

The CHIEF

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SMOOT ON MORMONISM

UTAH SENATOR SPEAKS IN DEFENSE OF HIS POSITION.

STRONGLY CONDEMNS POLYGAMY

Declares There is Nothing in the Mormon Church Hostile to the American Government—House to Work Over-time on Ship Subsidy Bill.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Senator Reed Smoot's address to the senate in defense of his position as senator was the feature of the session. He condemned polygamy in the strongest terms and declared emphatically that he had taken no oath inconsistent with that he had taken as senator. He contended that the Mormon church was not hostile to the government and that Mormon citizens had proven their devotion to the United States on many battlefields.

He was supported by Senator Dillingham (Vt.) in an analytical speech of the evidence which had been submitted in the case.

The senate spent several hours in further consideration of the forestry provisions in the agricultural appropriation bill, with the result that several amendments were agreed to which restrict the operations of the bureau in several respects.

Postoffice Bill in House.

After passing a number of bills under unanimous consent the house resumed consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill. Macon (Ark.) made a point of order against the paragraphs increasing the pay of clerks in first and second class postoffices and carriers in the city delivery service. A spirited dispute ensued between Macon and Fitzgerald (N. Y.), wherein the latter gave notice that he would see that a point of order was made against the section providing for the increase for rural carriers. Macon refused to abandon his position and the chair sustained the points of order.

Ship Subsidy at Night Sessions.

Ship subsidy will probably be considered by the house at night sessions late this week. Speaker Cannon and Representative Watson, the Republican whip, conferred with the president concerning the matter, and although no positive agreement has been reached, Watson said that it now seems that the Littauer bill will be considered on the floor. In case the subsidy measure is taken up by the house it will probably be under a rule limiting the debate to two evenings and the bill will be subject to debate.

After the postoffice appropriation bill has been disposed of, the measure limiting the hours of railway employes to sixteen out of twenty-four will be taken up at the day sessions of the house. The sundry civil bill will then be brought forward, and as there has been a general refusal to grant ship subsidy any time during the remaining days of the session, its friends asked for consideration at night. They seem now to be about to win their point, although the general impression is that the subsidy bill will be bitterly attacked on the floor and amended in many ways, if not defeated entirely.

HERMANN TRIAL IS BEGUN

Former Senator Simon and William G. Steele the First Witnesses Called.

Washington, Feb. 20.—By agreement, former United States Senator Joseph Simon and William G. Steele, both of Portland, Ore., were the first witnesses called in the trial of Representative Binger Hermann of Oregon, charged with the destruction of public records, they having made urgent pleas to be heard and discharged. Each identified letters in the possession of the government written them by Mr. Hermann while land commissioner and sent to them in franked envelopes. Other similar letters will be filed by them with the clerk of the court. To this the defense consented when the prosecution announced that all were absolutely innocent of any taint of wrong doing on the part of Hermann, and Justice Stafford had said after such a statement by the prosecution he would permit no question of a different nature to be raised concerning the letters.

Hawaiian Japanese Protest.

Honolulu, Feb. 20.—At a mass meeting of Japanese the following cablegram was ordered sent to President Roosevelt: "The Hawaiian Japanese respectfully protest in the name of

humanity and civilization, and also in the name of liberty, against the prohibition of their emigration to the United States. It enslaves us permanently to Hawaiian capitalists."

Veterinarians Merge Organizations.

Kansas City, Feb. 20.—The Iowa and Nebraska Veterinarian association was merged with the Missouri association at the semi-annual meeting of the latter organization in this city. The name of the Missouri Valley organization will be retained and the new membership will number 400. Dr. A. D. Peters of Lincoln spoke on "Cattle."

Two-Cent Fare Near in Missouri.

Jefferson City, Feb. 20.—The senate passed the house 2-cent passenger rate bill after amending it to conform to the senate bill and adding a penalty of a fine from \$100 to \$500 for each violation. The bill now goes to the house for concurrence in the amendments and then will go to the governor for signature.

WARNING AGAINST RARE PORK

Nebraska Board of Health Points Out Danger of Poorly Cooked Meat.

Lincoln, Feb. 20.—The state board of health has discovered a most dangerous possibility in eating raw or half-cooked pork and has issued the following warning to the people of the state: "The recent cases of trichinosis occurring in this state at Hastings and Fremont emphasize the fact that pork eaten raw, or even not thoroughly cooked, is dangerous to life. No law could be passed by the legislature that would compel a bacteriological examination of every carcass that was killed for home consumption, and it is only in this way that the trichina can be discovered and the meat products condemned. For this reason we must depend upon the press of the state to make known to the people in the most public way the danger in eating raw pork. This knowledge should also be taught in all schools, and a full discussion of the subject then be had in our homes."

BURGLAR ALARM FOILS ROBBERS

Capture Night Watchman, but Fail to Gain Entrance to Vault.

Central City, Neb., Feb. 20.—The setting off of a burglar alarm foiled the efforts of robbers to gain entrance to the vault of the Farmers' State bank at 1:30 a. m.

