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# The



# Citizen.

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NO. 92

## PROOFS PILE UP.

### Staggering Evidence of Frauds by Sugar Trust.

#### THIRTY INDICTMENTS ASKED.

Special United States Prosecutor Stimson Says He Can Convict Important Trust and Custom House Officials.

New York, Nov. 18.—Henry L. Stimson, special United States prosecutor charged with bringing to justice those guilty of the gigantic sugar frauds, deprecates the appointment of a committee of inquiry by congress at the coming session on the ground that it is unnecessary and might help the chief malefactors to escape punishment.

"We have ample proof of the frauds," said Mr. Stimson. "In fact, the mass of evidence is amazing. Indictments will be asked for thirty men, some of them important sugar trust officials and some of them men holding lucrative positions in the customs service. The evidence against them is sufficient. I am confident to bring about their conviction on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the government."

Henry C. Corsa, a former government employee who was assigned to duty in the custom house as an assistant to the sugar samplers working on the Jersey docks and who met with many unusual experiences while engaged in that capacity, tells a startling story of his experiences not only within the service, but for two years after he was removed.

Mr. Corsa backs up his story with originals of letters addressed to him by Leslie M. Shaw, former secretary of the treasury; Charles H. Treat, formerly collector of internal revenue and United States treasurer; H. Taylor, assistant secretary of the treasury, and several others.

To all of these, he says, he made known all the details of the sugar trust's sampling frauds as early as 1902.

One of his duties while he worked as assistant to the samplers was to carry a tray of little pots in which samples had been placed by the samplers to a locked vault, where they were to remain until removed by the appraisers.

En route he found that the assistant samplers were actually passing with their trays through a cellar near the docks in which was the trust's official briber. This man would take the pots of samples in this cellar, dump them out and refill them from a hoghead of damp, spoiled sugar kept there for that purpose.

This was one of the facts made known to Appraiser Wakeman at the time he turned in to him \$12.50 given by the man mentioned to him—that is, slipped by this man into Mr. Corsa's pocket while he was in the wash room. That was one of the facts also that Mr. Corsa knew was placed in



LESLIE M. SHAW.

[Former secretary of the treasury.] full detail before Lyman J. Gage, which he himself in a three hour conversation placed before Leslie M. Shaw, Mr. Gage's successor, and with which Internal Revenue Collector Treat was made thoroughly familiar.

Corsa's story is long and detailed. In effect it is that the men carrying the sugar samples received bribes of from \$12.50 to \$25 on each cargo they handled in order to allow the sugar trust's agent to "doctor" the samples before they were locked up. Corsa refused to be a party to the fraud, and reported the facts to his superiors and handed the bribe money to them. The sugar trust had influence enough with the appraiser to bring about Corsa's removal without cause alleged, and he was never able to get reinstated.

In March, 1902, Corsa put before Leslie M. Shaw, who was then secretary of the treasury, a statement of the facts of his case. Mr. Shaw consented to hear him personally. Corsa received a letter from Mr. Shaw's secretary inviting him to call at the Fifth Avenue hotel.

"For three hours he listened to me," said Mr. Corsa. "He seemed all sympathetic. He said at the end of the interview as he shook hands with me: 'I'll see you are put back. I could demand it right now. But things are working so smoothly between Mr. Whitehead and myself that I don't want to break in abruptly upon him and demand it. I'll take it up, though, and I'm sure you will be given the justice due you. It's only because of the fine harmony that I don't do it now.'"

After waiting for months Corsa heard through Appraiser Wakeman that Mr. Shaw's view was practically that he could do nothing because his hands were tied. Mr. Wakeman sent to Mr. Shaw the money that had been given Corsa as bribes, and this came back to Mr. Wakeman from Secretary Shaw with the word that that officer knew nothing he could do with it.

Miss Electra Havemeyer, daughter of the late Henry O. Havemeyer, has just been appointed one of the executors of her father's \$20,000,000 estate. This fortune was made by him as head of the American Sugar Refining company.

The members of H. O. Havemeyer's family are still among the heaviest holders of the American Sugar Refining company stock.

