

Attorneys Argue Sinclair Motion

Challenge Authority of Oil Committee in Action to Quash Contempt Case.

Washington, May 2.—Arguments on the motion of Harry F. Sinclair, multimillionaire lessee of Teapot Dome, to quash the contempt indictment against him for refusal to answer questions propounded by the senate public lands committee investigating leases on naval oil reserves, opened before Associate Justice Adolph A. Hoehling in district supreme court today.

Attorneys for Sinclair, in a brief of 120 pages, challenged the authority of congressional committees to compel witnesses to divulge private information and documents, and charged questions asked by the committee were "obviously purely attempts at political muck raking."

Government counsel, opposing the motion, declared the congressional committee had full power to demand attendance of witnesses and require them to produce all pertinent documents. The questions which Sinclair refused to answer were proper and highly pertinent to the oil investigation, they held.

Three principal points were cited by Sinclair's attorneys for quashing the indictment:

- 1.—The senate of the United States has no power to compel testimony on the production of documents when acting in its legislative capacity.
- 2.—Even assuming that the senate has the power to exact evidence in aid of its legislative functions, the resolutions and the whole course of the (oil) committee and the senate show that the committee was throughout engaged in a judicial inquiry beyond its cognizance, and the questions (asked Sinclair) related to said judicial inquiry; and:
- 3.—The passage of the senate joint resolution No. 54 (directing the president to proceed to cancel the oil leases, declared void for alleged fraud), deprived the senate of jurisdiction to make any further investigation under senate resolution No. 283 as amended, as well as under senate resolution No. 147, passed February 7, 1924.

The resolutions authorized the committee to investigate leases upon naval reserves.

Owen J. Roberts, Atlee Pomerene and Peyton Gordon, United States district attorney, represented the government. Sinclair's attorneys were, Martin W. Littleton and G. T. Stanford of New York, and J. W. Sevely and George F. Hoover of Washington.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

Plank Urging Farm Relief Legislation Adopted—Election of Coolidge Asked for Governor Bryan Condemned.

Lincoln, May 2.—The convention adopted a plank urging farm relief legislation and election of Coolidge for Governor Bryan condemned.

The plank reads:

"We favor immediate legislation to increase the farm price as is proposed in the bill introduced in congress and designed to insure farm products in a fair and equitable market."

An amendment offered to this plank was voted down by a big majority.

The high spots in the state republican platform are:

Policy of President Harding.
We pledge our best efforts to re-establish Coolidge.

We condemn all dishonest and unfaithful conduct.
We call for the use of every legal device for the exposure of wrongdoers and their speedy punishment. We approve the course of President Coolidge in the matter of the oil lease scandal and applaud men who filled vacancies in his cabinet.

Foreign Policy Correct.
The foreign policy of Coolidge is in harmony with American traditions. It yields no American right, it strikes no American blow. We commend the announced intention to convene a conference for the reduction of armaments.

Redemption of the proposed amendment to the federal constitution by Senator Liberty Bonds to pay, refunding the foreign debt owed the United States by Great Britain.

For Uniform Marriage Law.
We favor uniform marriage and divorce laws, and a constitutional amendment authorizing congress to regulate child labor.

We favor the enactment of the truth-in-fabric bill.
We believe that both the national and state governments should take all possible steps to develop a well regulated transportation system by further highway improvement by improving commercially developed inland waterways, by proper development of American seaports and the opening of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway.

We favor an amendment of the transportation act to require the railroads to share periods of depression and to permit them to share in periods of prosperity.

We urge upon congress such amendments as shall early limit and define the power of the interstate commerce commission in regard to interstate rates. We oppose the proposed "through pipe" system of making prices on steel. We condemn the wrecking of the workmen's compensation department by Governor Bryan, which, during the year of 1923, resulted in a loss of more than \$125,000 to victims of industrial accidents, and pledge the way earner to restore this department.

We affirm the right of labor to organize and improve working conditions, to lower the cost of living and promote industrial peace and prosperity.

