

ROCKEFELLER ON WITNESS STAND

Under Cross—Examination Today But Prosecution Handicapped By Defense

PROBE IS MADE DULL

Mr. Kellogg, Standard Oil Attorney, Led Mr. Rockefeller Along Up to 1882, the Date When the Trust Was Formed and Then Stopped and Prosecution Will Not Be Allowed to Ask Questions About a Later Period Than This—Magnate on the Stand.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Nov. 20—John D. Rockefeller did not look like a man who expected to be put on the griddle today when he walked with that stealthy tread into the custom house building, where evidence is being heard looking to the undoing of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

Mr. Rockefeller is to go under the fire of "trust buster" Frank B. Kellogg, the government's special counsel, today, but the high-priced lawyers for the richest trust in the world seem to have stolen a march on Uncle Sam and his "trust buster" in that Mr. Kellogg will not be permitted to cross-examine the head of the gigantic monopoly as to events that occurred after 1882.

It was in 1882 that the trust agreement was entered into by Mr. Rockefeller and his associates. Up to that time it was the Standard Oil Company of Ohio. Mr. Rockefeller has already told how he and his company "dealt fairly to man and woman, to rich rival and street corner competitor." Mr. Rockefeller and his lawyers managed to get the exciting history of the company which he was unfolding stopped after the Standard became an actual trust.

In doing this, the probe which Mr. Kellogg had sharpened for Mr. Rockefeller has been dulled.

Mr. Rockefeller's lawyers withdrew him from the witness stand when he began treading on thin ice and the attorney for the government will not be able to drag him to those deep waters.

They can cross-question him as far as he has gone with his wondrous story of how the Standard Oil Company built its mountains of gold out of a borrowed \$2,000 and they can ask him a few questions about how he and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company entered into an arrangement by which he drew rebates from the railroad company. But beyond the vital year—1882—Mr. Rockefeller has told no story and Mr. Kellogg cannot hurl questions at him regarding the truth or falsity of the same.

It was all very clever. Some persons had looked for some trick move on the part of the Standard Oil attorneys but they did not expect just what came off yesterday afternoon. It is little wonder that Mr. Rockefeller was smiling, still amiable, talkative, today.

Mr. Kellogg plunged at once into his cross-examination when the oil king took the stand.

Q—I believe you stated, Mr. Rockefeller, that the oil business was a business of great hazard?

A—Yes.

Q—The element of that hazard which you mention was the uncertainty of production?

A—Yes.

Q—That was the principal element?

A—The element which I mention had reference to the instability of the investment in oil, there being no knowledge when the supply would cease.

Q—Now, in the Pennsylvania field while certain portions of the field have decreased, there was a general increase from 1880 to 1900, was there not?

A—I could not give the production in the various years.

Q—Asked if the oil production this year was not the largest in the history of the country, Mr. Rockefeller replied:

"It is many times greater now than ever before. The general production today is much larger than when I was actively in business."

Q—You say the oil business is extremely hazardous. Do you consider a business hazardous that has since 1877 increased its capital stock by \$61,000,000 and added to its earnings \$5991,000,000, besides having a surplus of \$200,000,000?

A—I do not consider that the

Late Empress And The Prince Chun.



