

CURRENT TOPICS

A NEWSPAPER dispatch quoted Mr. Bryan as belittling the tariff question. Speaking to an Associated Press representative at Washington, Mr. Bryan said: "I did not express the opinion that the trusts, the railroads and the tariff would be the principal points at issue, but I did not and would not say that the tariff is not so important as the other two issues. All are important and I would not attempt to fix their relative positions. They all involve the same principle and that is whether the interests of the many shall be subordinated to the interests of the few."

THE JURY IN the Haywood case at Boise, Idaho, was secured and the senior counsel for the state made his opening statement. Referring to this statement, an Associated Press dispatch says: "The opening statement was a broad, sweeping arraignment of the leaders of the federation of miners, who were charged with plotting wholesale murder and hiring assassins, all in a giant conspiracy of vengeance upon those who obstructed their sway, to destroy opposition by terrorism, to control the political destinies of the communities covered by their organization, and to perpetuate their own power within the organization. It charged a widespread conspiracy, dating in inception from the north Idaho disturbance fifteen years ago, reaching down to the murder of Frank Steunenberg, and whose murdered victims, by bullet and bomb, numbered scores. Hawley declared that wherever in the mining sections of the coast states the federation had been in control there had been left a trail of blood to mark its operations. Of the hired assassins, he cried: 'To them murder became a trade and assassination a means of living.'" Clarence Darrow, attorney for Haywood, made frequent protest against what he called "the unfairness of the attorney for the state."

ALFRED HORSLEY, alias Harry Orchard, who confessed that he assassinated former Governor Steunenberg, took the stand June 5 in the Haywood trial at Boise, Idaho. Referring to his testimony the Associated Press says: "Through the entire day Orchard went on from crime recital to crime recital, each succeeding one seemingly more revolting than those that had come before. Orchard confessed that as a member of the mob that wrecked the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mill in the Couer d'Alenes he lighted one of the fuses that carried fire to the giant explosion; confessed that he set the death trap in the Vindicator mine at Cripple Creek that blew out the lives of Superintendent McCormick and Foreman Beck; confessed that because he had not been paid for his first attempt at violence in the Vindicator mine he had been treacherous to his associates by warning the managers of the Florence & Cripple Creek railway that there was a plot to blow up their trains; confessed that he cruelly fired three charges of buckshot into the body of Detective Lyte Gregory of Denver, killing him instantly; confessed that for days he stalked Governor Peabody about Denver, waiting a chance to kill him; confessed that he and Steve Adams set and discharged the mine under the depot at Independence, and confessed that falling in an attempt to poison Fred Bailey of San Francisco, he blew him and his house up with a bomb of gelatine."

THE ASSASSIN of former Governor Steunenberg concluded his testimony for the state June 6. Referring to this second day's testimony, an Associated Press report says: "Orchard made an explicitly detailed confession of the murder of Frank Steunenberg by an infernal machine that directly opens the way for his own conviction. He swore that the assassination of Steunenberg was first suggested by Haywood; was jointly plotted by Haywood, Moyer, Pettibone and himself; was financed by Haywood and was executed by himself after the failure of an attempt in which Jack Simpkins had participated. Orchard lifted the total of his own murdered victims to eighteen, detailed the circumstances under which he tried to murder former Governor Peabody, Judge Goddard, Judge Gab-

bert, General Sherman Bell, David H. Moffat and Frank J. Hearne. Incidentally he confessed to a plan to kidnap the child of one of his former assistants. Then, under examination by the defense, Orchard confessed guilt of sordid crimes of deserting his young child and wife in Ontario, fleeing to British Columbia with Hattie Simpson, the wife of another man, and committing bigamy by marrying a third woman at Cripple Creek. Through the shocking details of murder plots, stories of secret bomb-making and tales of man-hunts with sawed-off shotguns and infernal machines as weapons, the witness went on in the same quiet off-hand manner that marked his demeanor yesterday. His voice dropped to lower keys as the fearful story of the long hunt for Steunenberg narrowed down to the last day, and he told of the race from the hotel to the home to beat his victim with the death trap and the meeting in the evening gloom as the victim walked unconsciously to his doom. Through it all he winced but once and that was when the defense made him name his six sisters and his one brother and give their residences in Ontario and New York. The defense fought the story with a multiplicity of objections, and succeeded in heading off an attempt of telling the story of the murder of Arthur Collins at Telluride, and temporarily shutting out the contents of a telegram received and a telegram sent by Orchard after his arrest. But for the rest, the state managed to get in its story intact."

