

## PROBE IN THE REVENUE GRAFT

### Senator Simmons Sees Attorney General Moody

## HAS NOTHING TO TELL

What He Learned Evidently Related to the Investigation in the Western District and He Was Gratified in Consequence—Economical Road Building in the East

By THOMAS J. PENCE

Washington, Aug. 8.—Special.—Confirmation of the announcement made in this correspondence that the department of justice at the instance of Attorney General Moody is making a searching investigation of the charges relating to whiskey frauds and collusion on the part of the revenue officials in western North Carolina was not needed, but it has been given in a most emphatic manner. This morning Senator Simmons had an extended interview with Attorney General Moody, and although he would not discuss the subject of the conference there is no doubt that graft in North Carolina was the subject under consideration. The senator, who gave outward evidence of the fact that the interview was highly satisfactory, went so far as to declare that he had every reason to believe that the department of justice intends to probe to the bottom the charges of reference to graft and corruption in the administration of the revenue laws in North Carolina and in bringing the offenders to punishment. What Mr. Moody said to the senator could not be learned.

The publication at this time of the character of the evidence secured by the special agents of the department would be almost fatal to the investigation, and nothing along this line may be expected, unless it comes from the grand jury room at Greensboro or some other point in North Carolina. Senator Simmons would not say what he knew about the investigation, but it is certain that he congratulated Mr. Moody on this move looking to the improvement of the public service in North Carolina and towards the apprehension and punishment of the guilty. Senator Simmons practically admitted that he brought to the attention of Attorney General Moody the case of Editor Deal of Wilkes, who was assaulted by two revenue officers some weeks ago. In discussing this subject Mr. Simmons commended Judge Boyd and District Attorney Holton for their efforts towards enforcing the liquor laws and punishing delinquents. He declared, however, that they received little assistance from revenue officials.

The construction of sand clay roads in Eastern Carolina is a subject that is interesting Senator Simmons, and he discussed the practicability of this work in detail with M. O. Eldridge, assistant director of the public roads bureau. Highly important was the decision reached by Mr. Eldridge, after the conference, that he would send an expert to any county in North Carolina desiring to enter upon this kind of road improvement. The sand clay roads, which have been built with great success in South Carolina, Florida and other South Atlantic states are considered as good as macadam and can be built for one-fourth the cost. Roads of this character have already been constructed in Wayne and Robeson counties. Senator Simmons hopes to have the agricultural department send experts to Jones and Craven, where the construction of good roads will shortly be undertaken. These experts will go to any county to superintend the construction of a section of sand clay road, so that the work may be intelligently carried on.

Senator Simmons said a good sand clay road can be built for between four and five hundred dollars a mile provided the material does not have to be transported too great a distance. He has recently inspected roads of this character and considers them the very best. The senator will be pleased to send literature upon the subject to any county road officials and also to assist county authorities in securing contracts. No machinery is required to build the sand clay roads. Two inches of sand on eight inches of clay is the proportionate part of the materials employed, and it is said that this kind of road will soon pack like asphalt.

Senator Simmons has renewed his efforts to secure an officer in active service detailed as military instructor at the A. and M. College in Raleigh. It is the custom of the war department to detail retired officers for this duty, but it is not generally believed that they possess the zeal and enthusiasm to instruct youth. General Chaffee, the acting head of the war department, has refused the application of the college for the detail to this work of Lieutenant J. A. S. Young, who has

## PEACE ENVOYS AT PORTSMOUTH

### Admiral Mead Does the Honors of the Occasion

## A STAND-UP BREAKFAST

The Foreigners Meet American Ladies at the Navy Yard—Naval Honors and Salutes to the Plenipotentiaries—Military Procession Escorts the Party to the City

Hotel Wentworth, Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 8.—Of all the great days in its history this was the greatest Portsmouth ever had, for Portsmouth welcomed and entertained the envoys of two powerful nations sent here in the interest of bringing an end to the most sanguinary and far reaching war ever fought.

Portsmouth awoke to be greeted with disquieting rumors that the peace squadron, the popular name applied to the three vessels which conveyed and convoyed the Russian and the Japanese emissaries to this curious old town, had been again delayed and would not get into the harbor until afternoon. But this report proved groundless, for about 8 o'clock, the Mayflower and Dolphin, with their convoy, the cruiser Galveston, came boldly and squarely out of a light mist, and after maneuvering around a bit dropped anchor off the lighthouse just inside the harbor entrance, three or four miles from the government navy yard. It was 9:20 when the anchors were all down, and not much too soon either, for the ceremonies were set for a time shortly thereafter.

