

TELLER DENIES HE HAD PART IN IRREGULARITIES

N. E. Hart, Accused in Wrecking of Albemarle Bank, Takes Stand in Own Behalf

ACTED IN GOOD FAITH

Claims He Used Holland's Initials in Entering Spurious Withdrawals by Authority of Cashier

Emphatic and unqualified denial that he had any part in the irregularities which resulted in the wrecking of the Albemarle Bank, colored institution, last Christmas Eve, or that he had any knowledge of them, was made by N. E. Hart, teller of the bank, shortly after he took the stand in Superior Court today. Hart is on trial charged with embezzlement, and with having made false entries in the bank's books.

In explaining certain entries of depositors' withdrawals of funds which were made in his own handwriting, and which the State contends were never authorized by the depositors, Hart testified that he made these entries from checks, in the regular way, and that he did not suspect anything irregular in connection with them. He admitted having made one entry which he initialed "W. H. H." these being the initials of Holland, cashier of the bank, and explained that by the assertion that Holland had told him it was all right to use either his own or Holland's initials, because he (Holland) was responsible for the bank's affairs anyway.

Testimony Concluded Taking of testimony in the case was concluded at 12:30 o'clock, and Judge Grady ordered adjournment until 2 o'clock, announcing that arguments by counsel would begin then. It was indicated that the case would reach the jury by late afternoon.

The defense is represented by the law firm of Aydtlett & Simpson, and Solicitor Small is assisted in the prosecution by Tompson & Wilson.

While on the stand, Hart asserted that he was ordered by Holland not to report for duty at the bank on Christmas Eve, the day it was closed, and that Holland told him they hadn't enough money to continue operations. He said he knew nothing of the bank's condition until then.

With reference to the secret ledger, Hart denied that he knew that it was intended to conceal a mounting shortage in the bank's funds, declaring Holland told him that the original savings ledger, from which the loss leaves making up the secret ledger were taken, was too thick, and the second ledger was opened merely as a means of reducing the bulkiness of the first. Holland, called to the stand by the State later in rebuttal, repeated his earlier testimony that Hart knew the purpose of the secret ledger.

Kept Bank's Books Admitting that he kept the bank's books, except the "control" ledger, which contained a summary of all the financial affairs of the institution, Hart contended that he did not know of the irregularities in the management of its business. He added, however, that he had begun to suspect something was wrong several months before the crash came, but admitted that he had never mentioned these suspicions to the bank examiners.

Hart's wife, Lillian Hart, went to the stand when he had finished his testimony, and told of various investments she had made from her own salary as a teacher in the colored schools here, as tending to offset evidence by the State of unusual expenditures by Hart.

Clerk of Court Ernest L. Sawyer testified to having made a loan of \$500 to \$600 to Hart on a mortgage, to be repaid in monthly drafts of \$30, and declared that he was ordered to halt by two guards and when he failed to stop, one of the guards fired, a buck shot taking effect in the back of his head, near the base of the brain. He died in about an hour.

As Mr. Pou has always made it a custom to personally investigate either the death or injury of any prisoner under his supervision, he has gone to visit the camp and make a personal investigation. While in the western part of the State, Mr. Pou will inspect the seven prison camps in that section.

COTTON MARKET New York, June 18.—Cotton futures opened at the following levels: July 17.56, October 16.43, December 16.41, January 16.35, March 16.45.

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Grand Master



brought up in the orphan's home directed by the Odd Fellows at Seaside, Pa. John N. Marks has just been installed as grand master of the 190,000 members of the lodge at Pennsylvania. His home is in Oil City, Pa.

Washington Is Very Much Obligated To Philadelphia

By CHARLES P. STEWART (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

Washington is very much obliged to Philadelphia for having a Sesqui-Centennial Exposition.

Washington expects to get about as much of it as Philadelphia does and the beauty of it is—Washington's part will be clear profit, while Philadelphia will have to pay all the bills.

The theory is that most people who come any distance to see the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition will figure, while they're about it and so near, they'd better see the capital, too.

