

THE CLIMAX IS AT HAND IN FRANCE.

Ten More Victims of the Bad Panama Scandal Thrown in the Hopper.

A DRAMATIC SCENE IN THE CHAMBER

When the List of the Five Newly Accused Deputies is Read Out Loud in the Lobby.

CLEMENCEAU DENOUNCED BOLDLY BY DEROULEDE,

And the World's Champion Duelist Has Two Affairs of Honor on Hand to Settle This Morning.

Rouvier's Rage When He Discovers His Name Among the Accused—In His Anger He Threatens to Uncover Cabinet Secrets That Will Incite the People to Revolt—Arené, of Corsica, Has a Unique Explanation of the Way His Name is Connected With the Big Scandal—Clemenceau Calls Derouledé a Lie—Millevoye Defends Boulanger's Name and Must Also Meet the Duelist To-Day—The Two Encounters Expected to Be Deadly—Great Events for France Portending the Third Republic in Its Last Days, Say Many.

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

PARIS, Dec. 20.—[Copyright.]—Ten more victims of the Panama Canal scandal were today thrown into the hopper of the French mill of justice. All are men of great prominence in the public affairs of France, and excitement throughout Paris and the country is again at fever heat. The official list includes five Senators, two of them former Cabinet Ministers, and five Deputies. The official announcement was made simultaneously in the Senate and the Chamber this afternoon.

French law forbids criminal prosecution of a member of Parliament without the consent of a special committee of each House. The President of each body announced that he had been notified by the Minister of Justice that the Government desired to begin proceedings against five members. Both branches voted to refer the matter to the committees instantly and adjourned with that purpose.

Names of the Senators Given. In the Senate the names of those implicated were publicly announced. This is contrary to precedent, but the President said so many names were in current rumormongering that he read the list in order to prevent mistakes. He named Senators Dives, late Minister of Agriculture; Bérard, the intimate friend of Gambetta; Thevenet, late Minister of Justice; Leon Renault, late President of Police, and Albert Grevy, brother of the late President and former Governor General of Algeria.

In the Chamber the names were not read, but there was a rush to the lobby, where the list was made known amid indelible excitement. Rouvier, the other day Minister of Finance, headed the list. Then followed Arené of Corsica, Dugué de la Fauconnerie, Jules Roche and Antonin Poincaré. All of the ten save Fauconnerie are members of the Left. The special committee of the Chamber was formed by each of the 11 divisions into which the House is divided naming one member.

Rouvier's Anger Hurts His Bounds. Rouvier attended the meeting of his division, and learning that he was one of the accused he rose to his feet in a desperate passion and exclaimed: "I was a responsible custodian of State secrets. The time has come when such secrets are no longer sacred. I shall go into the Tribune when the Chamber resumes its sitting, and make an explicit statement of my conduct of the Department of Finance during my tenure of office."

The threat carried consternation throughout the Chamber and Government offices. It meant that Rouvier, in desperate anger, would uncover in his record of almost ten years in the Cabinet events which might easily incite the already exasperated people to revolt. Both committees voted to authorize prosecutions, and then everybody waited to see what would happen.

The lobby of the Chamber was in a great uproar for two hours. Arené, of Corsica, strove in vain to learn for the first time that he was to be prosecuted. He professed indifference, and remained for nearly an hour indifferently chatting with friends. He said to the DISPATCH correspondent: "I am not a man of flight. I am not a man of flight. I am not a man of flight."

When the Chamber reassembled the members were treated not to the terrific onslaught which Rouvier had threatened, but to a sensation of another nature. Rouvier and Arené defended themselves with great vigor, but the ex-Minister of Finance confined his remarks to the assertion that the only suspicious evidence against him was due to the fact that the Government had accepted a loan from individuals to the had accepted for the defense of the Republic, and entries of reimbursement of these advances had not been understood.

that the most guilty individual in the whole Panama scandal was the man who had escaped accusation because he held a France in terror of his sword, his pistol and his pen.