We believe it has been demonstrated that a reasonable gasoline tax, assessed upon gasoline used in motor vehicles upon the public highways, is a fairer distribution of their cost than as at present by general taxation and appropriation of funds and excessive motor license fees. We pledge enactment of this law. We favor the direct state-wide primary.

Laf Winners Are Envied by Editor

Jokes Pop Up at Every Turn Throughout Day; Watch for Them.

Where in you local Laf today:
Victory Theater
Lafayette Theater
Empire Theater
Coolidge City, Neb., Saturday, May 2, 1924.

This time of the year abounds in good cheer and humor. It is the best time for the local Laf contestants to get out and garner the wit that may be heard on every hand. It may be found where the motorist tarries at the roadside to restore a defective part of his car, where the boys are at play, in the kitchen, shop, office or street car.

If you haven't sent in any original jokes to the local Laf editor, begin today and send in as many as you wish. Make them original and limit them to 20 words. The prize Lafs each week are shown on the screens of various movie theaters with the names of the authors.

The local Laf editor envies some of the contestants who have had their jokes and names shown before thousands on the screen. But maybe some day he, too, may enjoy this distinction. In the meantime he is content to examine the many jokes that are submitted and have a smile now and then.

Each week a first prize of \$5 is offered, a second prize of \$3, third of \$2 and 12 additional prizes of \$1 each. Out of the jokes that do not win the cash prizes three are selected each day for this column. Today's are: "Teacher in Sunday school—'Now, you must be a good little boy so you'll go to Heaven.' 'Little Billy—'I don't want to go to Heaven.'"

For Budget System.
We pledge the becoming republican reduction of all remedial laws as well as elimination, overlapping or duplication of the same. We favor the state without the impairment of the budget system, as provided in the laws of our state.

Encourage Settlers.
We pledge ourselves to support and encourage the settler on reclamation projects.

We commend President Coolidge and Secretary of the Interior Work for their untiring efforts to rectify the wrongs of the past and advance the cause of reclamation.

We pledge our support to all candidates upon our ticket for national or for state office. To their support and to our cause we invite all the people of Nebraska.

COOLIDGE FAVORS EXCLUSION BILL

Washington, May 2.—President Coolidge came out today for Japanese exclusion.

The president has no doubt that there will be an exclusion bill finally enacted, but in his conference with congressional leaders is attempting to arrange it in a manner courteous to Japan.

Hopes are entertained by the executive that a bill will be finally enacted, which will provide for exclusion and at the same time avoid any deep offense to the Japanese people.

The president's position was made unmistakably clear today at the White House. No formal statement was issued.

GOVERNOR SAVES LIFE OF SLAYER
Jefferson City, Mo., May 2.—With death on the gallows only about 40 minutes away, John Lee, negro convict of the Missouri penitentiary, who was to have been hanged today in the Cole county jail yard at 9 o'clock, was saved by a commutation granted by Governor Hyde. His death sentence was changed by the governor to life imprisonment.

Everything was in readiness for the execution. Lee was to have been hanged for the murder of Preston

Thompson-Belden's

The Famous L'Agillon DAYTIME FROCKS



Daytime frocks for summer afternoons fashioned with the utmost daintiness of Normandy voiles in light and dark shades. The dots are shot in and guaranteed against washing out.

A long collar, Tuxedo style, of tucked voile with wide hand-made file and little cuffs to match, make an apricot voile, dotted white, one of the most charming of summer frocks.

A straightline dress with panel front is made in two styles. The first with hand-drawn collar; the second with double bib collar edged with real file. Extra sizes, \$6.50.

Also in other shades. All regular sizes.

\$7.50 \$5.50

SECOND FLOOR

Athletic Union Suits Parasols \$1.00 to \$2.00

Futurist or Globe \$1.25
Fine voile suits \$1.50
Silk-striped voile \$2.00

tailor-made suits athletic style but athletic suits that of fine quality very daintily are cool and love-madras, bodice made, white and pink. Bodice in pink.

