

READY TO TESTIFY

MAGNATE RYAN WILL NOT RE-MAIN IN CONTEMPT

Coming Again as Witness

Advised by District Attorney Jerome to Make Clean Breast and Expected to Do as He is Told

NEW YORK.—The legislative life insurance committee, headed by Senator William W. Armstrong, appeared to have succeeded in its attempt to make Thomas F. Ryan divulge what E. H. Harriman said or threatened to do to influence him to divide his control of the Equitable Life Assurance society. District Attorney William T. Jerome, who was asked by the committee to take steps to punish Mr. Ryan for refusing to answer the questions about Mr. Harriman, reported to the committee that he has informed Mr. Ryan's counsel that Mr. Ryan ought to answer. Mr. Jerome also wrote to the committee that he believes Mr. Ryan will answer if brought before the committee again.

Mr. Ryan, who bought 502 shares of stock of the Equitable Life Assurance society last summer and placed them in a trust to be voted by three trustees, of whom Grover Cleveland is one, was on the witness stand before the insurance investigating committee. He testified that on the day he got possession of the Equitable stock, E. H. Harriman, president of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads, and a director of the Equitable society, asked him for a share of the stock. What Mr. Harriman said to him to induce him to part with the stock, Mr. Ryan refused to tell the committee.

Mr. Hughes declined to say when Mr. Ryan will be recalled, but it is presumed he will take the witness stand soon.

Subsequently Guthrie, Cravath and Henderson, counsel for Mr. Ryan gave out a statement that they re-advised Mr. Ryan that he should answer the questions; and that he is prepared to do so whenever recalled by the investigating committee. To that statement as attached a letter from District Attorney Jerome to Paul D. Cravath advising him that Mr. Ryan ought to answer the questions and adding: "Although I fully appreciate these motives which led him to refuse to answer unless the question of law involved could be made clear.

The committee was engaged for a part of the time in inquiring into the affairs of the Provident Savings Life Assurance society of New York. Charles E. Hughes, counsel for the committee, had brought out by questioning Edward W. Scott, the president of that company, that when Frank F. Hadley of New Bedford, Mass., secured control of the company in 1896 he borrowed \$162,000 from the company on his collateral notes to pay up for the stock of the insurance company. Mr. Scott testified that Mr. Hadley never repaid those loans and that the insurance company realized only \$80,000 on the sale of the collateral. Companies in which Mr. Hadley was interested failed and he committed suicide.

"It cost the insurance company just \$132,000 for Mr. Hadley to get control of it," said Mr. Hughes.

"Besides the \$162,000 Mr. Hadley had borrowed \$200,000 to pay for the insurance company's stock and had put up that stock as collateral. Mr. Scott testified that he bought that stock at auction after Mr. Hadley's death and borrowed the money to do it from the New York Security and Trust company. John A. McCall, president of the New York Life Insurance company, Mr. Scott said, "stood back" of him in the negotiation of the loan.

Other witnesses have testified that the New York Life Insurance company controlled the New York Security and Trust company. After he got control of the company, Mr. Scott said, John A. Horan, brother-in-law of John A. McCall, was made controller of the Provident Savings Life Assurance society at \$10,000 a year.

Mr. Scott testified also that his four sons and a nephew are employed by the company of which he is president.

RYAN DID NOT GIVE IN THEY FEAR FOR CANAL

THOMAS F. RYAN TELLS HOW HE BRAVED HARRIMAN

Had Moral Backing by President of Elihu Root and Paul D. Cravath - Senator Dryden Tells About Prudential

NEW YORK.—Thomas F. Ryan appeared before the insurance investigation committee and told what E. H. Harriman demanded and threatened to do when he demanded that Mr. Ryan concede him a share in the control of the Equitable Life Assurance society last June. Mr. Ryan assured the committee that he meant no disrespect by his former refusal to disclose their conversations, and said that he had determined to answer the question to which he had refused because District Attorney Jerome said he ought to do so.

