

STOCK NEWS SLIPS BACK THE CHARGES

"Circumstantial Evidence" is Shown By Gardner With Exchange Tape.

WASHINGTON ADVANCE ADVICE CAUSED SALE.

Secretary of State Lansing, President's Secretary Tumulty and Tom Lawson to be Star Witnesses Before Probing Committee Monday.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Secretary of State Robert Lansing, Secretary to the President Joseph Patrick Tumulty and Thomas W. Lawson will be the star witnesses before the "leak" probe at the capitol on Monday.

Today's session of the committee on rules was occupied by the presentation of a prepared argument by representative Augustus P. Gardner of Massachusetts.

Representative Gardner made no accusations. His argument took the ground that circumstances made it appear that some one with inside information made the short commitments.

"I stand on my statement that there was a 'leak', said Representative Gardner at the beginning of his statement. Gardner had come prepared.

"The renewed selling of the market is due to reports received by brokers private wires from Washington to the effect that the administration will in the near future address to the bill-ers some suggestions or proposals in regard to peace.

This statement of Gardner's induced the committee at once to summon the state department and the White House correspondent of the two Wall Street news services.

Representative Gardner relates the story of Wall Street's spasm as revealed by the ticker tape citing the transactions in United States Steel common as illustrative.

"The beginning of the downward tendency in the stock market is first apparent between 12:45 and 1:45 of December 19th. United States Steel had opened at 10 o'clock at 113 1/4 and had risen as high as 116 1/8.

"On December 20th it opened at 112 and remained practically stationary until 12:45. Between 12:45 and 1:45 it dropped from 111 5/8 to 110.

"On December 21st it opened at 104 1/2 and showed an upward tendency until almost noon, rising as high as 109 1/4. Between 11:45 and 12:45 a steady drop began bringing it as low as 102.

Representative Gardner then informed the committee that his counsel, Judge William M. K. Olcott, of New York, who was unavoidably detained by court engagements would be in Washington on Monday.

"This comparison," said Gardner, "presents a chain of events which beyond peradventure of doubt proves the existence of a 'leak'.

WAR COUNCIL IS ON.

Rome, Jan. 6.—With Prime Minister Boselli, of Italy, Bryan, do of France, and Lloyd-George of Great Britain, the conference of the entente statesmen convened at Rome today.

The first session of the conference was long, it is said, lasting nearly the whole day. Premier Boselli, as host, presided. No intimation is given as to the probable duration of the conference, nor have any detailed accounts of the various subjects to be discussed been made public.

It is the general opinion here, that the conference is a prelude to even greater joint efforts by the allies and a closer co-ordination of all plans of campaign in the spring. The idea that peace will be discussed rather than a stronger prosecution of the war is not held.

The Havas Agency declares that the Italian government has proclaimed a general holiday in Rome in honor of the occasion.

GERMANY AWAITS REPLY TO WILSON

Attitude of Central Powers is Watchful Waiting, Says Hale.

(By William Bayard Hale.) Berlin, (via Sayville), Jan. 6.—The attitude of the central powers at the present moment with regard to the question of peace is one of watchful waiting.

There will be no direct answer to the entente note rejecting direct communication, in terms which the central powers regard as too insulting to be overlooked.

The whole subject for the moment has been laid aside to await the entente answer to President Wilson.

The Spanish note to President Wilson continues to excite interest. A report reaches Berlin via Switzerland that the Spanish minister of foreign affairs, Senor Romanos, made the statement that the sense of the note was that "Spain desired to reserve to herself the liberty of action at a moment possibly more opportune."

The statement attributed to Count Andrassy, the Hungarian conservative leader, that if the entente desires to know the terms of the central powers they have only to ask President Wilson, who has been secretly informed of them, may be dismissed as utterly idle.

No exchange of confidential communications of any kind or sort has passed between the German and the United States governments.

Count Tarnowski von Tarnow, the new Austrian ambassador to the United States, leaves Rotterdam for America on January 13.

