

BRIBERY SENSATIONS

Bill Being Evolved by the Lexow Investigating Committee.

INSPECTOR STEERS NOW CHARGED.

Police Sergeant Taylor Declares That He Regularly Carried "Contributions" to Police Headquarters, Which Were Received by the Inspector.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Police Sergeant John J. Taylor, of the steamboat squad, testified before the Lexow committee yesterday that ex-inspector Henry V. Steers had systematically exacted moneys from policemen who were paid for extra work by steamship and railroad companies. Other witnesses swore that Captains Max F. Schmittberger, Anthony Allaire and George Castlin had been guilty of similar offenses. A futile effort was made by Counsel Goff to elicit from John W. Reppenhagen additional facts of importance, concerning the payment by Captain Creeden of \$25,000 for his captaincy. Reppenhagen repeated his former statement that he had received the money, had paid \$10,000 of it to ex-Assemblyman John J. Martin, who is now said to be dying of paralysis, and had retained \$3,000 for himself. He reiterated his belief that the \$10,000 was paid to Commissioner (now police justice) Voorhis.

The day's developments before the investigation committee entangled police headquarters in the net of official corruption. Despite this fact, however, public sentiment is far from as turbulent today as it was on Friday, when Captain Creeden's confession set the city agog with excitement.

Still, in official circles, the news of the day's exposures has brought amazement unbounded. Superintendent Byrnes, when told of Sergeant Taylor's testimony against ex-inspector Steers, manifested great astonishment.

"I am amazed, astounded," was his only comment, and no argument could induce him to pronounce an opinion. Inspectors Williams and Conlin evinced similar feelings. Sergeant John Harley, who was formerly detailed to duty in Inspector Steers' office, said, "I have always, and do now consider Inspector Steers a man of unblemished character, and I cannot believe that he ever accepted any bribe moneys."

And so many other officials of the police department expressed themselves.

Steers was for many years captain of the city hall squad. He was made inspector when Superintendent Murray took charge of the department, and retired two years ago. At that time he was chief inspector, in command of the detective office. His pension of \$2,500 per annum goes with the now defunct office of inspector. He is a conspicuous and popular member of the Washington Heights Methodist church.

The sensational evidence against Steers was not brought forward until late in the afternoon, Counsel Goff having paved the way with a number of witnesses, who swore that steamship and railroad companies had paid tribute to the police for guarding their property. One after another a stream of policemen swore to this fact, and then the big sensation of the session was sprung as a fitting climax to the day's proceedings.

Inspector McAvoy, who succeeded Steers as inspector, was also implicated by Taylor's testimony that the money was sent to him after Steers' retirement. Inspector McLaughlin was not incriminated, because he succeeded Steers only as chief of the detective bureau, and consequently did not handle the collections from the steamboat squad.

Many rumors concerning alleged indictments against police officers accused before the Lexow committee are current throughout the city, but beyond Sergeant Taylor's testimony the developments in connection with police cases yesterday have been of no palpable import.

Before any business was transacted by the committee the senators and their counsel indulged in a public discussion, the upshot of which was a decision that any action, original or civil, against Captain Creeden were barred and illegal; that the testimony and proceedings of the Lexow committee are privileged, and that Captain Creeden's reinstatement by the police board was a commendable proceeding.

At the request of Harry Hill, who some months ago testified that he had seen Governor Shepard in a disorderly house in this city, this testimony was expunged from the record.

Police Justice Voorhis appeared in the chamber and announced his desire for vindication in connection with the Creeden affair.

Another Cashier Goes Wrong.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—An examination of the books of the Central National bank disclosed the fact that the cashier, John E. Bielby, is a defaulter to the amount of \$27,000, of which sum he has \$10,000 to his credit in New York which he returned to the bank, leaving a net loss of \$17,000. It is the old story of speculation in stocks and getting in deeper and deeper until the bank will not suffer a loss. The bank will not suffer a loss to the amount of \$27,000.

Howgate Pleads Not Guilty.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Captain Henry Howgate pleaded not guilty to seven indictments brought against him for embezzlement while disbursing clerk of the special service when arraigned before Judge McCormack, of the criminal court. Counsel were notified to appear before the court next Saturday to arrange for the date of the trial on the other three indictments, two for embezzlement and one for forgery.

Five Killed by an Explosion.

WEST BAY CITY, Mich., Dec. 19.—An explosion of a boiler in Russell Brothers' box factory here killed five persons and injured three others. The dead are John Calcutt, fireman, aged 31; George Pfund, 17; Albert Rahn, 16; John Brann, 15, and Al Hevenbacher, 17. The explosion occurred while the mill was shut down for a few minutes, the boys flushing to the engine room to eat lunch.