Mr. Ryan's version of what Mr. Harriman demanded and when he threatened to do upon the refusal of his demands was in substance as follows:

"That Harriman demanded one-half of the 502 shares of stock of the Equitable Life Assurance society which Mr. Ryan had purchased from James H. Hyde and which gave Mr. Ryan control of the property.

That Harriman threatened unless he conceded this share in the control of the society, to exert his political and all other influences against Mr. Ryan and his projects.

That Harriman declared there probably would be legislative action, and that in that event his influence would be important.

That Harriman demanded the right to name two of five trustees to vote the controlling stock in the election of directors of the society.

In reply to repeated questions by Charles E. Hughes, counsel of the committee, Mr. Ryan stated that Mr. Harriman did not threaten that there should be legislative action unless he was given a share in the Equitable control, but said there probably would be such action. "Neither did Mr. Harriman threaten any action by an officer of the government.

It was a strenuous interview, Mr. Ryan said, and was held in the presence of Elihu Root, then Mr. Ryan's counsel, but now secretary of state, and Paul D. Cravath, also Mr. Ryan's counsel.

Mr. Ryan told the committee that he drew the inference from it that Mr. Harriman did not want anybody to control the Equitable society unless he had a share in it. Mr. Ryan also stated that he paid no attention to Mr. Harriman's statement that his influence would be important in the event of legislative action, and informed him that he wanted no partner in the enterprise. Mr. Harriman did not get the coveted share in the stock.

United States Senator John F. Dryden of New Jersey, president of the Prudential Life Insurance company of America, was on the witness stand all the remainder of the day. He testified that his company paid \$26,000 to the republican national campaign fund in 1896, 1900 and 1904. It also paid \$5,000 to Andrew Hamilton, formerly the New York Life Insurance company's legislative agent at Albany.

Thomas F. Ryan, who purchased the Hyde stock of the Equitable Life Assurance society, was the first witness before the committee. He said to Mr. Hughes, counsel for the committee, that he had meant no disrespect by declination to tell what E. H. Harriman had said to him at the time that Mr. Harriman sought to obtain a share in Mr. Hyde's purchase of the Hyde stock. Mr. Ryan said:

"I did not mean any disrespect to the committee. I wish to preserve harmony. I did not wish to answer the question until I was satisfied that I was obliged to answer it. The district attorney has determined that I shall answer the question and I shall give my best recollections of the conversation." "What did Mr. Harriman say to you about sharing the Hyde stock?" asked Mr. Hughes.

"Immediately after the purchase of the stock," said Mr. Ryan: "Mr. Harriman called on me. We had several conversations. Mr. Harriman said that I should not have come into the situation without consulting him, and that I ought to let him have an equal share in the Hyde stock. I declined. He objected to the trustees and wanted to name two of them

THEY FEAR FOR CANAL KOREA MAY BALK

SENATORS PESSIMISTIC CONCERNING THE WATERWAY.

Senator Allison Willing to Have Investigation Made and Fearing Down Whenever Necessary

WASHINGTON.—The senate spent four hours in discussing the Panama canal emergency appropriation bill, and when it adjourned the bill was still under consideration. There were set speeches by Messrs. Teller, Scott and Morgan and they were followed by a general debate in which all phases of the controversy were exploited, including the question of salary, the control of the Panama railroad and the necessity for general legislation on the canal subject.

Mr. Allison, chairman of the committee on appropriations, expressed the opinion that congress should take up the question of salaries in connection with other canal legislation. He also said that the status of the Panama railroad should be made the subject of legislation.

Messrs. Teller, Scott and Morgan expressed dissatisfaction with the conditions in Panama, but all indicated a determination to support the supply measures necessary to secure the work on the canal as undertaken. Mr. Teller advocated a sea level, Mr. Scott spoke in favor of the San Blas route as preferable to all others and Mr. Morgan expressed the opinion that before the Panama canal is completed another canal will be necessary to do the business required. A separate bill regulating the issuance of bonds for the canal and placing them on the same basis as other government bonds was passed without debate.