KIDS ARE AMUSED WITH BEAR YARNS

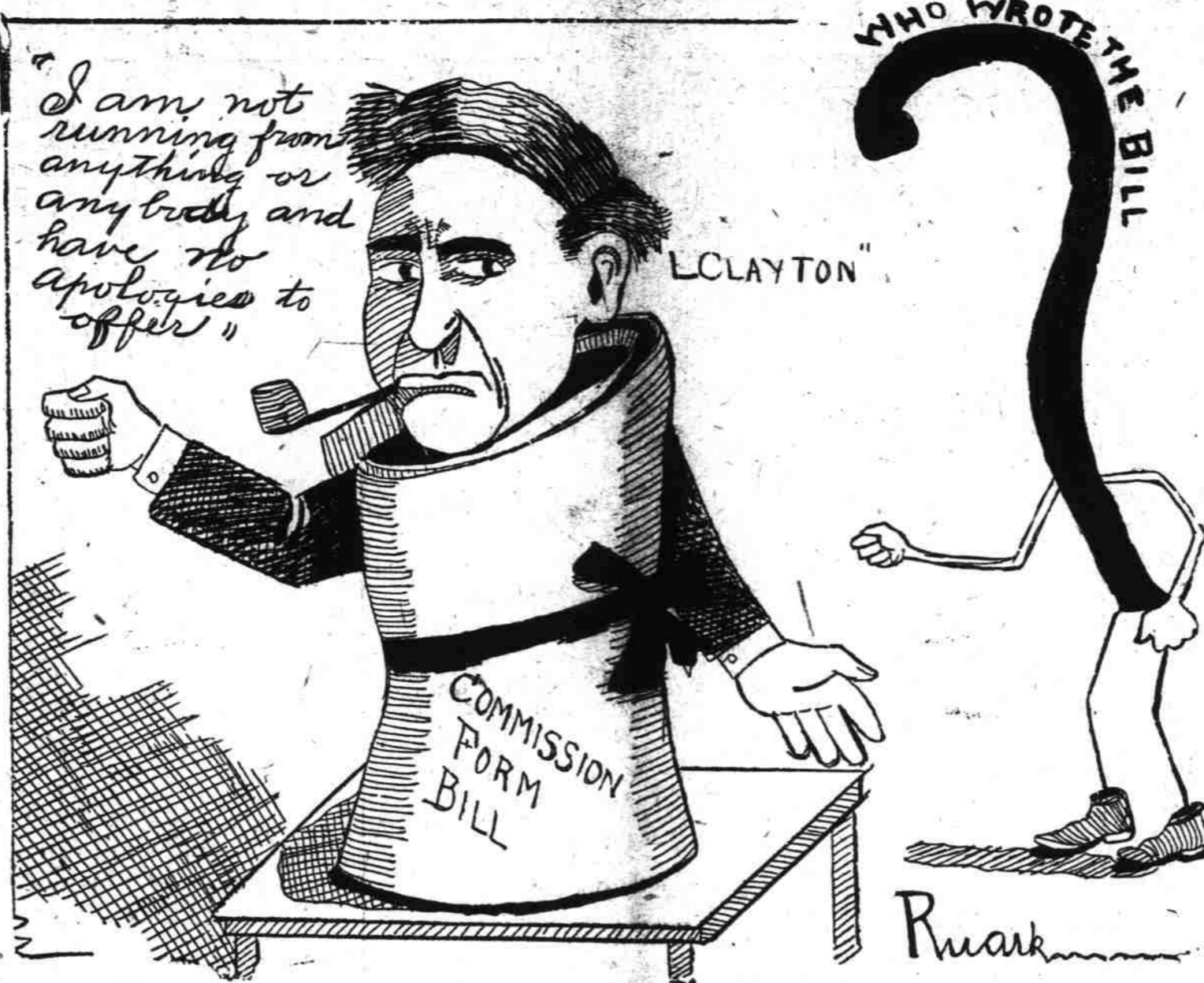
Washington, Jan. 6.—Bear stories—the crawly, creepy kind that made little folks want to sit close to daddy's knee and peeped every shadowy corner with big hungry grizzlies—furnished the subject of Enos Mills' matinee for school children at the National museum today.

The noted Colorado naturalist appeared twice today at sessions of the National parks conference. His afternoon performance was exclusively for children and he devoted himself to those whose personal acquaintance he had made during his year of sojourn in Uncle Sam's playgrounds.

names of those who profited by the 'leak' or the names of those responsible for the 'leak.'

Other witnesses who may appear on Monday in addition to the two government officials and Thomas W. Lawson are the newspaper correspondents of the Wall Street dailies, Chas. R. Sabin, president of the Guaranty Trust Company and possibly Bernard M. Baruch.

"So They Tabled The Bill"



BY YOUR OWN EFFORTS SHALL YOU BE KNOWN

This Next Week is The Week That Candidates in The Dispatch Contest Must Do Things, If They Expect to Win a Prize.

- THE PRIZES. \$685 Overland Automobile. Ford Automobile. Carolina Beach Lot. \$100 in Gold. \$75 Victrola. \$50 O. K. Mystic Range. \$70 Sellers Kitchen Cabinet. \$25 Wrist Watch. Two \$60 Diamond Rings.

Saturday night the second period of the greatest contest Wilmington has ever seen will come to an end. The winners of the two automobiles, the building lot, and the other prizes will probably be determined next week.

For any candidate to sit idly by and let this next week pass without the effort of her life, is inconceivable. If there is a single candidate who thinks that she is just going to blunder into a prize, she will never be more mistaken in her life.

