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GOVERNMENT'S CASE IS NEARING CLOSE

Evidence Against Greene and Gaynor to Be Finished in Ten Days—Forgery Charged.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Savannah, Ga., Feb. 26.—The government is progressing more rapidly in the Greene and Gaynor trial and the outlook now is that the prosecution will finish the presentation of its case within a week or ten days though it is not improbable that collateral issues may defer the determination for a greater time.

There were three distinct phases of the evidence today—the cross examination of C. P. Goodyear, of Brunswick, which related especially to the conspiracy charged by the government; the testimony of J. W. Sterley, president of the United Mine Workers of America, a national convention of the United Miners will be held March 15 to try to reach an agreement with the soft coal operators in the hope of averting the threatened strike of April 1.

The President's letter and the announcement that the national convention would be called were made public tonight by Mr. Mitchell, after a long conference with Francis L. Robbins, president of the Pittsburg Coal Company, and chairman of the bituminous operators, who came to New York this morning. Also present at this conference were W. C. Perry, of the Southwestern Coal Association, and B. F. Bush, representing the soft coal interests allied with the Gould railroads.

The President's letter to Mr. Mitchell follows: "Sir: I note with great concern the failure of your late convention on the joint interstate agreement to come to a basis of settlement of the bituminous mining scale of wages. You in this business have enjoyed a great industrial peace for many years, thanks to the trade agreement which has resulted in the action of your successive conventions. A strike such as is threatened on April 1, is a menace to the peace and general welfare of the country. I urge you to make a further effort to avoid such a calamity. You and Mr. Robbins are joint chairmen of the trade agreement committee of the national civic federation, and it seems to me that this imposes additional duty upon you both to make a further effort to reach an agreement which will place the miners and the coal operators on a basis of peace and good will."

THE COLLIER'S GAME.

Would Spend \$100,000 to Convince Col. Mann of Perjury.

By Wire to The Morning Star. New York, Feb. 26.—Robert J. Collier, publisher of Collier's Weekly, went on the witness stand today in the hearing of Col. William D. Mann, editor of Town Topics, on a charge of perjury. Mr. Collier said that he and his father, Peter P. Collier, expect to pay the expenses of the prosecution of Col. Mann.

"Would it surprise you to know that this proceeding will cost you more than \$100,000," said Mr. Littleton, counsel for Col. Mann.

"No. I would not be surprised. We would not mind if it cost twice that amount," answered the witness.

Mr. Collier said he expected to reimburse the city through the district attorney's office for all the money spent for handwriting experts and other witnesses. He testified also that he has been paying Charles Stokes Wayne, former managing editor of Town Topics, and Moses F. Wooster, the agents for Fades and Fancies, salaries of \$100 for their services with the Mann case.

"So you know whether Col. Mann ever wrote a letter demanding money from any person?" Mr. Littleton asked.

"Yes, I would not have sworn to an affidavit to that effect if I did not have that knowledge," replied Mr. Collier.

RAWLINGS MURDER APPEAL.

Argument to Be Heard on Appeal April 2nd.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Washington, Feb. 26.—The Supreme Court of the United States today set argument in the cases of J. G. Rawlings, Milton Rawlings, Leonard Rawlings, and Jesse Rawlings, father and sons, vs. the State of Georgia, for the 2nd of April next and granted leave to them to plead as paupers. Three of the men are under sentence of death and the fourth to life imprisonment on the charge of murder committed in Lowndes county, Georgia, in 1905. They are charged with killing a boy and girl in an effort to assassinate an entire family. The case was brought to the Federal Supreme Court on the ground that the jury by which they were tried was irregularly drawn. They are all white.

OVERMAN BILL ENDED.

Representatives of Cotton Industries Given Hearing Yesterday.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Washington, Feb. 26.—Representatives of various branches of the cotton industry today called on Secretary Metcalf of the Department of Commerce and Labor and discussed the Overman bill providing a commission for the development of the cotton export business. They included C. E. Risher, of Charlotte, N. C.; W. A. Allison, of South Carolina; John W. Allison, of J. C. Hamilton, of Texas. The delegation concurred that the commission should be under the Department of Commerce and Labor. Later the delegation called on Secretary Shaw, urging him to recommend legislation reducing the duty on press cloth from 30 cents to 20 cents per pound.