While standing near the bank Night Watchman Cox was accosted by two men who covered him with revolvers and compelled him to accompany them to the bank. With tools stolen from a hardware store they forced a window. Blindfolding the watchman they bound him to a chair in a back room. In wrenching the lock from the door of the vault they set off the alarm. Their attempt to shut off the alarm proving fruitless, the robbers left the bank. They secured a handcar and were traced as far as Chapman, where they left the car in a ditch.

CRISIS NEAR IN CUBA

Dissension Between Rival Factions in Liberal Party.

Havana, Feb. 20.—A crisis as a result of the recent dissension between rival factions in the liberal party led by Alfredo Zayas and Jose Miguel Gomez is indicated by the action of Senator Carnot, vice president of the national liberal assembly, in directing the secretary of the national convention to summon that body in extraordinary session. This step is taken in compliance with a petition signed by twelve delegates to the convention, all of whom are followers of Gomez.

The signers declare the organization of a committee to revise the laws of Cuba to be unconstitutional. This committee was recently appointed by Governor Magoon, and they proclaim it is the urgent duty of liberals to demand the incorporation of their doctrines in new legislation.

GREAT NORTHERN INDICTED.

Hill Line Accused of Granting Rebates to Sugar Trust.

New York, Feb. 20.—The federal grand jury indicted the Great Northern Railway company on the charge of violating the Elkins' law by paying rebates to Lowell F. Palmer, traffic agent of the American Sugar Refining company in this city. There are two counts, alleging the payment in all of \$14,599 in May and June.

YOUNG MAN DRAGGED TO DEATH

Horse Runs Away and His Foot Catches in Shaft.

Kearney, Neb., Feb. 15.—Harry Stack of Kearney was killed in a runaway here. He was driving a fractions horse to a cart and when crossing the railroad the horse took fright. Stack lost his footing and was caught by the foot on a shaft brace and dragged head down over a block, his head striking the wheels and on crossings. When picked up he was dead, with a broken arm, dislocated shoulders and injuries to his head. His father was killed here in a similar manner about fourteen years ago.

EVELYN THAW ON STAND

CONCLUDES STORY AND CROSSEXAMINATION IS BEGUN.

PROSECUTION SCORES A POINT

District Attorney Permitted to Bring in All Manner of Evidence Which May Tend to Discredit Wife of Prisoner—Tells Story of "Pie Girl."

New York, Feb. 20.—Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw entered on the ordeal of her cross-examination and before District Attorney Jerome had had the witness in charge for half an hour and had secured from the court a ruling which apparently opens the way for bringing into the trial of Harry K. Thaw all manner of evidence which may tend to discredit the defendant's wife. Heretofore it has been held that the rules of evidence protected young Mrs. Thaw and that regardless of whether her story was true or false, the fact that she had told it to her husband was the one essential point. Mrs. Thaw had been allowed to repeat the story so that the jury might judge as to its effect in unbalancing the mind of the man on trial for murder of Stanford White. Mr. Jerome, by a simple question, opened the way for the introduction of testimony tending to show the truth or falsity of Mrs. Thaw's story. He asked the witness: "Was the story you told Thaw true?"

"It was," she replied, firmly.

Mr. Delmas, Thaw's leading counsel, objected strongly to the question, but Justice Fitzgerald held it to be competent as tending to show the credibility of the witness.

Mrs. Caine Takes the Stand.

Justice Fitzgerald allowed Jerome to secure from Mrs. J. J. Caine of Boston, a friend of Mrs. Thaw, who took the witness stand during the morning session, many material points as to the movements of Harry Thaw and Evelyn Nesbit following their return from Europe in 1904, including the published incident of their being ejected from the Hotel Cumberland in this city, the proprietor insisting that they should register as man and wife or leave their suites, which adjourned. In bringing out these facts Mr. Jerome denied that he was attacking Mrs. Thaw, and said he was merely testing the credibility of Mrs. Caine.

The district attorney seemed reluctant to begin the cross-examination of Mrs. Thaw, desiring to have the matter postponed until tomorrow.

A wordy conflict ensued, during which Mr. Jerome hinted at broken confidences and evasion of stipulations. He declared he did not wish to humiliate the witness with a cross-examination which he might deem unnecessary.

"However, if I am forced to do it I will," said Jerome, with something of a menace in his tone.

"You may proceed," replied Delmas. Mrs. Thaw Ready With Answers.

Mrs. Thaw moved a bit nervously and awaited Jerome's opening questions. They had to do with her signatures to certain papers, some of which the prosecutor declared were receipts for money Mrs. Thaw had drawn from the Mercantile Trust company in 1902 \$25 a week. Mrs. Thaw said she was not sure that all of the signatures were her own—they looked very much like her writing, she added. Who provided the money was not developed. Mrs. Thaw's confidence grew as the cross-examination went on and she was always ready with answers Jerome, under the plea of testing her credibility, was allowed to ask many pertinent questions. He wanted to know when she first heard that she had been named as a co-respondent in the George W. Lederer divorce case. Delmas quickly protested. Mrs. Thaw whispered something in his ear, and the attorney withdrew his objection.