GODWIN NAMES DANIELS FOR JOB

Had Strongest and Most Numerous Endorsements of All Southport Candidates.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 6.—D. O. Daniels was today recommended for postmaster at Southport by Congressman Godwin, to succeed R. S. Newton, who resigned ten days ago, after serving about two years.

SEEKS SOIL SURVEY OF CALDWELL COUNTY

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 6.—Congressman Doughton has asked the Agriculture Department to make a soil survey of Caldwell county. Mr. Doughton believes the survey will be made. He was advised that the survey for Allegheny county is almost completed.

your friends at the supreme moment. This week is the week that you must do things. This week you must clinch the victory.

Take the telephone and call up the friends who promised to help you. It is better, of course, to see them personally, but if you cannot, the phone will do.

There isn't a contestant on the list today, but who can win if she wants to. If you don't win, it will be your own fault, for you can't expect your friends to boost much longer, if you don't do all in your power to help yourself.

Each \$15 worth of subscriptions turned in this week will give 140,000 extra votes. You will need all of the big ballots that you can get, so make the most of every minute until next Saturday night.

(Continued on Page Twelve)

TWO MEN BLOWN BITS IN EXPLOSION

Nitro-glycerine Thought to Have Been Spilled in Train Smoking Room.

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 6.—Two men were killed another fatally injured and a score more or less seriously hurt near here late today when an explosion occurred in the "smoker" attached to the Southern Railway's "Birmingham Special," at Woodland Junction within the limits of this city.

The dead are: Louis J. Walton, Birmingham; J. D. Oliver, Birmingham. Seriously injured: J. C. Lee, J. D. Russum; Birmingham; J. Shelby and H. Pehrner, Atlanta.

Railroad officials think that one of the dead men was mixing nitro glycerine or some other explosive in a bottle when he dropped it. The two men were literally blown into bits and identification of the fragments of their bodies is impossible.

DELAY BY ENTENTE WITH PEACE REPLY CAUSE OF ANXIETY

Change in Note as Result of U. S. Peace Developments Is Anticipated.

ANSWER MAY ARRIVE FIRST PART OF WEEK.

Effort is Made to Make it Clear Action Taken Later by U. S. Will be Based Entirely on Attitude of Entente.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Continued delay in the transmission of the reply of the entente powers to President Wilson's peace note aroused some apprehension in administration circles here tonight.

The state department tonight announced that it had secured no official information as to when the reply would be forwarded, but it was stated that the text of the note was expected to reach Washington early next week.

Administration officials tonight showed some anxiety lest recent peace developments in this country may have affected the attitude of the entente powers toward the President's peace note.

There was some concern tonight likewise as to the effect of the endorsement of the President's peace move by the Senate. The fact that the endorsement resolution distinctly avoided placing the Senate behind the President's entire peace program, was confined to an approval of his "request that the belligerents state their peace terms" was accepted by official Washington as weakening the President's position in European capitals.

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ROTAN BELIEVES LEWIS KILLED MISS ROBERTS.

Philadelphia, Jan. 6.—Samuel P. Rotan, district attorney of Philadelphia, declared today that he was convinced that Bernard W. Lewis, who killed himself in Atlantic City Thursday night, was the murderer of Grace Roberts.

A Congressional endorsement of his peace plan, and that he was not being the Hitchcock resolution which precipitated the Senate row. They were emphatic in their declaration that any effort to force a vote on a similar resolution in the House would not have the sanction of the administration.

The administration is looking forward with great interest to the arrival in this country of Count Tarnowski, the new Austrian ambassador, who is expected soon. It is believed that he will carry confidential information as to the Teutonic peace attitude, which will materially facilitate the President's future peace negotiations.

CUBA WITHDRAWS BOND SUIT AGAINST STATE ON MONDAY

Republic Indignant She Has Been Imposed on By "These Creditors"

"IT WAS A FRAME-UP," SAYS SEN. OVERMAN

Suit For \$2,000,000 Bonds is Said to Have Been Brought by Underhand Methods of Holders.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, Jan. 6.—Arrangements were made today for the actual withdrawal of Cuba's suit in the Supreme Court of the United States, to collect \$2,000,000 from North Carolina on the old carpetbag bonds, and in the Senate Senator Overman laid bare the underhand methods used by the holders of the bonds to collect on them through a suit brought by Cuba.

Attorney-General Bickett, Cameron Morrison, special counsel, and Judge Manning, arrived today to prepare to defend the suit on Monday, and being fully satisfied that the case will be withdrawn, left for home tonight.

Senator Overman was informed by the Cuban minister yesterday that the Cuban government had decided to withdraw the suit since it had learned the circumstances under which it was brought.

