

Wife Divorces Forbes; Case Kept Secret

Decree Granted in Seattle on Grounds of Neglect—Ex-Vet Body Head Denies Graft Charges.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 26.—After being carefully concealed for more than two weeks, it was discovered here last night in a search of court files that Mrs. Kate Forbes, wife of Col. Charles R. Forbes, former director of the United States Veterans' bureau and who has been mentioned prominently at a hearing being conducted by the senate committee at Washington, D. C., investigating alleged graft in connection with the awarding of contracts for government hospitals, has been granted an interlocutory decree of divorce by Judge Mitchell Gilliam of the Kings county superior court on October 11.

The suit was handled here with the utmost secrecy and efforts were made to conceal both the action and the granting of the divorce. "As I recall Mrs. Forbes' testimony," Deputy Prosecutor Eugene Mechem asserted last night, "she accused Forbes of preferring the company and society of others to that of herself and his 10-year-old daughter, Marcia. She stated that he neglected his home to a greater extent than the traveling occasioned by his position necessitated. Her health, she testified, was very poor as the result of her husband's treatment. Her physician corroborated her testimony in regard to health during a perfunctory hearing on October 5."

Judge Gilliam's order directed Forbes to pay \$75 a month for the next two years for the support of Mrs. Forbes and an additional \$75 monthly to maintain their daughter, who was placed in her mother's custody until she is 18 years old. All community property was awarded to Mrs. Forbes.

Washington, Oct. 26.—Col. Charles R. Forbes, former director of the United States Veterans' bureau, today issued a sweeping denial of all charges of corruption and bribery brought against him during the senatorial investigation of his administration. Appealing to the public to withhold judgment until he is able to present his defense, Colonel Forbes branded as "utterly and absolutely false" every specific charge of corruption made against him by Elias H. Mortimer of Philadelphia, in testifying before a senate committee investigating the veterans' bureau.

Speaking in a sick chamber, Forbes issued his statement to the International News Service. It was the first word from the accused official since Mortimer created a sensation at the senate hearing Wednesday by charging Forbes had entered a "ring" to share profits on the construction of government hospitals and had accepted a \$55,000 "loan" from the witness.

While Forbes was issuing his denial of the corruption charges, officials of the department of justice began the consideration of evidence already submitted to a view of launching criminal prosecutions if it can be corroborated. No action, however, will be taken until more substantial proof of graft is shown than has yet been revealed, it was said officially.

The veterans' bureau "scandal" already has been the subject of a White House conference between President Coolidge and Attorney General Daugherty. The matter was thoroughly discussed by the president who is reported to have instructed the attorney general to take whatever legal steps he thought the situation warranted.

While the senate staff of investigators were preparing further sensational evidence for presentation to the committee when it reconvenes Monday, friends of the accused director were rallying to his support. It was learned Forbes will substantiate his personal denial of Mortimer's charges of graft and corruption by a direct testimony of the other men implicated. Two of these, John W. Thompson, of St. Louis and D. C. Hurley, of Seattle, was reported to be ready to come to Washington immediately to deny "in toto" Mortimer's entire statement.

From "Four Hundred." In addition, the former director was expected to call in as corroborative witnesses a number of the nation's best known political leaders and celebrities from the roster of society's "Four Hundred." The publication of the names of these witnesses alone, it was said, will cause even a greater sensation than the original charges against Forbes. Besides these, it was certain names of a score of political leaders will be mentioned frequently in testimony when the director takes the stand.

New State Bankers' Head Urges Dairying and Poultry Raising

Twenty-four years ago last August the First National bank at Crawford, Neb., opened its doors. C. A. Minick was present in the role of manager. Today he heads the Nebraska Bankers' association and is vice president-manager of the same bank in northwestern Nebraska.



He is fully aware of the possibilities of Dawes county as a diversified crop country and along this line has some ideas of his own on how to meet running expenses on the farm. "If every farmer would have from six to a dozen good milk cows, some chickens and high grade hogs, he would be able to take care of the ordinary running expenses of his place," declared Mr. Minick.

"The condition of the farmer has not, in my opinion been overdrawn, but the fact remains that he is no worse off than many industries. We have tried out the idea of getting dairy cows on farms in the western part of our state and I am sure that the same good results could be gained by the application of the plan in the east."

Mr. Minick believes that better results could be obtained if the farmer, in the state, were united more closely into associations.