question of the amount made determines whether a business is hazardous or not. Q—When the thirty-nine corporation were taken in, the value of the stock was \$70,000,000? A—Yes. Q—They are the same as were set forth in the trust agreement? A—Yes. Q—Did you not at the time take in those stocks at an actual value of \$55,710,698.24? A—I should say that was the amount. Q—So that the stock of the trustees—that is, the trust certificates, were issued for stock dividends or additional property acquired? Mr. Milburn objected but was overruled. After wrangling Mr. Rockefeller replied: A—I suppose so. Q—The stock dividend which was paid on December 31, 1886, in additional certificates amounting to \$15,028,200? Mr. Milburn objected but was overruled and Mr. Rockefeller replied: "Yes, I think so." Q—Then the stock of the Standard Oil Company now is \$98,338,000? Mr. Milburn again objected and was again overruled. A—Yes. Q—If in 1877 the company had \$70,000,000 and there was a dividend of \$15,000,000, and the stock at present is \$98,300,000, then that would leave \$13,510,000 for the properties of the company? A—I cannot tell how much stock was issued for the properties. Q—That would make the actual cash investment of Standard Oil at present \$69,000,000? Again there was an objection, which was overruled, and Mr. Rockefeller replied: "I don't know where you get your \$69,000,000. I think it would make \$66,000,000." Q—Yes, about \$65,000,000. You said there was an appraisal? A—Yes, and it was entered on the books. Q—Since then you have added \$13,310,000 for trust certificates and stock in Standard Oil? A—I don't know the exact figures. Q—That would make \$69,300,000? A—You are all right about the \$66,000,000, but your figures on the \$69,000,000 I don't quite grasp. You may see it with brighter mind. Where do you get the \$13,000,000? Q—Do I understand you to say that new money put in exclusive of earnings, was \$13,000,000? A—I think you understand me. (Continued on Second Page.)

AUTOMOBILE RUNS THRILLING TIME INTO OPEN DRAW ON WILD TRAIN

Two Persons Are Drowned and Six Others Have Thrilling Escape

HURLED INTO WATER

Machine, With Eight Occupants, Struck Platform and Entire Party Were Thrown Into the River. Chauffeur Thought Draw Was Closed Until Too Late to Stop Machine—Was Moving at High Rate of Speed—Bridge Tender and Bystanders Rescue All But Two of the Party.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Chicago, Nov. 20—Two persons were drowned and six were rescued in a thrilling automobile accident early today when a big touring car plunged over the embankment of the Calumet river at the Torrence avenue bridge.

The machine with eight occupants struck a platform 15 feet from the shore, the entire party being thrown into the water.

The dead: Joseph Meyer, 22 years old, chauffeur; body recovered by police. Margaret Atkins, 26 years old, 2106 Armour avenue; body not recovered.

The young men and women were rescued only through the efforts of George C. Wickam, the bridge tender, Peter Anderson, and T. Quinlan and his brother David, who jumped into the water and swam with the drowning people to the shore.

The machine, a large touring car, seating eight persons, was smashed, but hung on the platform at the rear end hanging in the water.

P. P. Graves, one of those rescued, it is said, was at the wheel. Meyers sitting beside him while the others occupied the rear seats.

As the machine approached the incline the chauffeur increased the speed, and the top of the bridge is only visible from the approach and the chauffeur believed it was closed. The machine moved down the descent at a high rate of speed, when the occupants were horror-stricken by the sight of the open draw and the embankment but a few yards away.

Desperately Graves attempted to stop the car, but in vain. The automobile struck the embankment, leaped into the air and fell heavily on the wooden platform 15 feet from shore, the impact hurling the occupants 20 feet in the air. All fell into the water, screaming and shouting for help. Their screams were heard by men in the vicinity, who hurried to the river.

None of the women were able to swim and each sank amid screams and cries for help. Two of the chauffeurs were able to swim and they attempted to save the drowning.

TRAGEDY IN OHIO.

Five-Year-Old Boy Shoots Ten-Year-Old Brother While Father is Being Married.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Kenton, Ohio, Nov. 20—Arthur Vermillion, aged 5, picked up a shotgun in his home yesterday and blew off the head of his brother, Earl, aged 10, while the father, Jesse Vermillion, a widower, was being married to Miss Lizzie Shaffer by the groom's father, Joseph Vermillion, at the latter's home a few miles distant.

Brothers and sisters of the ill-fated boy, spattered with brains which had struck them, hurried to the scene of the wedding to tell of the accident. The 5-year-old boy had loaded the shot gun himself.

Four Men Killed.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Chicago, Nov. 20—Four men were killed and four probably fatally injured at 8 a. m. on the Burlington Railroad, at Highlands, a few miles from the Chicago city limits. The "letins were on a handcar which was struck by a fast suburban train.

The wounded are being brought to the county hospital. It is believed all of them will die. They are section hands on their way to work when the wreck occurred.

