

EVIDENCE OF COLLUSION

More Testimony of Graft in the Harrisburg Capitol Case.

CAST IRON SOLD FOR BRONZE

"Specially Designed" Fireplace Fixtures Identical With Stock Found in Pittsburg Store.

In his testimony before the Capitol investigation at Harrisburg, former State Treasurer Frank G. Harris, said: "I had no idea the people were to be defrauded as they have been. I wash my hands of the whole affair; it is outrageous."

Harris confessed the \$2,000,000 metal filing case contract had been awarded without limit as to amount and therefore in violation of law; that it had been awarded in 1902, before the contract was let for the building in which the cases were to be placed; that the board made no effort to find out why the price was fixed at \$12 a foot as compared with \$6 a foot the previous year, and that nobody tried to get an estimate of the total of the contract.

He admitted the minutes of the board do not show the Pennsylvania Construction Company was ever authorized to supply the cases for which it received \$2,000,000.

The burden of Harris' testimony was that the board trusted everything to Architect Huston and had been "fooled."

Immediately his testimony brought out the fact that Huston was paid \$50,000 for designing the metal furniture, although, except for a few ornaments, all the designing was done by the manufacturer.

Cast Iron at \$4 Per Pound.

That there are at least three thousand pounds of cast iron in the lighting fixtures the State bought of Contractor Sanderson as pure bronze at \$4 a pound was shown by the testimony of William F. Sauter, President of the Williamson Bros. Company, iron founders of Philadelphia, who swore to making iron castings known as "loadings" for the Pennsylvania Bronze Company, which Sanderson organized especially for this work. The price on these castings was 4 cents a pound.

The State paid Sanderson \$72 each for 50 sets of brass and iron for as many fireless fireplaces in the Capitol. They were put in as "specially designed" and Architect Huston got 4 per cent for "designing" them.

The probing commission bought a pair exactly like them for \$33 from Aiken & Co., of Pittsburg, who have been carrying them in stock for ten years. Secretary Harry S. Calvert took the stand and testified to the facts.

TRACK DYNAMITED.

C. & P. Flyer Had Narrow Escape Near Cleveland.

Dynamite was used Sunday afternoon in an attempt to wreck fast train No. 311, on the Cleveland and Pittsburg branch of the Pennsylvania railroad. This train leaves Pittsburg at 5 p. m., and is due in Cleveland at 8:15 p. m.

A large piece was blown out of the rail a short distance beyond Bedford, and had it not been for the track walker, a terrible wreck would have occurred, as the train goes very rapidly near this point on its way to Cleveland. The wreckers must have done their work in broad daylight, as the attempt was discovered just after dusk, when the night rack walker made his first round.

The track walker said he heard a dull explosion and ran down the track. He found a large piece torn out of the rail, and the roadbed torn up from the force of the explosion. He knew the fast train was about due and ran all the way to Bedford, waving his lantern as he ran, for fear the train might already be near. But he reached Bedford before the train, and told the operator what he had found. The operator ran with him further up the track and flagged the train.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

General Booth, of the Salvation Army, was accorded an enthusiastic reception on his arrival in Tokyo from the United States. The Governor and Mayor of Tokyo were among those who welcomed the General.

Communication has now been opened with all the important points affected by the earthquake in Mexico. The loss of life will reach 100 and many persons are injured. The whole of the State of Guerrero, it is said, has been devastated.

John Bunden, aged 101, of Tennessee, sends to England for the sweetest of his youth, and will wed her upon her arrival at his Tennessee home. They were separated by parents 80 years ago, and both have remained single.

A strike has been practically declared by the machinists of the Grand Trunk in Canada, who are members of the International Machinists Association. Under the new law the men cannot go out, however, until the minister of labor has had an opportunity to adjust the dispute. The men want a 15 per cent. increase in wages.

Would Disfranchise Negroes.

The Senate, by a vote of 23 to 5, has adopted a joint resolution to declare the fourteenth amendment to the national constitution void and to disfranchise the negro in Florida. The resolution was introduced by Senator John S. Beard, of Pensacola, who said the amendments were irregularly adopted and illegal. He believed the Supreme Court of the United States would uphold this State in disfranchising the negro. The House will adopt the resolution without a dissenting vote.

