

TWENTY YEARS IN OIL

Rockefeller Finishes Re-Development of Trade 16

MANY RISKS IN

He Says Wells May Cease Production at Any Time.

MORE DRAW-BACKS AND REBATES

Agreements With Railroads Tended to Steady Conditions.

WILL BE CROSS-EXAMINED TODAY

Attorneys for Oil Company Announce That History of Combine from 1882 Will Be Told by Archbold.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—With the story of the first score of years of the industrial development of the Standard Oil company, the testimony of John D. Rockefeller, president of the Oil combine, on direct examination in the federal suit to dissolve the Standard Oil company, was brought to an unexpected close this afternoon.

The head of the Standard Oil company told today of the processes and causes of the company's growth up to the trust agreement of 1882, and after identifying the parties to the agreement, counsel for the defense announced that Mr. Rockefeller had concluded his direct testimony and requested an adjournment until tomorrow.

WILL BE CROSS-EXAMINED TODAY

Friday will find Mr. Rockefeller on the witness stand under the sharp fire of cross-examination by Frank B. Kellogg, special assistant attorney general, prosecuting the case for the government.

This will be generally confined to the period from 1882 to 1882, except when the testimony has direct bearing on developments in the company's affairs in its later period. Counsel for the Standard Oil company let it be known today that the history of the company from the trust agreement of 1882 would be told on the witness stand by John D. Archbold, vice president, who is conversant with the combine's development.

Uncertainties of Business.

The hearing was transferred today to a larger room in order to accommodate numerous counsel and reporters. Policemen were stationed in the corridors and only those having friends connected with the proceedings were permitted to enter. Mr. Rockefeller was smiling as he took the witness stand and his counsel called his attention to the uncertainties of the oil business in the early seventies and asked him what bearing the supply of raw material had thereon.

"It had an important bearing and must always have such importance, as we never knew when the supply might give out, rendering the properties for the refining of oil comparatively valueless," replied Mr. Rockefeller. "We added that in the early oil business the supply of crude oil was limited to a small area coming principally from Venango county, Pennsylvania."

Mr. Rockefeller said that oil business was made a hazardous proposition because of the apprehension that the supply of crude oil would be exhausted. Some of the oil wells are very short lived. Mr. Rockefeller's counsel then asked him if he recalled that a producers' union was formed at the time of the agitation regarding the South Improvement company.

"Yes," said Mr. Rockefeller. "It was formed a little later and was composed of a large proportion of the oil producers." Association of Refiners Forced. That led to an association of oil refiners who were desirous of having a supply of crude oil which was not controlled by interests antagonistic to them, and the refiners also wanted to be assured of a market for the product. Mr. Rockefeller declared pleasant relations with the producers," said Mr. Rockefeller.

In December, 1872, Mr. Rockefeller said, the producers' union and the refiners entered into an agreement, the purpose of which was to "secure as high a price for the crude oil as possible" and to introduce an element of regularity into the business, which had been fluctuating greatly. Mr. Rockefeller said he was unable to give the number of producers in the union, but it included a large percentage of all of them, and the refiners association included a large proportion of the refiners.

By direction of his counsel, Mr. Rockefeller noted that the agreement fixed the price of crude oil at \$5 per barrel at common points. The operation of that agreement, he said, stimulated an over-production of oil beyond what the refiners could use at that price. The temptation was very great with the producers to develop more oil than they had promised to the refiners. The refiners could only take as much oil as the public would consume. As a result the producers violated the agreement and sold oil under the price which had been fixed. The agreement did not last long, said Mr. Rockefeller.

First Refinery on Seaboard. To secure better facilities and to make shipments to Europe, the Standard Oil company in 1873 purchased the plant of the Long Island Refining company in Long Island City and began to refine at the seaboard. The crude oil was brought through to the refinery by railroads. Mr. Rockefeller said he recalled the Devoe Manufacturing company of Long Island, which owned oil and shipped it to the far east, where it was delivered on muleback. He thought this firm was primarily a manufacturer of cans. In those days all export oil was shipped in barrels or in cans in boxes, and was called the case oil trade.