## REFORM OF INSURANCE

### Federal Regulation and Control Proposed

Recommendations by a Committee of the American Bar Association. President Roosevelt Said to Be Favorable to the Innovation

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 8.—Ralph Breckinridge of Omaha, chairman of the committee on insurance of the American Bar Association, has completed the report of that committee, which is to be presented to the annual convention at Narragansett Pier August 23 to 25. The report makes five specific recommendations:

1. Legislation by congress providing for the supervision of insurance.
2. The repeal of all valued policy laws.
3. A uniform fire policy, the terms of which shall be specifically defined.
4. The repeal of all retaliatory tax laws.
5. Stricter incorporation laws in the several states as they affect the creation of insurance companies; and a federal statute prohibiting the use of the mails to all persons, associations or corporations transacting the business of insurance in disregard of state or federal regulations.

President Roosevelt is quoted as having said to the committee that he is very much in favor of federal supervision of insurance. The committee would require reports to a governmental department showing the amount of money collected, for what purposes used; showing honest management and the protection of policy holders.

W. B. Vance of Virginia, a member of the committee, is expected to present a minority report in which he will differ with the committee not on its general findings, but on the proposition that there is no constitutional obstacle existing to the inauguration of federal insurance business. "Wild cat" companies are strongly criticised. The report says that state laws denying companies the right to defend against death claims in suicide cases encourages self-destruction.

## Peace Not Probable

Paris, Aug. 8.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Petite Parisien says that the welcome extended to M. Witte in the United States has produced an excellent impression at the Russian foreign office and has given rise to hopes that the fraternal relations existing in former days between Russia and the United States may be restored. There is little faith, however, in the attainment of peace. A dispatch to the Matin from St. Petersburg says that in governmental circles peace is neither believed probable nor desired.

## French Squadron in England

Paris, Aug. 8.—The newspapers here devote columns to the visit of the French squadron to England. They dwell upon the extraordinary cordiality of the reception given to the fleet. The Petite Parisien says the British nation always noted for the magnificence of its hospitality, has surpassed itself.

## SCORES BURIED IN STORE WRECK

### Big Building Collapses and Unknown Number Dead

## A GREAT MANY INJURED

Department Store Went Down in a Heap With Hundreds of Employees. List of Dead and Wounded Incomplete—Eight Dead Taken Out of the Ruins—Large Number Missing

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 8.—Death and destruction followed the collapse of the central section of the five story building occupied by the department store of John G. Meyer Company in North Pearl street shortly before nine o'clock. Of the hundreds of employees, three-quarters of whom are women, girls and cash boys, nearly a hundred were buried in the debris.

It was next to impossible tonight to get anything like a correct list of the dead and missing. The offices and books of the corporation were carried down in the wreckage, including the list of employees. Of the four hundred employees on the pay roll fifty were on vacation, and of the remainder the names of two hundred and fifty were secured. Of this 250 forty were missing or unaccounted for tonight. Of the other hundred fifty were cash boys, of whom there is no list, and fifty were men and women, clerks, whose names could not be learned. Up to 8 o'clock tonight five dead were taken out of the ruins. They were Michael Fitzgerald, Anna Whitebeck, Anna L. Sharp, Minnie Bullman, Frank Leonard, cash boy.

## RUSSIA NOT SATISFIED

### The Czar's Advisers Want the War to Go On

Wireless Messages Between the Czar and Witte Are Believed to Indicate a Want of Harmony—Russians Still Talk of Retaliation

St. Petersburg, Aug. 8.—The exchange of cipher telegrams between the czar and M. Witte continues on the eve of the opening of the peace negotiations at Portsmouth. These messages pass to and from Portsmouth and the palace at Peterhof direct without the intermediation of the ministry of foreign affairs. While the contents can only be conjectured it is accepted as a fact by all parties that want of harmony exists between the emperor and his chief plenipotentiary.

The preponderance of sentiment at the court is now so unpeaceful that the hope is expressed that the terms of Japan will be so severe that it will be immediately seen that they cannot be accepted. There is an energetic and increasing group among the czar's entourage who now maintain that the continuation of the war is necessary irrespective of the terms Japan is willing to offer. They hold that the Russian empire, which in the past has sacrificed all for prestige, is an immense military power and cannot abandon after only eighteen months all that such prestige means. Even if a long war does not bring glorious victory to the present army it will confirm the reputation of the Russian soldier for endurance and courage.

The czar again today presided over the council, which is considering the constitution of a national assembly. It is expected that he will issue a manifesto on the subject Saturday, the czar's birthday. It is thought it will commence with an appeal to the patriotism of the people in the name of the heir to the throne. Reports continue to be received of famine and misery in the strike affected districts. It is the unshaken sentiment of the court that the war ought to proceed.

## No Appeal From Judge Lynch

Waco, Tex., Aug. 8.—At 2 o'clock this morning mounted citizens numbering about 600 surrounded the courthouse and jail, and after making prisoners a Sheriff Tilley, the jailer and all the deputy sheriffs, broke open the jail, took Sam Majors, colored, out, and after hearing his confession, hanged him from the new bridge. Majors had recently been convicted of criminal assault and given the death penalty, but had been granted a new trial by Judge Surratt, in order that there might be an opportunity for the court of criminal appeals to revise the sentence on a technicality.

