

POISON CASE AT ALLIANCE NEARS END

Lawrence Lackey Testifies in His Own Defense and Without Any Display of Emotion Tells of Death of Daughter.

DENIES TESTIMONY GIVEN BY BROTHER

Admits Giving Candy to Children, But Denies Knowledge It Contained Poison—Explains Actions on Two Days.

Alliance, Neb., May 7.—(Special Telegram.)—Lawrence H. Lackey, charged with first degree murder in connection with the poisoning of his 7-year-old daughter, Pauline, who died of strychnine poisoning, December 11, took the witness stand in his own defense shortly before noon. The state, after having produced 20 witnesses, rested its case at 11 o'clock and the defense asked for half an hour to prepare its case.

With the same composure that he has maintained most of the time since the trial started last Tuesday, the defendant took the stand and turned partially around in his chair facing the jury. Placing a hand upon either arm of the chair he sat perfectly motionless and without the slightest trace of nervousness.

In response to questions of his attorney, William Mitchell, he stated that he is 28 years old, was married nearly nine years and is the father of five children four of whom are living. He named each child and gave their ages and the date of their birth. The children living are Wilma, eight years old; Lawrence, Henry, five; Charles William, four and Mary Alice, two, he said. He testified that his occupation was that of a laborer. He said that his wife had divorced him last November and that he contested it for the reason that she wanted the custody of the children.

Takes Candy Home.

"Where were you on the evening of December 10?" asked Attorney Mitchell.

"At my mother's house," replied the defendant.

"What time did you go there?"

"About 6 o'clock."

"Where had you been before you went to your mother's house?"

"When I finished work that evening I stopped at Mallery's grocery store and bought some groceries and some candy for the children."

"What did you do then?"

"Started home to my mother's house and on the way I stopped at my brother Frank's house and gave him a little girl some candy and left some for my baby, Mary, who was staying there. Then I went on home."

"Tell what happened at your mother's house that evening."

"Well, when I got there I gave my mother and my children some candy and ate some myself. The rest had supper, but mother cooked mine for me. After supper Brother Frank and my nephew, Albert Lackey, came over from Frank's house. Frank stayed about an hour and went home, but Albert stayed all night with us."

"What did you do with the rest of the candy that night?"

"I left it in my coat pocket, hanging up in the kitchen."

"Who got up first the next morning?"

"I got up and made the fire in the kitchen."

"What took place next?"

"The rest of the folks got up and we had breakfast. After breakfast Pauline and Wilma started to school and I went with them."

"What time was that?"

"About 8:30."

"Weren't you working that day?"

"No, the weather was too bad."

"Go ahead and tell what happened."

"Well, we just walked along toward the school house and on the way I gave Wilma and Pauline each a piece of candy and ate one myself. There were just three pieces left in the sack. After we had gone a little farther Pauline said her candy tasted bitter. Wilma hadn't eaten hers. I didn't think anything of it and after kissing them goodbye at the school house corner I went on down to

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French President Forbids Wife to Accept \$5,000 Hat

Present Representing "Four Seasons for Millinery Made of Materials From Each State, Offered by 3,000 Americans, Refused by Madam Deschanel.

New York, May 7.—President Deschanel of France has refused to permit Madame Deschanel to accept the \$5,000 hat offered her by 3,000 American milliners for her endorsement of the "four seasons for millinery."

This was announced today at the convention here of the Millinery Jobbers' association, when a letter was read from Ambassador Jusserand, declining the American creation made from material supplied by each of the 48 states and decorated with nine paradise plumes, each costing \$500.

The ambassador's letter, addressed to Henry S. Bernhard, head of the association, read:

"I am instructed by the president of the republic to inform you that he sincerely appreciates the motives of your offer, on behalf of American milliners, of a specially devised hat for Madame Deschanel. He joins those interested in the scheme in hoping that, in this, too, namely, a question concerning both trade and art, the two countries will more and more work together to their common advantage.

