

Thomas W. Lawson and Other Folk

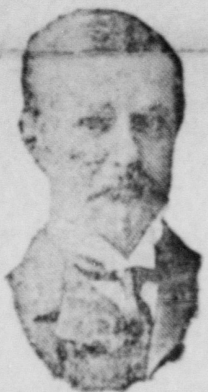
"Frenzied Finance" Man to Become Novelist—Meyer's New Job—Sir William Perkin—Attorney General Moody. Garlington's Difficult Task.



THOMAS W. LAWSON.

THOMAS W. LAWSON is not satisfied with the literary fame he has won through his magazine expose of "frenzied finance," but is credited with an ambition to enter the field of fiction. In view of his prediction for the "muck rake" it is supposed that should he write a society novel it would show up some of the doings of the smart set in a way that might not be quite to their liking. It might be supposed that with his war on "the system" and his campaign against boodling in the Massachusetts legislature Mr. Lawson would be too busy to give any attention to social conditions among the rich set, but he is a versatile man, and as he has dallied with horses, yachts, dogs, cattle, pictures and statuary, it is not surprising he should be up on matters connected with the Four Hundred. Making money has lost its special charms to him, it is so commonplace. Losing it, even by the million, is something to which he has become accustomed, too, but it seldom takes him very long to recoup his losses. He likes to spend his money better than he likes making it, and few Americans have ever spent their dollars with such prodigal generosity as he. If he wants a thing he buys it regardless of cost, as in the case of the historic Lawson pink. A New York concern offered \$2,000 for the slip, Marlow W. Galvia made it \$8,000, another Seriat made a bid of \$15,000, and Lawson jumped it to \$30,000.

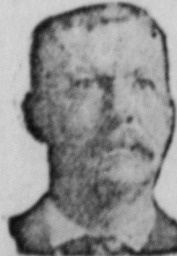
George von Lengerke Meyer, the United States ambassador to Russia, who is scheduled for early appointment to the cabinet as postmaster general, comes of a distinguished Massachusetts family and was born in Boston forty-eight years ago. He is a graduate of Harvard, has had a successful career in business and has served in various positions in the public service from alderman and member of legislature up to ambassador to Italy and to Russia. Both at the court of the king of Italy at St. Petersburg he has spent his money freely in keeping open house and giving grand receptions such as representative diplomats are supposed to provide in order to maintain the dignity of the government by which they are accredited.



GEORGE VON L. MEYER.

Mrs. Meyer, who was Miss Alice Appleton, is a woman of many personal charms and exceptional cleverness, and she has aided much in establishing her husband's success as a diplomat. At a luncheon party not long ago Mr. Meyer told an incident illustrating the gallantry and wit of the czar. "A beautiful Italian girl," he said, "was summoned to play the violin at the Winter palace. "She was an excellent musician. Her performance was admirable. At the end, with a smile and a little bow, the czar said to her: "If I were to shut my eyes while you are playing, I could fancy it were Tsaye, but I much prefer to keep them open."

William H. Moody, the present attorney general in the cabinet of President Roosevelt, who will soon go on the bench of the United States supreme court, was not always recognized as possessing the making of a great jurist. It was not long after he commenced the study of the law that an examination of candidates for the bar took place, and Mr. Moody presented himself for examination, but was told that he was not qualified.



WILLIAM H. MOODY.

"You can but try me and see," was the answer. The request was granted, and to the amazement of all he proved himself to be fully qualified and passed.

In the direct line of the Moody family there have been five judges of the higher courts, three of whom were chief justices. Joseph Moody, one of the attorney general's ancestors, was a stern puritanical minister in Portsmouth who, on account of his zeal, suffered imprisonment. He assisted the flight of Philip English and his wife at the time of the witchcraft delusion. He was an earnest, outspoken advocate of those oppressed by witchcraft. The Rev. Joseph Moody of York, Me., or, as he was always called, "Handkerchief" Moody, was another relative. He suffered from a nervous disorder on account of the accidental killing of a friend in his youth. This weighed up on his mind as the guilt of an unforgotten sin, and, deeming that he was unfit to mingle with the world, he always kept a handkerchief over his face when he was forced to eat with

others. He always ate at a side table with his face turned away. Sometimes he was induced to show his face, but his eyes were always closed. In public service he preached with his back to the audience, putting his handkerchief back over his face when he had finished.

Another Moody who has been winning fame is William Vaughn Moody, who wrote "The Great Divide," a play which is one of the biggest hits of the present theatrical season in New York and in which Henry Miller and Margaret Anglin are appearing. Mr. Moody is poet as well as playwright and fills the chair of English literature at the University of Chicago. He was born in Spencer, Ind., in 1869 and graduated from Harvard university in 1893. He is a great-grandson of one of the pioneer settlers of Indiana, and legend has it that the first brick homestead in that region belonged to his family. He has studied in Europe and has been writing verse since he was fifteen years of age, but it was not until about a half dozen years ago that he published his first important poetic work, "The Masque of Judgment," a lyrical drama. In 1901 he brought out his first volume of verse, and since then he has published "The Fire Bringer" and a history of English literature.

Chemists and scientists in general and men engaged in commerce and manufacture have recently been celebrating in this country and in England the jubilee of the coal tar industry. It is fifty years since Sir William Perkin, the distinguished English scientist now in the United States in connection with this celebration, made the discoveries which led to the manufacture of mauve and other dyes from coal tar. More than \$100,000,000 is now invested in such industries in the United States alone. Sir William Perkin is a man of venerable but hale and hearty appearance at the age of sixty-eight. He was only eighteen when he discovered mauve dye. At a dinner given in his honor in New York he related the circumstances under which he made his discovery. "One day," said he, "I was in the laboratory of the German chemist Hoffmann engaged in an experiment to purify aniline. I failed to find it and was about to throw away a certain black residue when I thought it might be interesting. The solution of it resulted in a strangely beautiful color. You know the rest."