ON THE SECOND day of Orchard's testimony he was turned over to the defense for examination, and the attorneys for Haywood showed him no mercy. They made him admit that he had trafficked with the mine owners and sought to betray the miners; that he had entered the employ of D. C. Scott who had charge of the railway detectives (but Orchard said that when he agreed to report to Scott he never intended to do so and never did make any report). It was also brought out that while he was a miner Orchard stole high grade ore from his messmate; he stole two cases of powder from the Vindicator mine; he stole powder to make one of the bombs thrown into the Vindicator coal pile. The defendant's attorneys confronted Orchard with two men and paved the way for the contradiction by them of the story told by Orchard. Other questions showed the purpose of the defense to be the contradiction of the material points of Orchard's story and to this end it was reported that one hundred witnesses would be summoned to show the utter unreliability of Orchard and the improbability of his story. Orchard had testified that fully one hundred men unloaded the powder at Wardner and helped to place it under the mill. He could not remember the names of many of these men. He admitted that at that time he did not know Haywood, Moyer or Pettibone. Orchard admitted that he had suggested the blowing up of a mine in which fifty non-union men were working and he said that the touching off of the powder would have meant the death of all these men. Haywood's attorney asked: "And you proposed the murder of fifty men for \$200?" Orchard replied: "I proposed to touch off the powder." He admitted also that Haywood and Moyer had visited Cripple Creek and counselled against violence, saying that it would only react upon the union. Orchard admitted also that while other miners were being arrested and their houses were being searched, his house was never searched and he was not interfered with by the militia. This line of examination indicated the purpose on the part of the defense to prove that Orchard was a Pinkerton detective.

AND NOW AFTER much talk concerning the prosecution of E. H. Harriman, the railroad magnate, they tell us that Mr. Harriman has been given an "immunity bath." An Associated Press dispatch from Washington says that on June 7 Mr. Roosevelt, five members of the cabinet, two members of the interstate commerce commission and special counsel for the government, held a conference. According to this dispatch Harriman's Alton railroad deal was gone into very thoroughly, but it was decided that by appearing as a witness before the inter-

state commerce commission Harriman had obtained complete immunity from criminal prosecution. Those who participated in the conference were President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Root, Secretary of War Taft, Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, Secretary of the Interior Garfield, Attorney General Bonaparte, Interstate Commerce Commissioners Knapp and Lane and Frank B. Kellogg of Minnesota, special counsel for the government. After this conference adjourned, the president and Attorney General Bonaparte discussed other features of the trust question. The dispatch says that the prosecution of the harvester trust was "left to the attorney general."

THE REPUBLICAN state convention for Pennsylvania has endorsed Senator Knox, former attorney general for president. In a public statement Senator Knox says: "I am deeply sensible of the great honor done me by my fellow republicans of Pennsylvania. In their convention, composed of delegates elected directly by the people, they have increased my many obligations to them by coupling with the indorsement of the administration of Theodore Roosevelt the suggestion of my name as his successor. If the wishes of Pennsylvania republicans and the reasons they assign for their action should commend themselves to the national republican party, I would accept its action with full appreciation of its import."

THE OKLAHOMA constitution has been officially presented to President Roosevelt. The Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: "Among the most important provisions of the new Oklahoma constitution, as officially given President Roosevelt, are the following: Polygamy is forever barred. Prohibition for that section known as Indian Territory for twenty-one years. Stopping of witnesses hiding behind incrimination plea. Soldier vote barred. Direct vote for senators when federal constitution permits. Initiative and referendum. Power to legislature to define trust, combinations, etc. Discrimination by corporations prohibited. Railroads prohibited from consolidating. Railroad prohibited from transporting any material of its own manufactured or mined, except for personal use. Corporation commission to control all transportation. It is freely predicted by newspaper men at the national capitol that the effort of the republican politicians to bar out Oklahoma will be successful."

ACCORDING TO THE Washington correspondent for the Houston (Texas) Post, President Roosevelt was very near to making a specific declaration for tariff revision in his Indianapolis speech. The Post correspondent says: "The tariff paragraphs had been written and were in proof. They had been approved by numerous financial and business men, to whom the president had shown advance copies of his speech. And then Speaker Cannon, who holds the key to the legislative situation in the house of representatives, arrived on the scene, just from his trip to New York and Albany, where he had communed with the Protective Tariff League and conferred with Governor Hughes. The speaker called at the White House office one forenoon. He remained there fully an hour, and was invited by the president to luncheon. During that visit Mr. Cannon was shown the Indianapolis speech. According to the description of a friend today, the speaker 'went up in the air.' The president's proposals affecting the valuation of railroads and the supervision by national authorities, as well as the suggestion for the pooling of freights, received the speaker's indorsement. He demurred to the president's declaration for federal supervision of purely interstate roads because they are United States mail routes, but, while doubting the expediency of such a step and predicting that it would arouse great opposition, did not protest vigorously. Coming to the tariff paragraphs, however, the speaker locked horns squarely with the president. It was the latter's idea that there could well be some preliminary statement from him, advocating early revision,