To further its markets the Standard Oil company purchased the Devoe company, and in 1873 bought about one-half of the Chesapeake & Co. of Louisville, which had a large domestic business in the southwest. A year later, Mr. Rockefeller said, his company bought the Imperial Refining Oil company of Oil City, Pa., which had been owned principally by Captain J. J. Vandegriff and John Mitchell. The Standard Oil company later organized the Imperial Refining company, limited, to operate this plant. The purpose of this purchase was to enlarge the Standard Oil export trade and the Imperial company had direct lines for shipping to the seaboard.

Buyers Out of H. H. Rogers. Mr. Rockefeller then told of the Standard Oil company's purchase of the firm of Charles M. Pratt & Co. of Brooklyn, oil refiners, of which H. H. Rogers was a member. It also purchased the business of Ward Flew & Co., which had a large

SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Friday, November 20, 1908.

Table with columns for dates and page numbers: 1908 - NOVEMBER - 1908. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

THE WEATHER

Table with columns for location, hour, and degree: FOR OMAHA, COUNCIL BLUFFS AND VAILLANT AND CLEAR FRIDAY. TEMPERATURE AT OMAHA YESTERDAY: Hour, Deg. 8 A. M. 47, 9 A. M. 45, 10 A. M. 42, 11 A. M. 38, 12 M. 35, 1 P. M. 32, 2 P. M. 29, 3 P. M. 26, 4 P. M. 23, 5 P. M. 20, 6 P. M. 17, 7 P. M. 14, 8 P. M. 11, 9 P. M. 8, 10 P. M. 5, 11 P. M. 2, 12 M. -1

DOMESTIC

John D. Rockefeller continued his story of the growth and business methods of the Standard Oil company, alleging that whatever combination and organization of companies resulted was forced upon the parent company by competition and business conditions. Page 1

Delegates at the convention of the American Federation of Labor took a position more radical than that of Samuel Gompers in discussing the report of the president as relating to injunctions. Page 1

The ways and means committee of the house listened to the requests of fruit men with respect to the tariff yesterday. Page 1

The inventory of the estate of the late Nelson Morris shows that he had extensive holdings in South Omaha. Page 1

The Chicago officials have taken Peter Van Vilshingen to Joliet, where he will be put at work making bonnets. Page 1

Mrs. Harbort, a former Omaha woman, was convicted of manslaughter in Rapid City, S. D. Page 2

At the session of the American Civic association yesterday, the city engineer of Hartford, Conn., Frederick Ford, said the need of a city now is men who will sacrifice their best years for the uplift of the communities in which they live. Page 1

The stealings of miners in the Alaskan fields have been large, according to the confession of one of their number. Page 1

The sentence of one year's imprisonment administered upon Charles J. Harlowe for desertion from the navy to marry a daughter of the late Senator Gorman has been affirmed. Page 1

Harry Silverman was acquitted of a charge of conspiracy to defraud a Pittsburg bank. Page 1

The National grange has concluded its work in Washington and may meet next year in Des Moines, Ia. Page 1

China is sending out letters to friendly powers asking the co-operation and sympathy in the change of rule. Page 1

Judge Kennedy suggests needed changes in Nebraska divorce laws. Page 5

GOMPER'S REPORT DEBATED

His Proposition to Disregard Injunctions is Modified by Convention.

POLITICAL ACTION DEBATED

Committee Approves Action of Officers in Supporting Bryan and Says Daniel J. Keefe Should Resign from Council.

DENVER, Nov. 19.—The entire session of the American Federation of Labor convention today was given over to consideration of the report of the committee on the president's report. Two sections caused a prolonged debate and a vote was reached on only one, that referring to "litigation harassing labor."