Thus Washington is laying her plans for the best tourist year she's ever had.

In summer, Washington generally is rather flat. Except under abnormal conditions, like those of the war, Congress is scattered hither and yon. The summer climate isn't of a kind to advertise. The president's away. "Society" adjourns to other parts. The embassies and legations are run by underlings.

But this season looks promising. Philadelphia has sown and Washington reaps it can reap handsomely.

Philadelphia's weakness is that she isn't geared to accommodate a violently fluctuating transient population. She's made extra preparations to take care of the Sesqui-Centennial, to be sure, but normally her number of out-of-town visitors is about a stationary quantity, from year's end to year's end.

Washington is accustomed to a heavy seasonal variation. Now, in her off season, she sees a prospect of a big crop of tourists.

INVESTIGATE DEATH OF NEGRO PRISONER

Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, June 18.—George Ross Pou, superintendent of State Prisons, is in Asheville today where he has gone to investigate the death of William A. George, a negro prisoner, who was fatally wounded while attempting to escape from the prison camp when a guard was compelled to fire at him.

George was serving a sentence of 30 years for murder, having been convicted in the Superior Court of Craven County last January. Soon after commitment to the State Prison he gained a reputation for being a "bad man."

Later he had been stationed at a prison camp near Asheville where he had been working in the rock quarry.

He made his attempt to escape while being returned from the rock quarry to the prison barracks. Mr. Pou was advised. He was ordered to halt by two guards and when he failed to stop, one of the guards fired, a buck shot taking effect in the back of his head, near the base of the brain. He died in about an hour.

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Miss Katherine Duff left Thursday for Macon, Georgia, where she will spend some time visiting relatives.

TRYING TO MAKE A BRYAN OUT OF SENATOR BORAH

Senior Senator From the Sagebrush Country Has Advanced Most Practical Argument Against Liquor

NOT FOR EFFECT

Has No Ambitions Along Those Lines, but Convinced That Machinery and Liquor Do Not Mix

By ROBERT T. SMALL (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

Washington, June 18.—Senator Borah, of Idaho, is not only a theoretical and constitutional "dry," as his Baltimore speech seemed to emphasize, but he is for prohibition on moral grounds as well. The moral side of his argument appears to have been lost sight of completely in the discussion which followed his attack upon the wet and dry referendum ordered in the state of New York.

The Senior Senator from the sage brush country, however, has advanced what many thinkers believe to be about the best moral argument for prohibition which has been advanced and that is why dry and religious organizations all over the country have been inviting him to come out and make speeches this summer. It would appear that these organizations want to make a sort of second William Jennings Bryan of Senator Borah, but the Senator has no particular ambitions along just those lines. He did not make his Baltimore speech for political effect. In fact he has made most of the same arguments in the Senate chamber on several occasions.

Much along moral lines Senator Borah has pointed out that we are living today in a mechanical age. Machinery is taking the place more and more of manual labor. This is not only true in the shops and factories, but machinery has invaded the homes and dominates the streets and highways.

Eyes people are beginning to think and act mechanically. Individualities are being submerged in the driving power of the machine. Machinery and liquor, in the mind of Senator Borah, do not mix. Machinery and the mechanical age cannot be obliterated. Liquor can.

The road cannot be blocked. Senator Borah says. Whiskey is an obstacle in the way of progress. It must be pushed aside. The man who has been drinking cannot be trusted with machinery, no matter whether it be an automobile, a gin or a loom or the bucket carrying molten metal in the steel mill. The man who has been drinking cannot be trusted at the throttle of the locomotive. Senator Borah has suggested that even the delegates to an anti-prohibition convention would rise up as if by magic and mob the engineer of their special train if they found him taking drinks from a pocket flask.

The wets are attempting to answer this argument by saying that engineers did not drink even in the days when saloons were wide open and that railroad travel was just as safe in those days as it is today.

