

Writes Finis to Guffey's Career

Wall Street Once More Puts Her Quietus on Man Who Was Too Ambitious.

HIS STORY IS SENSATIONAL

Nephew of Colonel Guffey, Who Made and Lost Many Fortunes, Himself Did Some Very Spectacular Things With Oil Stocks.

New York.—When the directors resigned the other day and the Tidewater Oil company, a Standard Oil subsidiary, thus got control of the Guffey-Gillespie Oil company, insiders knew Wall Street once more had written "finis" to the career of a man who "bit off more than he could chew."

The victim was Joe Guffey, more formally Joseph F. Guffey of Pittsburgh, and fully described thus:

President of the Guffey-Gillespie Oil company, with leases covering 220,000 acres in the Mid-Continent and Texas fields.

President of the Atlantic Gulf Oil corporation, controlled by the Atlantic, Gulf & West Indies Steamship lines and operating around Tampico.

President of the Columbia syndicate, controlled by Guffey-Gillespie and "Agwi" and owning a million acres of oil lands along the Magdalena river in South America.

Director of Reliance Life Insurance company, and several Pittsburgh banks.

Democratic national committeeman from Pennsylvania, promoter and "angel" of A. Mitchell Palmer's last presidential boom.

Former director of sales for the alien property custodian.

Uncle Lost Many Fortunes.

Back of this announcement lies a story seldom equaled in American business and political biography. It parallels the story of another Guffey of a preceding generation. For Joe Guffey is a nephew of old Col. James M. Guffey, also of Pittsburgh, said to have made and lost more fortunes in oil than any other person in the United States.

By 1919, when the partnership was reorganized as the Guffey-Gillespie Oil company, it had become one of the largest in the midcontinent field. In addition, Guffey & Gillespie, with other Pittsburghers, acquired 125,000 acres of oil lands in Colombia, and the Colombia syndicate was formed.

Then "Agwi" entered the Mexican field, organized the Atlantic Gulf Oil company, and elected Guffey president. Boosted stock to \$30.

Last summer Guffey found the bears out gunning for Guffey-Gillespie stock, although it had earned \$9 a share the year before. Guffey began the fight which ended Tuesday in total defeat. Putting in almost every dollar he had and borrowing \$2,000,000, he formed a pool to "peg" the stock with New York and Pittsburgh friends.

Late in February Guffey's pool tried to rout the bears and boosted the stock from 22 to 30. The effort exhausted his strength, and the bears, buying in New York and selling by wire in Pittsburgh, flooded the latter market. When the price reached 20 the Pittsburgh banks called their loans.

The Tidewater Oil company took over the stock held as collateral and bought enough more to give it voting control. Guffey, Gillespie and the old directors attempted to fight for places in the reorganized company. Tidewater asked for their resignations, and called for a receiver.

THIS MAKES MR. HAYS HAPPY

His Policy of Humanizing the Postoffice Department Results in Saving a Woman's Life.

Washington.—Postmaster Will H. Hays probably is the happiest man in Washington today. His slogan "Humanize the Postoffice Department" has been carried out to what appears to be the limit. Here is the story:

In a little Nebraska farmhouse a woman lay dying for lack of medical attention. The nearest physician was Dr. Selby at North Platte. True, North Platte was only two miles away, but between the dying woman and the physician was the South Platte river, flooded to a raging torrent that had swept away every bridge near and far.

Dr. Selby had telephoned to every town within a radius of twenty miles.

Elixir of Youth Found in Chicago

Decrepit Old John Shebec Took But One Dose and Did Some Great Stunts.

GLIMPSE OF "DICK'S" STAR

Senile Cripple Overtook Trolley Car and Would Have Defeated Police Filivver if the Street Crowds Had Not Hampered Him.

Chicago.—John Shebec, who is 67 years old, discovered the elixir of youth the other day. Before taking he was stooped, lame, decrepit, hopelessly senile. After one dose he was able to hop a speeding street car, outrace a filivver, and stand on his ear. Mr. Shebec was first observed by Detective Sergeants Bierndt and Jannczak at Western avenue and Madison street. He was limping.