"I read of it in the newspapers," said the witness, cheerily, when Jerome repeated the question.

The prosecutor sought to show that Mrs. Thaw had gone to Abraham Hummel for advice with regard to the divorce proceedings, but was halted by an objection from Delmas, which the court sustained. Jerome brought out that Mrs. Thaw had written to Stanford White from Boulogne after Thaw had proposed to her in Paris.

The cross-examination had barely gotten into full swing when adjournment for the day was ordered.

The "Pie Girl" Story.

In completing her direct testimony, Mrs. Thaw had told of the conversations she and her husband had had regarding the fate of other young women at the hands of Stanford White. One of these girls was known as "The Pie Girl." She was fifteen years old and wore only a gauze dress when she sprang from a big pie at a stag dinner. The witness declared that May MacKenzie had told her that Stanford White, when told she and Harry were very happy together, had remarked: "Pooh, it won't last, I will get her back." Harry Thaw's letter to Anthony Comstock, describing three houses where he declared White and "other scoundrels" lured girls, was read. Among the places described was the house in West Twenty-fourth street, where the velvet swing and the mirrored bedroom were located.

Business Men Visit Panama. Cincinnati, Feb. 20.—Members of the Commercial clubs of Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati left here on a special train over the Cincinnati Southern railway route for Charleston, S. C., where they will board the steamer Prinz Joachim for Panama.

JUMPER KILLER 'ASSOCIATION'

Story of Crime and Conspiracy Unfolded in Adams Murder Trial.

Wallace, Ida., Feb. 20.—An extraordinary story of crime and conspiracy was unfolded in the trial of Steve Adams when Archie Phillips, Fred Tyler's neighbor and friend, told of the "Jumper Killers' association," a secret society alleged to have been formed by men living in the woods along Marble creek in the summer of 1904. Its purpose was supposed to be the killing of the later settlers who had jumped the timber claims of some of the earlier arrivals. A Swede named Engstrom, the witness said, was supposed to be the president of the society, and Jack Simpkins, who claims to have been jumped by Tyler was supposed to be one of the ringleaders, as also was Steve Adams.

Phillips said he left the district after Tyler was killed. It got too hot for him and he was afraid to stay, he said. About a week after Phillips left his cabin was blown up by dynamite, which destroyed about \$300 worth of supplies. Asked if he thought Adams and Simpkins blew up the cabin, Phillips said no, but he believed the Jumper Killers' association employed men to do the work.

SEEKS PERMIT TO KILL MAN

Maniac Applies to St. Paul Judge for Authority to Slay an Enemy.

St. Paul, Feb. 20.—Judge W. L. Kelly of the state circuit court was approached in his court room by a man who refused to reveal his identity and who asked the jurist to issue a permit for the applicant to kill a man. The applicant, who is thought to be insane, claimed he was an inventor and that his wife and a man were conspiring to steal from him an invention and \$175,000 which it had brought him.

MINE EXPLOSION KILLS MANY

Fifty-Four Bodies Recovered and More Are Yet Entombed.

Las Esperanzas, Mex., Feb. 20.—Fifty-four bodies have been recovered from mine No. 3 of the Mexican Coal and Coke company. Eleven injured are in the hospital and two of the number are fatally hurt. Of the fifty-four dead bodies already recovered, thirty are Japanese. The dead, it is estimated, will number between sixty and eighty men.

WRECK ON GRAND TRUNK

One Trainman Killed and 400 Passengers Shaken Up.

London, Ont., Feb. 20.—The Chicago Pacific express, westbound on the Grand Trunk, was wrecked in the East London yards. One trainman was killed and the 400 passengers on the express received a severe shaking up. The express "side swiped" a freight train. Traveling Engineer George Ranton of London, who was riding on the passenger engine, was torn to shreds.

CHARLES RUMBLE CONVICTED

Found Guilty of Murder in Second Degree at Kansas City.

Kansas City, Feb. 20.—Charles Rumble, who on Nov. 25 last shot and killed Frank J. Emery, proprietor of the Kentucky hotel, in Kansas City, Kan., was found guilty of murder in the second degree. Sentence was deferred. Rumble commanded Emery to turn over the contents of the hotel cash register. Emery refused and Rumble shot him dead.

William J. Odell is Dead.

Cincinnati, Feb. 20.—William J. Odell, president of the Odell Commission company, and one of the best known brokers in the west, died here following an operation for appendicitis. His wealth is estimated at over \$5,000,000.

House Passes Norris Bill.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The house, on motion of Representative Norris, passed the senate bill with the house substitute dividing the state of Nebraska into two judicial districts and making provision for the appointment of an additional judge.

Hole in Ice for Baptism.

Nebraska City, Feb. 19.—The ordinance of baptism was administered to five converts to the faith of the Latter Day Saints by Elder William Seif. They were taken to the Missouri river and after a hole was cut in the ice they were immersed in the cold water in the presence of a large throng of people.

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