Senator Borah points out that in the days of horse drawn vehicles and in the days when each man was a personal equation in the industrial machine, and could drop out or not as he pleased, drinking perhaps was permissible. Those were the days of individualities, with each man more or less of a law unto himself. Today it is different. A drunken man asleep behind a slow plodding, perhaps a sleepy horse, tired from long etheric in front of the grog shop, was not so dangerous. The horse would care for him after a fashion.

But the same man behind the wheel of a high powered automobile can slay and maim before his condition is detected.

Efficiency is carrying the world forward. Efficiency and machinery go hand in hand. Senator Borah says no one can contend that whiskey drinking makes for efficiency in the handling of machinery or anything else.

The protagonists of modification claim they want a man to have his "liberty" and his "dram" in his hours of ease, as a surcease from the driving this mechanical age as brought down upon him, but Senator Borah answers that with the one word "hook."

Statistics from New York and other large cities show an ever increasing ratio of automobile licenses suspended and revoked because of intoxication at the wheel. Whether this is entirely due to an increasing consumption of alcohol or to the increasing use of the automobile is a subject of constant contention. But in any event Senator Borah's contention that the age of machinery and efficiency and the age of liquor do not run parallel is likely to be taken up by the dry forces from one end of the country to the other and made the text of their further efforts to enforce the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act.

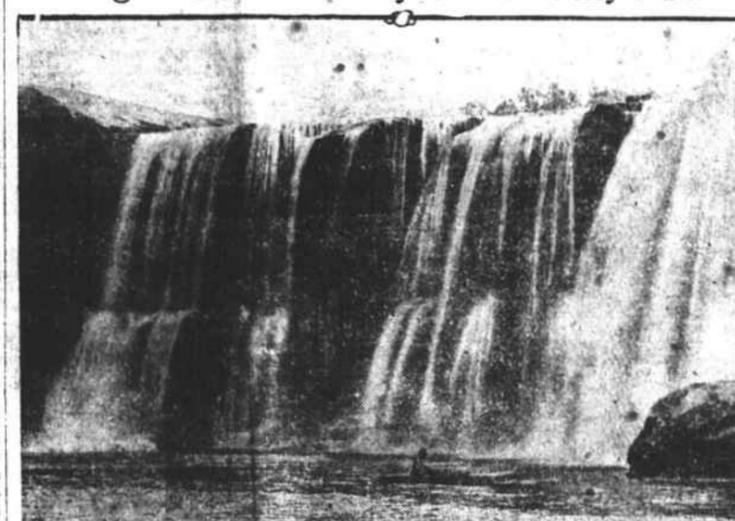
NOT A HERO BUT FIRE BUG CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TRAP

Raleigh, June 18.—Two weeks ago today B. B. Baker was hailed as a man who gave his life in an attempt to rescue others in a fire at Hamlet. Today he is branded as "not a hero, but a firebug caught in his own trap."

To the tale of inspiring heroism this anti-climax was added today by the report of Captain W. A. Scott, Deputy Insurance Commissioner. The report was made to Insurance Commissioner Stacy W. Wade, and was made public by him.

"There was no evidence that he ever woke any one except Mrs. Clark and no one ever saw him come out of the house," Captain Scott declares. "The fire took a toll of four lives, the report says. Baker admittedly had killed one man."

Fight to Save Beauty of Kentucky's Falls



The Cumberland Falls, in Kentucky, captivate one of the most beautiful bits of scenery that state affords. Accordingly, Governor William J. Fields is leading a fight against a proposal now before the Federal Power Commission to turn the falls over to a hydro-electric concern. Louisville newspapers are backing the governor in his fight, as is the Cincinnati Post.

WARNS AGAINST SALE FIREWORKS

Commissioner Wade Appeals for Safety First Measures July 4th

Raleigh, June 18.—Insurance Commissioner Stacy W. Wade has sent out to mayors and sheriffs a strong appeal for concerted action on the part of city and county authorities in suppressing the sale of fireworks for the Fourth of July.

In nearly all of the more progressive towns and cities of the State there are ordinances forbidding the sale of fireworks within the corporate limits of the town or city and these ordinances are strictly enforced. In many cases, however, the ordinances are practically nullified by county authorities issuing license for the sale of fireworks just outside the city limits.

