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CONCORD, N. C. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1917.

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NO. 67.

FINANCIAL DEALINGS OF GASTON MEANS Brought Out in Court This Morning

Witnesses Told of Bank Accounts Carried At Their Institutions And of Securities Which Were Sold.

WILLIAM J. BURNS TO AID MEANS He Arrived This Morning And Has Been Consulted by Defendant at All Stages of Today's Session.

WM. J. BURNS HERE. William J. Burns, head of the Burns National Detective Agency, of New York, and by whom Gaston B. Means was said to have been employed at the time he met Mrs. Maude A. King, arrived in Concord this morning, and has been sitting beside defendant all through the morning session of court.

Cabarrus County Court resumed its sitting this morning at 9:30 o'clock on the final day's session of this week. Up to this time the State had not yet completed hearing direct evidence against Gaston B. Means.

The court room this morning was not filled to capacity, but the seats were soon taken by the hearers who continued to come in.

Edwin F. Mack. Edwin F. Mack, of Chicago, vice president of the Central Trust Company, of Illinois, was the first witness called this morning by the State. He stated that he was introduced to the defendant by Mr. Kohu, of the Safety Deposit Bank, of Chicago.

John R. Todd, of the Illinois Company, Chicago, was the next witness. He met Means in January, 1917, and was asked by Means for statistics on cotton. These were gotten up and mailed to Means at the Chicago Beach Hotel.

On February 1, the market went down. The account was closed out at a loss of \$6,800. Means said he would settle this up. The total loss on the transaction was \$11,800, less the margin of \$5,000.

On cross examination Mr. Todd said that the demands for the \$6,800 to cover the shortage in the account had been mailed to W. R. Patterson and not to Means, and that the account had been left in the name of Means for only a short time.

Edwin L. Roach, margin man of the King, Farnum & Co., brokers, of Chicago, testified that in December, 1916, he had seen Means in their Chicago office and had talked with him and W. R. Patterson in general way.

Hugh M. Garretson, assistant cashier of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, testified that he was Q. 3. Means on December 28, 1916, Means at that time came to his desk and applied for a loan on some securities.

by a new note falling due on September 24, 1917. The collateral was in bonds, face value amounting to \$30,000. When this renewal note fell due, Means was notified, but the note was not paid, and the bank was forced to sell the securities.

The deposit slips presented by Means at the bank were presented. They showed the account was opened on December 13, 1916 with a deposit of \$29,241.67, a cashier's check from the Central Trust Company.

The witness on cross-examination said he had been with the bank since June 1, 1901. When the note became due September 22, 1917, he said, he knew that the proceeds of the securities were sold on November 1, 1917, while Means was still in jail.

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On January 10th, the day following this transaction, the account was reopened with the purchase of 1,000 shares of July cotton and 1,000 shares of May cotton, and on the 10th 1,000 shares were bought. The account

VIOLENT ATTACKS AGAINST BRITISH

Making Strong Efforts to Wipe Out the Salients the British Drove Through the Hindenburg Line.

REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES

Violent Fighting on Northern Italian Front, has Stopped for the Moment. —Austro-Germans Active.

(By The Associated Press) The Germans are making strong efforts to wipe out the salients which the British drove through the Hindenburg line toward Cambrai.

Crown Prince Rupprecht evidently proposed to make amends for his defeat by crushing the new salient with attacks all along the front.

A stroke on the southern front brought evident gains, the British being driven back to Valenciennes and Gouzeaucourt about one and three fourth miles northwest and southwest of Gouzeaucourt respectively.

In a counter attack the British regained Gouzeaucourt and drove the enemy from the ridge East of Gouzeaucourt. At other points, Mamettes and Villers-Guilain, the strong German attack made no impression on the British defenses.

There has been little except artillery on other fronts. Violent fighting on the Northern Italian front has stopped for the moment.

The Austro-Germans are reported active behind the lines and are said to be building defenses on the eastern bank of the Tagliamento river 28 miles east of the Piave.