Clemenceau Denounced by Derouledé. He declared his intention to name him, and amid breathless excitement he pointed to the great Radical, M. Clemenceau, and called him by name. He proceeded to denounce him in scathing terms, and the House and galleries listened almost breathlessly, expecting on the spot the tragedy which the words portended.

Clemenceau sat silent till the accused finished his terrific denunciation, then walked slowly to the Tribune and began in measured, passionate words, a response. He made a quiet denial of the charges, eloquent and simple in its terms. He paid little attention to his accuser individually until his very last sentence. Then, in placid but deadly tones, without any display of feeling, he applied the epithet "liar" to Derouledé.

Everybody knew what that meant, but Clemenceau was not to escape with one duel. He had made a stirring allusion to Boulanger, and Deputy Millevoye replied, defending the memory of Le Brave Général. He resented the imputation of Boulanger's corrupt connection with Dr. Herz, now hiding in England, and said he knew General's only knowledge of Herz was caused by Clemenceau bringing them together, implying a corrupt purpose on the latter's part.

Two Duels for Clemenceau To-Day. Clemenceau, it is understood, will meet both his accusers on the field of honor tomorrow morning. Everybody expects the encounters to be deadly, for they result from no ordinary provocation. Clemenceau has the reputation of being the most skillful of the fencers, the best pistol shot in France. It is everybody's lips that he will be at the head of the next list of Deputies to be prosecuted which the Government will send in. He is everywhere accused.

The implication of the great Radical Deputy will do something to scatter popular search for a leader of the moral revolt. The exasperated populace may well feel a loss when it looks for a combined prophy and brains among the public men of France to-day. The conviction is becoming widespread, after to-day's excitement, that great events are impending for France. It will be idle to prophesy, guesses and opinions are without end. Revolution has become a common word with our people.

"The Third Republic is in its last days," said a prominent Deputy to me in the lobby to-night. Carnot will resign, say many. There will be a military revolution, the army will revolt in the face of all this corruption, say others.

A Government Overthrow Predicted. A prominent journalist not connected with any paper in the vernal list of Panama beneficiaries said confidently that the Government overthrow in some form would take place early next week, after the adjournment of the Chamber. I endorse none of these opinions. The expected never happens in France.

A report reached the newspaper offices at midnight that ex-Minister Rouvier had shot himself. None of his friends in town had seen him after the adjournment of the Chamber, and the rumor was generally credited. THE DISPATCH reporter reached the house of Rouvier, in a distant part of the suburb of Neuilly, at 2 o'clock to-night. An agent of the secret police stationed there, and a servant both said that Rouvier, after being out all the evening, had returned at midnight and retired.

The names on the list presented to Parliament for prosecution which caused the greatest surprise are Senators Bérard and Thevenet. The basis of the charge against them is the allegation that each received about \$10,000 of the Panama corruption fund.

Other Names Once on the List. There were two other names on the list as first prepared and handed in by the Government to-day. It is reported. These were Senator Hervé, editor of Le Temps, and Deputy Henri Maret, editor of Le Radical. Everybody expects another and longer list before the end of the week.

Several of the accused were seen by a DISPATCH reporter to-night. Senator Bérard denies any connection with Panama, and said he was ready to prove that the money he received was merely the return of funds he had advanced to Baron Reinach for the latter's private use. Senator Thevenet pronounced the accusations infamous and based on groundless suspicions.

Jules Roche, late Minister of Commerce, strangely enough had not heard of the day's events in the Chamber until THE DISPATCH reporter called to-night. He was affected even to tear by the news. He could not see, he declared, on what ground any prosecution or investigation could be brought against him, for he had nothing to do with the Panama loan, lottery, or press bribery.

Necessary to Purge the Republic. Minister Loubet said to me to-night that the prosecutions announced and to come were absolutely necessary to purge the republic. Some of the accused might clear themselves, but the others must be expelled from the Parliament they have dishonored. Those who criticized the Government for severity should await developments. Arrangements for the duels growing out of to-day's events in the Chamber were completed to-night. Deputies Thompson and Menard Dorian will second Clemenceau in both encounters. DuMonteil and Baries will represent Derouledé, and Jourde and Coussol will take care of Millevoye's interests. As all concerned are Deputies the duel can take place anywhere, as they are exempt from prosecution.