The Division of Safety Education of the North Carolina Insurance Department has in its files a long record of Fourth of July disasters. For hundreds of happy boys and girls in North Carolina, the joyous holiday has ended as a day of pain and in scores of cases, families who started the day with happiest anticipations, found themselves homeless at the close of it.

While children delight in the noise and display of exploding fireworks, the risk is too much to run for the pleasure involved and every good citizen should use his influence to have the Fourth of July observed sanely. There is nothing patriotic in endangering the lives and property of other people.

SECRETARY EVERETT IS BEING CONGRATULATED

Raleigh, June 18.—Secretary of State W. N. Everett is receiving numerous letters from various parts of the State, congratulating him upon the fact that he is recovering from the recent heart attack which has kept him confined to his home for the past two weeks.

Mr. Everett now hopes to be able to be back in his office within a week or 10 days. He was able to take part in a meeting of the Council of State, held at his home, recently. This meeting was postponed until Mr. Everett was able to take part, Governor McLean having been insistent that the meeting not be held until all members of the council could be present.

The Secretary of State, whose recent attack is the second in some months, is able to spend most of his time out of bed now, and hopes to be back in his office shortly. He is impatient to be out again, it is reported from his home.

PEACH CROP POOR

Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, June 18.—The peach crop in the western part of the State is showing up very poorly as the result of the exceedingly dry weather, according to a field man of the State Department of Agriculture who has just returned from a trip through the fruit section. The peaches are small and underdeveloped, although the flavor and quality is good. The yield, however, is lighter than was expected, even after the April frost and the crop is heavy. Other crops are also suffering, with wheat the only crop that is really making a good showing.

REVIVAL BEGINS MONDAY

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Revival services will begin Monday night at eight o'clock at the First Christian church and continue ten days. The pastor, Rev. H. T. Bowen, will be assisted by Prof. Joseph A. Sanders, president of Carolina Institute and Bible Seminary at Kinston, who is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of the University of Tennessee.

FUNERAL MRS. LATHAM

The funeral of Mrs. Ellen Latham, who died at the home of her son, S. C. Latham, South Road street, Wednesday morning, was conducted by Dr. S. H. Templeman, Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Mrs. Latham is survived by three sons, P. K. Latham of Kensington, Maryland, J. W. Latham of Maple and S. C. Latham of Elizabeth City, also several grandchildren.

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Heroes



Captain Alexander Livingston and his crew, which includes "Mickie," the ship's mascot, were hailed as heroes when the freighter West Eldara arrived in Boston after rescuing 36 officers and men of a burning French schooner just before it sank in mid-ocean.

LIQUOR CASES TRIED IN RECORDER'S COURT

Found guilty of operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor, Floyd Sawyer, known as "Big Time," was fined \$50 and costs in recorder's court Friday morning. He was acquitted of charges of reckless driving and exceeding the speed limit.

Otis Sawyer, sentenced on a charge of being drunk, and was fined \$5 and costs.

Both the foregoing defendants claimed they had obtained their liquor from Charlie Alexander, of this city. Alexander, however, was acquitted of charges of possession, transportation and sale of whiskey.

Enoch Williams, charged with assault on Willie Roberts, was fined \$10 and costs. Both are colored, and are employed by the Crystal Ice and Coal company. The charges were the outgrowth of an argument at the ice plant Thursday.

In the absence of Trial Justice P. G. Sawyer, who is spending a few days with his family at Virginia Beach, United States Commissioner T. H. Wilson presided over the court.

CAR DRIVER EXONERATED OF BLAME IN ACCIDENT

Full exoneration of Frank Wilson, driver of an automobile in which Mrs. Charles G. Blades, of this city, member of a highly prominent family, was run over and fatally injured Monday afternoon, while crossing East Main street, was accorded by a grand jury in Superior Court, now in session here, after an investigation of the accident.

Persons who observed the mishap declared Mrs. Blades apparently became frightened after she had reached the middle of the street, and suddenly ran directly into the path of the car, which was approaching at moderate speed. The injured woman was taken hurriedly to the local hospital, where she died early next morning.

