

The CHIEF

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FIX REBATE BLAME

KANSAS CITY COURT HOLDS TAGGART AND THOMAS GUILTY.

In Opinion of Judge McPherson Sufficient Evidence Was Not Introduced to Convict Former Burlington Traffic Manager and Demurrer is Sustained.

Kansas City, May 26.—George L. Thomas, a freight broker, and L. B. Taggart, a clerk working for Thomas, in the United States district court here, were found guilty of the charge of conspiracy to illegally give rebates to shippers. The jury considered the case only thirty minutes before arriving at a verdict. Attorneys for the defendants will file a motion for a new trial. The court will not pronounce sentence against Thomas and Taggart until the motion for a new trial is disposed of.

Thomas and Taggart live in New York, and Taggart, who has been in court only in the person of his counsel, is said to be very ill in that city. He and Thomas have been under bonds of \$5,000 each, and the court allowed the bonds to continue in force until sentence is imposed.

The section of the revised statutes under which Thomas and Taggart are convicted provides that their punishment shall be a fine of not less than \$1,000 or more than \$10,000, or imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than two years, or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

George H. Crosby, general freight traffic manager for the Burlington railway, on trial on the same charge, was discharged, the court sustaining a demurrer alleging that no evidence had been presented to connect Crosby with a conspiracy.

Judge McPherson said there was nothing in the evidence to indicate that Crosby ever directed the payment of "commissions" or claims to Thomas or that he had any knowledge of the transactions, but that, on the contrary, it had been testified that Thomas Miller, now dead, had always issued such orders to the claim department. Mr. Miller died a year ago.

OIL TRUST'S METHODS.

Agent Tells of Orders to Kill or Conquer Standard's Rivals in Ohio.

Cleveland, May 26.—A total of nineteen witnesses were called by Interstate Commerce Commissioners Prouty and Clements in the Standard Oil inquiry here. Commissioners, counsel, and everybody else connected with the inquiry put in a hard day and the work of the sessions was prolific of substantial results. Testimony bordering on the sensational was obtained from several witnesses. That of George L. Lane of Mansfield, a former employe of the Standard Oil company, was regarded as particularly important. According to his evidence, Lane was for about fourteen months in 1901 and 1902 employed by the Standard for the particular purpose of driving all of the independent oil peddlers in a dozen or more of the principal cities and towns of northern Ohio out of business. He said he was employed by C. M. Lyons of the Cleveland office of the Standard Oil company to go to certain places and use every means, fair or foul, to force the independents to quit. He described the methods pursued in detail.

"My instructions," he said, "were to kill them, and I was told that if I could not do the job, somebody would be sent to take my place. I worked in Youngstown and surrounding small towns. In all of the towns, with the exception of Youngstown, the independent peddlers were forced to abandon their business. In Youngstown a man named William H. Vahey was encountered, and despite everything we could do he held his trade. We gave oil away by the barrel and tank load, but it did no good. Vahey's customers threw it away."

MUST PAY BRIBE OR GET NO CAR

Philadelphia, May 26.—Several interesting developments marked the closing session of the interstate commerce commission's investigation into the alleged discrimination by railroads in the distribution of cars in the bituminous field. The commission adjourned to meet at a time and place to be decided upon later. Next week the members of the commission will go to Washington to examine the evidence presented during the hearings in this city, and it is likely the investigation will be resumed in that city next week.

Testimony of a sensational character was given by F. Albert Von Boyne-

burg, general manager of the Reakert Bros. Coal company of this city. He stated that within the last two and one-half years his company's car supply had been so inadequate that the business had been practically ruined. He declared that other companies had been favored in the distribution of cars and said he had no doubt that discrimination had been practiced against his company because it had failed to make gifts of stock to the railroad officials. He gave it as his opinion that President Cassatt was responsible for the discrimination.

Datto All Still Alive.