The report of the committee recommending that injunctions be disregarded was defeated on roll call, 11,272 to 3,876 and a modification of the report, along the line of Gompers' report, was adopted.

The rest of the session was taken up in discussing the section of the report referring to the political action of the federation leaders.

In this section the committee criticized Daniel J. Keefe for not acting with the rest of the executive council.

It has been announced that the Journey-men Barbers' union had decided to begin a fight for shorter hours.

Gompers' Report Taken Up. The report of the committee to which was referred the annual address of President Gompers was the special order when the American Federation of Labor began its session.

President Gompers resigned the chair to Joseph P. Valentine, seventh vice president of the federation, when the report on the president's report was called for at today's session of the convention of the American Federation of Labor. Each subject in the report was commented on and approved by the committee and as the reading proceeded the convention endorsed the recommendations of the committee.

The action of President Gompers as told in his report in regard to the Buck Tote and Range company injunction was unanimously endorsed by a rising vote.

Chancellor von Buelow made a lengthy speech today in the Reichstag on the new measures to increase the imperial revenues. The house was only half filled. The price held that the existing unfriendly feeling toward Germany could be overcome, and he said he thought borrowing policy was unworthy German progress and industry.

He spoke in praise of the British and French methods of finance and especially the sinking fund and concluded amid mingled cheers and hisses with these words: "Germans desire quiet at home and abroad, but their fault is that although able they are unwilling to pay more taxes."

MINERS' STEALINGS ARE LARGE. Alaskan Owners Suffer Heavily Through Thefts by Employees.

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 19.—R. R. Reed, formerly employed by R. T. Barnette, owner of the Dome Creek mine, near Fairbanks, Alaska, arrested last month on a charge of stealing gold from his employer, yesterday confessed his guilt and implicated other laborers in the stealing from mine owners. In his confession Reed said: "I gather the gold and sand in handfulls out of the riffles and in my handkerchiefs, gloves or boots, carried it home and washed it out. My cleanings were from 50 cents to \$400 a day, and the day I brought home the \$400 nugget it scared my wife, it was so large. Altogether I may have cleaned up \$1,800 worth of stolen gold. I have spent it all except the \$300 you dug up in my front yard. What I have taken from Barnette's mine is not a drop in the bucket compared with the stealings that have been going on in the Tanana district all summer, and are even going on now. I know one man who has \$30,000 worth of stolen gold salted down. There are six planters working in Barnette's Dome Creek mine, and a bunch of mine laborers in Alaska who have 'shaken down' the mine owners for a very tidy sum. "I commenced to do this only last summer and had only about sixty days of good stealing."

After Reed had agreed to testify against other gold thieves when taken back to Alaska, he was released on parole.

HARRY SILVERMAN ACQUITTED. Former Paying Toler of Farmers Deposit National Bank Only One of Trio to Escape.

PITTSBURG, Nov. 19.—The jury in the case of Harry Silverman, Pittsburg, Pa., manager of the Farmers Deposit National bank, which retired yesterday afternoon, following a sensational trial in which he was charged with conspiracy to defraud the Farmers Deposit National bank, returned a verdict of not guilty.

It was charged that Henry Reiber, former paying teller of the bank, who, with John Young, auditor, both now serving penitentiary sentences for embezzling \$1,065,000, had business man of this city, and that Silverman purchased mining stock with the money in the name of "John Harris."

CZAR TO APPEAR IN STREETS. Will Follow Body of Duke—First Time in Public for Four Years.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 19.—The funeral in St. Petersburg of Grand Duke Alexis, who died in Paris November 14, will be attended by Emperor Nicholas in person. His majesty will follow the casket on foot through the streets of the city. This will be the first time the emperor has been seen on the streets of St. Petersburg since 1904.



It is Reported That Mr. Bryan is Going South

From the Denver Post.

DOUBT EMPEROR'S SINCERITY

German People Still Manifesting Spirit of Unrest.

