

HOBSON BACKS UP LILLEY'S CHARGES

THAT ELECTRIC BOAT CO. USED IMPROPER INFLUENCE ON CONGRESSMEN.

LILLEY MAKES STATEMENT

That the Electric Boat Co. Has No Plant and No Assets, Its Only Business Being to Secure Contracts for Boats.

Washington, D. C.—The Lilley submarine boat inquiry was begun in earnest Thursday by a special house committee. Representative Lilley was heard at length. He began his testimony by reading a long typewritten statement, a part of which was in the nature of an affidavit, in which he outlined his charges in detail. When he had completed this formal presentation he was questioned by Mr. Olmsted of the committee, who was designated by Chairman Boutwell to perform that service.

During the afternoon session Representative Richmond Pearson Hobson testified that he had been approached in November, 1907, by Lawrence Speer of New York, representing the Electric Boat Co., who told him that if he would support the claims of that company before congress the company could bring influence to bear on Speaker Cannon to have him (Hobson) appointed on the committee on naval affairs.

In reply to one of Mr. Olmsted's questions Mr. Lilley said the Electric Boat Co. had no plant and no assets. He declared that that company did not build boats, its only business being to secure contracts for boats and then sublet the contracts.

Mr. Lilley gave the names of the Connecticut manufacturers and the attorney who had asked him, according to his statement, to vote for an appropriation for submarine boat legislation. The manufacturers, he said, were Franklin H. Taylor of Waterbury, and A. M. Ferris of the Bridgeport Brass Co.; the attorney was John T. Kellogg of Waterbury.

Mr. Lilley said he could only name two newspaper men at this time who had worked for the Electric Boat Co. and he gave the names of two who, he said, had admitted having worked for the company.

WAGES WILL BE REDUCED.

Pay of New England Cotton Mill Operatives Is to be Cut 10 Per Cent.

Boston, Mass.—A general reduction in the wages of cotton mill operatives of the north will be made the latter part of the month and during April.

Notices were posted Thursday in all the cotton mills of Lowell, on receipt of instructions from the head offices here, informing the 20,000 operatives that wages will be reduced 10 per cent beginning Monday, March 30.

With the exception of the Stark mills of Manchester, N. H., which announced Tuesday that a reduction of about 8 per cent will be made in the wages of their 1,500 employees, the Lowell mills are the first in the cotton industry in New England to give positive notice of a cut. It is understood that practically all the cotton mills in northern New England will post notices during the next few days announcing a reduction.

It is not known here what action the Rhode Island and New Bedford mill owners will take. Otis N. Pierce, president of the New Bedford Manufacturers' association, and Mr. Gammell, a prominent Rhode Island mill operator, expressed the opinion that a wage cut seems inevitable.

Manufacturers give as reasons for the change in wages the depression in the cloth market, high cost of cotton and lower prices for goods.

JURY FOUND HIM GUILTY.

Giuseppe Alia, Slayer of Rev Heinrichs, Is Convicted of Murder.

Denver, Col.—"Is there no appeal?" These were the only words spoken by Giuseppe Alia when informed Thursday by Interpreter Matter that the jury found him guilty of murder in the first degree and fixed sentence at death.

Just 18 days after firing the shot which brought death to Father Francis Leo Heinrichs, at the altar in St. Elizabeth's Catholic church, while in the act of administering the holy sacrament, this wanderer from Italy, an alleged but not proven Anarchist, heard his doom.

In the court room not three blocks from the church where he committed his crime and within the sound of the chimes which he said drew him to that church, Alia received the judgment delivered by the jury. Stolid to the last, he simply nodded his head and whispered to the interpreter, "Is there no appeal?" Then his chin sank on his breast and he made no further comment.

When the jury had been polled the judge thanked them for having done their duty and expressed his approval of the verdict. Attorney Wildecombe, of the defense, made a motion for a new trial and was granted five days in which to file papers.

Battleships Reach Magdalena Bay.

San Diego, Cal.—When the American battleship fleet under command of Rear Admiral Evans steamed Thursday into Magdalena Bay, the history making cruise of more than 13,000 miles, begun at Hampton Roads less than three months ago, practically came to an end.

Fire Cost Six Lives.