"Give me a quarter for carfare,

Heavenly Dust Cloud of Vast Bulk Is Found

London.—Dr. A. Pannekeek, a Dutch scientist, has been demonstrating the existence of an inconceivably vast object in the heavens. Its mass, he says, is 20,000,000,000 times greater than that of the sun. He calls it a celestial gas or dust cloud. Doctor Pannekeek says this huge body is situated in the constellation of Taurus and his estimate of its size is greater than many estimates of the combined mass of the whole universe itself.

At each turn it was the same disheartening story—bridges gone and no way of fording the turbulent waters.

Just when all hope seemed gone, Dr. Selby remembered something. Somewhere he had read that the postmaster general was "humanizing" the postoffice department. He rushed to the telephone and asked C. A. Studer, manager of the air mail field at North Platte, to take him across the river in an airplane.

"Sorry," said Studer, "but I couldn't without getting authority from Washington first."

"But the woman is dying," the physician urged.

"In that case," replied Studer, "we will take you first and get the authority afterward."

So it was that the life of a woman in an humble Nebraska farmhouse was saved just because the postoffice department has been humanized. And so it is that Postmaster General Hays is probably the happiest man in Washington.

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

Hauling logs by airplane from Nebraska to the Chicago markets was one of the visions of Professor E. C. Paulstian of Mitchell, S. D., at Nebraska Wesleyan. He regretted that records had been kept for high-bred calves but that statistics were only now in the making for the human life in rural districts. "Every problem which confronts the leader in a rural community is an opportunity," he said. "Here is a chance for some original work. The farmer is no longer a hayseed or cloid hopper."

York's tourists camp is said to be the best equipped place in Nebraska for the overland traveler, according to visitors. The camp is located in the city park. Some of the equipment in the park includes gas for cooking, shower baths, hot and cold water, large pavillion for shelter in case of storm, under which cars can be packed and bedding spread. The last convenience is a washing rack for tourists to use in cleaning their cars.

The Fremont Milling company has sold 1,000,000 pounds of flour to be shipped directly to Glasgow, Scotland. The sacks of flour carry the company's private brands. This is a very unusual deal as inland mills are usually forced to handle such trade through exporters, who used their own names to withhold the source of the products to the foreign consumers.

With an explosion that shook the town and shattered window lights for a block, the acetylene welding plant of the Sims garage at Aurora blew up and Gus Stohl and Otho Anderson who were in the room were knocked down. The partitions of the garage were demolished. The damage totaled about \$1,000.

Nebraska City, Auburn and Tecumseh bands, totalling seventy-five members, play in each of the cities every third Sunday. A day at the Johnson county fair has been resigned "Nemaha day" and music will be furnished by the Auburn band. At Auburn there will be a "Johnson day."

The Danish Lutheran church of Blair has extended a call to the Rev. J. M. Winther of Kumamoto, Japan, to become its pastor. The Rev. Mr. Winther was educated in Dana college, at Blair, and was ordained and sent as a missionary to Kumamoto twenty-three years ago.

Max Warnke, a farmer living near Sterling, has purchased fifteen acres of land and has a crew of men busy erecting a fence about the premises, building a swimming pool, dance pavillion and refreshment booth. A baseball diamond will be laid out and an amphitheatre provided.

Mayor Green has arranged for free hose baths to be provided by the fire department for all Fremont children who want to participate. About 100 youngsters turned out for the first showers given and hundreds of persons crowded round to see the fun.

The island park of Ord has been developed into a playground. A new bath house has been built and pumps, fireplaces and tables have been installed. Contributions have been made by some of the town's business men.

Recognition by the New York Art gallery has been accorded Mrs. John W. Johnson of Harvard, formerly of Hastings. Three of Mrs. Johnson's paintings were landscapes and one a girl's head.