Chinese or Japanese paper parasols in many sizes and shapes, beautifully hand-decorated. They are not at all perishable; some of them are oiled to weather unexpected showers.

STREET FLOOR STREET FLOOR

Miss Omaha Sorosis Newest Model \$11.00



Chiffon Hose Featherweight in Newest Shades \$2.95

Omaha women will be pleased with this model and flattered by its graceful style. A wide strap with two buttons crossed high over the instep above clever cutout work. The sole is light, the Spanish heel of medium height.

Pearl Gray Kid
Tanbark Suede
STREET FLOOR

This inimitable chiffon hose that is silk to the top and extremely serviceable, in tints that resemble the first blossoms of spring. One wears them with summer frocks.

Fantasy—a lilac lavender.
Illusion—leaf bud green.
Phantom—the pink of apple blossoms.
Vision—the first buttercup.
Ciel—heavenly blue. STREET FLOOR

"The Best Place to Shop, After All"

Burgess Bedtime Stories

By THORNTON W. BURGESS.

Alas, that it should be so rare To find a hunter who is fair.
—Jerry Muskrat.

The Unfair Hunters.
Jerry Muskrat, sitting forlorn, miserable and frightened on a little platform of trash that had caught in a crotch of a tree just at the level of the water which had flooded the Green Meadows, caught sight of something moving over the water in the distance. At first he couldn't make out what it was. You see it was too far away. As it drew nearer it grew bigger. Then his heart gave a little jump of fright. He knew what it was. It was a boat. Jerry had been down to the Big River and had seen boats there. He knew that boats were used by those dreadful, two-legged creatures called men.

Anxiously Jerry watched that boat draw nearer and nearer. He could see two men in it. One of them was rowing that boat. The other was sitting in the forward part of that boat with something across his knees. Just what that something was Jerry didn't know. It wouldn't have made him feel any better if he had known. It was a terrible gun!

Jerry remained motionless. He felt that that was the safest thing to do. That boat was going to pass at a little distance if it kept on the way it was headed. Not once did Jerry take his eyes from it. It was almost past when it stopped. Then it turned toward Jerry and began to come on very, very slowly. The hunter in the boat had seen Jerry.

Poor Jerry! He didn't know what to do. He had been hunted before at the Smiling Pool, but always there had been safe hiding places. Now he had nowhere to go. He saw the hunter slowly raise the terrible gun. Then Jerry plunged into the water. He did it just in time. There was a bang from that terrible gun. But the hunter had been just too late. The shot struck the place where Jerry had been sitting. Just as Jerry's black heels disappeared in the water.

Jerry swam under water just as long as he could. His lungs seemed bursting for lack of fresh air when at last he poked his nose out of water. He had just time to take a long breath and dive again when that terrible gun once more banged. The shot struck the water just where Jerry's head had been only a second before.

The man rowing the boat rowed as hard as he could in the direction in which Jerry had been headed when he dived. The hunter with the terrible gun watched for Jerry to come up again. It was Jerry's good fortune that that boat was rowed a little too far this time, and when at last he had to come up for air he was back of the boat. The rower saw him and spoke to the hunter. But by the time the hunter could turn with his terrible gun Jerry had dived once more.

This time Jerry had seen a mass of floating rubbish. He made straight for it under water. When he came up he came up underneath it, and could poke his nose out to get fresh air without being seen. There he remained while those hunters rowed about and watched for him. At last they gave up and rowed away.

"It isn't fair! It isn't fair!" Jerry kept saying over and over to himself. "Those hunters are not fair! They know I have no place to go and are hunting me when I am helpless."

And indeed it wasn't fair. Nothing could have been more unfair, Jerry Muskrat and others of his kind have troubles enough and dangers enough without being hunted by men with terrible guns.

(Copyright, 1924.)

The next story: "Jerry Finds Others in Trouble."

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