Marysville, Cal.—Six Chinese dead, two others badly injured and one building partly destroyed, was the result of a fire in Chinatown Thursday. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.

ALL FOUR ARE FOUND GUILTY

VERDICT RENDERED IN PENNSYLVANIA CONSPIRACY CASES.

Men Accused of Defrauding the State are Convicted After a Trial Lasting Seven Weeks.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The jury in the first of the capitol conspiracy cases to be tried gave a verdict of guilty as to every one of the four men who have been on trial here for the last seven weeks, last night, after six hours' deliberation. There were two ballots taken, but the jury did not come into court until two hours after reaching a conclusion.

The men found guilty are John F. Sanderson, contractor; William P. Snyder, former auditor general; W. L. Mathews, former state treasurer; and James M. Shumaker, former superintendent of public buildings and grounds.

Motions for new trials were made in each case.

Only Sanderson and Snyder were in court when the verdict was given and neither would talk. None of the counsel for the defendants would say anything about the case. The state's attorneys when questioned said that they were pleased with the result of the hard work. The maximum penalties for each defendant in this case is two years' imprisonment and \$1,000 fine.

The four men were convicted of defrauding the state in furnishing the new capitol, which cost the state about \$13,000,000, instead of \$4,000,000, the figure at which the contract was estimated.

The present case constituted one of the longest jury trials in the history of Pennsylvania courts.

The prosecution of the alleged frauds was the outcome of the political upheaval in Pennsylvania in 1905, which resulted in the election of William H. Berry, a Democrat, as state treasurer in the fall of that year.

Berry threw open the books of the state treasury and showed that the cost of building the capitol was more than three times the amount of the contract.

The case was laid before the attorney general and indictments were found against 14 persons.

NATIONAL LAWMAKERS.

Proceedings of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Washington.—Amendments to the postoffice appropriation bill were adopted by the house on the 11th increasing the pay of letter carriers to \$1,200 a year and prohibiting the transmission through the mails of intoxicating liquors and cocaine. In the senate a message from the president and reports from the military affairs committee on the Brownsville affair were read. Senator Clarke of Arkansas spoke against the currency bill.

Washington.—The house devoted its session on the 12th to discussion of the postoffice appropriation bill. In the senate speeches on the currency bill were made by Senators Lodge and Paynter, the former in favor and the latter against the bill.

Washington.—On the 13th the house passed the postoffice appropriation bill and 405 private pension bills. In the senate Senator Bacon of Georgia spoke at length of the encroachments of the executive on the legislative power of the government.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Progress is Slow, but There is a Little Improvement Each Week.

New York City.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Sentiment is more cheerful because of good weather for farm work and higher prices for securities. Actual progress in commercial channels is slow, but there is a little improvement each week, while evidences of an early spring have stimulated sales of seasonal wearing apparel in most jobbing and wholesale departments. Many manufacturing plants have increased forces, especially the factories that supply farming implements and the canning industry.

Building permits in February showed a large decrease as compared with the same month last year.

Small gains are recorded in some departments of the iron and steel industry, while other lines remain unchanged. Tin plate mills are resuming, production now falling little below normal in this division.

WALSH IS SENTENCED.

Chicago Banker is Given a Five-Year Term in a Penitentiary.

Chicago, Ill.—John R. Walsh, former president of the Chicago National bank of this city, and convicted of illegal use of the funds of that institution, was on Friday denied a new trial by Judge Anderson of the United States district court, and sentenced to serve five years in the federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth.

The court directed that the defendant pay the entire cost of the trial. An application was immediately made to Judge Grosscup of the United States circuit court of appeals, for a supersedeas, which was granted and Walsh was released under bonds of \$50,000 pending the hearing of his appeal.

A Famous Fireman Dies.

New York City.—Hugh Bonner, fire commissioner of New York, died Friday. Mr. Bonner was one of the ablest and best known firemen in the world. He entered the New York department in 1860, aged 21, and continued in the department until 1899, when he retired as chief.

Will Sail Around the World.

Washington, D. C.—Admiral "Bob" Evans' battleship fleet, after leaving San Francisco, will visit Hawaii, Samoa, Melbourne and Sydney, Australia, the Philippines and return to New York by way of the Suez canal.