Omaha Elks have closed the deal by which they come into possession of the vacant property at Eighteenth and Dodge streets. On this property they will soon commence the erection of a \$1,000,000 home.

Miss Aibe Burke, of Geneva, has received an appointment to the department of vocational training of the United States government, and has left for Washington, D. C.

At a recent meeting of the Congregational church at Geneva plans were made to start a fund for the erection of a new church building.

The wheat crop in Kieth and Perkins counties is exceptionally fine this year, and will average close to twenty-five bushels to the acre.

Blair's municipal ice plant turned out its first batch of ice. The plant has a six-ton capacity and has a day and night shift.

The old ice pond at Emerson is being cement lined and will be used as a swimming pool. It will be 90x300 feet.

A light yield of wheat is reported in the Pawnee City community, but a bumper corn crop is practically assured.

The first complaint of a shortage of cars to move the new grain crop has been received by the state railway commission. An elevator man of Princeton, Lancaster county, complained by telephone to the state railway commission that unless he received some cars before night he would be in a serious condition. He had bought 10,000 bushels of wheat at \$1.05 a bushel and could get no cars to ship.

The Ullyses flour mills have received an order for 70,000 pounds of flour to be shipped to Scotland some time in July. The mills are running day and night to fill the order and to keep up the local supply.

To have 2,200 volts of electricity pass through his body and yet live to tell the tale, is the peculiar experience of Ruby Smith. Going to the building in which the switch and other equipment of the Belvidere electric light plant is located, he took hold of the lock on the door and was knocked down. He will recover.

GOT SMALL FEES

Noted Lecturers Certainly Not Overpaid for Services.

John B. Gough, for Instance, Is Said to Have Received the Huge Sum of \$1 for One Evening.

"I wonder what Charlie Chaplin or some other famous personage of the stage or screen would say if he were offered 12 bushels of potatoes or a ham for an evening's work?"

It was the old grouch himself, speaking to a fellow worker during the lunch hour in a busy downtown office, according to the Chicago Daily News. The old grouch had just finished reading an article in which present-day salaries of stage and screen stars were spoken of, and it might be said that the reading of this bit of news certainly did not tend to brighten up his gloomy disposition the least bit.

But the fact remains that people equally as well known in their day worked an evening for potatoes, a ham and other trifling amounts, for the old grouch himself said he knew it to be a fact. One of his co-workers asked to be shown and he was.

In the good old lyceum days back in 1852, when John B. Gough was in his prime, it is disclosed that he received about \$1 a lecture, each lecture taking about three hours.

And it can be seen from files of newspapers that once at Andover, N. H., those responsible for the lecture paid Mr. Gough with a ham instead of with currency, and the speaker was apparently satisfied with this fee.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was one of the shining stars of the lecture world during his day, was glad to accept \$5 as payment for an evening, while the old grouch pointed out that one time Henry Ward Beecher was paid 12 bushels of potatoes for an evening of his time.

According to the records, it was in 1850 when the cost of lecturers started to rise. During that year the Salem lyceum astounded the people of that community by paying Daniel Webster \$100 for a two-hour talk, and it created a mild sensation.

This doubtless "started something," for after that prices continued to rise. In the 70's Mark Twain held out for and received \$300 a night.

Then Beecher, taking his cue from Twain, became a holdout and he continued to hold out until the ante for one night of his services had been raised to \$1,000, this being the very first \$1,000 fee ever paid a lecturer in this or any other country.

Major Pond, accepting the \$1,000 mark, later contracted with Henry M. Stanley for a series of 100 lectures, agreeing to pay him \$100,000 for them. The major did not lose any money on this in spite of the fact that every other promoter in the country was convinced of the fact that he had become weak-minded in his advanced years. The fact that the first of this series of lectures given in New York netted \$17,000 proved that the major was not so wrong after all.