JONES DENIED NEW TRIAL.

Must Serve 10 Years for Murdering Carolina Girl.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Norfolk, Va., Feb. 26.—The Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, with all the judges divided, has denied a writ of error in the case of Captain F. W. Jones, of the Virginia National Guard, convicted of the murder of Maude Cameron Robinson, formerly of Selma, N. C., and given eighteen years in the penitentiary. This means that Captain Jones must fulfill the sentence of the expiration of his term unless the expiration of his term should be allowed a conditional pardon under the Virginia law governing such pardons.

MR. ROOSEVELT IS PEACEMAKER

President Again Proposes for Miners and Operators to Make Terms

DEPLORES APRIL STRIKE

Miners Are Urged to Avoid Such Calamity if Possible—General Convention of Coal Miners Called for March 15th.

By Wire to The Morning Star. New York, Feb. 26.—President Roosevelt has intervened again as a peacemaker between the coal miners and operators, and as the result of a letter addressed by him to John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, a national convention of the United Miners will be held March 15 to try to reach an agreement with the soft coal operators in the hope of averting the threatened strike of April 1.

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THE CANAL INVESTIGATION

Lawyer Cromwell and Senator Morgan Have Lively Talks—Impertinent to Aged Alabama Statesman.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Washington, Feb. 26.—The examination of William Nelson Cromwell, who has figured largely in connection with the sale of the Panama Canal property to the United States, was begun by the Senate Committee on Inter-Oceanic Canals today. Many of the questions asked Mr. Cromwell related to the interview at the Manhattan Hotel, in New York, regarding the resignation of Mr. Wallace when Secretary Taft, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Cromwell were present together.

The two men, scarcely five feet apart, looked at each other in anger, while the strains of indignation were removed by Chairman Millard, who interjected that the witness had possibly answered the questions propounded. An adjournment was taken until tomorrow.

CHINESE MISSIONARIES KILLED.

Six Jesuits and Two English Siam-Methodists Escape.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Washington, Feb. 26.—Consul General Rogers, at Shanghai, called the State Department today that the American missions at Nanchang, in the province of Kiangsi, have been destroyed. Telegrams state that the fourteen American missionaries there escaped, but the Kiangsi family, English, two adults and two children are reported to have been killed. The American gunboat El Cano, at Nanchang, has been ordered to proceed immediately to Kiu Kiang, where she will probably arrive by Wednesday.

Mr. Rogers later cabled that the inland British missions are reported safe. He says that the reports of the Nanchang trouble are conflicting. It is now reported to have originated in a dispute between the French Jesuits and Chinese officials. A Chinese magistrate was at first reported to have been stabbed by a Catholic missionary, but it is now claimed that the magistrate stabbed himself. In the riot which occurred yesterday six Jesuits and two members of the Kiangsi family were killed. Chinese troops were protecting. The refugees are going to Kiu Kiang. The American mission building is understood to have been destroyed and the order is restored. Mr. Rogers adds that all is quiet in Shanghai.

The officials here accept Consul General Rogers' suggestion that the case be brought to the Federal Supreme Court on the ground that the jury by which they were tried was irregularly drawn. They are all white.

KILLED TWO THEATRICAL MEN.

Trial of George Hasty at Gaffney Set for Thursday.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Gaffney, S. C., Feb. 26.—George Hasty, the young hotel keeper charged with the murder of Milan Bennett and Abbott Davison, members of the "Nothing But Money" Opera Company, last December, was arraigned for trial here today. The court set the trial for Thursday. Misses Bishop and Sheridan, the young women members of the company whose assertion that they were insulted by Hasty led to the killing, are here to appear as witnesses.