Children Hurt.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) San Jose, Cal., Nov. 20—A half dozen school children were injured, one seriously, when the explosion of a dynamite cap in the grammar school at Saratoga yesterday morning caused a panic, in which the children fought wildly to escape from the building.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 20—Following the running away of a locomotive on the Susquehanna & New York Railroad at Vosburg, near Towanda, six men on a work-train had a thrilling experience. The runaway engine plunged into a flat-car on which the men were working. The car remained on the rails, but the workmen were knocked senseless by the collision and in this helpless state were carried along by the runaway, which steadily gained speed as it dashed toward Mohopany, a station at which it would have crashed into a fast freight.

John Allen, of Wysox, one of the men on the flat car, revived in time to realize the danger to himself and companions. He managed to crawl over the tender and into the engine cab, which he found deserted, the engine having started of its own accord while the engine-driver and firemen were at a station for orders. Allen, by trying one lever after another, finally succeeded in stopping the runaway just in front of the Mohopany station. The six men all escaped, Allen himself being the most badly hurt. He was deeply cut on the head.

MORSE WON'T SEE REPORTERS

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Nov. 20—Charles W. Morse suddenly sent for Warden Flynn in the Tombs today and began an angry tirade when that official appeared outside the former ice king's cell. Morse forbade the warden sending him any communication whatever from the newspaper men.

"Under no circumstances," declared Morse, peering angrily up and down his cell, "send up to me any notes or cards from newspaper men. I don't want to see them. I don't want to see them and I don't want to see them and I'll be damned if I do see any of them."

Warden Flynn declared that Morse did not have to see anyone he didn't care to, but that he would continue to send up all cards and notes that were left for Morse. It was a rule of the prison always to do this and the warden refused to make any exception in Morse's case.

FORGERIES NEARLY \$2,000,000.

Nearer This Amount Than \$700,000. About One Hundred Victims.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Chicago, Ill., Nov. 20—Close on the transfer of Peter Van Vlissingen to a cell in the Joliet penitentiary yesterday the authorities made the startling discovery that his outstanding forgeries total nearly \$2,000,000 instead of \$700,000 he estimated in his confession.

This huge loss has been suffered by approximately one hundred persons instead of twenty-five, as Van Vlissingen stated. Most of them are well-to-do investors and nearly all reside in or near Chicago.

The exact number of forged securities outstanding is 458.

RECEIVERSHIP TERMINATES.

Metropolitan Street Railway Company Will Be Sold Under Foreclosure.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Nov. 20—The receivership of the Metropolitan Street Railway is to be terminated and the property sold under foreclosure just as soon as the necessary technicalities can be put through and the validity of the Metropolitan fives, the general and collateral bonds can be put in before Judge Lacombe.

The announcement of Judge Lacombe that he proposed to end the receivership of the Metropolitan quickly as possible came with a good deal of surprise to all.

Charles E. Keniston a Suicide.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 20—Charles E. Keniston, head of a publishing concern, and president of the Charles E. Keniston Realty Company, with offices in the Brunswick building, at 225 Fifth avenue, committed suicide in the Hotel Seville. He evidently took his life during a period of nervous depression as he had had attacks of this kind during the last few years.

Tied Wife's Tongue.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Akron, Ohio, Nov. 20—Charging that her husband tied a cord around her tongue to keep her from talking, Mrs. Alexander Zalovics, of Barberton, had him arrested on a charge of cruelty. Zalovics pleaded guilty, saying his wife's incessant talk had driven him wild.

Anna Gould-de Castellane-de Sagan And Prince Denies Divorce Rumor.



YOUTHFUL FIREBUGS BRYAN ON TAMMANY

Children Five and Six Years Old Asks Some Pertinent Questions About Vote

Guilty of Wholesale Burnings in Norfolk—Started One Fire in Which an Infant Was Burned to Death—Police Had Been On the Lookout.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Norfolk, Va., Nov. 20—Three infantile firebugs, the revelations of whose operations are startling to police and firemen, have been arrested here.

Commencing about a month ago, and continuing for ten days, the outbreak of fires in the city, recurring with alarming frequency, kept the firemen working overtime. Incendiarism was suspected, and the police kept a close lookout for the culprits.

