

THREE UNDER BAIL IN ARMY FRAUD

Ordnance Subordinate Credited With Unveiling "Irregularity" in Disposing of Supplies

Detroit, Mich., June 10.—(By A. P. Fred.) A soldier, vice consul for Greece here, and Grant Hugh Browne, millionaire sportsman, under indictment with Captain Soterios Nicholson, of Washington, finance officer of the ordnance department of the United States army, on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government in the disposal of excess army supplies valued at \$30,000,000, were arraigned in United States District Court yesterday and held for trial July 8. They pleaded not guilty and bail was fixed at \$20,000 each. Captain Nicholson, it was announced, is being held for possible action by the War Department.

Bert Harris, a New York junk dealer, also arrested in connection with the alleged conspiracy to eliminate competitive bidding for the army supplies, was given a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner Hurd and bound over to the grand jury for examination June 24.

Washington, June 10.—A subordinate officer of the army ordnance corps, serving in the district ordnance office in Detroit, is given official credit for unearthing the alleged plot to defraud the government of \$30,000,000 in the sale of surplus munitions. His name is being withheld for the present as no investigation of the men involved may not be embarrassed.

Secretary Baker expressed gratification that the department had been able to discover this "irregularity" within its own machinery.

Ripper Bill Passes; Vire Forces Beaten

Continued From Page One source" from which the amendments came.

Mr. Brady asked Mr. Ramsey if Governor Sprout sanctioned the amendments.

"The Governor did not give me the amendments," replied Mr. Ramsey.

Representative John M. Flynn, Democratic floor leader, then launched into a scathing attack on the Philadelphia registration board.

"The purpose of these amendments," Flynn declared, "is to hold the Philadelphia board in office until after the next election and keep the dominant forces there in control."

Mr. Flynn declared the registration board had "stricken the names of thousands of independents from the voting lists" and its conduct was "a scandal."

Wells objected to Flynn's remarks, but was overruled by Speaker Spangler.

"If these amendments prevail," replied Mr. Flynn, "I would not give the tip of my little finger for your charter or any other legislation. This bill is the crux of the whole situation."

The House defeated the motion sixty-two for and 121 against. The House refused to go into a committee of the whole.

On the final passage of the bill Representative John R. K. Scott attacked it in bitter terms.

Mr. Scott referred to Mr. Flynn "as the gentleman from Elk, who masquerades as a Democrat."

"This is not a vicious measure in the main," said Mr. Scott, "but it has objectionable features."

He attacked the ripper phase and lauded the work of the registration commissioners.

He declared an "unseen hand, powerful here, but desecrated at home, where it is known," is trying to force this bill upon the people of Philadelphia, who do not want it.

Mr. Scott charged the measure was designed to make the registration board partisan.

He declared that the provisions of the bill to appoint inspectors for the purpose of "gaining partisan advantage."

"We want the lists clean," shouted Mr. Scott, "and when you start to clean there will be some cleaning to do in some of the wards represented by members in this House."

Mr. Scott once more bitterly assailed Mr. Flynn.

The voters for whom we plead, the working man and the small houseowners, are against this bill.

"They are the same voters who sent us here in 1913 and 1915 to put through the child labor bill and the workmen's compensation act to aid the working people and their children."

"The same man who opposed them then, opposes them now."

Mr. Scott denied that thousands of voters were stricken from the lists, Mr. Flynn tried to interrogate Scott, but Mr. Scott refused.

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"We have also helped you men from Pittsburgh."

Mr. Scott paid a tribute to Governor Sprout and asserted the bill was an attempt by a faction to make it appear that the Governor is their ally.

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Mr. Perry said his name had been stricken from the list, although he had "lived in the same house twenty-five years."

The House applauded vigorously the speech of Mr. Perry.

The roll was called on the bill.

The Woodward bill, which comes up this afternoon, contains the single-chamber council provision, the appointive city solicitor and other features insisted on by the charter revisionists.

While the Woodward measure as it stands includes amendments insisted upon by the Governor against the revisionists' wishes, the revisionists have been successful in the main.

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The revisionists at a meeting last Tuesday rejected amendments offered by Attorney General Schaffer and added some proposed by Mr. Winston.

The Governor then announced that unless the bill were changed according to his wishes it would not receive his sanction.

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While the Council proposition was amended to make the membership twenty-one, as originally agreed upon, instead of the twenty-seven proposed by revisionists, the latter are not displeased. The authority of the Governor to decide this question has not for a moment been questioned.

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The civil service commission remains as it is.

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Then Mr. Ramsey came before the House and asked it to resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider the amendments. As the Vire forces agreed to that procedure there was no opposition.

The House was so desirous of getting the charter bill disposed of that when Mr. Ramsey asked the unusual procedure of having the amendments read in bulk instead of separately, no one objected.

The next move was to dispense with the special order for the final passage of the bill which had been fixed for 10:30 o'clock last night.

The bill will come up for final passage in the House today as soon as it is received from the printer. The Vire forces will oppose it as a matter of consistency.

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