A Pension for General Bank's Widow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The committee on invalid pensions of the house agreed on a bill granting a pension of \$100 monthly to Mary Palmer Banks, widow of General Nathaniel P. Banks.

Killed by a Fall of Rock.

WILBERFORCE, Pa., Dec. 19.—August Mienkiewicz, laborer, was killed and John Poy was fatally injured at the William A. Sollicy in Duray by a fall of rock.

BLIXT'S NOVEL DEFENSE.

Hypnotism as an Excuse for Crime—A Statement from Hayward's Father.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 19.—W. W. Hayward, Harry's father, today declared that both of his sons would be cleared, that Blixt was confessedly a notorious liar, and that his various confessions would have no weight. He added that the evidence was that Blixt was in the power of a gang, and committed the crime under their dictation, with the understanding that if discovered it should be ascribed to Harry Hayward. This gang, he added, was not composed of Minneapolis people. Mr. Hayward refused to account for the behavior of Adrian, the older brother, saying it would be explained later.

Mrs. Claus A. Blixt yesterday made a long and succinct statement to R. R. O'Dell, her husband's attorney, the purport of which was that she had long known of the immense influence exerted over her husband by Harry Hayward. She had tried in vain to counteract it. Blixt said several times that Hayward would be the death of him, and that he dared not to disobey him. Just before the crime Blixt went around like a man in a dream. It was hard to attract his attention and his memory became defective. Hayward impressed on Blixt what he had to do many times a day, and kept the idea of the crime constantly before him, according to the wife's statement.

This evidence is to be used in connection with that of Blixt's father and brother to show that the man was of a temperament most susceptible to an influence that approached the hypnotic in its character. It is a question as to whether the court will permit testimony of a hypnotic character, but the defense will make a strong effort to show at least that Blixt was not a free moral agent when he committed the crime. This line of defense will make the trial a most novel one in criminal annals.

STRIKE LEADERS SENTENCED.

Debs Gets Six Months and the Other Strike Leaders Three Months Each.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—"Guilty as charged" was the finding announced yesterday by Federal Judge William A. Woods against President Eugene V. Debs, of the American Railway union. The same finding was reached against the other American Railway union leaders on trial with Debs.

The finding of the court is that the defendants are guilty of contempt, but that any punishment inflicted would not be cumulative. In other words, there were two cases before the court, one for contempt and the other for violation of the federal statute. The latter case is merged into the former.

Debs was sentenced to six months in the county jail. The others on trial were given three months each, except McVane, who was released because there was no evidence against him.

The court announced that the punishment was not to take effect for ten days, in which time the defendants' attorneys will prepare an appeal. The prospective prisoners, after a short consultation with the attorneys, left the courtroom.

The defendants, with their official positions in the American Railway union, are: President Debs, Vice President Howard, Secretary Kehler, Treasurer Rogers and Directors Burns, Elliott, Hogan and Goodwin.

Shot Two Men, Then Killed Himself.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., Dec. 17.—Yesterday a tragedy was enacted in the private office of the Citizens' bank of Council Bluffs. John P. Huntington, assistant bookkeeper and collection clerk, shot C. A. Cromwell, of Minneapolis, and M. F. Hayden, of Chicago, representatives of the Fidelity and Casualty company, of New York, and then emptied his revolver into his own breast, inflicting a wound from which he died soon after. Cromwell and Hayden were investigating the loss of a check for \$500, and had traced it to Huntington. Cromwell and Hayden will recover.

Labor Riots in British Honduras.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 19.—Mail advices from Belize, British Honduras, tell of labor riots which occurred there on the 14th and 15th inst. The rioters were woodchoppers who failed to receive higher wages on demand. Then they began to wreck the stores of their employers, smashing a number of articles and carrying off many gold watches. For two hours the town was at the mercy of the mob, who compelled the police to release an arrested ringleader. Finally they were suppressed by the landing of a detachment of sailors and marines from a British steamer.

Debs Will Go to Jail.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—President Debs and his associates have decided to go to jail and serve the terms imposed upon them by Judge Woods, without making any effort to secure a habeas corpus or an appeal. This action was taken directly against the advice of their lawyers, who still insist that they will try to get the appeal. Debs gave as his reason for this sudden change of front that he and the other directors have no confidence in the courts, and believe they would not get a fair show there. The men will go to the Cook county jail on Monday.

Pension Fraud Escapes with a Fine.

DEBQUE, Ia., Dec. 19.—Another of the pension fraud conspirators was disposed of yesterday afternoon in a few minutes. The case of Dr. Kessel, of Cresco, indicted with VanLeu, was called, but did not come to trial, the defendant pleading guilty to the charges made in the three indictments. Judge Shiras sentenced him to eighteen months imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$1,000 and costs in each case. The sentence of imprisonment was then suspended and the defendant paid the fines and was discharged.