20,000,000 STARVING.

Russian Peasantry Must Suffer Before Next Harvest.

Writing from the Russian famine district, Dr. Kennard, who was sent by the Society of Friends (Quakers), to investigate conditions among the peasantry, draws an appalling picture of the suffering.

This is the worst famine Russia has known. No less than twenty millions of people throughout the southeastern provinces cannot live without aid to see another harvest, and I may say this estimate has been approved not only by the Zemstvo organization, but by the Government itself. The famine-stricken region is spread over such a wide area (five times the size of France) that more than ten degrees of latitude are involved.

It will be seen that funds will be needed to the end of July to feed all these millions, and then the harvest will not bring relief, for there are many hundreds of thousands to whom the harvest will not bring relief, for they have neither land nor cattle. The few cows in existence are in such a pitiful condition that they are useless for milking purposes. The result is that babies and young children are being forced to eat the coarse black bread and the indigestible young cucumbers, which are luxuries to the adult Russian peasant to-day, but are death to the baby, or at any rate spell disease.

The people have sold their all and in most cases have likewise sold in advance all the harvest might bring them. They have sold themselves and their work, and from all over the southeastern provinces reports are coming in of young women and girls forced to sell themselves to obtain food.

For these suffering people, to whom the coming harvest means nothing, relief must be afforded during the whole of the coming year. Meanwhile epidemics of disease add to the terrible conditions obtaining.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Committee Named to Urge Project Before Congress.

Steps looking to the creation of a new government department at Washington, or a bureau in some department already existing, to deal with the public health, were taken at a meeting of a committee of 100, named last June by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The meeting named a committee of seven to prosecute the movement.

The committee organized by electing Prof. Irving Fisher, of Harvard, President, and the following Vice Presidents: President Elliot of Harvard, Felix Adler, Dr. William Welsh of Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Lyman Abbott, President James B. Angell of the University of Michigan, Jane Addams, Andrew Carnegie, Archbishop Ireland, Judge Lindsay of the Juvenile Court of Denver, and John D. Long, ex-Secretary of the Navy.

TOO MANY SERMONS.

Mr. Butler Would Silence 75 Per Cent of the Sermonizers.

That 75 per cent of present day sermons from the pulpit could be dispensed with to the betterment of church attendance was the opinion expressed by Mr. Butler, of Pennsylvania, a delegate to the national conference of church clubs in session at Washington.

"The church might stagger under the blow," he remarked, "but its recovery will be rapid and lasting." The utterance was warmly applauded and was delivered during a discussion of the question, "Why men do not go to church."

230 Islanders Drown.

Colonial Director Dernburg, of Berlin, has received a cable message from the Governor of the Island of Yap, announcing that a disastrous typhoon swept over the Caroline Islands on Good Friday, and that 230 of the 800 natives of the Uluthi group were drowned; that the coconut trees were destroyed and that a famine threatened the surviving natives.

GOVERNOR LOSES HIS JOB

Trouble Arose Over Grant of Land to Politician.

Governor Hagerman, of New Mexico, against whom charges were preferred, has tendered his resignation, and the President announced the appointment of Captain George Curry, Governor of Samar Province, Philippine Islands, as Governor of New Mexico in Governor Hagerman's place. The resignation, it is understood, was at the request of the President.

The cause of most of the trouble, it is said, is found in the fact that Governor Hagerman turned over 7,000 acres of land belonging to the Territory to the Pennsylvania Development Company, of which W. H. (Bull) Andrews, territorial delegate from New Mexico, is the promoter. Governor Hagerman came to Washington to present his defence. The meeting in the President's office is said to have been quite an interesting inquisition.

In France the average span of life is seven years longer than it was 60 years ago.

Stolen \$25,000 Recovered.

The police secured a confession from John Gunderson, who held up a clerk in the Northern Express Company's office at St. Paul, Minn., and compelled him to open a safe and hand out a package containing \$25,000. The money was recovered.

A Belgian anarchist, named Van Loo, fired six shots from a revolver at the Belgian Consul in the presence of the latter's clerks, but did not hit him once. Van Loo was arrested.

