

A Day of Investigations and Rumors of Investigations

New Democratic Congress Has Stirred Things Up And a Great Many Interesting Developments Have Followed With Promise of More.

Progress Made to Date by the Various Probing Committees—Review of Recent Testimony Concerning the Steel Trust.

(By H. E. C. BRYANT.)

Washington, June 5.—The house investigating committees are on the war path. They are uncovering interesting things. The Stanley committee elected to investigate the steel trust, has made a fine record.

The Hardwick committee to look into the affairs of the sugar trust will get down to business this week. Its first important meeting will be held Wednesday.

The committee on expenditures in the treasury department has had some interesting testimony from James Curtis, assistant secretary of the treasury, on cresosote and cresosote oil, and enjoyed some of the confessions about public buildings by John Knox Taylor, supervising architect.

The committee on expenditures in the state department has made two significant revelations. It has been told by Dr. Jacob H. Hollander that he received money from Santo Domingo and the United States while acting as special agent for the latter. It brought out the story of Wm. H. Michael, former chief clerk of the state department, and Day portrait.

The committee on expenditures in the department of justice has heard from the lips of the attorney general about his efforts to bring to justice violators of the Sherman law.

The committee on expenditures of the post office department has found out how much it cost to furnish the post master general's private offices.

The Stanley committee went right to work as soon as it organized and has been very busy since. After talking the situation over carefully with Secretary Nagel and Herbert Knox Smith of the department of commerce and labor, the committee subpoenaed Jno. W. Gates, who came and testified with a glibness and frankness that delighted Chairman Stanley and his associates.

Mr. Gates gave away some of the secrets of the United States Steel Corporation. He told of the purchase of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co., calling it a forced sale, by the steel trust. He said a number of others, he said, had formed a syndicate and bought a controlling interest in the Tennessee Co., and passed a resolution giving Mr. Grant Schley, of the firm of Moore & Schley, power to sell if he got a profit.

Mr. Gates went to Europe for a short visit. On his return he discovered that Mr. Schley had bargained the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co. to Messrs. E. H. Gary, H. C. Frick and J. P. Morgan.

That was his first intimation of trouble. Mr. Gates told the committee that Mr. Morgan had been trying to purchase the stock of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co. for months.

Mr. Morgan had offered Mr. Geo. Kessler 150 for his stock. Several other attempts had been made to get hold of the stock. Mr. Gates' son was approached by a banker who had a prospective purchaser.

Mr. Gates declared that he formed the steel magnates to raise their bid from 90 to 100 on the property before they could take it over and exacted a resolution promising fair treatment to the minority bond holders.

Investigating The Lumber Trust

By Associated Press. Chicago, June 5.—Judge M. Landis today impaneled a special grand jury to investigate the alleged illegal operations of the so-called lumber trust.

"Have you ever made an effort," asked Senator Bailey, "to have the 'paper trust' published by the department of justice?" "Yes," replied Mr. Ridder. "I had 52 paper makers in New York indicted and they paid \$2,000 a piece. These were manufacturers of various kinds of paper, although it has not been possible as yet to prove legally that a white paper trust exists."

"Would you be satisfied," asked Senator Heyburn, "if the 'paper trust' were published in some other way than by the passage of the reciprocity agreement?" "I want help during my life time," said Mr. Ridder. "I have not yet seen any trust magnate go to jail. I favor the measure so that I may buy paper in the open market. I don't intend, if I can help it, to let the 'paper trust' dictate to me what I must pay for paper."

BULL LEADER BROWN APPEARS IN NEW YORK

By Associated Press. New York, June 5.—The appearance of W. H. Brown, one of the prominent New Orleans bull leaders, on the floor of the New York Cotton Exchange today was the signal for rumors that Mr. Brown had come here for the purpose of taking charge of an end-season bull campaign somewhat similar to that in which he had figured last year when cotton during August sold at 20 cents a pound. Mr. Brown refused to discuss the possibility of a bull campaign but expressed confidence in much higher prices for old crop cotton.