Remarkable, If True.

COLUMBIA, Pa., Dec. 19.—John J. McLaughlin, a local wheelman, yesterday afternoon rode an unpaired mile on the Ironville pike in 1 min. 21 sec. flat, thus beating the paced and unpaired records held respectively by Johnson, 1:25 2-5, and Pensey, 1:25 2-5. His first attempt was made in 1:35. Six watches were held on him.

Seely Pleads Guilty.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Samuel C. Seely, the former bookkeeper of the Shos and Leather National bank, charged with aiding the late Frederick Baker in robbing the bank of \$554,000, was arraigned in the United States circuit court, pleaded guilty and was remanded for sentence. He will probably be sentenced next Monday.

M. Brisson Succeeds Bureau.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—M. Brisson, who was prime minister on the fall of M. Jules Ferry in 1895, was elected president of the Chamber of deputies yesterday to succeed the late M. Burdeau, by a vote of 247 to 213 cast for M. Meline, the French Protectionist leader.

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Montgomery & Co.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

WRIT IN PARTITION.—To the heirs and legal representatives of Samuel Noll, Sr., deceased, late of Bellefonte borough, Penna.: Sarah R. Curry, Tyrone, Pa.; Isabella Stelmaker, 422 Madison street, Buffalo, N. Y.; W. Reeder, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; the following heirs of Elizabeth Lytle, deceased: Mary Miller, Stormstown, Pa.; Martha Way, Phillipsburg, Pa.; Sarah J. Galloway, York, Pa.; Robt. Lytle, Berea, Pa.; James, Henry William and Ellis Lytle, all of Stormstown, Pa.; the following heirs of Duncan Reeder and heirs of James Reeder, Cass Reeder, Mrs. Geo. Thomas, Mrs. John Thomas, all of whom reside in the west and residences unknown, obtainable on Monday, the 17th day of January, 1896, at 2 p. m. on the premises said decedent, at which time and place you can be present if you see proper.

WRIT IN PARTITION.—To the heirs and legal representatives of Samuel Noll, Sr., deceased, late of Bellefonte borough, Penna.: John Noll, Lucy Stine, Crescent City, Oklahoma; John Noll and Samuel Noll, Sr. Take notice that in pursuance of an order of the Orphans Court of Centre county, Pa., a writ of partition has been issued from said court to the sheriff of said county, returnable on Monday, the 25th day of January, 1896, and that the inquest will be held for the purpose of making partition of the real estate of said decedent on Thursday, the 17th day of January, 1896, at 2 p. m. on the premises of the decedent, at which time and place you can be present if you see proper.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE.

Pursuant to orders issued out of the Orphans' Court of Centre county, will be exposed to public sale by J. H. Mealey, administrator of the estate of Samuel Noll, Sr., deceased, the following described real estate, to-wit: On the 12th of January, 1896, at 2 p. m. on the premises of the decedent, at which time and place you can be present if you see proper.

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ELECTION NOTICE.

WHEREAS on the 15th day of December, A. D. 1894, on the petition and recommendation of two-thirds of the voters of the first ward, then in office in Centre county, to the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace of said county, praying and recommending that a decree be made, directing the submission of the question of a County Poor House to the votes of the qualified electors of Centre county, at the election to be held for township and borough officers, on the third Tuesday of February, 1895, in accordance with the terms of the Act of Assembly, approved the 4th day of July, A. D. 1879, providing for the erection of the county as a County Poor District, the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for said county, made the following order:

And now, December 15th, 1894, the within petition is read and considered and thereupon it is ordered and decreed that the question of selecting and purchasing real estate, erecting buildings, etc., by the commissioners of Centre county, for the purpose of carrying out the design of the Act of June, 1879, be submitted to the votes of the qualified electors of the county of Centre, which election shall be held at the election for borough and township officers, on the third Tuesday of February, 1895, and shall be held and conducted by the officers provided by law for holding elections, and according to the laws governing municipal and general elections within this Commonwealth. It is further ordered that 60 days notice of such election be given by the sheriff of Centre county, by publication in two newspapers published in Centre county.

BY THE COURT,

Now Therefore, I, John P. Condo, high sheriff of Centre county, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby make known and give notice to the electors of the county aforesaid, that at the election to be held in the several voting districts and precincts within said county, for township and borough officers, on the third Tuesday of February, 1895, there will be held and conducted by the officers provided by law for holding elections, and according to the laws governing municipal and general elections within this Commonwealth. Given under my hand and seal at my office in Bellefonte, this 15th day of December, A. D. 1894, and in the presence of the following year of the independence of the United States.

JOHN P. CONDO, Sheriff of Centre co.

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THE SUN.

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