CHANCELLOR MAKES LONG TALK

Received With Hisses When He Suggests Nation Will Not Pay Sufficient Taxes to Insure Proper Recognition.

Berlin, Nov. 19.—Two days have passed since Emperor William made his statement to Chancellor von Buelow regarding his observance in future of the constitutional requirements of the empire in the matter of interfering in the foreign relations of the state and the German people are even less satisfied with the imperial assurances than they were in the beginning. There is today throughout the country an almost universal tendency to doubt the sincerity of the emperor's promises.

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HONEYMOON DELIRIUM NO GO

Army Musician Who Deserted to Marry Gorman's Daughter Sentenced to Jail.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Having been adjudged guilty of desertion from the navy by a court martial at Philadelphia, Secretary McCall today approved the sentence in the case of Charles J. Harlowe, musician, first class (alias C. J. Magnus), who left the service in order to marry the daughter of the late Senator Arthur P. Gorman of Maryland.

MRS. ASTOR'S WILL PROBATED

Greater Portion of Estate Left to Daughters, Son Having Shared Father's Property.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—By the will of Mrs. William Astor, probated today, most of her estate goes to her daughters, Mrs. Charlotte A. Hag and Mrs. Caroline S. Wilson. To her son, John Jacob Astor, are bequeathed some family heirlooms and jewelry, the will stating that his not sharing more largely in the estate is because of the ample provision made for him by his father and not because of any lack of affection. The estate is to revert to William Vincent Astor, her grandson and son of John Jacob Astor, if there are no descendants of her daughters.

BIG TOBACCO DEAL IN SIGHT

Only Fraction of Cent Delays Agreement to Buy Burley Society's Stock.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 19.—From sources entirely trustworthy the statements come that only a fraction of a cent a pound stands between the American Tobacco company and the Burley Tobacco society in closing the biggest deal ever made in tobacco. The closing of the deal will mean that the company will take over nearly all the tobacco in the burley pool, amounting to 50,000,000 or 60,000,000 pounds, involving in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000.

RIDGELY AND CUTTS RESIGN

Dr. Woods and Associates Assume Control of Big Bank in Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 19.—At the close of business this afternoon William Barrett Ridgely, president; George T. Cutts, vice president, and Edward Ridgely, cashier, presented their resignations to the board of directors of the National Bank of Commerce of Kansas City and they were accepted.

Dr. W. S. Woods, the ex-president of the bank, and his associates immediately assumed control, having recently gained control of a majority of the stock of the institution.

In a statement to the directors and shareholders issued by the Ridgelys and Mr. Cutts a resume of the bank's business since its reorganization in March last, following its failure in November, 1907, is given.

It is shown that under the management of the Ridgelys the deposits have increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000, that the gross earnings had shown a steady increase each month and the expense had as steadily diminished.

The statement continues: "The officers have devoted themselves assiduously to their duties and have worked hard and faithfully to build up the bank from the disorganized condition in which they found it. No officer has borrowed one dollar from the bank. They have not dealt in the stock of the bank or endeavored to manipulate the market. They have supported and relying on the assurances made when they took charge of the bank that the management would insure their continuation in office, they have worked honestly, faithfully and conscientiously for the shareholders' interests only, with no thought or purpose save the welfare of the bank."

The retiring officers say they are resigning rather than prolong any contest for the control of the management in a way which might injure the business of the bank; and in closing say: "We wish it abundant success."

When the bank was reorganized, William B. Ridgely resigned the position of controller of the treasury to become its head. He named Mr. Cutts, who acted as receiver for the bank, as vice president, and his brother, Edward Ridgely, as cashier.

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GOAT PROVES TOO LIVELY

Governor-Elect Has Leg Broken While Trying to Ride.

LINCOLN, Nov. 19.—(Special.)—With his left leg propped up at an angle of about forty-five degrees, Ashton C. Shallenberger, governor-elect of Nebraska, lies in his room at the Lincoln hotel, surrounded by his royal court, the custodians of the bed chamber, T. S. Allen, right honorable; Arthur C. Mullen, deliver of the goods; C. B. Manual and A. E. Walroth, maids in waiting.

