

# ELWELL STORY ABSURD, SAYS SOCIETY GIRL

### Mrs. Betty Parsons, Now in Paris, Denies That She Is The Person Named in Kane Affidavit.

Deauville, near Paris, July 13.—"Of course I knew Mr. Elwell, like everyone else in New York. I took lessons in whist and bridge from him, but it is ridiculous to expect me to deny an obviously untruthful story."

Mrs. Schuyler L. Parsons of New York, who before her recent marriage was Betty Pierson of the beautiful trio of Pierson sisters, prominent in New York society, made this statement today when she was shown that part of the now famous "Kane affidavit," which purports to refer to her. Mrs. Annie Kane, former housekeeper of Joseph Bowne Elwell, turkman and whist wizard, who was mysteriously murdered in his New York home June 11, made certain statements regarding Mrs. Parsons in the affidavit secured from Mrs. Kane after a fortnight's search in Ireland.

Mr. Parsons, who was present when I interviewed his wife here this afternoon, said: "My wife's family in New York will do all the denying necessary."

Oelrich Denies Her. Herman Oelrich, prominent New York clubman, said: "Anyone who knows about Betty will know how utterly absurd Mrs. Kane's story is."

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Astor and Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt likewise characterized Mrs. Kane's assertions as "silly to anyone who knows Betty."

Mrs. Parsons said in her statement to me: "If the housekeeper's affidavit is true, then there is another Betty Parsons. Anyway I never in my life lived on Fifth avenue."

"My relations with Mr. Elwell were exactly as those between him and hundreds of other New Yorkers who knew him socially. I played bridge with him."

"I never heard of this alleged housekeeper, Annie Kane."

Won't Deny Story. "I decline to deny the story, because it is too absurd to be worth denying."

When I returned later for another interview the attitude of both Mrs. Parsons and her husband was considerably changed, evidently as a result of a consultation with their lawyers. Both declined positively to see any of the numerous exclusive stories printed in the New York American concerning the statements made by Mrs. Kane. Nor did they wish to see the full affidavit as printed by the American without names, although when I first saw them both showed great eagerness to learn all the details of the case.

"I do not want to see the affidavit, it would only make me mad," said Mrs. Parsons. "I refuse to talk further for publication, because the whole thing is utterly absurd."

Mr. Parsons declared he did not know Elwell, and that his wife knew the murdered turkman "only very slightly."

"The matter is too absurd for words," Mr. Parsons ridiculed the possibility that his wife might know of some of Elwell's friends. He disclaimed acquaintance with Mrs. Josephine Wilmerding of Narragansett Pier, R. I.

Mrs. Parsons positively refused to add a single word to her statement.

Make Physical Test. New York, July 13.—Women both short and tall, strong athletic women and women of frail build have been called upon by authorities within the past few days to fire an army automatic pistol of 45 caliber—the same style weapon from which the bullet which killed Joseph B. Elwell was fired.

The belief that a woman could not have manipulated the gun, and the statement that a small, weak woman could not even have pulled the trigger, have been entirely refuted, it was said today by the investigators. A woman, weighing only 85 pounds, and physically weak, fired the revolver used by members of the district attorney's staff in making the test not only once, but several times.

Seek Woman as Slayer. And now, having satisfied themselves on this point, the authorities have swung back to the theory that a woman—one of the many to whom he made love, and is said to have later scorned—sent the bullet which caused Elwell's death crashing into his brain.

This woman, who has been under suspicion for some time, is said to have been questioned by the police and the district attorney's investigators. She has told straightforward stories, it is said, except in a few incidents to which much importance is now attached. It is said the woman has promised the district attorney she will not leave the city.

Still following the line of Elwell's financial activities possibly having been responsible for his death, investigators are said to have discovered that the card expert was implicated in a Wall street swindle involving millions of dollars of worthless mining stock in 1908.

Mrs. Josephine Peet Wilmerding was quoted by the authorities as having said that Elwell told her, less than two years ago, that he had certain powerful enemies in Wall street, who knew about a "shady" transaction he had been guilty of. For this reason the authorities are expected to follow this clue to the bottom.