"I am very bullish on the old crop. The supplies of raw material and manufactured goods at the end of the season will be so small that both will practically corner themselves and next year a very large crop will be absolutely necessary for actual requirements and to fill the holes."

"The new crop in nearly all sections is needing rain and the general public seems to be of the opinion that this crop is an early one which is not the case. South Texas, south Georgia and south Alabama will get early cotton. The rest of the territory is from normal to late, and the present droughty condition over almost the entire belt makes an already late crop."

FATAL PISTOL DUEL IN WAKE COUNTY TODAY

Special to The News. Raleigh, N. C., June 5.—Buck Robertson is dead and H. W. Montague is wounded in the right arm as the result of a pistol duel in Eagle Rock township late last night. The killing is said to have been the result of an attack in Montague by Robertson, who accused the other of making uncomplimentary remarks about a young woman. Robertson fired the first shot, the ball entering Montague's arm, when Montague returned the fire shooting Robertson twice, once in the shin and in the breast. Miss Fossie Hicks, a young woman narrowly escaped injury when one of the five shots fired passed through her skirt. Montague surrendered this afternoon.

Bank of La Grange Closed. The Bank of La Grange, at Le Grange, Lenoir county was ordered closed this afternoon by corporation commission on the report of state bank examiner. Officers of the institution were criticized in October and promised to comply with the law but thirty days after examination irregularities began. The bank has \$12,000 of overdrafts and unsecured paper. John B. Wooten is president and F. Davis, is cashier. It is probable that depositors will be paid in full. A receiver will be appointed.



IS THIS SPORT?

FINISHING WEEK STARTS AT TRINITY

Examinations Closed Saturday Night And Baccalaureate Sermon Preached by Dr. Wm. Preston Few Sunday. Important Meetings. Graduating Class is One of Largest Ever Graduated From Trinity—Many Prominent Men to Address Students—Program for Week.

Special to The News. Trinity College, Durham, June 5.—All final examinations closed Saturday and the first exercises of commencement week began Sunday night with the baccalaureate address by President Few. The commencement this year is the first under the new administration. Some very important matters are to come before the board of trustees at their meeting this afternoon. Among other things, a successor to Dr. John C. Wooten, of the department of Biblical literature, is to be chosen. It will be remembered that at the last session of the North Carolina conference, Dr. Wooten was sent to Grace Methodist church, Wilmington, which is one of the largest in the conference. The announcement was received at the college with great surprise and the community parted with Prof. Wooten with great reluctance. The work of this department has been distributed among various members of the faculty and the work has been carried on in that way.

GRAND JURY'S THIRD REPORT ON BRIBERY

By Associated Press. Columbus, O., June 5.—The grand jury made a third report in the legislative bribery investigation today, returning indictments against eight persons. Representative Owen J. Evans, of Stark county, was in the court room when the jury came in and at once was served with an indictment charging him with receiving \$100 from L. C. Miller, a loan agent of Akron, in connection with a bill to regulate loan companies. He pleaded guilty and was given a \$500 fine by Judge Kinkead. Evans will go before the grand jury at once and tell all he knows about the bribery scandal.

NICARAGUA TO HAVE ANOTHER REVOLUTION

Rumored in New Orleans That Estrada Will Lead Movement in That Country to Divide it in Half—U. S. May Interfere. Many American Soldiers of Fortune Await Estrada's Arrival in New Orleans when They Will Join Him in His Next Attempt.

By Associated Press. New Orleans, June 5.—Juan J. Estrada, who recently resigned the presidency of Nicaragua following a series of demonstrations against his administration, disappointed his adherents here who were at the wharf in anticipation of his arrival from Guatemala. Estrada was not aboard and passengers on the steamer Preston brought the news that the former president came aboard for a few minutes at Belize, British Honduras. Besides the Nicaraguans who anxiously awaited the arrival of Estrada, there were at the wharf several well known soldiers of fortune who served in the "American legion" in Mexico and who are looking for new fields of adventure.