Evidence that the customs frauds extended to more than sugar is con-



HENRY L. STIMSON.

[Special government prosecutor.]

tained in a statement made by Bernhard Teodor, formerly a special employee of the treasury department.

Mr. Teodor's revelations indicate an extensive system of underweighing in the importation of lemons for several years down to 1905, when he was appointed to investigate the conditions, as had been the practice in the sugar trust's scheme of defrauding the government by false weights.

The scheme was to all intents and purposes the same and was carried out by precisely the same connivance between the importers and the government weighers as has been shown to have existed between the sugar trust and the customs men charged with the weighing of sugar.

Mr. Teodor figures the total loss to the United States government by the underweighing of lemons during the seven years from 1898 to 1904 inclusive at close to \$1,000,000.

#### LIPTON WILL CHALLENGE.

Says He Will Arrange a Race For 1911 if N. Y. Y. C. Is Willing.

New York, Nov. 18.—Before sailing for England on the Lusitania, Sir Thomas Lipton said:

"You may state positively for me without any qualification that I shall challenge for the America's cup for a race to be sailed in 1911. I am assured, though, that the challenge, which will be sent in proper form through a club of which I am a member, will have fair and proper consideration, and I am confident that it will be accepted by the New York Yacht club."

"The challenge will be for a yacht of the largest size allowed according to the rules of the club and the conditions of the deed of gift, and I believe that the members of the New York Yacht club are fair minded sportsmen and will agree with me that the challenge that I will send is for the best that there is in the sport of yachting."

#### MARS HAS A SNOWSTORM.

Fall Reported by Dr. Lowell is Much Earlier Than Usual.

Flagstaff, Ariz., Nov. 18.—Director Lowell of the observatory here reports the first antarctic snow fall of the season on Mars. Two patches appeared at latitude 62.72, longitude 100.19.

This is exceptionally early for the first Martian antarctic snow.

## ICE TRUST PROBE

### Revelations In Letter Book Produced at Trial.

#### HIGHER ADVANCE NOT "SAFE."

"We Have Not Gone as Far as We Wished," President Schoonmaker Wrote to Oler Concerning Increase In Prices.

New York, Nov. 18.—The letter file book of the American Ice company was brought into requisition by the prosecution in the trial of the company for violation of the antimonopoly law when the hearing was resumed before Justice Wheeler in the supreme court. One letter sent by President Schoonmaker to Wesley M. Oler in June, 1903, referred to the advancements made in the price of ice that summer.

"We have not gone as far as we wished, but it is not safe to go any further just now."

In the same letter reference is made to John N. Briggs, the ice man, who testified yesterday that he had chased Charles W. Morse for two weeks with a gun. In this connection the letter said:

"It doesn't seem possible to do anything with Briggs on prices. He is always referring to his great losses in the stock of the American Ice company. He does not do reasonable things, but flies off the handle. My idea is that you ignore him and let him give his ice away if he wants to. The newspapers are beginning to howl here, and there have been several requests for interviews, but have been denied in a dignified way. I send you a newspaper clipping showing Jerome's attitude."

In another letter to Mr. Oler, Mr. Schoonmaker wrote: "If we could get a dock in Jersey City and open a bridge we could use it as a lever on this trade, but it would have to be done quietly. We will give them all they want to attend to."

Mr. Schoonmaker deplored the fact that the New Jersey Ice company, which was supposed to carry the American trade in these towns, was unprogressive and its president, Oren Bennett, an inactive manager.

"We will have to shake up Old Man Bennett," the letter went on. "We can't stand any more nonsense from the Mountain Ice company crowd. Bennett will sit up, and it will tear up the old man pretty well if we start in there, but that don't mean anything in dollars and cents to this company. We will get 10 to 1 when the time comes to throw up hands."

Another letter, written by Schoonmaker in December, 1903, referred to a suit which Augustus C. Sprague had brought for the recovery of \$100 a month for services in addition to his salary as a clerk. In the early exhibits in the trial Sprague appears as the intermediary through whom the American purchased independent ice concerns.