THE DAY IN DETAIL. WILD SCENES OF EXCITEMENT IN THE LOWER HOUSE. Dramatic Denouncement of the Day in the Chamber—Clemenceau Replied by Two Colleagues Who Forgot for the Time Being That He Is the Champion Duelist—Causes of the Coming Encounters.

that the examining magistrates of the Panama Canal cases had received many check stubs in which appeared the initials of Deputies, and that compromising evidence against the individuals in question had been laid before the Parliamentary Investigating Commission, and especially as to the part they took in the lottery issue.

The application, could not be granted without the consent of the House, as the Deputy under law were exempt from certain legal processes. The matter was decided that the standing committees should meet and consider the application. The sitting was then adjourned.

The Senators Who Are Suspected. In the Senate M. Le Royer, the President, was expected to receive a demand for the prosecution of Senators Bérard, Albert Grevy, Bérard, Thevenot and Deves for the part they had taken in the affairs of the canal company. The matter was referred, as in the Lower Chamber, to the standing committees. In the Senate and the Lower Chamber special committees were elected to consider the application of the President, and both were understood to favor the prosecution of ex-Minister Rouvier.

M. Rouvier appeared before the standing committee to-day as a member, in his own defense. He was glad, he said, of an opportunity to explain his position. There was nothing in the documents seized to implicate him in the Panama Canal Company. He had served the State in high office for several years, and he had always deemed it his duty to preserve silence regarding certain facts. The accusations made against his honor and integrity had relieved him of such obligation, and he would now speak out in the Chamber without reserve.

Intense Excitement in the Lobby. Before the Chamber resumed business, the statement had gone abroad and caused intense excitement in the lobby. M. Clemenceau's charges as to the call at Baron de Reinach's house on the evening before the latter's death, and the statement that the latter's name was on the stub of M. Thirion's check.

The galleries were packed. Deputies who had intended to absent themselves from the sitting hurried back to the Chamber. Not a dozen seats in the whole auditorium were vacant. The report of the special committee, read by Chairman Alexandre Millerand, favored the granting of the application for authority to prosecute, but in the intense anxiety of the moment it was hardly noticed. All waited impatiently for the explanations of the accused members.

Deputy Arené, charged by M. Adrenx, late Prefect of Police, with corruption in connection with the loan of 1888, was the first one to protest his innocence. He made an emphatic denial. An emphatic and general denial. After reminding the Chamber of his long public service, his hitherto unexceptional record, and the obligations to official rectitude which he had solemnly sworn to, he made an emphatic general denial that he had accepted checks from the Panama Canal Company or its agents, or had any direct or indirect connection of any sort with the company's enterprise.

He said that he had received from the Panama Canal Company a check for \$10,000, but that he had never cashed it, and that he had never seen the money. He said that he had never seen the money, and that he had never seen the money.

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in bribes and of advising the abandonment of Egypt by the French Government. M. Floquet Gets It in the Neck. In the consequent tumult M. Millevoye turned upon M. Floquet, who was trying to restore order, and shouted at him an insulting name. Millevoye closed his speech with the assertion that Herz was the paid emissary of a foreign power.

M. Bourgeois, Minister of Justice, announced, amid applause, that he would arrange Dr. Herz before the Disciplinary Council of the Legion of Honor. M. Derouledé declared himself satisfied, and he withdrew his interpellation. The Chamber was then adjourned.

The money of the Canal Company to-day was devoted to the consideration and adoption of resolutions relating to administration of the company's affairs, in order to insure the proper conduct of business in the absence of Charles De Lesseps and other officials of the company.

De Lesseps Not a Briber. Victor de Lesseps testified before the Parliamentary Investigating Committee to-day that he was not concerned in the lottery loan issue, and that he was ignorant of any attempt made to bribe anybody in the interest of the company.

An anonymous letter received by a committee yesterday led to a search this morning among the proofs and negatives of a photographer. Proofs and negatives of six of these checks were found. When contrasted with the original checks, the hiding place of the stubs, and these have been seized by the committee.