BANK CLERK TOOK \$50,000

President Organized Employees and Effected His Arrest.

SPECULATED IN BUCKET SHOPS.

Douglas Had Been With Company for Long Time and Was Not Suspected.

W. O. Douglas, loan clerk of the Trust Company of America, was arraigned in the West Side police court, New York, and remanded without bail on the charge of taking from the company \$50,000 in bonds. He was arrested on the complaint of Oakleigh Thorne, president of the trust company, who discovered the loss of the bonds, and personally traced Douglas to a hotel in Forty-seventh street.

Mr. Thorne stated that after his arrest Douglas admitted he had taken the bonds, which were those of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company, about 10 days ago, and also told where they were. He said he had made no attempt to dispose of them, and did not know why he took them.

Douglas had been with the company a number of years, and was not suspected of any wrongdoing until he suddenly left the office. He telephoned to his home in Brooklyn for his wife, who met him, and they went to the Forty-seventh street hotel where he registered under an assumed name. Douglas' salary was \$7,500 a year, and he was not known to be in financial straits. Douglas attributes his trouble to gambling in bucket shops.

MRS. EDDY'S FRIENDS FILE ANSWER IN SUIT.

Defendants Say That Action Was Instigated by "Certain Evil-Minded Persons."

A general denial of all the allegations of the complainants in the suit for an accounting of the property of Mrs. Mary Baker Glover Eddy, filed March 1, was the legal answer made April 17 by the defendants named in the original action.

The specifications in the original bill are that Mrs. Eddy is and for a long time has been incompetent to do business and to understand transactions conducted in her name; that the defendants, with other leaders of the Christian Science Church who were named in the original bill, have possessed themselves of the person and property of Mrs. Eddy and have carried on her business; that on account of Mrs. Eddy's infirmity these persons are bound to give account of all transactions undertaken in her name, and that the defendants have wrongfully converted property to their own use.

To these representations the defendants filed specific and detailed denial, declaring also that they have no knowledge of many of the allegations of the complainants, and demanding that the complainants furnish proof thereof. They also declare that they have reason to believe that the bill of complaint was not brought by the plaintiffs in good faith, but that "the so-called 'next friends' have been induced to loan their names at instigation and at the expense of certain evil-minded persons who are furnishing money for the prosecution of the bill of complaint for their own evil purposes and to advocate their own selfish interests."

YOUNGSTOWN CLERGY DENY.

Resent the Statement They Share Marriage Fees With Cabmen.

The Ministerial Association, of Youngstown, O., has sent out a circular denouncing statements that they shared with cabmen the fees they received for marrying couples who come from out of the state. The circular was caused by publication of the testimony of a cabman who was arrested for trying to pull a couple into his cab.

To give the names of preachers who he said were in the "combination," and declared 50 other ministers wanted to get in.

ILOILO IN RUINS.

Fire Destroys Capital of Panay—20,000 Homeless.

A message from Manila, P. I., says: The town of Iloilo, island of Panay, was totally destroyed by fire this morning, with the result that 20,000 persons are homeless. As this dispatch is filed the conflagration is still raging and, owing to the heavy wind blowing, it is beyond control. No estimate has as yet been made of the amount of damage, owing to communication with Iloilo being seriously affected.

Iloilo is the capital of the island of Panay, located on the east coast. The port is second in importance in the Philippines, next to Manila.

Earth shocks were felt here at intervals for three hours early this morning. The majority were very light.

Reports from the southern part of the island of Luzon announce that severe earthquakes were felt at Nueva Caceres, Camarines province, and at Tayabas, 62 miles southeast of Manila. Buildings were destroyed in both places, but no loss of life has been reported.

UNCLE SAM CHEATED.

Inferior Quality of Paper Supplied for Public Printing.

That the papers supplied for government use too frequently fall below the specifications, lack durability or in some way are not adapted to the purpose for which they are intended, is the statement made by Chief Wiley, of the Chemistry Bureau, in a circular issued by the Department of Agriculture. Valuable documents and scientific work are recorded on papers which deteriorate, thus rendering the records useless.

WIDE AREA OF DISTURBANCE

Extent of Shock Greater Than Any That Has Occurred for Half a Century.