LIGHTNING MADE A MAN SUICIDE

By Associated Press. Cincinnati, June 5.—Lightning drove George H. Hutton, a clerk, to commit suicide in Madisonville, a suburb of Cincinnati early today. For years Hutton had been subject to shocks due to undue nervousness and because of these he moved to the suburban village. The storm which broke over this city shortly after midnight centered its fury in the Madisonville territory and after hours of terror, Hutton shot himself in the head, dying a few minutes later.

FIND TWO BOTTLES OF HESSION RUM UNDER GROUND.

By Associated Press. New York, June 5.—Two large bottles of Hession rum, 150 years old, are among the latest finds of historical experts who are excavating in the ruins of the old Fort Washington on the Hudson river, just above Riverside Drive. The excavations are on the site of the Hession barracks, in what was for a long time known as death gulch, from the large number of Hessions who fell in the rout of Washington's army from the height. The rum bottles were found twelve feet under ground. An old map shows that a tavern stood a short distance away from the barracks on a spot now occupied by a million dollar apartment house.

Will Try to Find New Bugs in Black Mountains of N. C.

By Associated Press. New York, June 5.—William Benton Miller, of the American Museum of Natural History, will leave this week on a four-months' expedition into the Black Mountains of North Carolina in search of new bugs for the museum's collection. The expedition is financed by Samuel V. Hoffman, president of the New York Historical Society. Research in the southern field was started by Mr. Hoffman's father, the Rev. Dr. E. A. Hoffman, of the General Theological Seminary.

Senator McCumber Organizes An Ananias Club

Col. Gerrard was Reprimanded

By Associated Press. Washington, June 5.—Col. Joseph Gerrard, commanding the cavalry post at Fort Myer, Va., was reprimanded today by the secretary of war under orders from President Taft, for reporting adversely on application of a soldier for permission to take examinations for promotion to commissioned grade on the ground of the soldier's Jewish parentage. The president said it was hard to deal with the matter "with patience, and without condemnatory words that had better not be written."

Several years ago Bloom was urged for appointment to West Point. President Roosevelt not being in a position at the time to make the appointment, suggested to Bloom that he enlist and "like a true American" fight his way up from the ranks. The young man too the advice, entered the army where he is said to have made a good record and recently took his first examination for promotion. It is said that Bloom failed in this examination but in view of the prejudice brought about by Col. Gerrard's endorsement, Bloom will be ordered up for final examination again in September.

On this point President Taft, in a letter to Simon Wolf, of this city, said: "I shall take steps to see that the examination to which Private Bloom is subjected is one in which he will be given a fair chance and not be exposed to any unjust prejudice." Colonel Gerrard's endorsement of Bloom's papers, to which President Taft so strongly objected when brought his attention, was as follows: "The applicant is a son of Mr. Joseph A. Bloom, of Jewish persuasion, who is now and has been for a number of years, a tailor at this post. His associations, as far as I know, and those of his family, have been with enlisted men and their families and have been respectable."

"The young man is undoubtedly honest and upright, ambitious and probably deserving, but for the reasons stated I would not desire him in my command as an officer and a social and personal associate. The presence of the applicant's family at a military post would be subversive of discipline and their probable treatment a source of mortification to them and frequent cause of trouble to commanding officers."

Word of the reprimand issued from the white house was as follows: "The president directs the secretary of war to inform Col. Gerrard that his attitude in this matter is strongly disapproved as contrary to the ideals and principles of this country."

"Col. Gerrard has been told that he had not the moral right to exert influence in his official position to bar the advancement of a courageous and efficient young man simply because that man was of Jewish race; that such procedure indicates not only prejudice that should not be found in an officer of his position and experience, but amounts to a failure set forth in this letter, with aptitude, and without condemnatory words that had better not be written."

"I wish you would examine the records and verify the statements of Mr. Wolf and, if he has not been misinformed—and his letter sets forth the facts—direct that this young man be admitted to examination for a lieutenantcy in the army."