Manila, May 26.—Datto All, the leading Mindanao insurgent, who was reported killed Oct. 22 last, is declared on good authority to be still alive. It is said he is now with Dattos Enok and Mopak, organizing an insurrection between Davao and Dutaan. They are said to be buying rifles and ammunition.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

Low Temperature in Nebraska.

Lincoln, May 28.—Low temperature prevailed in Nebraska for twenty-four hours, ranging from 36 to 42 degrees in the eastern part of the state. Snow is reported from northwest Nebraska, one-fourth of an inch falling at Ainsworth.

Grand Jury Indicts Briggs and Murphy

Omaha, May 25.—The Douglas county grand jury returned indictments against John Briggs, chief of police of South Omaha, and Henry C. Murphy, Republican candidate for city attorney at the last municipal election in that city, for alleged conspiracy in accepting graft for protection of disreputable resorts.

Lumber Dealers Deny Trust Allegation

Lincoln, May 26.—Lumber dealers accused of being in a trust filed an answer in the supreme court denying all the allegations except the charging of membership fees. The association was organized to help the retailers, they declare. Eighteen reasons are given. One of the most important is a social gathering of the members, it is said.

Omaha Election Officials Indicted.

Omaha, May 29.—The county grand jury returned eleven indictments, among them being one against former City Clerk W. H. Elbourn, who is charged with tampering with ballots at the primary election in which he was seeking a renomination. Ten were against the election officials in the Second and Third precincts of the Third ward, who are charged with misconduct in the use of voting machines at the city election.

Dipsomaniac Law Declared Defective.

Lincoln, May 25.—A decision against the dipsomaniac law was rendered by Judge Cornish of Scotts Bluffs county, who applied for a writ of habeas corpus a few weeks ago. Craig, who was sent to the asylum under the dipsomaniac law as an excessive user of drugs, declares that he was not confined in a separate ward, according to law, but was placed with insane patients. He was released on bond pending a decision.

Death Hastened by Injuries.

Lincoln, May 26.—Mrs. Julia Massey came to her death by old age, hastened by injuries received in a manner unknown. This was the verdict of the jury summoned by Coroner Graham. Mrs. Massey died at the Lincoln hospital for the insane at the age of 101 years. She was sent there because of poverty. The state board will hear the Norfolk asylum charges June 6. After this matter has been investigated the Lincoln asylum will be investigated.

Decides Against Grain Trust.

Lincoln, May 29.—L. M. Pemberton, the referee appointed by the supreme court to take testimony in the suit of the state against the Nebraska Grain Dealers' association, on the ground that it is a trust, reported, recommending a perpetual injunction against the association. He sustains the charges made against it, except as to soliciting and receiving rebates from railroads, the latter being held, under the facts, to be on interstate shipments and beyond jurisdiction of the state courts.

Bode Goes Into Bankruptcy.

Omaha, May 25.—In his voluntary petition in bankruptcy filed in the federal court, Erwin O. Bode, city treasurer of Falls City and a merchant of that place, has recited that he is in debt to Falls City in the sum of \$5,000, and in debt to the school district in the sum of \$5,600. He further sets out that this money was used in settling debts incurred by the general store operated under the firm name of E. Bode & Sons. Bode has scheduled his liabilities at \$26,976.27 and his assets at \$14,964.50.

Edmisten Is Indicted.

Omaha, May 26.—In the Nebraska land cases a new feature has developed. In addition to the charges hitherto developed in a number of cases the allegation of forgery is now made.

The first of the prosecutions under the new charge is that of J. H. Edmisten of Lincoln, the well known politician and oil inspector under Governor Holcomb. A true bill growing out of the charge of fraudulent signatures signed to homestead affidavits was returned against him yesterday afternoon, and Mr. Edmisten was present to formally give bond.

TORNADO CAUSES MUCH DAMAGE

Twister Strikes in the Vicinity of Oakland, Neb.

