that the documents could not be found. But they were received Monday by the secretary of the interior from Seattle, accompanied by an explanation from Glavis' successor in which it was said that they were recovered from the box of personal belongings.

Glavis says it's a "Frame-Up." "It is a frame-up," exclaimed Glavis. "It makes me indignant for any one to assume that I would have been foolish enough to have put those letters in a box and left them where they would have been accessible to the very men who are trying to make a case against me. It makes me indignant to think that subordinates of the secretary of the interior would stoop to such methods in order to serve Mr. Ballinger."

Glavis denied ever having placed the letters in the box. He told the committee that he believed that the agent of the land office had taken them from the office files and placed them there for the purpose of making it appear that he had abstracted them from the files and had refused to give them up.

Attorney Vertrees proposed to submit the letters and the accompanying explanation from A. C. Christensen, the special agent in charge at Seattle. But a vigorous objection was made.

Before this question had been disposed of Representative James, of Kentucky, voiced his indignation at the manner in which the letters had appeared in the committee room. Attorney Brandeis then made a spirited protest against the way in which Secretary Ballinger had turned over to his attorney for submission to the committee as evidence letters that the committee had called for under instructions as to their custody.

Glavis took the stand at the opening of the hearing. Mr. Vertrees drew from the witness that the Cunningham claimants were the first to pay up on their claims and that in numerical order they were entitled to first consideration in any legislation.

No Direct Accusations. Referring to Glavis' report to the president, a magazine article by him and his testimony before this committee, Mr. Vertrees asked if he had made any direct accusations.

Glavis said he had intentionally refrained from making any charges; he presented the facts to let the people draw their own inferences.

Asked what he thought the facts showed, witness replied that "the land department was not in safe hands and that the people's interests were not being protected in the Alaska cases."

Glavis said flatly that he thought the facts established official misconduct on the part of Ballinger and Dennett.

Called on to explain why then he made no charge of corruption, he said: "If I had thought the facts warranted a charge of corruptness I would have gone to the grand jury instead of to the president."

Glavis said he did not believe there were any corrupt motives on the part of Ballinger or Dennett, but their not protecting the people was intentional.

Pressed further, witness said perhaps he and Mr. Vertrees didn't have the same view of the meaning of "corrupt." "I think," he added, "when a man acts corruptly he acts criminally. There are no charges of criminality here."

Baby Born on Train. Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 15.—While a Union Pacific passenger train from Denver to St. Louis was speeding through Kansas a son was born to Mrs. D. H. Stiles, of Sandwich, Ill.

Strange Disease Fatal. A strange disease has made its appearance among the people of the town of Parrilla, near Durango, Mexico, causing many deaths. Physicians are unable to check its progress, which is rapid. The body of the victim turns black after death, it is stated.

Eggs Ordered Destroyed. Federal Judges Orr and Young made an order, upon application of the United States district attorney, that a shipment of 25,000 storage eggs be destroyed. The shipment was received in Pittsburg from Baltimore last week.

Little Girl is Brutally Slain.

The brutal murder of a five-year-old girl was revealed by the finding of her mutilated body in an old broken down barn at Newark, N. J.

The little girl, when found dead in a corner of the old building, still held a penny in her right hand. Around her neck there was a belt that had been used by the murderer to strangle her to death. Her clothing was practically all torn from her body, indicating that at least a fierce attempt had been made to attack the little girl, who had fought desperately to defend herself. The body was found by the father of the little one and a neighbor, who had kept up a search for her all night. The police were at once notified of the finding of the body and now they are on a hunt for the murderer.

The little victim was Sadie Tishkowitz, five years old, of 31 Jones street. She was the daughter of Harry Tishkowitz, who conducts a carpenter repair shop at the same address.

Schaeffer Pays Death Penalty. George N. Schaeffer, the Schnecksville chicken farmer, who killed Leopold Ermann, of Philadelphia, on Nov. 18, 1908, was hanged in the corridor of the jail at Allentown, Pa.

The trap was sprung by James Van Hise, of Jersey City, New Jersey's official hangman, who used his own scaffold, and who was assisted by his brother-in-law, Edward Donham. Schaeffer was pronounced dead in eight minutes, his neck having been broken. The body was cut down in fifteen minutes.

Schaeffer had nothing to say except to bid goodby to prison officials. He walked coolly to the gallows and needed no support on the way or on the scaffold. The execution was witnessed by seventy-five persons. It was Lehigh county's fourth legal hanging in a century and Van Hise's eighty-ninth execution.

McKinley's Enemy Commits Suicide. Casper Limbach, a wealthy man, with anarchistic principles, who came prominently into the limelight in Pittsburgh just after the assassination of President McKinley, through his utterance "That McKinley deserved just what he got," committed suicide by shooting.

His wife declares the shooting was caused by the continued persecutions he had undergone at the hands of his neighbors since applauding the death of McKinley. He has been burned in effigy, pelted with stones and at times crowds have gathered to lynch him.

As a result of the damage to his property, Limbach sued the county and was awarded several thousands of dollars.

T. Roosevelt, Jr., Engaged to Marry. Mrs. Henry Addison Alexander, of 42 West Forty-seventh street, New York city, has announced the engagement of her daughter, Miss Eleanor Butler Alexander, to Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., eldest son of former President Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Roosevelt said that the announcement was made at this time because it was the desire of his family to have the announcement made before the departure of his mother for Europe within a few days.