A message from Mexico City, April 16, says: Heavy earthquake shocks continued until 4 o'clock this morning on the west coast. The telegraph operator at Chilpancingo reports that he had seen about a dozen corpses and knew of 30 people injured. The shocks this morning completed the destruction of Chilpancingo, shattering the new municipal palace. The hospitals, schools and jail are in ruins.

The bishops of Chilpancingo confirm the story of general destruction in that vicinity. Fourteen persons were killed, in one house and the number of injured is given as 39.

In Tixtla it is reported that 12 bodies have been taken from the ruins, and that twice that number of wounded are being cared for in temporary structures, erected in the open country. Tents and food are being provided for the homeless.

The town of Ometepe, which has a population of 4,000, and Ayutla, which is much smaller, have been destroyed. The whole of the west coast, from Acapulco south to Calina Cruz, the Pacific terminal of the Tehuantepec railway, has been badly damaged.

Up to this time the number of deaths reported is 32, and the wounded 93, but it is thought that these figures will fall far short of the real number of fatalities. Acapulco was partly submerged from the great waves which dashed over the breakwater. Although no breath of wind was stirring, on the night of the first shock, the sea was lashed into fury, and as the shocks continued, the harbor took on the appearance of a typhoon-swept ocean. Just how much of the port has been submerged is not known. A message says that the houses, as far as the church, are under water, but there are numerous churches in the place. Communication by rail with Vera Cruz is entirely cut off, owing to the sinking of roadbeds on the Mexican & Inter-oceanic Railway.

Reports from nearly all of the large cities in the southern part of the Republic have now been received, and although many of these places felt the shock severely, no loss of life has been reported, and the property loss is insignificant.

NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS

Views of Noted Men—Enthusiasts Urged to Not Expect Too Much from the Hague Meeting.

The National Arbitration and Peace Conference, under the presidency of Andrew Carnegie, began its sessions in Carnegie Hall, New York April 15. At the second day's session half dozen college presidents, including representatives of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, spoke to college men in the interest of the movement and showed them what they could and should do to advance the cause of universal peace and the emancipation of Christendom from the curse of war.

Vice Chancellor Roberts of Cambridge University and Pro-Vice Chancellor Rhyss of Oxford were the two foreign educators who spoke. President John Finley of the City College of New York was an American representative in place of President Eliot of Harvard and President James of the University of Illinois, who were unable to be present. Dr. Felix Adler of Columbia also spoke, and President Butler of the same university presided.

While the Carnegie Hall meeting was in progress another largely attended peace meeting was being held in Cooper Union. This gathering was representative of organized labor. Joseph R. Buchanan introduced the speakers, who included Terence V. Powderly. The meeting, which had for its general topic "Organized Labor in Relation to the Peace Movement," was an enthusiastic one.

Five Hundred People Homeless.

Between 500 and 600 people were rendered homeless by a fire which swept the town of Westwego, on the Mississippi river, opposite New Orleans, in all 42 buildings were destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

CLEAN OUT THE CASHIER.

Supposed Russian Students Show Proficiency in Pistol Education.

Ten well dressed young men, thought to be students, entered the university at St. Petersburg and began to fire on the officials with revolvers. They then tried to break open a safe, but it proved too strongly built.

All the money they obtained was \$50, which the cashier had in his pocket. They then escaped. On account of the local knowledge they showed it is supposed they are not strangers to the university.

75,000 Deaths in Week.

There were 75,000 deaths from the plague in India during the week ending April 15. Seventy thousand of these occurred in Bengal, the United Provinces and the Punjab. The epidemic began in the Punjab in October, 1897, since which time nearly 1,500,000 deaths have occurred.

In authorized statements of W. J. Bryan's views, government control experiment is favored first, and if that fails, then government ownership of railroads is advocated.

Oklahoma Constitution Adopted.

The constitution for the State of Oklahoma was adopted April 19. Only one of the 12 Republican members, Delegate Cloud, an Indian clergyman, saw the finish. President Murray signed the sheepskin copy of the Constitution with an alfalfa pen.

The United States Supreme Court decided former Senator Patterson must pay fine for contempt of State Court in his Colorado newspapers.