In a statement issued Sunday night to the Associated Press at Indianapolis, Vice President T. L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers of America, declares there will be no strike of United Mine Workers in April, saying the operators will restore the reduction accepted by the miners two years ago, and perhaps more.

BERTHE CLAICHE TRIAL

BEGINS IN NEW YORK

Shot Former Lover and Kicked Him After He Fell—Has Nan Patterson's Lawyer.

New York, Feb. 26.—The real work in the trial of Bertha Claiche, the young French woman charged with the murder of Emil Gerdon, on July 8, last, was begun before Justice Davis and a jury in the criminal branch of the Supreme Court today. The jury was completed last week. Abraham Levy, who defended Nan Patterson in her two trials, on the charge of killing Caesar Young, is the principal attorney for the defense. The prosecution will be conducted by Assistant District Attorneys Ely and Van Diver.

Mr. Ely in his opening address said the prosecution would prove that Bertha Claiche was intimate with Harry Morton, a policeman, and that Gerdon was shot to death as a result of a conspiracy between Morton and the defendant.

Patrolman Clarence Martineau, one of the two policemen who were in the act of arresting Gerdon when Bertha Claiche shot him, took the witness stand. He said that just before the girl fired Gerdon placed his hand behind his back, such as if he were about to draw a revolver out of a hip pocket. While Gerdon's hand was still in this position, the girl fired after he fell she tried to kick him, a witness said. Martineau said that shortly after the shooting he saw Patrolman Morton, who had helped him arrest Gerdon, give Miss Claiche a glass of water and heard him say to her: "He certainly got the letter, didn't he?" To this she replied: "Sure."

Mr. Ely did not ask the witness to what letter Morton's remark referred. Martineau testified that Bertha Claiche, while in the patrol wagon with Morton, told her not to worry, that she would be out in a few days. Martineau said he heard that some one got \$500 which Gerdon was alleged to have in his possession when shot, but he did not know whom. The trial was adjourned until tomorrow.

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The two men, scarcely five feet apart, looked at each other in anger, while the strains of indignation were removed by Chairman Millard, who interjected that the witness had possibly answered the questions propounded. An adjournment was taken until tomorrow.

Mr. Cromwell made a statement in which he showed that when the money paid by the United States government for the purchase of Panama railway stock, and for the French canal property had been accounted for. He stated that his activity had been directed by the Secretary of War.

Another statement which Mr. Cromwell made that attracted much interest was the fact that in all his relations with the government of the United States, and Panama, and even with the United States, he was in the hands of the Panama railway for the United States, which was brought about through Mr. Cromwell's activity and labor not a cent was received by him for his services.

A feature of Mr. Cromwell's statement was the outstanding question which was asked with reference to the retirement of Chief Engineer Wallace and the testimony which Mr. Wallace had given before the committee. He said that the explanation which Mr. Wallace gave was not entirely different from that which he gave at the time he retired, which was: that he had been offered a large salary.

Mr. Cromwell described the final interview between Secretary Taft, Wallace and Cromwell as a painful one; the extreme; that after Mr. Wallace had told the Secretary that he was going to quit the service of the government and enter into the employ of private corporation, his eyes were dimmed with tears, and he confessed that mine were too. "There was a man called upon to do a transcendent work leaving us when we needed him," said Mr. Cromwell, "and it looked as if all the work we had done was about to meet with defeat."

Mr. Cromwell said in reply to Mr. Morgan that Secretary Taft's attitude was one of great dignity and calmness as he heard Engineer Wallace's statement.

"What occurred at the end of that statement?" asked Mr. Morgan.

"There was a painful silence," replied Mr. Cromwell.

"Why painful?" asked Mr. Morgan.

"Because Mr. Wallace had gone into the isthmus interested in accord with every plan made for the work on the canal. He knew the wishes of the commission. He knew the importance of the work and he went to the isthmus. The fever period was approaching and just at that moment he was expected to do his best for the President and the country he quit and left the work in the hands of subordinates. That was a humiliating thing in itself," said Mr. Cromwell.