Spoken for the British governments deny that a letter written by the Marquis of Lansdowne expresses the views of the members of the British cabinet.

An election in Petrograd of delegates to the constitutional assembly resulted in favor of the Bolsheviks who gained more seats than the constitutional democrats.

No Guns Captured by Germans, Say the British. British Headquarters in France, Dec. 1.—In their operation in the Cambria region yesterday, the Germans began a turning movement.

So far as could be ascertained this morning no British guns were captured by the Germans.

The German casualties yesterday were exceedingly large. The British probably lost a considerable number of men.

There is no concealing the fact that the enemy gave the British uncomfortable hour or two yesterday, but the situation this morning is not one to cause particular uneasiness.

FOOTBALL ENACTS A TOLL OF 12 VICTIMS

This Number was Six Less Than in 1916 and Four Less Than Two Years Ago. —15 Deaths in 1914.

ALL VICTIMS HAD LITTLE TRAINING

Not a Fatality or Even Serious Injury Occurred in Games Conducted by Expert Directors.

(By The Associated Press) Chicago, Dec. 1.—Football enacted a toll twelve victims during 1917, which ended with the Thanksgiving games, according to reports to The Associated Press today.

The number was six less than in 1916; four less than two years ago. In 1914 fifteen deaths occurred.

The defenders of the popular college sport pointed to the fact that not a fatality nor even a serious injury occurred in the big universities and colleges, where the games are conducted under expert physical directors.

All of the victims, with one exception, are either high school or players with little or no training, participating in semi-professional games.

The majority of the cases show that the players entered the game without the proper knowledge of it and without proper physical condition for so rough a sport.

DOCUMENTARY TAXES GO INTO EFFECT TODAY. Various Papers to Which War Stamp Must Be Affixed.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Documentary stamp taxes of the war tax bill go into effect today. Revenue stamps must be affixed to bonds of indemnity or indebtedness, capital stock issues, stock transfers, produce sales on exchanges, drafts, promissory notes, conveyances and deeds, customs house entries, steamship tickets, proles, assignments of power of attorney, playing cards and parcel post packages.

All stamps are sold by postoffices except those for stock transfers and produce sales which are distributed through revenue collectors.

Millions of dollars in receipts are expected to reach the treasury from this source. The taxes are similar to those imposed during the Spanish war and by emergency revenue act of 1914.

On capital stock transfers, from which the government expects to derive a large revenue, and which will fall heavily on stock exchanges, the tax is two cents for each \$100 or fraction of the face value.

For produce sales on exchanges the tax is 2 cents for \$100 the value of the merchandise covered by the agreement and stamps are to be affixed to the memorandum or bill of sale.

Indemnity and surety bonds are subject to a tax of 50 cents, or one per cent of the premium charged for the execution of the bond.

RECORDS OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION

Provost Marshal Crowder Announces All Records of District and Exemption Boards Open to the Public.

NO INCLINATION TO CAUSE INJUSTICE

Only Exceptions Are the Answers to Questions of Mental and Physical Conditions and as to Dependents.

(By The Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 1.—Provost Marshal Crowder announced today that all records kept by local and district boards, Adjutant General and other person in connection with registration, examination, selection and mobilization of registrants under the selective draft will be open to the public for inspection during the usual business hours except answers to questions as to physical and mental conditions and dependents.

General Crowder said officials had no inclination to cause injustice or embarrassment to registrants. The rules and regulations make it a misdemeanor to divulge the physical conditions or dependents of a registrant to persons other than those directly connected with the administration of law and one years imprisonment will be imposed for the violation.

SHOULD CONFINE ITSELF TO THE WAR. President Wilson Says Congress Should Vigorously Prosecute War.

Washington, Dec. 1.—President Wilson believes congress should confine almost entirely to the coming session of the legislature to a vigorous prosecution of the war.

THE COTTON MARKET. Comparatively Quiet—Prices 2 to 19 Points Higher.