Vote Down Resolutions. Birmingham, Ala., July 13.—Resolutions for the exclusion of Orientals, presented by the California delegation, was voted down today at the first reunion of the Rainbow Division association.

# Prominent Society Woman Is Questioned In Elwell Murder Case



Mrs. OLIVER W. BIRD.

Mrs. Oliver W. Bird, prominent New York society woman who completely corroborated the account of William H. Pendleton, former business associate of Joseph Bowne Elwell, slain clubman, as to the movements of Mr. Pendleton and his automobile during the week of the Elwell murder. Mr. Pendleton was questioned by the New York district attorney in regard to his movements on the night of the slaying and was completely corroborated by Mrs. Bird, her husband, Mrs. Pendleton and other friends and relatives.

# GRAND CIRCUIT OPENS AT TOLEDO WITH GOOD RACES

### Omaha Horse, Maharba, Wins Third in 2:15 Trot—Murphy Drives to Victory.

Maharba, 2:14 1/4, which won third in the 2:15 trot yesterday at Toledo Grand Circuit races, is owned by E. Peterson of Omaha. Marvin Childs, Omaha man, drove Maharba yesterday.

Toledo, July 13.—Spirited competition and fast racing were features of the opening of the Grand Circuit racing on the Fort Miami track. Close finishes were the rule.

Murphy, Valentine, Dodge and Vic Fleming drove winning steeds. Murphy took the 2:15 trot behind Red Russell, Valentine captured the big end of the Fort Meigs 3,000 stake for 2:09 pacers behind Red Lancelot, Dodge won with Great Britton, the Sherwood 2:12 trotting stake, and Fleming, Canadian driver, took three straight heats in the 2:12 pace for \$1,100.

Favorites won in most instances, but an upset came when Voltage, picked as the favorite in the Colt stage, lost to Miss Em. The shift paid about 30 to 1. There was a spill in this event and the judges penalized driver Ray for interference, distancing his horse when it went around the track trailing close to the winner.

2:15 trot, three heats; purse \$1,200. Red Russell, ch. s. by Gilbert. 1 2 1  
Harvest Tide, b. m. by J. M. 2 1 2  
vaster, (McDonald) 3 2 1  
Maharba, b. s. by Archdale. 5 3 5  
(Childs) 4 3 3  
Hollywood King, s. by General 3 3 6  
Watts, (Kearney) 4 3 3  
Allen Dillon, b. m. by Allerton. 6 2 2  
(Whitney) 5 2 2  
Lotta Wattle, Heebway, also started. 6 2 2  
Time: 2:09 1/4, 2:11 1/4, 2:09 1/4.

Fort Meigs, 2:09 racing stake \$2,000, three heats: Ned Lancelot, b. s. by Constantine 1 1 1  
Symol S. Forest, bl. h. by Symbol 2 2 2  
er, (Murphy) 3 2 2  
Effe Dirsch, s. m. by Walter Dirsch, (Sturges) 4 2 4  
Colonel Bidwell, b. s. by Colonel Forest, (Cox) 5 2 4  
Lillian, b. m. by J. M. 6 2 6  
Strongwood, (Perrin) 4 2 6  
Hallie, (Kearney) 5 2 6  
Time: 2:02 1/4, 2:03, 2:05.

Sherwood, 2:12 trot stakes \$1,500, two heats: Great Britton, br. c. by Peter Chanaut, (Deane) 1 1 1  
Miss Em, blk. f. by J. Maloin 2 1 1  
Forbes, (White) 3 1 4  
Voltage, br. s. by Peter Volo, (Egan) 4 2 4  
Signal, blk. s. by Mommie, (Morgan) 5 2 4  
Great (Stokes) 6 2 3  
Myragala, blk. s. by J. M. 7 2 3  
worthy, (Valentine) 8 2 3  
The Great Miss Morris and Turbay also started.  
Time: 2:11 1/4, 2:09 1/4, 2:12 1/4.