"It's not right," the old grouch continued. "Here we work hard week after week for a small pittance and these lecturers, actors, fighters and ball players get thousands of dollars for a few hours of fun. There ought to be a law against it."

About that time the lunch period ended, much to the delight of the other workers, who were trying to relax and who could not but because of the old grouch and his walling.

Slavs Copy American Ways.

American methods in social, educational and recreational work are being adopted by the new republic of Czechoslovakia, the people of which have quickly adapted themselves to our leadership and training, according to Miss Eleanor Prudden, director of the work of the Young Women's Christian association in Czechoslovakia. Miss Prudden recently returned to America for a short leave of absence.

Upon the invitation of the Czechoslovak government, the Young Women's Christian association, in some instances jointly with the Young Men's Christian association, for the last year has been conducting demonstration work to develop native leadership, said Miss Prudden. The association will be able to withdraw early in 1922, as arranged in advance, leaving its established program intact for permanent development.—New York Times.

Watch for Dying Trees.

People are willing to let a tree starve to death, but when it comes to letting an animal starve, it is an entirely different thing. They either feed or kill the animal. Why not be as humane to the tree and cut it down to end the slow death?

A tree does not show starvation as much as an animal, but as soon as it shows lack of vitality it should arouse suspicion on the part of the owner and he should ascertain the cause, taking steps to remedy it or else cut down the tree.

A Hurry Call.

Sir Philip Sassoon, who is now Lloyd George's secretary, was formerly the secretary of Sir Douglas Haig, from whom he received the following telegram last Easter day: "Christ is risen. May want a secretary."—From L'Europe Nouvelle.

Long Time Ago!

Jud Tunkins says he can remember when every home had a picture of a soldier or a statesman in the parlor, instead of the photographs of a motion picture star.

Keeping the Czech and Magyar Apart



Only at certain hours on Sunday may persons cross this bridge, and then under strict supervision, for it is the bridge between Hungary and Czechoslovakia, over the Donau river, at Extergon, Hungary.

PROFITEERS ANGER TRAVELERS

Extortion Practiced in Paris Arouses Americans.

French Authorities Tell Them the Remedy is in Their Own Hands.

Paris.—The effect of the high cost of living in Paris upon tourist trade, as indicated by the growing frequency of complaints of extortion by Americans visiting France, is occupying the attention of the government.

The authorities hold that the tourists have the cure largely in their own hands, exaggerated prices being due in large part to indiscriminate spending by visitors, aided by the spendthrift tendency of French profiteers.

It is admitted that abuses practiced in amusement resorts, where meals, wine and dancing are provided, have their effect upon prices in gen-

eral, but how to correct that evil without discouraging the most profitable trade is a question.

Undersecretary of State Palsant, discussing the question with Americans, proposes publicity as a remedy. He has invited American visitors to join in a protest which will be published in the Paris press, and he also will take up personally individual cases of extortion brought to his attention.

The most frequent causes of complaint are charges for lodgings in hotels and apartments. Mr. Palsant told the Americans he had decided to ask hotels to publish their rates in the papers. This remedy would not, however, affect apartments, which are the subject of profiteering on a scale hitherto unknown.

There are very few unfurnished apartments to let, according to the real estate agencies; as fast as vacated by tenants, they are transformed into furnished apartments and

either let at rentals of from 300 to 1,000 per cent higher than the average before the war for furnished apartments of the same class, or rented at an increase of 200 to 300 per cent above the average for unfurnished apartments, with the proviso that the tenant buy the furniture at excessive figures.

Wool Clip of West.

Winnipeg, Man.—The wool clip for Western Canada this year will be in the neighborhood of 5,000,000 pounds. Alberta's wool clip is estimated at 2,200,000, which is about the same as last year. Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are expected to contribute about 3,000,000 pounds to the total.

\$30,000 Home for White Rats.

New York.—A \$30,000 home for white rats will soon be erected by the Wistar Institute of Anatomy. The building will be entirely devoted to the housing of the thousands of rodents kept by the institute for its biological research work.