The stricken ruler braved the storms of a state-wide primary and came out unscathed, braved a election and came through without a sore, but last night he strode across the burning sands dished up by the Shippers. Today his left leg, which has done him much service and which knew not what his right leg did or said, is swathed in bandages and as bulky as that of a heavy-weight fullback. The small bone in the same member has been broken. Where? Either while crossing the burning sands or riding the goat. Or, perhaps, on the road from there.

The governor gave orders that no telephone should jingle in his room until 3 of the clock in the afternoon; no visitors be permitted to cross his threshold until the same hour. But his instructions were heeded only in the former instance. Hungry democrats put on their gum shoes and walked the floor in front of the royal door, and when it opened in they slipped. But they got no satisfaction save that in seeing a big man, helpless, though uncomplaining. They saw him reading telegrams and letters, or rather they saw them scattered over the bed. They heard him tell stories and laugh and smile when the Shriners were mentioned and that the man who struck one had no news to give out. He suffered pain and lots of it. The accident was a simple one. Mr. Shallenberger simply turned his ankle and the bone snapped. He will be laid up in his room at least all day tomorrow and will not be able to go to Omaha as he intended going.

Game Law Amendments. According to a prominent democrat, who will have some influence with the coming legislature, the statute which prohibits the sale of any fish or game caught or killed in Nebraska will be repealed. The last legislature made it unlawful to catch fish and sell them in Nebraska or to sell or offer for sale ducks, prairie chickens or other game of that character.

As a consequence only those persons who are financially able to go out and kill their own game or catch their own fish, who have friends who will furnish them free, can get wild game or fish to eat in Nebraska. They can buy supposed fresh fish and game shipped in but the Nebraska statute forbids it in any restaurant or hotel in the state for almost two years.

At the time the bill was passed it was charged, it was in the interest of the sports of Nebraska, but the legislature enacted the law anyhow and thus many people have longed in vain for an opportunity to buy wild game or fish.

When the law first became operative a fisherman brought some fish to a restaurant and asked that they be cooked. The grand warden was communicated with by the restaurant keeper and he was told that he could cook the fish, but if he made any charge therefore, he would be prosecuted.

The law, therefore, has become unpopular, though no objection has been made against a closed season, and the man who was doing the talking predicted it would be repealed with very little opposition except from the sports from Omaha and Lincoln, who want the game for themselves.

VISITORS CALL ON SHELTON

Another batch of patriots called on Governor Shelton today to help him appoint four supreme judges and also to discuss the extra session, but the governor was so busy with a hearing on a requisition several had to leave without putting in their little mites.

The governor has invited recommendations from the Bar association and it is supposed the lawyers will recommend eight lawyers and from these it is likely the governor will select the four. The Bar association will meet next week.

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY

State Superintendent McBrien has just issued an educational directory for the year 1908.

WELSH COAL FOR BATTLESHIPS. LONDON, Nov. 19.—A telegram received from Cardiff, Wales, says the colliers of the American battleship fleet, now at Manila on its way around the world, are expected to take coal there and that tenders have been invited for from 20,000 to 25,000 tons of coal.

TOM L. JOHNSON POOR

Mayor of Cleveland Says His Fortune is Swept Away.

WILL GIVE UP BIG HOUSE

Will Also Dispose of His Autos and Other Luxuries.

PROTECTING BROTHER'S ESTATE

Money Lost in Trying to Preserve Property for Family.

LONG FIGHT FOR HIS IDEALS

He Says He Does Not Feel Discouraged and Will Be a Candidate for Mayor Again.