PEOPLE FLEEING FOR LIFE

Forest Fires Caused by Molten Lava from Chilean Volcano.

SHOCKS FELT IN EUROPE

Damage in Spain but No Deaths Reported—Turkey Also Shaken Up.

Valparaiso, Chile—Meager advices received here indicate that southern Chile is in the throes of a volcanic horror almost as terrifying as the earthquake disaster of last year.

Gigantic forest fires have been started by the hot lava and hundreds of persons, as well as thousands of cattle, are fleeing for their lives from the flames.

Slight earthquake shocks have accompanied the eruption and this has added to the panic. Ashes, boiling water and large streams of molten lava have been emitted from one of the numerous Andean volcanoes. Subterranean rumblings, inky blackness and electrical displays of terrifying force have accompanied the eruption. Valdivia province has suffered the most, but the country from Tolton south almost to Port Mont is said to be affected. In the Buena river district the disaster is felt to be the worst.

The reports indicate little loss of life but it is feared when the full story is told it will be found that many persons perished.

Mexico City, Mex.—The damage wrought by the recent earthquake has extended to the very border of Mexico, and the shock was distinctly felt even in parts of Central America. Numerous towns in the Tehuantepec isthmus region, it is reported, have suffered severely.

Madrid, Spain—Severe earthquake shocks were felt on the 17th at Tortosa and at Murcia. Much damage was done but no casualties were reported.

Constantinople, Turkey—An earthquake shock was felt here and in the suburbs. It was especially sharp at the upper part of the Bosphorus.

ALTON'S CONVICTION AFFIRMED

Judgment of \$50,000 Against Road and Officials for Rebating is Sustained.

The United States Court of Appeals affirmed the conviction in the District Court of the Chicago & Alton Railroad and John M. Faithorn and Fred A. Wann, former officials of the line for granting rebates.

The company and the two officials were found guilty last year and an aggregate fine of \$50,000 was imposed by the court. The railroad company was fined \$40,000 and the two officials \$10,000 each.

The conviction of the defendants followed the prosecution of the government which alleged that rebates had been granted to the Schwarzschild & Switzer Company in the shipments of meats. The rebates were said to have been paid to the packing company under the guise of "refund of terminal charges," the amount being \$1 on each car for the use of the tracks of the packing company in getting the cars of freight out from the packing house to the main line of the Chicago & Alton.

MAIL CLERK STOLE \$10,000

Had Just Married and Intended to Quit and Engage in Business.

The mystery concerning the disappearance of a packet containing \$10,000 in currency, in transit by mail from the Atlantic National Bank, of Wilmington, N. C., to the Chemical National Bank, of New York, was cleared up by the arrest at the instance of postoffice inspectors, of Edward A. Nelson, 27 years old, employed in the railway mail service. He made a complete confession.

Most of the money was found buried under Nelson's home. He was recently married and was preparing to leave the postal service and engage in business.

State Will Recover.

In the suit of Governor Deneen against the State Auditors and State Treasurers, the State Supreme Court handed down a decision to-day in favor of the Governor. The suit was for the recovery of fees which the defendants collected during the past 35 years, as commissions for collecting the interest on county, municipal, township and drainage districts. The State will recover between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

Chicago Bankers Sentenced.

The jury in the defunct Bank of America conspiracy case in Chicago returned a verdict finding Former Judge Abner Smith, the bank's president, guilty, and fixing his sentence at two years in the penitentiary and a \$1,000 fine. Gustave E. Sorrow, vice president, suffered the same sentence. Jerome V. Pierce, cashier, was fined \$500 without imprisonment, while F. E. Creelman, a director, was found not guilty.

The House passed the Young anti-cigarette bill, making unlawful the selling of cigars or cigarette papers in Illinois. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Brooklyn Wants Bryan.

With William Jennings Bryan as the chief attraction the Democracy of Brooklyn, in observance of the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, engaged in an enthusiastic Democratic reunion and demonstration. In extending the welcome to the guests Mr. Shepard paid a tribute to Mr. Bryan whom he welcomed with the words that the Brooklyn Democratic Club then and there "declared its strength and loyal hope that Mr. Bryan would lead the party in 1908."