At the national business show, held each year in the Madison Square Garden, New York, one of the leading features is the contest for the typewriting championship. This was last won by Miss Rose L. Fritz, a New York girl whose fingers are nimble and whose wits are quick. She has made a remarkable record in writing on the machine from dictation and from manuscript. She has typewritten in a minute as many as 219 words, and her record for an hour is 4,017 words. The typewriting contest attracts entries from all parts of the United States and even from Europe.

John Kendrick Bangs, the humorist, was moving goods from his home in Yonkers, N. Y. It was a rainy day, and before the house stood three moving vans, and the lawn was covered with furniture of all sorts. Mr. Bangs stood in the downpour expediting the movers when a lady, a neighbor with whom he was acquainted, passed and smilingly asked: "Oh, are you moving, Mr. Bangs?" "No, indeed, Mrs. —," replied the humorist. "You see, it is such a beautiful day that I thought I would get all the furniture out of my house and take it for a ride."

Inspector General E. A. Garlington of the United States army had a difficult task to perform in connection with the trouble over the battalion of colored troops of the Twenty-fifth infantry, stationed at Brownsville, Tex. An order was issued that the members of the battalion must give the names of the men who got into difficulty with citizens of Brownsville or be dishonorably discharged from the service. The inspector general visited the post and lined up the troops on the parade grounds, but was unable to learn much. After taking several affidavits he left to INSPECTOR GENERAL GARLINGTON.

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WILL PROBE CHARGES

Attorney General Will Go to Bottom of Pennsylvania Capitol Matter.

POLITICS WILL NOT INTERFERE

Carson to Investigate Fully Allegations of Overcharges in Connection With the Building, Irrespective of Who is Elected Governor.

Philadelphia, Nov. 6.—"Irrespective of which way the election goes," said Attorney General Hampton L. Carson, "I will probe fully the allegations of overcharges, etc., made in connection with the state capitol at Harrisburg. "I wish it distinctly understood that politics will not in any way, shape or form interfere with or bias my investigation. It will be thorough, and at the same time there will be reasonable. It will also be conducted in a businesslike manner. I do not propose to be hurried or to jump too quickly at conclusions. I shall proceed coolly, calmly and rationally as the best means to the end, and, as I said before, will do my duty, whatever it may be, regardless of politics or who is elected governor."

Asked if he had received any reply yet from John H. Sanderson, the contractor who furnished the capitol and whom he asked to explain the "per foot" and "per pound" system of bidding and figuring, the attorney general declared he had not.

"As a matter of fact," said he, "I do not now look for any reply until after election. In a gentlemanly, businesslike way, I sent a request for information to Mr. Sanderson, setting before him fully the charges made by Mr. Berry. He is not forced, you must remember, to supply me with the information I asked, but I presume he himself will be perfectly willing to furnish an explanation.

"When I receive his answer, I shall weigh it and give it careful consideration before rendering my opinion." Discussing the capitol charges further, Mr. Carson reiterated his previous declarations that, should it be proved that the state has been defrauded by any person or persons, he will not hesitate to take the necessary steps. "But it must be remembered," he added, "that for me, to make

charges or institute proceedings which I could not back up by evidence would not only be foolish, but a detraction wrong done to the person or persons accused."

The request made to Sanderson for information is the first step in an investigation which the attorney general intends to make. As most of Berry's charges have been directed against the costly \$9,000,000 furniture and "trimmings," considerable interest is left in the reply Sanderson will make. Ever since criticism was directed against the capitol Sanderson has not a word to say for publication. This has made curiosity all the more keen as to his answer.

The members of Hartslog Valley Grange, 375, of Huntingdon, have unanimously adopted a set of resolutions calling for an investigation of the capitol graft charges. They demand that the probe be made a capable judges of material and workmanship, and that all the evidence be made public. The second clause of the resolution is as follows: "If it is now lawful for any officer, board or body of men in charge of a public work to draw from the state treasury without an appropriation, or in excess of an appropriation, we demand that such power be taken away or greatly limited."

A movement is on foot to have other granges throughout the state adopt similar resolutions.

Aaron Hostetter Accused of Violating Anti-Corruption Act.

York, Pa., Nov. 6.—Aaron Hostetter, postmaster at Hanover, and H. M. Stokes, a resident of the same place, were arrested charged with violating the anti-corruption act. Both are Republicans. Edward Young, a Democrat, of Hanover, is the prosecutor. The defendants entered bail for a hearing next Saturday.

Denounce Phonetic Spelling.

Washington, Pa., Nov. 6.—The principals' round table, an organization of Washington county educators, at a meeting here adopted resolutions denouncing the new phonetic spelling recommended by President Roosevelt, and urged the various boards of education or school directors to prohibit its use in the schools of the county. The resolution also protested to the state department of education against the "monstrous conditions that exist educationally in Pennsylvania" and urged better supervision of school athletics.

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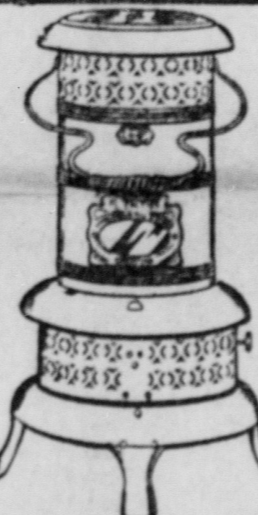
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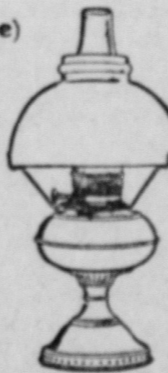
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