HEPBURN BILL

BEFORE SENATE

Tillman Makes Informal Report and Disappoints Crowd Assembled in Galleries

TO REPLACE STATEHOOD BILL

Culberson Introduces Substitute for Rate Measure—To Investigate Powder Trust—House Honors Memory of Former Speaker.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Washington, Feb. 26.—The Hephburn railroad rate bill was reported to the Senate today by Senator Tillman in accordance with the action of the Senate committee on interstate commerce last Friday. Large crowds assembled in the galleries, anticipating a field day of debate, but were disappointed. There was little of interest in the proceedings regarding the bill. A brief statement from Mr. Tillman with the necessary arrangements for printing the report of the hearings before the committee and a promise that a formal report would be made later was followed by a few remarks from Mr. Aldrich showing the opposition of the five Republicans who opposed the bill as reported. Mr. Aldrich indicated that there would be no necessary delay but that the bill would be discussed in accordance with its importance.

Mr. Tillman announced that as soon as possible he purposed to digest the testimony and to submit a formal report on the bill. He said that while throughout the country, he said, made it desirable that the bill should be considered without delay.

As soon as he had concluded Mr. Aldrich was recognized and said: "A majority of the Republican members of the committee did not join in the favorable report which has just been made by the Senator from South Carolina, for the reason that in their judgment an attempt should have been made by the committee to re-consider by proper amendments, some of the obvious and admitted defects and omissions of the House bill and that clear and adequate provision should have been made for subjecting the orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission affecting rates to judicial review. With these amendments the minority members, with the possible exception of the Senator from Ohio, who is opposed, as I understand, to all government rate making, were ready to give their support to the bill."

Mr. Culberson said that from the report made by the Senator from South Carolina he noticed that certain members of the committee were in favor of right to offer amendments. "The Senator is not entirely correct in his statement," interrupted Mr. Tillman. "The resolution was adopted by the committee and all members have reserved rights concerning the offering of amendments."

"Well, then," said Mr. Culberson, "I take it that in a large degree the committee's action to be no more or less than a transfer of a controversy from the committee to the Senate chamber. Therefore, I offer a substitute for the House bill on the same subject which I previously introduced. The bill was ordered printed."

Mr. Clapp called up the bill to dispose of the affairs of the five civilized States. He said that he had had a preliminary discussion, showed that there was to be criticism of the disposition of the coal lands owned by the Indians.

Mr. Clapp occupied the floor during the afternoon continuing his speech in favor of the joint statehood bill.

The Vice President laid before the Senate the message from the House announcing its passage of the Gillespie-Tillman resolution requesting the Interstate Commerce Commission to investigate the relations of railroad with the production of bituminous and anthracite coal and oil. Mr. Tillman moved to concur in the House amendments, which passed the resolution. It now goes to the President.

Mr. Clapp secured consent to the publication in the Congressional Record of a letter from Robert S. Wadell, of Peoria, Ill., regarding the manufacture of powder. He said that the letter shows that the manufacture of powder is in the hands of a "trust" and he considered this condition a menace to the public welfare.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow.

WARM WIRELETS.

The Senate yesterday confirmed the nomination of John M. Colt, South Carolina, to be examiner in chief in the patent office.

The President yesterday sent to the Senate the nominations of D. C. Pearson to be postmaster at Morganston, N. C.

Dr. John Williamson Palmer, poet and author, a well known civil war correspondent and author of the poem "Stonewall Jackson's Way," died in Baltimore yesterday, aged 81.

The Supreme Court of the United States yesterday granted the motion of the State of Virginia for leave to file a bill of complaint against West Virginia to secure an accounting and settlement of the share of liability of the latter State in the debts incurred while a part of Virginia.

In the Virginia House yesterday Delegate Swyer, of Spotsylvania, introduced a joint resolution looking to an investigation of the Virginia Military Institute during vacation by the General Assembly. The resolution was adopted without reference to a committee.