CAN'T BE GUARDSMEN

Postoffice Employees Must Attend to Mail Business.

That the duty to the government of postoffice clerks and carriers who are members of militia companies is paramount to that of their military service, except at critical times, is the decision of First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock regarding the employees of the postoffice at Lorain, O., on strike duty with Company B of the Ohio National Guard. The postmaster accordingly has been notified to have Captain A. F. Gove and Sergeant Phinney either return to work immediately or resign their positions.

Law officers of the government hold that the prompt distribution and delivery of mail cannot be interfered with for any reason and the Postoffice Department accordingly maintains that none of its employees should belong to the National Guard and has discouraged the practice.

SUBMARINES TO BATTLE.

Government Test Will Be Conducted Off Newport.

Beginning on April 30 and continuing for a couple of weeks, two submarine boats, representing different types of underwater craft, will contest off Newport for the \$3,000,000 that has been appropriated by the government for building new submarines. The United States submarine board will choose that type of boat which makes the best showing in the coming contest.

The coming try-out is to be thorough. The boats will show their speed, quickness at diving, ability to attain and maintain depth under water, radius of action and any other fine points their inventors think they have.

FOUR HELPED IN MURDER

Judge Supplied Guns to Assassins in Kentucky Crime, Confession Says.

John Smith, charged with the assassination of Dr. R. D. Cox, went on the witness stand at Lexington, Ky., and fully confessed to the assassination of Jim Cockrill, saying Britton was not present, but that he, Curt Jett and John Abner killed Cockrill. Smith fired once, Jett four times and Abner three times.

Smith said that while they were discussing plans to kill Dr. Cox it was learned that Cockrill would be in Jackson the following day. It was immediately arranged to kill Cockrill from the Court House window with guns given by Judge Hargis for the purpose.

FIRST CHINESE NUN

She Is Daughter of Wealthy Rice Planter of Hawaii.

The first Chinese nun in the history of the Order of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary was invested with the veil at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Honolulu, March 31. Hereafter to be known as Sister Aleida, she was Miss Mary Wong Long, only daughter of Wong Long, a wealthy merchant and rice planter.

The girl was sent as a child to the convent school. More than a year ago she became a novitiate and last Friday took the vows. She is 24 years old.

Eight Burned to Death.

Eight persons were burned to death near Gunter, Tex. The dead are: J. C. Price, Bell, Annie, Homer, Elmer, and a boy whose name has not been learned, all children of Price, Jettie Byers, step-daughter of Price, and Alene Upchurch, a niece of Price. Price attempted to start a fire with kerosene, when an explosion occurred. The victims were burned beyond recognition.

Battleship Plans Signed.

Secretary Metcalf signed the plans and specifications for the two 20,000-ton battleships to be built for the United States navy. They are to be of the general type of the Dreadnaught of the British navy. The plans will be sent to two navy yards and such private shipbuilding firms as signify their intention to make bids.

Swettenham's Successor.

Sydney Olivier, until recently principal clerk of the West African department of the colonial office, ex-colonial secretary of Jamaica and acting governor of the island in 1900, 1902 and 1904, appointed to succeed Sir Alexander Swettenham as governor of Jamaica, sails for Kingston May 4 to take over the governorship of the island.

CURRENT NEWS ITEMS.

Directors of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, at a meeting in New York City, passed the usual quarterly dividend on preferred stocks.

The British steamer Andalusia, from Swansea for Barcelona, founded off the Spanish coast. Her captain, first officer and a sailor were picked up and brought to Gibraltar. All the rest of the crew are believed to have been drowned.

A bandit held up the Northern Express Company's Union depot office at St. Paul, Minn., and compelled the clerk to open the safe and give him a package containing \$25,000. The robber escaped.

At a meeting of the National Publicity Association, National Democratic Committee Chairman Alexander Troup offered a resolution for the campaign books of 1904, showing who the contributors, to be opened. It was not adopted.

The murderer of William H. Stuart, an Englishman, who was American Vice Consul at Batum, and who was killed at his country place near Batum May 20 last, has been sentenced by court-martial to be hanged, but in view of his youth his sentence was commuted to 10 years imprisonment.