2:12 trot, purse \$1,000, three heats: Princess Mary, b. m. by Lloyd Bell, (Fleming) 1 1 1  
Elmer Chimes, br. s. by Council Chimes, (Murphy) 2 2 2  
Prosar, blk. h. by Man-his, (Perrin) 3 2 2  
James, b. s. by Captain Bryson, (Fleming) 4 2 2  
Jon Mack, b. s. by Mommie, (Morgan) 5 2 2  
Sappo and Star Boy Ingolbee also started.  
Time: 2:05 1/4, 2:04 1/4, 2:05 1/4.

### Fail to Defeat Premier Hara by Overwhelming Vote

Honolulu, July 13.—A motion calling for a vote expressing lack of confidence in the cabinet headed by Premier Hara was defeated in the Diet by an overwhelming vote today. According to a radio message to the Nippon Jiji, a local Japanese language newspaper, the vote was 283 against the measure and 145 in favor of condemning the Hara ministry.

### Mexican Revolutionist Is Defeated by Federal Troops

Mexico City, July 13.—Jesus H. Guajardo, leader of an insurrection in the LaGuna region, has been defeated by federal troops and is fleeing, having been abandoned by most of his men. Brig. Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, another rebel leader, has been defeated at Sabinas Hidalgo, in the state of Nuevo Leon, and is in flight, according to the Excelsior.

# "PRINCESS" NOT TROUBLED BY "FAKER CHARGE"

### "Interpreter of Dreams" Has Plenty of Money and Says Doctors Are Jealous of Her Power.

Continued from Page One. lame walk. But the doctors, they are jealous.

"Hoochee born in India. She no go to school. But Hoochee's income is bigger than any American girl ever get. It is sometimes \$5,000, sometimes \$10,000 every week. Hoochee has oil land in Oklahoma, she has 30 lots at Fontenelle park, she has a hundred chickens and a dozen pigs. Hoochee is rich, but she was never in school.

Another Dig at Doctors. "Hoochee is spending more money at her home here than any doctor could afford."

"Hoochee in India," she continued. "She found there by Buffalo Bill and raised by him. He knew she had powers in the head when she was only 3 years old, for she told him something he did not know."

Mother a Cherokee Indian. "Hoochee's mother was a Cherokee Indian. Chief Lincoln give Hoochee much land in Oklahoma. There now oil there. Hoochee very rich, she buy what she see if she want it."

Hoochee was interrupted by a telephone call asking her to call on a patient. When she returned she disclosed several gross of bottles containing dubious liquids. Her "secretary," a brawny man whom she called "Uncle Jack," was busy writing out prescriptions. The line of patients was growing longer.

Patient Tells of "Cures." Mrs. Art Stolt, a frail little woman

of Creighton, Neb., was one of the waiting patients. She told, in a spiced tone, of the wonders which Hoochee is said to have performed at Creighton.

"She is curing Mrs. William Marcum of cancer," she declared. "After the doctors gave it up. She cured the 8-year-old daughter of William Gunther of infantile paralysis. She can tell one's fortune without an art. She is wonderful."

24 Years Old, She Says. "Hoochee," who says she is only 24 years old, is nearly black of complexion. Her hair hangs in uncombed strands about her thin face. During a recent charity street dance she gave what she said was an oriental dance which drew much applause.

She anticipates little trouble in securing a release when a hearing on the charge of practicing without a license is held at Fremont next Saturday, she says.

She is alleged to have taken several thousand dollars in fees from Snyder, Neb., where she was arrested.

# Bluffs Man Is Arrested Following Auto Smashup

M. Fowler, 717 Peirce street, Council Bluffs, was arrested for reckless driving Monday after his automobile had collided with a car driven by H. J. Neilson, superintendent of the bureau of identification at Central police headquarters. The accident occurred at Eleventh and Douglas streets. Mrs. C. H. Wahlquist stenographer at Central police station, riding in the car, suffered several lacerations of the head.

# Des Moines Parents Offer Reward for Missing Son

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Binford, 1535 Ninth street, Des Moines, Ia., have offered a reward of \$25 for information on the whereabouts of their 16-year-old son, Walter, who has been missing for five months.

He was last seen in an Omaha restaurant. He wore a green hat, brown trousers and heavy army shoes.

# DELEGATES AT CHICAGO AGREE ON THIRD PARTY

### Differences Finally Settled and Joint Meeting to Be Held to Put Ticket In Field.

Continued from Page One. hor and organize with labor," Remfer said amidst cheers.