During the day Mr. Elkins made a statement from the committee on interstate commerce expressing the opinion that the committee would present report within a reasonable time.

When the senate met Mr. Aldrich reported from the committee on finance a substitute for the Teller Panama canal bond bill. In presenting the report he said that the bill has had the effect of giving the 2 per cent canal bonds the same privileges and rights accorded to other 2 per cent bonds and asked for its immediate consideration.

Mr. Pettus at first objected to present consideration, but a few minutes later withdrew his objection and the bill passed without debate.

Mr. Elkins asked and obtained the consent of the senate to make a verbal report from the committee on interstate commerce concerning the progress of the committee's investigation of the railroad rate question. He said that the committee had found it impossible to report a bill ten days after the convening of congress as directed by the resolution ordering the inquiry.

"We cannot report at present," he said, "but I am justified in saying that it is the belief of the members that later the committee will be able to present a measure." He added that the committee had been in session from April to June, and again since November 21st last and was giving all the time possible to the question.

The emergency canal appropriation bill then was taken up. After the amendment made by the committee on appropriations to the house bill had been agreed to, Mr. Teller discussed canal matters in general. He did not believe that the canal would be the success its friends expect.

Referring to the attitude of the railroads, Mr. Teller predicted that in fifteen years there would be as many more trans-continental lines as there now are and they would accommodate the business of the interior. He did not mean to charge that there had been fraud in the management of the canal work, but he did believe that the work had been entered upon without due appreciation of its importance. "Under these circumstances we are liable to make the same mistakes that the French made and that sent De Lesseps to his grave in disgrace and that without grafting or stealing."

Mr. Tillman expressed the opinion that the senate should investigate the circumstances of Mr. Wallace's severance of his commission with the canal.

TREATY WITH JAPAN AGREED TO UNDER DURESS.

Pressure Put On Emperor

Sought to Forestall It by Appealing to President Roosevelt, But Too Late—Insists on Independence

WASHINGTON.—H. B. Hulbert, the special messenger from the emperor of Korea, is in receipt of a cablegram from Korea in which the emperor declares that the agreement between Korea and Japan is null and void because it was obtained by force. He also declares that he will never sign this agreement in its present form, and that the disturbances which attended the "outrage" of November 17 are liable to occur again. Concerning the cablegram from the emperor of Korea, Mr. Hulbert said:

"This is the first genuine word that has been received from Korea giving the real attitude of that government toward the treacherous act of the Japanese. For several weeks the emperor was practically in confinement, and Japan gave out the false statement that an amicable agreement had been made. This is now proven to be untrue.

"The agreement was made under duress and at the point of the sword, but the emperor has at last succeeded in piercing the cordon of Japanese and getting information to the outer world.

"As long as my mission to America is no longer secret, I may add that the emperor anticipating some such act of bad faith on the part of the Japanese tried through me to forestall it by lodging an appeal with President Roosevelt. The object of my coming was surmised and the coup in Seoul was hastened so that it occurred the very day of my arrival in Washington. The emperor felt certain that if President Roosevelt could be made aware of his sentiments, the American government would hesitate and ask a few questions before accepting Japan's statements alone. The authorities in Washington were almost immediately notified that this petition was here, but no arrangements were made for its reception until after Japan's statement was accepted and acted upon.

"The object of this cablegram is to disavow any acquiescence in the so-called agreement and incidentally to call attention to that clause of the treaty between America and Korea in which the United States definitely promised to use its good offices in case Korea is oppressed or wronged. The United States was in full treaty relations with Korea up to the time when upon the representations of Japan alone and apparently without consulting Korea this government took the lead in cutting off direct diplomatic relations with Korea.

Perkins Is Out

NEW YORK.—Two incidents affecting the life insurance situation in New York overshadowed the legislative committee investigation. While the committee was inquiring into the conduct of the Prudential Life Insurance company, and the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, George W. Perkins resigned as first vice-president and chairman of the finance committee of the New York Life Insurance company. He was succeeded as vice president by Alexander E. Orr, president of the New York City Rapid Transit commission, and as chairman of the finance committee by John Claffin, head of the H. B. Claffin company.