Mr. Wilson was prostrated with grief after the accident, and is still under medical treatment at his home here.

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THINK BRIAND'S PLANS MUST FAIL

Politicians Sure Different Leaders Like Poincare and Herriot Can Not Agree

By PAUL SCOTT MOWER (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

Paris, June 18.—The impression in inside political circles early this afternoon is that Aristide Briand's efforts to form a partial national union ministry will fail, owing to the disinclination of the radicals to enter such a ministry and the difficulty of formulating a financial policy on which two such different leaders as M. Poincare and M. Herriot could agree.

If M. Briand fails, as now anticipated, M. Herriot will be asked to become premier. Wednesday M. Herriot was reluctant to accept, but today he seems tempted at the possibility since he apparently has received unexpected promises of support from Andre Tardieu.

Certain banking influences with M. Herriot, M. Tardieu and even the socialist leader, M. Blum, are said to be sympathetic, seem to be favoring the creation of an Herriot cabinet.

Meanwhile M. Poincare, who is willing to accept the post of finance minister under a new Briand premier, has signified in an article in a Barcelona newspaper his formal acceptance of the so-called Lecoqno policies which some feared he might continue to oppose.

The powerful radical party, in a party congress, has decided to ratify the Washington debt agreement only with reservations insuring the addition of safeguard and transfer clauses.

VANDERBILT PAPER FAILS TO APPEAR

Miami, June 18.—Cornelius Vanderbilt, Junior's, newspaper, the Illustrated Daily Tab, failed to appear today. A court order was handed down on May 29 by Acting Judge H. W. Shippey ordering Vanderbilt Newspapers, Incorporated, publishing organization of the Tab to vacate its office at 79 West Flagler street by June 20.

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HOMAGE TO SPUD IS PLANNED FOR MONDAY, JULY 5

"Potato Day" Celebration, Horse Races and League Baseball Game Scheduled For Holiday

SPEAKERS INVITED

W. A. Graham, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Representative Warren Asked to Come

Homage to the humble Irish potato, premier truck crop of the Albemarle district, will be paid here in generous measure on Monday, July 5, as a part of an Independence Day program which will include concerts by the Elizabeth City Boys' Band, horse races at the fair grounds, and a Carolina League baseball game. Decision to hold a "Potato Day" celebration as a part of the annual Fourth of July festivities was announced today by the Merchants' Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce.

Speakers to be invited for the occasion include W. A. Graham, State Commissioner of Agriculture, and Representative Lindsey C. Warren, of the First North Carolina District.

In connection with the "Potato Day" celebration, the city's merchants promise prizes for the finest potatoes exhibited, and for the biggest yield officially recorded. County Agent G. W. Falls will assist in this phase of the day's events. It is proposed also that Irish potatoes be made up for free distribution in generous quantity, to demonstrate the many delectable dishes which can be prepared thus.

What "Peach Day" is to the Sandhill Country of North Carolina, those backing the celebration plan to make of "Potato Day" here in the years ahead. The first "Potato Day" was observed last June, but a sudden rainstorm which broke just after the festivities had gotten under way spoiled the celebration. Better luck is hoped for this year.

TILSON NOMINATION WITHDRAWN TODAY

Washington, June 18.—President Coolidge today withdrew his nomination of William J. Tilson, brother of the Republican leader of the House, to be Federal Judge in Georgia.

The Senate committee already had reported unfavorably and Senate leaders had told the President that confirmation would be denied in the Senate. Mr. Tilson had been appointed judge for the newly created middle judicial district in Georgia but a wave of protest led by Senators and Representatives from Georgia resulted in his withdrawal. Objection was based for one part on grounds that the appointee was not a native of Georgia nor did he reside even at present in the district over which he was to preside.