The arrest for perjury upon District Attorney Jerome's affidavit, of one of the witnesses brought to New York from Texas to testify in behalf of Albert T. Patrick, now in Sing Sing prison, condemned to death for the murder of William Barr, in Danbury, Iowa, of parents, which attacked him nine months ago. Col. Henderson began to sink Friday afternoon, recalled Saturday morning, but in the afternoon lapsed into unconsciousness and failed rapidly until the end came.

FOR A COMMON CAUSE.

Grateful Patient Writes of Wonderful Keely Cure.

The Keely Institute, Greensboro, N. C.:

I took treatment at your Institute for the whiskey habit about March, 1893, and in consequence wish to say that I attribute my present health and happiness to your treatment and the blessed influence instilled there. It was a confirmed drunkard for eight years prior to taking treatment at your Institute, and now am known to be a sober man. I remained on treatment four weeks, and can honestly say I never enjoyed myself stay anywhere as much; we boys all realized that we were there for a common cause, and all our hopes, pleasures, and pains were inseparably blended together, and I loved them. It felt to me as though I were man striving for the mastery, as I was, and that appeals to each other sympathy, one for the other. I am a firm believer in your treatment, knowing what it did for me, an influence which I can not explain, but to my dying day will believe in its efficiency, and will be loath in its praise.

H. O. COVINGTON, Laurinburg, N. C., Dec. 13, 1904. Send names and addresses of those who may be benefited to the Keely Institute, Greensboro, N. C.

BLACKBURN WAS ON HAND

Trial Set for Hearing at Greensboro Middle of April—Gives Bond of \$1,000.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Asheville, N. C., Feb. 26.—Congressman E. Spencer Blackburn of the Eighth District of North Carolina, submitted himself to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court today in answer to the indictment recently obtained against him on the charge of having practiced before the Treasury Department and receiving therefrom in violation of the Federal law.

Judge Whiddill issued an order transferring the case to Greensboro, N. C., on the application of Judge W. D. Bynum, who appeared for Mr. Blackburn. The trial will be held about the middle of April, at which time a special term of the court will be called. Mr. Blackburn's bond was fixed at \$1,000 and was signed by C. J. Harris, former candidate for governor.

INLAND WATERWAY BOARD.

Meeting at Norfolk Yesterday to Formulate Report.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Richmond, Va., Feb. 26.—The inland waterway board which is represented by Col. S. S. Deach, of Washington, D. C.; Captain C. A. F. Flagler, of Wilmington, Del., and Capt. G. P. Howell, of Charleston, S. C., convened in Norfolk this morning to formulate their report on the feasibility of constructing a waterway between Norfolk and Beaufort, N. C. They went through the existing Dismal Swamp and Albemarle and Chesapeake canals on a former visit, and these routes may be acquired by the government and dredging to a greater depth. The report of the board committee will be made public in Washington.

VIRGINIA HAS SENSATION.

Legislative Investigation Into Corporation Commission Scandal.

By Wire to The Morning Star. Richmond, Va., Feb. 26.—The joint legislative committee appointed to investigate and report upon the incident of the discharge from the service of the State Corporation Commission of Major A. S. Lanier, one of the clerks of the commission, began its sessions today. Chief Clerk Uphur read the charges which he had prepared against Lanier in his report to the commission, which charges alleged that Lanier had taken stock in a concern, which was promoted by Lanier in the office of the Commission, using information belonging to the State of Virginia, and that he had endeavored to induce Major Lanier to force the latter to make public the charges against him, which have never been made public, and which Lanier had to-day admitted.

Chief Clerk Uphur, in his report, makes use of the following language: "Persons coming into this office to transact business with its officers are openly solicited by Mr. Lanier to pay his commission, which is \$500 annually, to perform arduous duties imposed by law and enacted by the commission, impressing upon them the fact that if they attempted to handle their business with the State Corporation Commission, they would be apt to find themselves in the pitfall of penalties so carefully and elaborately enumerated by himself."

Mr. Uphur concluded his testimony before the committee this evening, and Major Lanier took the stand as a witness, alleging as heretofore that whatever he did in connection with the State Corporation Commission, was done with the knowledge and apparent encouragement of Chairman Crump.