EVELYN THAW SEEKS DIVORCE

SHE CLAIMS HER HUSBAND WAS INSANE WHEN THEIR MARRIAGE TOOK PLACE.

THAW WILL CONTEST SUIT.

Counsel for Thaw's Mother Says He Sought a Reconciliation With His Wife, but She Refused His Overtures.

New York City.—Evelyn Nesbit Thaw will institute proceedings today for the annulment of her marriage to Harry K. Thaw. The action will be based on the allegation that the defendant was insane when the union was contracted. Thaw purposes to defend the suit. The papers in the case will be served today and an early trial is expected. In the meantime the two, by mutual agreement, will remain apart.

In official statements by counsel for both parties last night was confirmed the long suspected culmination in the wedded lives of Stanford White's slayer and the woman whose story in his defense brought her an unhappy notoriety as wide as the reading world. For weeks it had been gossiped that a divorce was imminent and even during Thaw's last trial, throughout which his wife stood by him, it was generally believed that whatever the outcome for the prisoner, the two would never again live together.

These reports were frequently based on rumored opposition to the young woman on the part of the Thaw family. In their statements last night, however, counsel denied that Mrs. William Thaw, Harry's mother, had taken any part in the proposed separation.

During Tuesday Col. Franklin Bartlett, counsel for the elder Mrs. Thaw, made a statement in which he said that there was no truth in the reports that detectives employed by Mrs. William Thaw had had her daughter-in-law under surveillance for months. As to a possible separation, Col. Bartlett said:

"The matter is inchoate. There is every disposition on the part of my clients to be absolutely fair and just toward Evelyn Thaw and to make liberal provision for her support, and even more than that. Harry K. Thaw has sought a reconciliation and has not desired that his wife should leave him, but she desires a permanent severance of the marital relations. Any thought of espionage upon the young Mrs. Thaw would be abhorrent to Mrs. William Thaw and has not at any time been entertained by her."

Soon after Col. Bartlett's interview became public, Russell Peabody, personal counsel to Thaw, left for Matewan, where, since his last trial, Thaw has been confined in the asylum for the criminal insane. After a talk with his client Peabody returned to the city and met Daniel O'Reilly, one of Thaw's former attorneys, who is now counsel for Evelyn Thaw. The conference extended well into the evening and at its conclusion Mr. O'Reilly said:

"This action will be tried in New York county. As yet no mention has been made of any settlement in favor of Evelyn. If after the annulment proceedings are through and they are in favor of the plaintiff, some action may be taken for the recovery of counsel fees and alimony."

ORCHARD PLEADS GUILTY.

Slayer of Ex-Gov. Steunenberg Will Be Sentenced March 18.

Caldwell, Idaho.—Harry Orchard on Tuesday, before Judge Fremont Wood in the district court, was allowed to withdraw his former plea of not guilty entered at his first arraignment by order of the court, when he stood mute, and entered a plea of guilty to the charge of murder in the first degree as charged in the indictment. Judge Wood will sentence Orchard on March 18.

Orchard pleaded guilty to having killed ex-Gov. Steunenberg by the explosion of a dynamite bomb at the side gate of his residence here early in the evening of December 30, 1905. He was arrested for the crime on January 2, 1906, and in February, 1906, confessed that he was hired to kill Steunenberg by William D. Haywood, secretary, Charles H. Moyer, president, and George A. Pettibone, honorary member of the Western Federation of Miners. Haywood and Pettibone were tried in Boise and set free. The case against Moyer was dismissed.

Author of Two Murders is Sentenced.

Belleville, Ill.—Joseph Genetti, an Italian miner, on Tuesday pleaded guilty to the murder of Joseph Bologna by an infernal machine and was sentenced to 30 years in the pen. This makes a total of 45 years he must serve. He was sentenced recently to 15 years for the murder of August Genetti, his cousin. Genetti was convicted of placing an infernal machine in August Genetti's tool chest and the two men were killed. An accomplice, Joseph Zadra, was sentenced to a life term. August Genetti's objections to Joseph's attentions to his sister caused the double murder.

Charged Poisoner is Arrested.

Alleged Poisoner is Arrested. Chicago, Ill.—Mrs. Gertie Pierson, who is charged with poisoning her young husband, James L. Pierson, at Fossiland that she might be free to receive the attentions of a man 62 years old, was arrested Tuesday at Gibson City, where she has lived since the sudden death of Pierson.