"We doubt if Mr. Morse is willing to let Sprague go on with this suit," wrote Mr. Schoonmaker. "If the cover is ever lifted off this pot there will be a very bad smell."

On Sept. 2, 1905, President Oler wrote, "Everything seems to be coming our way, and all the 'ifs' of the American Ice company have been obliterated from my mind."

Writing to the late Charles T. Barney in 1905, when he was with the Kulerbocker Trust company, Oler said: "We are making all kinds of deals with the least expenditure of money. We do not purchase outright, but try to have them keep money invested so that they will keep an interest in our success."

In December, 1905, he wrote to the Boston manager: "Everything is moving our way in Greater New York. We have made deals of all kinds, and no two contracts are alike, but each suited to the circumstance. Our counsel, Mr. Adams, says it would take a Philadelphia lawyer to keep track. The problem has been solved, and the future looks good for the company."

The jury was interested in entries in the cash books, which showed three different prices were charged different customers on the same day. In one instance a customer got 350 pounds of ice for 50 cents, and a minute later another customer paid \$1.50 for 300 pounds.

Diet Refuses Money For War Purposes. Asks Constitutional Action.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 18.—The Finnish diet has unanimously refused to grant Russia's demand for \$1,000,000 for war purposes.

It has passed a resolution asking the diet to have the military question settled constitutionally.

It is expected in many quarters that this will lead to the dissolution of the diet

## DYNAMITE WRECKS CHURCH.

Part of Explosive Fails to Go Off, Saving Priest's Home.

Clinton, Ind., Nov. 18.—The Sacred Heart Catholic church in this town was wrecked by dynamite, about \$10,000 damage being done.

The Rev. Father Maher, formerly chaplain at St. Mary of the Woods, has been priest in charge for the last six years, and through his efforts the church was built last summer.

The dissatisfaction of some members of the church with the pastor because he insisted on building the church is suggested as a possible motive for the crime.

The home of the priest adjoins the church, and thirty sticks of dynamite were set in the tower next to his house, all of which failed to explode. Ed Jones, an ex-patrolman, darily cut a smoking fuse attached to this pile of sticks.

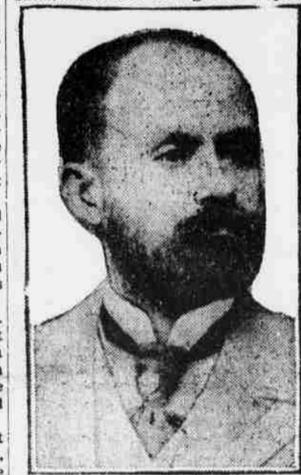
A pile of fifteen sticks and several other scattered bunches of dynamite were found elsewhere in the front of the structure.

Windows were blown from four or five neighboring houses, and pieces of stone were hurled across the street.

## CASTRO TO LIVE WITH US.

Deposed President Relinquishes All Claims on Venezuela.

Madrid, Nov. 18.—General Cipriano Castro, the deposed president of Venezuela, announces through the Express



GENERAL CIPRIANO CASTRO.

that he formally relinquishes all claim to the dictatorship he formerly held over the South American republic.

He declares that after recovering his health in Europe he will go to the United States to live. He is said to have a fortune of \$15,000,000 invested in the bonds of European powers.

## DUCESS CONSUELO ILL.

Dowager of Manchester Attended by Her Sisters and Two Nurses.

London, Nov. 18.—There is considerable anxiety concerning the condition of Consuelo, Dowager Duchess of Manchester. Her health has been bad for some time, and she has had a serious relapse.

Her sisters and two nurses are attending her.

## Mae Wood to Face Charges.

Julesburg, Colo., Nov. 18.—Mae O. Wood, charged with perjury in connection with her claim that she is the wife of Senator Thomas C. Platt, left here for New York to face her accuser.

She declared that she would prove her innocence by demonstrating the authenticity of her marriage.

## Weather Probabilities.

Fair; colder; diminishing northwesterly winds.

## TRUST COMPANY CLOSED.

Philadelphia Concern Alleged to Have Made Unwise Loans.