Young Roosevelt, since his graduation from Harvard, has been learning carpet manufacturing in a factory at Thompsonville, Conn.

Penny Bars "Chewing."

One of the most far-reaching reforms ever inaugurated by the Pennsylvania railroad went into effect when an order was promulgated at Altoona, Pa., prohibiting all employees of the passenger and freight stations east of Pittsburgh and Erie the use of tobacco in any form while on duty.

For years smoking has been frowned upon, but now "chewing" comes under the ban. The order aims at cleanliness and sanitation.

The Pennsylvania is issuing a new book of rules, which shows many changes to meet new conditions and to better safeguard public travel.

Scores Drowned at Sea.

The French Transatlantic steamship General Chenay, from Marseilles with seventy-five passengers and a crew of sixty-five, has been wrecked on the north coast of Minorca, near Palma. Only one passenger was saved out of all the persons on board. The vessel is a complete loss.

The sole survivor was landed on the coast of Minorca near Ciudad Ciudad Ela. The vessel was bound for Algiers.

Yale Gets \$100,000.

A gift of \$100,000 to Yale university, at New Haven, Conn., given by Alfred G. Vanderbilt, of New York, was made known. The gift will be applied toward the general university endowment, and is part of a subscription of \$250,000 for this purpose.

Mr. Vanderbilt has thus far given \$175,000, and it is understood will complete the amount before the close of the year.

Loss of Jobs May Follow in Anthracite Region.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Feb. 15.—From 40 to 50 per cent of the miners in the anthracite mines of Luzerne county will lose their places by the campaign of elimination started by the miners' examining board. Every miner will be compelled to undergo the state examination to show whether he is or is not so familiar with mining conditions that he is a competent miner. As the law provides that each one examined must be able to speak and read English, it is estimated that many of the foreign-born miners will lose their places. Coal companies and mine inspectors estimate that the elimination of incompetents will reduce the number of mining accidents 50 per cent.

Where the "Holler" Was More Impressive Than the Words.

The appeal that a fine flow of oratory will make to men and women was amusingly exemplified one night at a meeting in West Philadelphia, says a Philadelphia paper. A noted speaker was appealing to a gathering to give funds toward the work of cleaning the slums, making life healthy and happy for the poor and other utopian schemes of men and women whose hearts throb with longing to help their kind.

For half an hour he drew pictures of the conditions; then with expressive gestures and his voice throbbing with enthusiasm he poured out a flow of rhetoric.

"Our duty, our flag, our country," dotted the speech with italics. The audience shouted and cheered, and the women wept, while a storm of applause swept the room when the speech was over.

"That's going some, eh?" said one man to another in the cloakroom later. "Fine sentiments, real feeling—great, great."

"I'm so deaf," spoke up another, with disappointment in his voice, "that I couldn't hear. What did he say?"

"Say—say!" stammered the others, looking into each other's faces. "Why—he—he—er—hanged if I know!" And to this day they don't know. It was only the "holler" that got them, not the words.

This is, however, what makes the orator.

A Strange Method of Salutation.

Of all the strange modes of salutation the most extraordinary is the "dance of ceremony" current in the west African kingdom of Dahomey. Whenever any Dahoman chief or official of rank comes to pay you a visit he always opens the interview by dancing around you with various queer contortions (extremely suggestive of his having just upset a kettle of boiling water over his knees), which you are bound to imitate as closely as possible. It is even reported that one of the native ministers of the terrible King Gezu owed his rapid rise at the Dahoman court wholly to his superior skill in cutting these strange capers and that he thus literally as well as figuratively jumped to preferment.

Tommy's Mistake.

Father—Come, young man. Get your jacket off and come with me. Tommy—You're not going to lick me, are you, dad? Father—Certainly. Didn't I tell you this morning that I should settle with you for your bad behavior? Tommy—Yes, but I thought it was only a joke, like when you told the grocer you was going to settle with him.—London Tit-Bits.

His Landscapes.

A nouveau riche recently attended a picture sale. A friend who had noticed him at the sale asked afterward, "Did you pick up anything at that picture sale, Jorkins?" and the other responded: "Oh, yes; a couple of landscapes. One of 'em was a basket of fruit and the other a storm at sea."

Frozen to Death in Alley.

Adam King, of Wassergase, was frozen to death while on his way home, and his body was discovered in a side alley at Hellertown, near Allentown, Pa. King evidently had been to the store for a supply of groceries, for beside his body was found a basketful of provisions. In his clothing was found \$35.

Murderer of Six Electrocuted.

Howard Little, who murdered Mrs. Betsy Justice, her son-in-law, George Meadows, and his wife and three children in their home, near Hurley, in Buchanan county, Va., last September, was put to death by electrocution in the penitentiary at Richmond without unusual incident. Little confessed.

Cottonseed Flour Bread Shown.

Bread made from cottonseed flour was exhibited on the board of trade at Chicago by Charles Stearns. Although ten days old, it was sweet and palatable and resembled brown bread. The seed was ground and the bread baked at Ennis, Tex. The flour can be had at \$20 a ton, or 1 1/2 cents a pound.

Electrocution For Burglar.

Jesse Whitehead, a negro, was convicted of burglary in the first degree by the Craven county superior court at Newbern, N. C., and sentenced to be electrocuted April 29.

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