Another important move in the situation was the election by the trustees of the Mutual Life Insurance company of Charles A. Peabody to succeed Richard A. McCurdy, as president of that company at \$50,000 a year. Mr. McCurdy's salary was \$150,000 a year.

Mr. Peabody is a lawyer, the American representative of William Waldorf Astor, and a director in several banks and other corporations, of which one is the Illinois Central Railroad company. Mr. Peabody was also named as trustee of the Mutual Life Insurance company to succeed Judge R. W. Peckham, and Emory McClintick was named to succeed Elihu Root. They cannot be elected as trustees until the next meeting of the board.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Thomas Smout of Wood River is erecting the largest hay barn in Hall county on his lots south of the depot. The barn will be used to store his immense crop of hay, which he is baling at present.

Plans are under way for the establishment of a glass factory in the sandhills in Valentine. The project is being discussed by influential capitalists and may be built soon.

W. J. Hollenbeck living near Glenwood, claims to have husked 116 bushels of corn daily for twenty-one consecutive days, excepting Sundays. He claims the championship of the state.

In a fight at the cigar factory of Underwood Brothers at Beatrice Roy Mitchell, a cigarmaker, had his right arm severely cut by being knocked against a pane of glass in the rear of the building. He was taken to a physician's office, where it was found necessary to take several stitches to close the wound.

Elmer Stearns, said to be badly wanted at Crookston, Minn., for the stealing of a team of horses and a buggy, and for whom a reward of \$200 was offered, has been arrested at Norfolk. Sheriff Gonyea of Crookston arrived in the city, identified the prisoner and returned to Minnesota with his man.

A 3-year-old son of Harvey Bray of Nebraska City, has been instantly killed by a runaway. The boy was in a wagon when the team ran away. The wagon was overturned and the child fell underneath. His head was crushed and he was killed instantly. The accident happened near the family home.

Thomas Smith, presumably from Hudson, Wis., an employe of the Grant-Smith company, railroad contractor, was accidentally killed at Oakland by falling in front of a train of loaded cars. At the coroner's inquest the company was exonerated from all blame. The body is in charge of Undertaker F. C. Palmquist.

Walter Ramsey of Nebraska City employed on the Henry Wellenseik farm in Osage precinct has been injured by a kick from a mule. The young man was harnessing the team when the mule kicked him. The man's face was crushed and his collar bone broken. He will be disfigured for life.

The new town east of Bancroft in Cuming county, on the line of the Great Northern extension, has been named Farley after a prominent Bancroft family who own considerable land in the vicinity of the new station.

Alleging that his wife was insane and ought to be taken to the Norfolk hospital, Andrew Rosebloom of Boyd county took her to Butte for examination by the board of insanity. The board found that the woman was perfectly sane and compelled Rosebloom to pay the costs of the case.

The three men who were arrested by Marshal Berry of Seward, while peddling clothing near Dwight, and who were supposed to be thieves who robbed the Curry Brothers' clothing store of \$225 worth of clothes were released from custody as Curry Brothers could not identify the goods. The men were selling the goods for little or nothing.

Fred Boche the giant bridge builder of the Northwestern, has again taken himself to the woods for the winter and has pitched his tent on the banks of the Elkhorn river near Norfolk where he will spend the winter months. For a number of years Mr. Boche has spent his winters in a tent and declares that it is the only way to live.

The Burlington is having a new snow plow built at the local shops at Plattsmouth which will soon be ready for service. This plow is much larger and has many improvements over the old ones. It is so constructed that it will throw the snow on each side of the track. It will be equipped with a pair of trucks, thus facilitating the handling of the monster plow.

Charles Happold, a prominent farmer of Grand Island was the victim of a runaway accident. While returning to his home and while near the sugar factory his horse took fright at a switch engine, became unmanageable, upset the vehicle and Mr. Happold was quite seriously injured. He was taken to his home near Doniphan by another farmer, from that vicinity.