"The statements made by Col. Gerrard are not true with reference to the standing that Jews have in this country; and I resent, as commander in chief of the army and the navy, that any officer of either should permit himself in an official document to give evidence of such unfounded and narrow race prejudice as that contained in this endorsement."

North Dakota Senator Pro-nounces Statement of Her-man Ridder an "Absolute Falsehood"—Latter Was Testifying.

By Associated Press. Washington, D. C., June 5.—The senate finance committee today resumed hearings on the Canadian reciprocity bill, Herman Ridder, until recently president of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, being called to the witness chair. Mr. Ridder had not proceeded far when Senator McCumber of North Dakota, started the committee by challenging one of his statements as an "absolute falsehood."

Senator McCumber's action brought a quick protest from Senators Stone and Bailey, who declared that witnesses should not be insulted.

Mr. Ridder had made the statement that the newspapers of the country and the publishers association had not attempted to suppress facts or to color stories sent from Washington on the subject of reciprocity when Senator McCumber interrupted with his charge of falsehood. Several senators insisted that Mr. McCumber's remarks should be stricken from the record.

Senator McCumber agreed to have his remark changed so as to make it read that he believed what Mr. Ridder said to be "unfounded."

Mr. Ridder, in reply to questions from members of the committee, declared that he, as president of the publishers' association had sent out word to the members of the association telling them the reciprocity agreement was of vital importance.

Fifteen Persons Injured in Wreck

By Associated Press. Nashville, June 5.—The Lebanon accommodation on the Tennessee Central Railroad, due here at 7:50, ran into a switch engine on the outskirts of Nashville this morning. Fifteen persons, largely passengers, received minor injuries. The switching crew is blamed for not having the track clear.

Fast Train Ran Into Open Switch

By Associated Press. Peoria, Ill., June 5.—In-bound passenger train No. 17, with seven coaches ran into an open switch in the yards of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific this morning, demolishing two local engines standing on the track besides totally wrecking its own engine.

Engineer Robert Atkinson, the engineer in charge, is not expected to live, while two other engineers were probably fatally injured.

Death of Col. Locke.

El Paso, Tex., June 5.—Col. F. M. Locke, chairman of the Texas secession convention which deposed Governor Sam Houston, died suddenly last night at his home here aged 87. He was a colonel in the Confederate army.

Taft Against Amendment to Reciprocity

By Associated Press. Washington, June 5.—To Senator Stone of Missouri, President Taft again made it clear today that he is opposed to any amendment whatever to the Canadian reciprocity agreement. Senator Stone had heard the report that administration opposition to the Root amendment was not entirely sincere and that Senator Root had been assured privately that the President would not be displeased if his amendment were adopted.

"I came to the White House," said the senator, "to find out for myself whether the President was in earnest in opposing the Root amendment. And I found out. He told me that he was against the amendment proposed by Senator Root and would be a gainst any proposed by any other, democrat or republican."

"That settles it for me. I am going back to the senate to carry the fight along these lines. Every true friend of reciprocity will do the same thing. If we begin by tacking on 'harmless amendments' we will end by attaching others which will destroy the bill."

Took Poison by Mistake.

By Associated Press. Birmingham, Ala., June 5.—Rev. V. R. Schramm, a Baptist minister of Wylam, is dead as a result of mistaking carbolic acid for paragonic. He preached at Corey, the industrial town near here, last night and returned home not feeling well. He went to the pantry to get some paragonic and instead got hold of the carbolic acid bottle and took a big dose. Physicians were sent for and despite efforts to save him the aged minister succumbed early this morning.

Mrs. Carroll in Search of Big Game.

By Associated Press. Newport, R. I., June 5.—Mrs. Royal Phelps Carroll and her daughter, Dorothy, have closed their home in Newport and are on the way for a lion hunting trip in the African jungle. Ever since the Roosevelt trip Mrs. Carroll has wanted to test her manhood at big game. Her husband and a retinue of servants accompany her.

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