## Soldiers Killed by Explosion

Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 8.—While maneuvering in Crow Creek forest reserve, twenty-five miles west of Cheyenne, six soldiers of the Eleventh United States infantry were blown up this afternoon by the premature explosion of a four-inch shell. The killed and injured are being brought to Fort Russell. Names are not yet obtainable.

## TOOK IT OUT IN SHOOTING

### Ade Walker Kills Eugene Lamar in Kernersville

## BOTH MEN WERE DRUNK

They Had Been Gambling and Walker Wanted to Try His Luck Again—Lamar Refused and Walker Began Shooting—Both Had Pistols and Used Them

Winston-Salem, N. C., Aug. 8.—Special.—At Kernersville, about 1:30 this afternoon, Ade Walker shot and killed Eugene Lamar, a married man about 35 years old. The two men were in the blacksmith shop of Granville Manuels near the Southern Railway depot when the crime was committed. Walker was found an hour later at his home half a mile away and was arrested. He told the officers that he had decided to return and surrender to the authorities.

At the preliminary trial before a magistrate and Mayor W. S. Linville this afternoon, Mr. Manuels, owner of the blacksmith shop and the only eye witness to the shooting, testified that Lamar and Walker were drinking; that when the two men came into the shop Walker asked Lamar to play another game of cards with him. The witness gathered from the conversation that Lamar had won \$1.00 from Walker in a game played this morning. Lamar said to Walker: "You are too drunk. Ade; besides you are fussy when drinking; wait till you sober up, and I will play with you again."

"D—n it, let's shoot it out then," exclaimed Walker. Lamar replied laughing: "All right, then." Walker drew his pistol and fired twice. Lamar drew his gun and began shooting, emptying his pistol. At this juncture the owner of the blacksmith shop decided that he was in dangerous territory and he ran out in search of an officer. When he returned Walker was leaving and Lamar was down on his all fours, groaning. A physician was summoned and he arrived just before the wounded man died.

## FINE CHURCH BURNED

### St. Thomas in New York a Total Loss by Fire

It Was in the Heart of the Millionaire District and Was Furnished in Keeping With Its Surroundings. Works of Art Lost

New York, Aug. 8.—St. Thomas Episcopal church, at Fifth avenue and Fifty-third street, one of the most richly furnished religious edifices in America, was wrecked by fire today. Within a block of the ruined church are the homes of half a score of the country's wealthiest men. On 54th street, directly in the rear, is the city residence of John D. Rockefeller, and near by are the residences of William Rockefeller, H. McKay Twombly, Col. J. I. Cooke and the home of the late Daniel Lammont. The fire was confined to the church.

Defective electric wiring is supposed to have started the fire. The loss is estimated by Fire Chief Croker at at least a quarter of a million dollars. Only a mere shell of stone wall was left standing and many valuable paintings and bas-reliefs were ruined. One bronze bas-relief called "The Adoration of the Cross," and valued at \$50,000, was destroyed. Two large paintings, "The Resurrection" and "Christ Healing the Sick," were also burned. John LaFarge executed the paintings and the bas-relief was from Augustus St. Gaudens. Sumptuous altar and chancel furnishings, including a \$20,000 organ, were destroyed by the fire.

For a time John D. Rockefeller's home was in danger. Firemen, who stood with their hose lines in the windows of Mr. Rockefeller's home, concentrated the streams of water on the 256 foot stone tower of the church, which for a time threatened to topple over on the Rockefeller home, owing to the intense heat at the tower's base. A dramatic incident, the ringing of the big bell in the tower, marked the close of the struggle just at the moment when the firemen had succeeded in saving the surrounding homes from the impending danger. The peril was greatest when the roof of the church fell in. The shock shook the great tower to its top. The onlookers sank back, but the only sign the tower gave was one stroke from the clapper of a shaken bell. Only a little more than an hour elapsed between the time the smoke was first seen and the fall of the roof.

The church, which was closed for the summer, has stood on its present site for fifty years and has been the theatre of some of America's most brilliant weddings. Rev. Ernest M. Stires is the rector. The furnishings of the residence of Dr. W. Seward Webb were damaged by firemen, who broke into the house in order to drag their hose to an advantageous position.

## Died of Yellow Fever

Washington, Aug. 8.—The isthmian canal commission today received a cable from Governor Magoon, reporting that A. G. Livingston, a division engineer at Culebra, who had been appointed from St. Louis, Mo., had died of yellow fever.

## MURDER AT CAMP MEETING

### Ardor of Negro Worshipers Unaffected by the Tragedy

## Wholesale Cannibalism in Congo

Antwerp, Aug. 8.—Passengers on the Congo Free State, who arrived by steamship today, state that a report is current in the colony that a tribe of cannibals known as Niems have killed and eaten 2,000 negroes and eight German colonists.