The single taxers arrived on the heels of the farmers and endorsed the amalgamation movement.

Will Name Ticket. A national ticket only is provided for in the coming election by the report of the joint conference committees of the minority groups. But the report explained, however, that where any of the parties had organized for a state campaign that organization shall be the recognized state body for 1920.

The convention heard the resolutions committee report and approved the planks on co-operative stores, election laws, enfranchising migratory workers and a number of other resolutions, including:

Relief from "starvation wages and inhuman treatment" for the postal employees.

Sympathy for Eugene Debs and Jim Larkin, "martyrs to the cause."

Demand for immediate repeal of the Esch-Cummins law and "democratic management" of the railroads.

Plan National Board. A committee recommendation for a national committee composed of three members in each state, at least one of whom must be a woman, was adopted over protests of Nonpartisan league delegates and miners. They objected on the ground that the

committee of 48 might obtain a majority of the committee.

George L. Record, Dudley Field Malone, Allen McCurdy and C. J. France of Washington appeared before the convention and Mr. Record explained platform differences.

"We feel that Senator Robert LaFollette might not agree to run as our candidate if these things were all accepted," Record said. Yells of "No, no," and "This is no time to talk about candidates," interrupted him. Then there was a counter-demonstration in favor of LaFollette.

Recognize the Irish. Record read some of the planks agreed to by the 48's and the labor men. Many delegates held a jubilee when it appeared that the agreement included planks declaring for recognition by the United States of Russian and Irish governments, and carried the demonstration further when a plank declaring for a referendum before war "except after an act of actual invasion."

Other agreed planks advocated "refusal to go to war with Mexico at the behest of Wall street" and a proposal for "Americanization of the federal courts by electing federal judges for four years, subject to recall."

When Record read the capital levy plank of the labor platform, providing for "graduated taxation upon fortunes over \$25,000" there was a round of applause. There was laughter when he said that the 48's had not "assented" to this.

Record's report was interrupted by a notification given to the convention that the labor party gathering had also decided for amalgamation. Arrangements were made immediately to parade in sightseeing auto busses to the other convention.

Repeal Rail Bill. "Immediate repeal of the Esch-Cummins transportation act," read by Record as another agreed plank, got cheers from the 48's.

Rev. George C. Richmond of St. Louis opened the 48's convention with a prayer that was received with cheers.

"We are not concerned about heaven and hell," he said. "It is

this world in which we are interested. As Jesus failed, so do we."

The prayer charged that republican candidates "take orders not from Jesus, but from Wall street."

It charged that the democratic party "has sold out those forces which face moral ruin and spiritual desolation," and continued:

"We are corrupt, mean, low-visioned and selfish. Forgive us, O God, and in the great revolution now coming save us from national dissolution."

Dr. Richmond specifically gave thanks for revolution in Russia, for "the new spirit of self-assertiveness among negroes" and in Ireland. He asked for the destruction of "Palmerism, Penroseism and all other kinds of paganism." He also blessed Eugene Debs, "in his prison cell." This reference was cheered.

Code Bill Opponents Make Another Effort To Get Referendum

Lincoln, Neb., July 13.—(Special Telegram)—Another attempt was made today to get the referendum on the code bill before the voters when attorneys representing Fred

Ayers and A. D. Scott, who originated the drive against the law, appeared before Judge Stewart in the Lancaster county district court in an attempt to force Secretary of State D. M. Amsherry to carry out the law.

The supreme court recently decided that the former appeal from the district court was not made in the statutory 10 days' time and the state's attorneys today argued that the time had long ago elapsed for bringing the present action. Attorney Barrett contended that it was not a matter of time, that the law required the secretary of state to carry out the provisions of the law after the petitions had been filed.

Secretary of State Amsherry denied that the petitions had been filed. They had been simply received by him pending action on the protest and had been kept in the vault since that time, he said.

Well Known Washington Political Leader Dies

Tacoma, Wash., July 13.—Capt. I. M. Howell, secretary of the state of Washington since 1908, and one of the best known political leaders in the state since 1900, died here today.

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