New York, Dec. 1.—The cotton market was comparatively quiet early today with fluctuations irregular.

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE DISMISSED. Offense Was Participation in the Inter-Allied Conference.

Petrograd, Dec. 1.—Maklakov, the Russian Ambassador to France, has been declared dismissed from the post by Trotsky, the Bolshevik commissioner of foreign affairs.

Death of Mrs. John Dent. Mrs. John Dent died at her home on McGill street at 10 o'clock today.

De Saules Case to Go to Jury Today. Minceola, Dec. 1.—When the "summing up" addresses began in court here this afternoon it was believed certain the fate of Mrs. Bianca de Saules, on trial for the murder of her husband, would be in the hands of the jury this evening.

Fair Weather Next Week. Washington, Dec. 1.—Fair weather with reasonable temperature during the first half of the week beginning tomorrow is the forecast by the Weather Bureau to the South Atlantic and East Gulf states.

Over 70,000 men and towns in the United States were a telephone. It is estimated that an average of 8,000,000 messages are sent over these lines annually.

MRS. ANNA L. ROBINSON, MOTHER OF THE LATE MRS. MAUDE KING, GIVES TESTIMONY IN COURT

The Assembling of Congress is But Two Days Off. —Washington, D. C., Dec. 1.—With the assembling of Congress but two days away senators and representatives from near and far are arriving in Washington today by every train.

CONGRESSMEN GATHER. In a Weak Voice She Tells of Her Connection With Gaston B. Means.—Sat in a Rolling Chair.

APPEARANCE OF MUCH INTEREST

Attorney Cansler Appealed to Judge Cline Several Times During Testimony to "Stop Her!"

The afternoon session of court on Friday resumed its sitting with A. Leonard Johnson, secretary and treasurer of the Merchants Loan and Trust Company, of Chicago, under direct examination by Assistant District Attorney John T. Dooling, of New York.

It is possible that the question as to a formal declaration of war against Austria will be presented. Thus far it is understood the Administration has not signified any change of attitude on that matter.

ELKS' MEMORIAL EXERCISES TOMORROW. Devotional exercises will be held at Central graded school building at 3:30 p. m. Sunday by the Concord Lodge of Elks No. 807 to the memory of their departed brothers.

Music will be rendered by Mrs. J. B. Womble, Mrs. J. G. Pickard, Mr. Lloyd McKay, Mr. Ed. Sherrill and Miss Mary Lewis Harris, accompanist.

SWANN WANTS MEANS CASE DISPOSED OF HERE. Will Pay Expenses of N. Y. Witnesses Personally If It Becomes Necessary.

New York, N. Y., Nov. 30.—District Attorney Edward Swann, when asked today about the payment of the expenses of his assistant, John T. Dooling, and of Otto H. Schultz and other witnesses from this county in Concord, N. C., attending the trial of Gaston B. Means, said that no bill of any kind had yet been tendered.

Without the witnesses whom I have furnished to the prosecution Means could not be convicted of murder. It is probable that the county committee at Concord will pay the expenses of the New York witnesses, but in the absence of any specific understanding to that effect I have taken the responsibility of seeing that these witnesses at present in Concord give their testimony.

On cross examination by Judge Osborne, the witness testified that the borne, the witness testified that the signature of Mrs. Anna L. Robinson was in the hand of the revocant and in the hand of writing of Mrs. Robinson, and that Mrs. King's signature was in her own proper signature.

Mrs. Anna L. Robinson, 77 years of age, mother of Mrs. King, was the next witness called. Just before her name was called, Mrs. Mary C. Melvin, her daughter, who has been at the Means home here since the burial of Mrs. King, arose and left the court room.

In a weak voice she told, under direct examination of Attorney McInnis, how she had met Gaston Means about two years ago in New York, where he claimed he was a detective. She said of their trip to Chicago and their stay at the Chicago Beach Hotel.

All men's intentions are good for paying material. Sound judgment is responsible for a lot of alliance.

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