Rhineland Move Is at Standstill Separatists Maintain Positions With Difficulty—Coblentz Is Quiet.

London, Oct. 26.—Yesterday's attempts by communists to march on Berlin were frustrated by the police authorities, says a dispatch today to the Central News from Berlin. Everywhere in Germany the situation is quiet except at Harburg, near Hamburg, where the fighting is continuing. Marines landed there this morning engaged with communists, who lost three killed and 16 wounded, the dispatches state.

Coblentz was quiet early today but signs were not lacking that there would be a sharp reaction during the day which would put the separatists to a hard test.

Leviathan Reaches France. Cherbourg, France, Oct. 26.—The steamer Leviathan with General Pershing on board arrived in port this afternoon after a stormy time at sea which delayed her considerably in the passage from New York.

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Hands Locked, 2 Duel to Death

Texans Stand Toe-to-Toe and Empty Guns Into Each Other.

Teague, Tex., Oct. 26.—In a little room in a barn at Young, in Freestone county, shortly after dusk Wednesday night, two men stood toe to toe, their left hands locked together, their right hands clutching smoking revolvers which sprang until neither man could summon strength to pull the trigger. Dead, with their boots on, and still grasping each other they were found.

The principals in the shooting, one of the grimmest pistol duels Texas ever saw according to Sheriff David Terry of Navarro county, were: Norwood Huckaby, a member of a prominent Freestone county family. Charles A. Williams, until recently a resident of Navarro county. Huckaby was wounded four times, three bullets lodging in the chest and one in the side. Williams was shot in the forehead, right breast and side.

Every chamber of two pistols, a .28-caliber and a .32-caliber found clutched in the men's hands, had been discharged. Former trouble between the two men in which Huckaby received a bullet wound in the leg was believed to be the motive for the shooting.

Knox County Sees Too Much Stress Laid on "Dry" Laws Bloomfield, Neb., Oct. 26.—There is a growing sentiment in Knox county, that too much stress is being laid upon the enforcement of the prohibitory laws, many feeling that the entire legal machinery of state and county is being used to ferret out moonshiners and bootleggers, while grosser crimes are allowed to go by default. It is said that at a citizens' meeting at the county seat recently, County Attorney Funk spoke rather acerbic about this line. The Nebraska Tribune and the Bloomfield Monitor have since come out with editorials along the same line.



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Burgess Bedtime Stories

By THORNTON W. BURGESS. The one we fear we're apt to hate when he should be better than the rest.

The Hunter Shoots. Never was there a more peaceful scene in the Green Forest. In an open, sandy place Mr. and Mrs. Grouse were taking a dust bath. They thought no one saw them, yet all the time two pairs of eyes were watching them. One pair belonged to Jumper the Hawk. The other pair belonged to a hunter sitting motionless on a log, a terrible gun across his knees.

Having failed to get so much as a feather in his chosen hunting ground, Darter by chance headed straight for that part of the Green Forest where Mr. and Mrs. Grouse were taking a dust bath. His sharp eyes missed no movements on the ground below. If a Merry Little Breeze turned over a leaf on the ground, Darter saw it. It was that the movements of Mr. and Mrs. Grouse as they took their dust bath were seen by Darter when he

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was some distance away. Darter's eyes sparkled. Nothing would suit him for a breakfast quite as well as a Grouse. With a quick turn he headed straight for Mr. and Mrs. Grouse. He had eyes for nothing else. It wasn't until he shot over the tops of the nearest trees that either Mr. Grouse or Mrs. Grouse were aware of their danger. Mr. Grouse saw him first and with a sharp warning took to his wings. Mrs. Grouse was not a second behind him. Straight for the thickest trees they headed, for in these alone could they find safety. But they had not seen Darter soon enough. He was coming so fast that only one of them would ever have reached those trees had not something happened.

But something did happen. Yes, sir, something did happen. There was a bang-bang of a terrible gun. Mr. and Mrs. Grouse plunged headlong in among the trees. Darter turned sharply and vanished over the tops of the trees. Two or three bluish feathers floated down. The hunter with a terrible gun in his hands got up from the log on which he had been sitting and smiled. It was the smile of one who has done a good deed. "It's a funny world," said the hunter, talking to himself. "It certainly morning to try to kill those Grouse. Instead of that, I have saved the life of at least one of them. And the funny part of it is I am glad. Yes, sir, I am glad. I think I'll go home now and put my gun away."

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