Philadelphia, Nov. 18.—Because it is understood the American Trust company of Philadelphia accepted as collateral security for a loan bonds of a coal company the value of which is uncertain the bank has been closed by order of State Commissioner of Banking William H. Smith.

State Bank Examiner A. L. Taber was appointed temporary receiver.

It is said the securities of doubtful value amounted to over \$400,000.

## COLLEGE DROPS FOOTBALL.

Action of Georgetown University Due to Death of Player.

Washington, Nov. 18.—The faculty of Georgetown university has decided "that the game of football shall be discontinued by the Athletic association until such a time when the rules can be so framed as to exclude all possibility of danger to life and limb."

This action was prompted by the death of Archer Christian, left half-back of the University of Virginia, in the game on the Georgetown field.

It is understood that the Virginia legislature will pass a law prohibiting the game of football.

## FEARS FOR ASTOR

### Government Aids Search For His Yacht Nourmahal.

#### WIRELESS STATIONS NOTIFIED

Vessel Not Heard From Since She Left Jamaica For Nearby Port of San Juan Thirteen Days Ago.

New York, Nov. 18.—John Jacob Astor's yacht Nourmahal is still missing. No news of the vessel has been received since she put out from Kingston, Jamaica, on Nov. 5, bound for the nearby port of San Juan, in Porto Rico.

Since then a disastrous hurricane has swept over Jamaica and Haiti.

The United States government is earnestly trying to locate the Nourmahal. Captain Worth G. Ross of the revenue cutter service has wired the commander of the cutter Algonquin, stationed in Porto Rican waters, to try to locate Astor's yacht by wireless and report at once.

The United Wireless company has sent notices to the fifteen stations lying to the southward of this port, a string extending from New York to Cape Hatteras, Charleston, Savannah, Tampa, Jacksonville, Key West, Galveston and Guantanamo, Cuba. The company also sent messages to eight steamships now in West Indian waters which are equipped with wireless.

The messages told that the Nourmahal had put out from Kingston, bound for Porto Rico, and asked that any news of the vessel be promptly sent to the main office of the wireless company in this city.

No news of the yacht has been received. The vessel is not fitted with wireless, but if she had come to her undoing on a reef or shoal, as the Higgins yacht Varuna did at Madeira, in all probability the wireless chain would have discovered it and sent the news to this city.

Although the West Indian cable is broken off Turk's Island and no direct communication can be had with Porto Rico, it is certain that Colonel Astor's yacht was not able to make that island, as the steamship Caracas of the Red D line from San Juan for La Guayra, the Ponce of the New York and Porto Rico line, now lying in Mayaguez harbor, and the Carolina, from San Juan for New York, are all without news of the Nourmahal.

The Tagus of the Royal Mail Steam Packet company, which arrived in Kingston, and the Atrato of the same line, which left Jamaica for Colon, have both reported no news.

There is hope that the S. V. Luckenbach of the Insular line, which is cruising around Porto Rico and will leave San Juan for New York later, may bring some information, but more reliance is placed on the Relay of the Mexican Telegraph company, which has gone to mend the cable at Turk's Island and has a powerful wireless outfit.

The Nourmahal was built in 1884 by Harlan & Hollingsworth at Wilmington, Del. Her designer was Gustav Hillman. Her length is 250 feet, and she draws 18.6. She is driven by compound inverted two cylinder engines and carries four small cannon and a veritable arsenal of rifles, revolvers and cutlasses. Her crew numbers forty-six officers and men.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who recently obtained a divorce, is on the Lusitania on her way to Europe, where she will pass the winter.

Her son Vincent is on the Nourmahal with his father.

## FIRE VOLLEY INTO MOB.

Two Killed, Many Wounded In Political Riot In Italian Town.

Rome, Nov. 18.—Two persons were killed and many others wounded in a political riot at Montemilone. There had been a political fight at this place, and a mob assaulted the town hall, which was defended by a force of carabinieri.

The mob threw stones at the carabinieri, and five of the latter were injured. The soldiers were almost overpowered before they used their fire-arms on the crowd.

After they had discharged a volley into the crowd of rioters two of the latter were found dead and many others were seriously wounded.