ASK ADJOURNMENT ON JUNE THIRTIETH

Washington, June 18.—The Republican House steering committee today agreed to ask for a sine die adjournment of Congress on Wednesday, June 30, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

A resolution proposing adjournment on this date will be called up in the House Monday and is expected to receive the approval of leaders of both House and Senate. The committee decided that to seek adjournment on Saturday, June 26, as at first contemplated would unduly hasten consideration of the deficiency appropriation bill which includes provision for new Federal buildings throughout the country to be started this year.

DENIES BEING ON PAYROLL OF LEAGUE

Washington, June 18.—Named by Wayne B. Wheeler as one of the Senators who had received "honorariums" from the Anti-Saloon League for making prohibition speeches, Senator Willis, Republican, of Ohio, rose in the Senate today and declared he had never been on the league's payroll.

PLOT AGAINST LIFE TURKISH PRESIDENT

Constantinople, June 18.—A plot against President Mustafa Kemal Pasha of Turkey has been discovered in Smyrna and a number of arrests have been made.

BRIAND IS UNABLE TO FORM CABINET

Paris, June 18.—Premier Briand this afternoon announced his inability to form a new cabinet.

Sanford Neal of Concord left Monday after spending the week-end as the guest of Laurence Aydtlett on West Main street.

WAS MR. MELLON MANEUVERED BY THE WILD WEST?

At Any Rate, the Secretary of the Treasury Handled the Matter in His Characteristic Fashion

ATTACK IS SHIFTED

With Congress About to Adjourn Mellon Letter Will be Turned Into Fuel For Fall Campaigns

By DAVID LAWRENCE (Copyright, 1926, by The Advance)

Washington, June 18.—Was Secretary Mellon maneuvered into bearing the brunt of the attack by the western Republicans on the Coolidge administration for declining to permit any bill containing farm subsidy or price-fixing to become law?

On the surface, the letter of the Secretary was issued in the natural course of things in response to an inquiry as to his views. But the men who elicited the letter were Representatives Haugen and Dickinson of Iowa and Anthony of Kansas and they in turn were induced to ask the secretary of his views through the suggestion of Representative Menzies of Pennsylvania. The latter knew that Mr. Mellon did not favor the Haugen bill. So did the men from the West who came to see him. There was some talk that the visit was arranged to obtain a compromise suggestion. But as it turns out, Mr. Mellon with characteristic courage took the whole problem under consideration and announced his views in unequivocal fashion with the result that today the attack has been shifted from Mr. Coolidge to Mr. Mellon.

One of the ideas back of the plan to let Mr. Mellon do the fighting was that his views on banking and financial matters would be apt to carry weight with the country. But the Mellon letter contains an argument against the equalization fee, which the Democrats and Western Republicans are contending now is really an argument against a protective tariff system.

With Congress about to adjourn at the end of this month, the opponents of the administration will take the Mellon letter to the country as the basis for the summer and autumn campaign. The entire attitude of the western insurgents has been that big business "down east" has been opposed to their plan of farm relief and now that Secretary Mellon has taken the lead in the fight, the country may be prepared to hear for the next several months much of the same line of thought on the alleged domination by big business of the legislative policies of the administration.

President Coolidge has said nothing publicly about the pending Haugen bill. His speech in Chicago early this year was a presentation of his views on general principles of farm relief but he has not specifically attacked the Haugen bill. The letter from Mr. Mellon is taken as a master of comment here that the President chose the Secretary of the Treasury instead of the Secretary of Agriculture for an official announcement of the viewpoint of the administration.

Were it not for the Haugen bill the tariff issue might be expected to slumber. But the Democrats who oppose the protective tariff system are making a good deal out of the contention of the Western Republicans that the equalization fee in the Haugen bill is nothing more than an extension of the tariff principle. The letter of the Secretary of the Treasury is, for example, paraphrased by Senator Borah in his address to the Senate, using the word "duty" for "equalization fee" and the word "foreigner" for farmer.

Senator Robinson, the Democratic Leader, told the Senate that the Haugen bill was killed by Mr. Mellon's letter. The Democrats have been only too anxious to have the administration fight the measure so that they could go to the voters in the rural districts and make pleas for farm relief. There are some insurgent Republicans in the West who prefer inaction to action because it gives them ammunition for the campaign.