Baron de Reinach's papers were also examined to-day by the committee. It was found that many original documents had been abstracted and replaced with copies.

SATOLI'S REPORT TO ROME. The Pope Represented to Be Pleased With the Results of the Conference. ROME, Dec. 20.—Mgr. Satoli sent to Cardinal Rampolla a letter containing the decisions and reports of the proceedings of the American Archbishops' Conference. Rampolla has replied without delay, expressing the Pope's satisfaction with the communication and giving further instructions regarding Satoli's mission to the United States. A high church authority says the Vatican is well pleased with the decisions of the conference on the scholastic questions considering them at once moderate and tending to the maintenance of the resolutions are in harmony with the precise instructions given by the Pope.

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RUINED BY HIS SON.

St. Louis' City Treasurer Removed and His Successor Is in Charge.

THE CITY CAN'T BE LOSER.

As the Late Official's Bond Is a Good One for Half a Million.

BACKING THE LOSING HORSES

And Letting His Sweetheart Handle the Money at the Track.

CAUSED THE DEAD MAN'S DOWNFALL

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—Acting Mayor C. P. Wallbridge has suspended City Treasurer Michael Forstrel and appointed Hon. Charles Parsons, President of the National Association of Bankers, to fill the office temporarily. Mr. Parsons at once gave a bond worth \$100,000, and early this morning commenced a thorough and systematic examination of the accounts of the looted city treasury.

Marshal F. McDonald, the lawyer, probably knows as much about the affairs of ex-Treasurer Forstrel and his son Ed as anyone in the city. He said to-day: "During my investigation of Yow's case I found out a great deal. I learned that Forstrel was using the public funds to build up Forestville, and that in the past 12 months the treasury had paid out \$150,000 in interest, at the rate of 5 per cent a month, to the money lenders of the town.

The Father Very Much to Blame. "Forstrel had a habit of signing five or six or a dozen blank notes and leaving them in the cash of the office then, and whenever it became necessary to have money Ed filled out the check for \$5,000 or \$10,000 whichever was needed.

"Yow was then sent for, and through him J. B. Vett or J. Brooks Johnson discounted the notes, and as the police force then, and at times his wife, Ed would do the negotiating. Then Forstrel became frightened, and put a mortgage on his property for \$75,000. He thought this would cover his notes, but he did not know exactly how much he was borrowing.

"The dead boy had been doing the heavy work for nearly a year. Forstrel was playing the races recklessly and was running around with women and speculating in real estate. His father knew this, but did not know how to stop him. The office was run so loose that I know of one department in the Court House where every clerk in the place has drawn his salary in advance for nearly a year.

Charges Ignored by the Grand Jury. At the recent meeting of the grand jury Mr. McDonald laid the charges before that body, he says, but the jury ignored them. He said that the grand jury had been told by Miss Fannie Lewis, who lives here young Forstrel's mother. She is a daughter of the landlady, Mrs. Lizzie Lewis, and is a very nice girl. She is a very nice girl.

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BLAINE IS NO WORSE,

But He Sleeps, and the Doctors Fear No Danger of Death

WITHOUT A DEFINITE WARNING.

Something Beside Bright's Disease Is Fapping His Life Away.

THE FAMILY WON'T TELL WHAT IT IS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1. A. M.—Blaine was sleeping and no worse at midnight. The doctor says there is no danger of his dying to-night.

According to the report that came out from the Blaine mansion in the morning the ex-Secretary's condition showed signs of a slight but still noticeable improvement. Dr. Johnston, after his early morning call, hardly was as far as this. He told the reporters that Mr. Blaine was no worse than he was the day before.

Mr. Blaine passed a fairly comfortable night and managed to get a comfortable amount of sleep. During the day he felt a trifle stronger for his rest and seemed to be quite bright and cheerful. Later in the day, when the sun came out from behind the clouds, his spirits revived accordingly, for he has a room facing toward the South and enjoys the gentle sunlight, of which there has been so little for the past few days.