In Senate today Mr. Overman asked that consideration of his resolution asking information be indefinitely postponed because the resolution and the debate that occurred upon it had the effect intended, for he now had been furnished by Cuba with all the information desired.

"Furthermore," said Mr. Overman, glad to state that Cuba has very graciously decided to withdraw its suit against North Carolina for \$2,000,000. Our sister republic is very indignant that she should have been imposed upon by these creditors.

It has been a 'frame up,' I want to commend the Cuban minister for the expeditious and friendly manner in which he handled the case. He read this resolution and debate in the Congressional Record and at once transmitted its substance to his government. In consequence Cuba decided to withdraw the suit.

"It seems there is in this country a committee that holds the repudiated bonds on which they have secured these 'frame ups' in order to get some States or foreign government to pull their chests out of the fire either by misrepresentation or by withholding the facts in regard to the bonds.

"The republic of Cuba knew nothing of the character of these bonds. They were donated to a charitable institution, which accepted them, thinking the bonds were good. Consequently a decree was entered ordering the attorney-general of Cuba, together with a man named Burnstein, who represents these bondholders, to bring suit against North Carolina in the Supreme Court. That suit was set for a hearing on next Monday. So Cuba has acted very quickly to settle this matter and wishes to express her indignation at the way she had been treated."

It is believed the publicity that has grown out of the filing of the suit by Cuba, will have the effect of making it extremely difficult to obtain any other State or country to press the suit, and the result may be that nothing will ever again be heard of the bonds.

DONLIN WILL MANAGE 1917 MEMPHIS TEAM.

New York, Jan. 5.—Mike Donlin, the famous slugger of the Giants a few years back, signed a contract today to manage the Memphis club of the Southern League. It is a one-year contract, as Donlin figures. If he makes a success he will have plenty of opportunity next fall to grab a leader's berth higher in the American Association or International League.

The contract calls for Donlin to accept as a player manager. He will cover first base. Although Donlin's days as a big leaguer have been spent for many a season he should be able to hold his own in the Southern League.

Tom Watkins, secretary of the Memphis club, engineered the deal, and he is confident that Donlin will produce a first division club in Memphis. Mike succeeds George Moriarty as leader of the "Chicks." Moriarty quit the club last season because of illness and since then has signed as an umpire in the American League.

JUDGE ADAMSON WANTS TO COMPEL R. R. ARBITRATION

Representative Prepares Bill After Conference With President Wilson.

INTRODUCED IN HOUSE PREVIOUS ADJOURNING.

Provides For Government Control if Settlement of Differences is Not Made By Special Board.

Washington, Jan. 6.—A new and drastic eight-hour railroad law, providing compulsory arbitration was introduced in the House just before adjournment today by Representative Adamson of Georgia, chairman of the House Committee on Interstate Commerce.

The bill incorporates features in two bills framed by Senator Newlands, but not yet introduced by him in the Senate, and also amends the present Newlands mediation law. It was introduced in the House today because Judge Adamson has become weary of the slow progress of railroad legislation on its way to the Senate. The Adamson measure was prepared after conferences with President Wilson, and it is understood to have at least partial administration support.

The Adamson bill, while establishing a general eight-hour law for railroad employes, provides that employes themselves may work overtime with the specific approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The Commission is to prescribe all exceptions and tolerances under the eight-hour requirements. In event of the failure of mediation both sides must notify the President and the board of mediation. A board of inquiry shall then be created by the President, which shall ascertain all facts and within three months report a recommendation for the settlement of the controversy.

Pending the final report of this special board of inquiry it will be unlawful for any one to institute a strike or lockout. It strengthens its general provisions by a clause authorizing the President to commandeer and operate the lines of common carriers in certain emergencies. This provision, according to an explanation by Judge Adamson, would prevent the blocking of commerce and would give the President the control of the roads for military necessity, in other words, if the railroads and employes and the mediation board and board of inquiry all failed to straighten out differences that may arise, the government would take over the operation of any particular line itself.

The provision for hours of service would provide: "That it shall be unlawful for any common carrier, its officers or agents, subject to this act, to require or permit any employe, subject to this act, to be or remain on duty for a longer period than eight hours in any period of twenty-four hours, but such eight hours service need not be consecutive; provided, that the Interstate Commerce Commission may, after full hearing in a particular case and for good cause shown extend the period within which a common carrier shall comply with the provisions of this proviso as to such case, and the Interstate Commerce Commission is authorized in case of disagreement or controversy on the request of either party or of any third person or on its own motion to prescribe regulations or allowances and tolerances for necessary overtime to be paid for at not exceeding the pro rata of wage per day."

Judge Adamson said that the House Interstate Commerce Committee would at once begin consideration of the new measure.