Night Riders Shot Negroes.

Paducah, Ky.—Nearly one hundred masked "night riders" rode into the town of Birmingham late Monday night, shot six negroes, one of them, it is believed fatally, and whipped five others.

STORES A NECESSITY.

Small Retailers Fixed Permanently as Factors in Social Life.

There are pessimists who view with alarm the revolutionary forces at work in the business world. These people of narrow views solemnly announce that within a few years there will be no place for the small retailers, that the so-called country merchant will be driven out of business, and will be supplanted by large concerns that will have the trade which is now divided among a dozen or more small stores. Some of them go so far in their doleful predictions as to predict that the business of the country will be transacted in the larger cities, and that the country town shall become a thing of the past.

These woeful prophets fail to take into consideration the force of natural law in the social and the business world. They are illogical enough not to weigh the relationship of economy to trade conditions. Trade, like lighting or like water, follows the lines of least resistance. Citizens and towns exist upon economic foundations. On the virgin western plains a small colony of settlers seek homes. The wants and necessities of these settlers must be supplied. The result is the establishment of a store at a central point in the new colony. This store becomes the nucleus of a town, a city in embryo. As other settlers come in, the town grows more important, new industries are established, local government is organized, roads radiate from the place, banks and other financial institutions are established, and here we have a thriving town created.

This town exists because there is a necessity for its existence, and this necessity is the working out of economic laws. Wherever communities exist, tradesmen will exist. They are a necessary part of the social and business life. They are necessary agents in the distribution of commodities. They are the outgrowth of thousands of years of commercialism, and they cannot be supplanted by any other system. Large stores of the department kind may grow up. They are also a necessity and are revolutionary in character, but there will ever remain a place for the small store, it matters not how large the city or how small the town.

FREE PREMIUM DEAL.

Get-Rich-Quick Concern Put Out of Business by Postal Department.

Verily, fishing is good for the catchers of gudgeons and the various other kinds of suckers. They are caught of every class and kind, and so numerous are they that the post office department of the government pays out thousands of dollars monthly to protect them. But whether it is worth while to keep the brainless persons from parting with their change is the question. Yet it is one of the benign features of our government machinery to protect children, women, fools and incompetents in general, and as far as possible punish those who make any department of government the means of defrauding them. Recently a fraud order was issued against a New York city mail order concern, claiming to be "dealers in any kind of merchandise." It had been doing an extensive business, and in the possession of the New York postmaster when the order went into effect were 5,000 letters, each of which was supposed to contain 88 cents to pay packing charges on a "premium, a very valuable, beautiful silver fruit dish, gold lined, and guaranteed quadruple silver plate." These articles had cost the concern 30 cents each. The letters in the post office addressed to the company were in response to a circular which informed the "lucky" person that "you answered a premium offer some time ago, and we have just completed the list of the fortunate ones who may receive presents, and are now ready to ship them. Your name is on the list, and this notice is sent that you may claim the present." Then the gentle touch of 88 cents was made to "cover expense of packing." This is only one of hundreds of similar concerns which cause the post office department great annoyance, and the unsuspecting heavy losses.

Co-Operative Scheme.

One of the latest grafts to gather in the farmers is the co-operative store game. The field for this work is prolific; the west has had prosperity that has filled the pockets of many farmers, and it has made them greedy for more, and easy victims for the man who has a scheme that promises a field for investment and the saving of more dollars. The co-operative store is a plan that takes, and everywhere a success has been made of a co-operative elevator or similar enterprise that may be in the farmers' line the promoter of the co-operative store gets busy. If only a little stock is subscribed for, all the same, as it gives the promoter and his backers a better swing, and the jobbing houses that are behind the movement will have things their own way. The big rake-off is in the supplying of goods at from ten to fifteen per cent. more than the legitimate dealer would be required to pay, and selling at a smaller percentage of profit. The salary of the manager and the clerks takes up the big share of the "profits," but as long as a showing of earnings can be made the scheme succeeds, and the regular stores find business dull. Dozens of stores of this class have failed within the past few years.

A Tip.

Never do any worrying to-day that can be put off till to-morrow.

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