An unsuccessful attempt to burn a saloon at the corner of Monticello avenue and Washington street yesterday afternoon was followed by the arrest of three boys. They are Doc Baum, son of Mrs. Rosa Baum, of 24 Fenchurch street; Samuel Epstein, son of Morris Epstein, and Herman Addison, son of Thomas Addison, of 57 Cumberland street. The boys have made partial confessions, in which they involve each other to a much greater extent than they themselves are aware.

Samuel Epstein, who is but six years old, without fear told Police Captain Ford and Fire Chief McLaughlin of how his brother Teddy, five years old, started a fire at the corner of Monticello avenue and Washington street that destroyed the life of an infant and burned buildings which, with their contents, were valued at \$34,550, on October 19 and 20.

Each of the others under arrest admitted having been present at the starting of at least one fire. It was in these confessions that they implicated each other in the starting of other fires.

PROMINENT CORPORATION LAWYER FOUND DEAD

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Port Washington, L. I., Nov. 20—Albert Cowden, former corporation counsel of Brooklyn, was found dead in bed at his home here today. He had been suffering from insomnia and had taken a drug to induce sleep. It is believed he took an overdose of the drug last evening before retiring.

FIFTEEN KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Great Excitement Prevails After Report of Bursting Gas Main

GAS BECOMES IGNITED

Workmen Were Hurling in Every Direction and When An Ambulance Surgeon Arrived, He Found That 17 of the Men Were Lying About Dead—A Number of Others Were Badly Hurt—Flames Shot Up 100 Feet, Endangering Nearby Buildings, Two of Which Were Partially Destroyed.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Nov. 20—Seventeen were killed today in the explosion of a gas main on Gold street, between York and Front streets, Brooklyn. For several days laborers have been at work on a new pipe-line running from Fulton street to the East River and Gold street is ripped up from York to Front street. The gas piping was supported by wooden structures.

While 25 men were working between York and Front streets, the gas main on the east side of Front street sagged and burst with a terrific report.

The workmen were hurled in every direction. When an ambulance surgeon arrived he found that 17 of the men were lying about dead. A number of others were badly hurt.

With the explosion of the gas, it in some way ignited, and flames shot up from the street to the height of 100 feet. Nearby buildings were endangered for a time, but the flames continued to burn straight upward until the gas was turned off.

The greatest excitement prevailed in the neighborhood. Gold street, between Front and York streets, is lined with frame houses. These were threatened with destruction by the tower of flames from the gas main, and the 75 families occupying the houses worked frantically to save their belongings.

Two of the houses were partially destroyed by fire. Several hundreds of pupils were at their studies in St. James' Catholic school. They made a dash for the stairway when the explosion occurred. The command to fall in line for the fire drill had the effect of quieting them and they were taken quietly from the building.

So great did the danger from the crowds become that the reserves were called out. More than a dozen fire-engines were called to the scene, and the firemen devoted their efforts to saving the frame buildings from destruction.

Just what caused the gas main to explode probably will never be known.

So far as at present known the dead and missing are as follows:

The dead: Anderson, Gustav, foreman of carpenters. Prout, Richard. Eleven laborers. Unidentified woman and two children.

Unidentified girl, about six years old.

The missing: Bachman, Emil; Farrell, Charles; Green, Henry; Lane, Frances; Walker, Gustav; Armande, Francesco.

Injured: Sohnwald, Frank, trapped in pit, but escaped with four others, through the sewer; skull fractured. Levine, Dominick; cut about head. Grimaldie, Archie; badly burned.

RICHARD CROKER ARRIVED TODAY

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Nov. 20—Richard Croker, ex-political boss of New York City and leader of Tammany Hall, and now a resident of Ireland, reached New York today on the steamboat Lusitania. It is his first visit since he came to attend the funeral of his son, Frank Croker, who was killed while automobile racing at Ormonds, Fla., three years ago.

Richard Croker, Jr., another son, and a number of the old guard of Tammany, went down the bay to meet the ex-chief.