Oakland, Neb., May 26.—A cyclone passed over the west side of Oakland. The cloud formed at Logan creek, going north to the new town of Uehling, eight miles south. Doors were blown from the elevator and the roof was blown from a car, striking Carl Johnson, aged fourteen years, slightly injuring him. Oscar Johnson, who was driving in a lumber wagon, received a slight scap wound, his horses became separated and his wagon was found half a mile away. At John Peterson's, four miles south of Oakland, the kitchen was blown away and the main part of the house moved from its foundation. At Alf Walberg's, three miles south, the barns and corncribs were destroyed. In Oakland trees were badly twisted and coal sheds of the Farmers' Grain and Live Stock company were blown onto the railroad tracks. Some very large hailstones fell, breaking out a few windows.

MOYER-HAYWOOD TRIAL OPENS.

Cases of Men Accused of Steunenberg Murder Called in Court.

Caldwell, Ida., May 30.—When the Canyon county district court convened here the cases of Charles H. Moyer, William D. Haywood and George A. Pettibone, officers of the Western Federation of Miners, who are charged with the murder of former Governor Frank Steunenberg, were called. Attorneys for the prisoners immediately filed notice of alleged disqualifications which should prevent District Judge Frank Smith from sitting as trial judge and gave notice for a change of venue. Twenty-six reasons which are alleged to disqualify Judge Smith are given. Among other points it is alleged that Governor Frank R. Gooding has issued a public manifesto declaring the guilt of the defendants and that he has proof of their guilt. The fact that Judge Smith is an appointee of the governor is set forth, and the allegation that he is subject to the influence of the governor is made. The manner of drawing the grand jury in this county is also attacked.

Nothing was accomplished beyond submitting to Judge Smith legal points claimed by the prosecution to be a bar to further proceedings at this time. Attorney Richardson, for the defense, stated when court opened that he had filed two motions, one asking for a change of venue, accompanied by affidavits; the other asking that some other judge be called in. The matter that stayed proceedings was a question of the right of the court to try the case, pending determination of the appeal to the supreme court.

INSURGENTS ARE RETREATING.

Castello Forced to Retire Before Superior Forces.

Mexico City, May 30.—Major Castello, commanding one detachment of Guatemalan revolutionists, after taking the city of Ocos, was forced to retire before superior forces. Castello is now reported to have taken a new base and will be reinforced by several hundred good fighting men from the steamer Empire City. General Barillas is in the mountains, making his way to Quezaltenango. Barillas has with him a fine body of picked men and is reported to be steadily recruiting his force. No news has been received from Salvador, but the invading force should by this time be well advanced into Guatemala. Resident Guatemalans here state that the whole country is ripe for the overthrow of Cabrera. The season of rains has set in and the roads are bad in Guatemala. Telegraphic communication is difficult on account of cutting of wires.

MINISTER CONFESSES BIGAMY.

Methodist Divine in Chicago Pleads Guilty to Having Two Wives.

Chicago, May 30.—Almon Clarence Abel, formerly a prominent minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, pleaded guilty to a charge of bigamy and was sentenced to an indefinite term in the penitentiary.

Abel was formerly pastor of the Hammond Avenue Methodist Episcopal church in this city, and later was pastor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, one of the largest of its denomination in the city. To his second wife Abel was known as "Clair Clayton," and it was upon complaint of her mother that he was arrested.

Eight Hour Bill Reported.

Washington, May 30.—The house committee on labor authorized a favorable report on the eight-hour bill. Chairman Gardner of New Jersey said there was no opposing vote.

The Cause of Many Sudden Deaths.

There is a disease prevailing in this country most dangerous because so deceptive. Many sudden deaths are caused by it—heart disease, pneumonia, heart failure or apoplexy are often the result of kidney disease. If kidney trouble is allowed to advance the kidney-poisoned blood will attack the vital organs, causing catarrh of the bladder, or the kidneys themselves break down and waste away cell by cell. Bladder troubles almost always result from a derangement of the kidneys and a cure is obtained quickest by a proper treatment of the kidneys. If you are feeling badly you can make no mistake by taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often through the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases.

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