Little Hope of a Lasting Rally. Even the physicians and the members of the family who are about the bedside do not regard the improvement in the great statesman's condition as a sign of a permanent recovery. Another such case of heart failure as the patient suffered on Sunday, it is admitted, would probably be more than he could survive.

It is said that the members of the Blaine family have still a hope that he may recover sufficient to be removed from the city to some point in the South, where a warmer temperature would be beneficial to the sick man. Intimate friends of the family fear that any such hope is but a vain one, and they are prepared for the worst at any time.

Newspaper men again asked of the physicians what was the real nature of the disease from which Mr. Blaine is suffering. They were given to understand that it was by the wish of the family that this is kept from the public eye, but that if it were made public it would open a large field for discussion that would be intensely disagreeable to his family and friends.

The opinion has been getting ground steadily that the real nature of the disease is the matter than Bright's disease; that if Mr. Blaine is a sufferer from that malady, at any rate it is not the only trouble.

Whatever it may be, it is admitted that the disease has made such inroads upon his constitution that there can be but the very slightest threat from which to hang any hope of his living for even a short space of time.

The statement that it is no worse than he was Monday carries with it but little hope of improvement. It is feared that there may be another sinking spell at any time, and the question at once presents itself whether the sick man has strength enough to last it through.

A telegram from New York says: Dr. Alfred L. Loomis, the specialist on cardiac and pulmonary diseases, who was called in consultation with Drs. Hyatt and Johnson, Mr. Blaine's physicians, said to-day: "I spent several hours at Mr. Blaine's bedside and after examining thoroughly into his condition, I believe that he is in no danger, not in any immediate danger, although he is a very sick man. His condition is critical, but I believe that he may live for weeks. I found Dr. Hyatt and Johnson's opinion to be quite correct, and while I do not care to speculate as to just what the nature of his disease is, I believe that the physicians are doing for him all that is possible to be done. Further than that I am not at all ready to say anything about the case. I want to Washington at the request of the family that a specialist on the disease from which the ex-Secretary is suffering should be called in. Previous to my going to Washington I had never before seen Mr. Blaine. I consider his condition slightly improved. His mind was clear when I left, and I did not notice any change in his condition during the time I was here."

NO RECONCILIATION. Marie Nevins Claims Denial of Ducey's Alleged Mission. NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Marie Nevins, who recently secured a divorce from James G. Blaine Jr., declared to a reporter to-day that Rev. Father Ducey did not go to Washington to effect a reconciliation between her and young Blaine.

HACKED WITH A HAMMERT. A Wealthy Woodman—Man Perhaps Mortally Wounded by a Carpenter. WOOSTER, O., Dec. 20.—[Special.]—John C. Talcott, manager of the Quimby estate, had an altercation with a carpenter in his employ here to-night, and was probably fatally injured by blows from a hatchet in the hands of the workman, Andrew Trunk. Arteries were cut in his neck and his spine was injured. Trunk gave himself up to the police.

Portugals' Turn Now. LISBON, PORTUGAL, Dec. 20.—A Cabinet crisis is impending here.

FOR MAYOR

PLATFORM

SEEKING POISON THEIR GRAVES.

Coroner McDowell Will Exhume All Bodies of Homestead Suspects.

ANALYSES TO BE MADE.

Important Evidence Being Secured by Finkerton Detectives.

Painful Experiences of Men Who Worked in the Mill—Remedies That Increased the Pain—Doses of Empyrole Seized by Sudden Stomach of a Victim—What a Physician Found in the Works—Many Mysterious Cases to Be Investigated—The Sniffer Inquest—A Speedy Trial for the Accused Men.

Coroner McDowell proposes to carry his investigation of the Homestead poisoning beyond the grave. He intends to exhume the bodies of all the men who worked in the mill and who have since died under circumstances to which the slightest suspicion is attached. In each case the stomach will be subjected to the most searching chemical test to discover if possible the real cause of death, and whether any active poison contributed to it.

The Coroner consulted with the Court yesterday regarding this important step. It was agreed among them that the most rigid investigation possible should be made.

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