The committee adjourned to-night until 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

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J. H. Rehder & Co. THE POPULAR DEPARTMENT STORE. Continuation of our Matting Sale.

In the past week we have pleased hundreds of our customers with the Special Matting Sale. For a few more days the same prices are offered and it's up to you to secure a strong bargain just now.

15c CHINA MATTING—Small figures, 26 rolls in this sale, at 9 1/2c the yard. 19c COTTON WARP MATTING—Neat pattern, 49 rolls in this sale, at 13c the yard. 25c COTTON WARP MATTING—All colors, all kinds of patterns, 17 rolls, at 17c the yard. 30 and 35c COTTON WARP MATTINGS—Beautiful new figured and flowered designs, sale, at the yard, 24 1/2c. 40c BEST QUALITY CHINA MATTINGS—Very heavy, 14 rolls in this sale, at the yard.

J. H. Rehder & Co. THE POPULAR DEPARTMENT STORE. Out of Town Orders Given Special Attention.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF The Southern National Bank, WILMINGTON, N. C. At Clos of Business January 26, 1905.

RESOURCES: LOANS, JVDRAFTS, UNITED STATES BONDS AND PREMIUMS, FURNITURE AND FIXTURES, CASH AND DUE FROM BANKS. LIABILITIES: CAPITAL, SURPLUS, UNDIVIDED PROFITS, NET, CIRCULATION, DEPOSITS.

AGENTS FOR SHOES. FOR SIX LONG WEARY YEARS. We have been "pounding and pounding, pushing and pushing Up-Hill!" to be sure, at times, but have the solid satisfaction of having seen our "Cash-On-Approval-System" pass through its experimental stages and enter upon the arena of business, a full pledged SUCCESS!

TO THE GENEROUS PUBLIC—For this manifestation of their confidence in us we make our bow of sincere thanks, and ON THIS GLAD HOLIDAY OCCASION WE BRING EVERYBODY A WISH FOR UNSPEAKABLE FORTUNES, JOYOUS, HAPPINESS AND PLEASANT PLENTITUDE. Respectfully, MERCEN & EVANS CO.

FORECLOSURE SALE. By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed made by John R. Turrette, and wife, Annie H. Turrette, the Wilmington Homestead & Loan Association, on the 23rd of August, 1904, at which time registered in Book 45, pages 154-156 of the Records of the office of the Registrar of Deeds of New Hanover county, the undersigned will sell to the highest bidder at Public Auction for cash, on Monday, the 26th of March, 1905, at the Court House door of New Hanover County, in Wilmington, at 12 o'clock M., the following described real estate in said City, beginning at a point in the Eastern line of Fifth Street 99 feet South of the Southern line of Walnut Street, thence East parallel with Walnut Street, 155 feet; thence South parallel with Fifth Street, 33 feet; thence West parallel with Walnut Street, 165 feet to the beginning, being part of Lot No. 2, Block 238, WILMINGTON HOMESTEAD & LOAN ASSOCIATION. By John D. Bellamy, Attorney. Feb-26days

WE HAVE Two Mules For Sale. Call early and secure a bargain. Get our prices on Guano, Sulphate and Muriate Potash, Nitrate Soda.

Seed Potatoes. White Bliss and Earl Rose. Hall & Pearsall.

Seed Potatoes! Just arrived—A car-load Red Bliss, White Bliss and Earl Rose. 500 TONS GUANO—ALL KINDS. A large line of Groceries. Call or write for quotations, we can give you close prices.

Brooks & Taylor. THE SIWASA. Florida Oranges, White Plume Celery, Fancy Apples, Malaga Grapes, Stuffed Dates, Hoadley's Chocolate, Bishop's Jam, Orange Marmalade, Tabasco Catsup.

STATEMENT OF THE Wilmington Savings and Trust Co. (Condensed from Report to Corporation Commission and Board of Directors.)

ASSETS: Loans and discounts, Furniture and fixtures, Real estate, Cash on hand and due from banks. LIABILITIES: Capital, Profits, less taxes and other charges, Deposits paid.