## THREE HUNTERS KILLED.

Young Man Reports Death of His Father and Two Brothers.

Marquette, Mich., Nov. 18.—Walter Dods of Watertown, N. Y., arrived here and reported that his father and two brothers were killed while hunting deer near Channing. All three were shot dead.

## TRAIN UNDER TWO RIVERS.

Pennsylvania Of Tunnels.

New York, Nov. 18.—The passenger train through the Pennsylvania railroad tunnels today at Harrison, N. J., under the north river, under Manhattan island and under the East river to Long Island City was accomplished the most important achievement in American railroading since the completion of the steel highways which joined the Atlantic with the Pacific seaboard.

A special train left Philadelphia, proceeded across New Jersey to the tunnel terminals at Harrison, plunged into the tunnels, stopped at the huge new Pennsylvania railroad station in Manhattan and then went on through the tunnel to the terminus in Long Island City.

In the special train were President James McCrear, Vice President Samuel Ren and the directors of the road.

The train bearing the high officials of the road and invited guests stopped at the new terminal of the four tunnels at Harrison for the party to inspect the work there. The train proceeded slowly and stopped at many points along the route to allow the officials to thoroughly inspect the work that has cost close to \$100,000,000.

## DUEL WIPES OUT FAMILY.

Father, Mother and Child Killed In Prearranged Fight.

Pioneer, La., Nov. 18.—A whole family is dead as the result of a duel fought here between Clarence Compton and Sylvester and Albert Owen. Compton, his wife and his little daughter were all killed.

The Owens are sons of a Methodist preacher. They rode to Compton's house and demanded an apology for an unkind remark about the preacher's daughter. "You little boys run along," scoffed Compton. "Why," he challenged, "I'll take two guns, fight you both at the same time and shoot your heads off."

The Owen boys jumped at the challenge. Compton secured two automatic revolvers. Twenty paces were measured off, the word was given, and the three opened fire.

Compton's wife and her little daughter dashed from the house, and Mrs. Compton threw her arms about her husband's neck. Her cry, "Stop, Clarence!" had hardly sounded when she fell mortally wounded, and her child dropped dead. Compton fell over his wife's body with three bullet holes through his lungs.

## WILL FORCE CHILE TO PAY.

United States Withdraws Minister Because of Delay In Claim Settlement.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Thomas G. Dawson, American minister to Chile, left Santiago for the United States by way of Brazil. His departure was authorized by the state department after fruitless efforts had been made to obtain a settlement of the Alsop claim.

The Chilean government has several times admitted the validity of the claim and has promised to pay it, but has never made any practical move to do so. The state department is not at all pleased with the attitude of the Chilean government, and no minister will be appointed to succeed Mr. Dawson until it adopts a more suitable attitude.

The Alsop claim has been pending for twenty-five years. It grew out of a sum of money advanced by an American concern to the Peruvian government which was to be secured by the revenues collected at the custom house at Arica.

## HIGGINS PARTY SAFE.

Doubt About Saving the Varuna, Ashore on Madeira.

Funchal, Madeira, Nov. 18.—Eugene Higgins' splendid steam yacht Varuna, big as a small liner and fitted as luxuriously as any pleasure craft in the world, will probably be destroyed by the seas that are pounding her as she lies on the rocks of the northwest coast of the island.

Mr. Higgins and his guests and most of the yacht's crew reached shore in small boats after the yacht struck and made their way to villages, where they were cared for.

Two tugs were sent to the yacht in expectation of hauling her off. A part of the crew stayed in the neighborhood of the wreck to assist the wreckers if they found it possible to save the Varuna.

## MERCY FOR MACFADDEE.

President Lets Physical Culturist Off With a Fine and No Imprisonment.

Washington, Nov. 18.—President Taft has extended executive clemency to Bernard MacFadden, editor of a magazine devoted to physical culture, who was convicted on a charge of sending indecent printed matter through the mails and sentenced by United States District Judge Luning at Trenton, N. J., to two years in prison and to pay a fine of \$2,000.

On the payment of the fine the prison sentence will be waived. MacFadden has been out on bail.