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 19.—Mayor Tom L. Johnson, who for years has been credited with possession of a very large fortune, today announced that he had lost everything and would be compelled to give up his beautiful home on Euclid avenue and move into smaller and less expensive quarters. The mayor also stated that he would give up his automobile and other luxuries because he could no longer afford to keep them. His fortune was wrecked, the mayor declared, by his devotion to the affairs of the estate of his dead brother Albert, who was heavily interested in traction properties in the east.

After Albert's death a question was put up to him whether he should resign his office as mayor and take up the management of Albert's estate.

"I decided that I would not. I had entered the fight in this city with certain ideals before me. I wanted to fight privilege and special interest and I had already decided to give up working for dollars. So I concluded to stay right here and do what I could to help my brother's children at a long distance.

"Why did I choose the course I did? I'll tell you. It is not because I am a philanthropist, for I am not. I acted on a purely selfish motive. I wanted happiness and nothing else when I closed up my business affairs and took up civic activity.

"And I've been happy, too. The last seven years have been the best of my life, leaving out of consideration the loss of my brother.

"I'm going to be happy yet, too. We may have to go back to a cottage, but that's the way we started, and we can look upon life just as joyfully there as we did in the big house on Euclid avenue.

"I'll give up Special Privilege. They tell me they are planning to bring financial trouble upon me. I've been expecting it. There is one mistake I have not made—that of falling to forego the efforts of those who would like to destroy me if opportunity presented. My enemies are capable of doing that. One may expect nothing else from special privilege. However, I realize that in another set of men in the same circumstances other set the same. Let them do what they may. Let them make any sort of attack upon me they choose with whatever success and they will find me with a thousand fights left in me.

"I'll never give up. I'm well and strong and confident, and they will always find me at the front.

"If I had been a coward—if I had run away from this fight for the people of Cleveland—I could have saved my fortune and I suppose I could have chosen my career and I did not have any mind for altering it.

"The pursuit of mere dollars does not interest me. I suppose I could go down in Wall street now and make some money. I've bought and sold with E. H. Harriman and I suppose I could do it again. I'm not going to do anything of the sort. I don't want you to misunderstand what I have been working for as mayor. I have not been laboring with the expectation of being rewarded by the gratitude of the people. One cannot count on that. It is the pleasure in the work that I like that has kept me in the fight.

Political Expenses Small. "I have never made a single penny out of the street railways since I became mayor. Nobody else has worked as hard as I and I have not drawn a cent of pay from the Municipal Traction company as treasurer. I don't propose to ask a cent for my work in helping the receivers. I suppose I could make some money in a campaign here I ever paid more than my assessment, \$90 in the \$6,000 salary of mayor. Some times I have not paid that much in cash when the committee has allowed me a certain amount for the use of my tons. We have never been in debt at the end of a campaign but once. In no I gave up active business affairs I did it because the requirements of my work did not square with my principles.

"I suppose I could have taken up a life of ease when I retired, had I wished. I was welcome at the clubs. Past horses, yachts and other amusements were open to me. For me, though, happiness lay in another direction.

"My only recreation has been automobilizing. I'd like to keep one of my automobiles, but I'm afraid I can't. Back in my prosperous days I gave the horse on Euclid avenue to my wife. It is hers yet and she'll own it still, even though we can't afford to live in it. I don't feel discouraged. I'm a free man and that means a great deal to me, and I have my friends, too.

"Don't you suppose it will be worth something to me to have my friends realize that I entered the mayor's office rich and left it poor? The realization of what all that means is worth more to me than all the money I've lost.

"I'm going to keep on just as I've started. I'm going to be a candidate for mayor again when this term is over."

The Municipal Traction company, of which Mayor Johnson was treasurer, passed into the hands of receivers in the federal court several days ago. Following this came the transfer to two local banks of the deposits in the Savings and Trust company, of which the mayor was president. It is supposed this action was precipitated by the threats of Mr. Johnson's individual creditors to file suits to obtain payment on notes endorsed by the mayor.

It is said Mr. Johnson has recently lost approximately \$400,000 in connection with his interests at Lorain, O.