"As for the gift itself, since it is not possible for Madame Deschanel to receive, under such conditions, any gift of value, the president begs you not to realize your intention for which he begs me, however, to tender you his sincere thanks."

Hardly had reading of this letter ended when the milliners were read

a cable from the Society for the Improvement of Millinery Art in France, giving 14 points why Madame Deschanel should not accept the gift. The points were:

1. Bad precedent; Paris only style center.

2. America took advantage of Paris during war.

3. Americans dangerously resourceful.

4. Paris never produced so expensive a hat as \$5,000. Big novelty as Eiffel tower.

5. Paris milliners object to acceptance of hat.

6. Such gift is like carrying coals to Newcastle.

7. South American trade stolen from Paris by New York.

8. American prohibition will help Paris regain South American trade.

9. America should not give away what it will not buy—paradise plumes.

10. Milliners should be content to buy the dictates of Paris.

11. American buyers already act dictatorially toward Paris creators.

12. The label "Made in Paris" must be included in all worldwide styles.

13. America has no artistic atmosphere—nothing but colossal wealth.

14. Rate of exchange gives America unfair advantage over Paris creators.

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INDUSTRIES ROFTTEER RAILMEN SAY

Brotherhoods Present Exhaustive Data to Refute Charge That Labor Costs Are Responsible for High Prices.

CALLS ATTENTION TO WAR-MADE MILLIONAIRES

Report Cites Extraordinary Increase in Sugar; Result of Boost Is Pictured in Net Profits of 12 Companies.

By The Associated Press.

Washington, May 7.—A study of profiteering in American industry, made under the auspices of the railway brotherhoods, was presented to the railroad labor board today in support of the railway workers' demand for higher pay and to refute the charge that increased labor costs are responsible for the high cost of living.

Prepared by W. J. Lauck, former secretary of the war labor board, the study seeks to show that profiteering in industry is the fundamental cause for high prices. It gives many statistics to support that contention.

Calling attention to the many war-made millionaires, the study contends that the increase in the wealth of the wealthy is an "unanswerable" refutation to all attempts to charge labor with profiteering. "For, if invested wealth gets a larger return," says the study, "the man who produces the goods or services is bound to get a small proportion."

Cite Rise of Sugar.

Of the extraordinary increase in the price of sugar, now amounting to 300 per cent, the study says the increase in labor cost paid by the consumer was less than 15 per cent. The result of advanced prices, according to the quoted reports of 12 companies, was pictured in the net profits of these concerns, which, it was said, rose from an average of \$11,000,000 during the years 1912-1914 to \$34,000,000 for the years 1916-1918.

In the meat packing industry, where profits were said to have increased between 300 and 400 per cent, the labor item was shown so small that a wage increase of 100 per cent would add less than 5 per cent to the total cost of the meat. The increase in price between 1914 and 1918 was shown as eight times the total labor cost, and the 1918 price represented 25 times the total labor item.

Profits absorb approximately one-half the retail price of certain kinds of cloth, the report declared, while the labor item amounts to from one-fourteenth to one-twentieth of the price. Similar relations were pictured in the manufacture of men's garments.

Shoes Are Good Example.

Shoes, according to the study, furnished a splendid opportunity for the profiteer. The profit items in 1914, it was charged, absorbed nearly one-half the price paid by the consumer, or nearly three times the total labor cost, while in 1917 the profit items amounted to approximately three-fifths of the total price and over five times the total labor cost.

Increases in the retail price of bituminous coal were shown at four (Continued on Page Two, Column Four)

Grant Receivership For Midland Packing Plant at Sioux City

Sioux City, Ia., May 7.—An application by State's Attorney General H. V. Haver for appointment of a receiver for the Midland Packing company of Sioux City, an \$8,000,000 corporation, was granted in district court today.

J. A. Johnson, clerk of the court, was appointed receiver. His bond was fixed at \$500,000.

Several other suits for a receiver had been started by stockholders, who made charges of fraud against Midland officials. The stockholders alleged \$8,000,000 worth of stock had been