

Bergdoll's Prosecutor Is Rebuked

Major C. C. Cresson Scored for "Pretense at Prosecution" of Man Who Permitted Him to Leave Prison.

Conspiracy Is Charged

Washington, Aug. 18.—Samuel Tilden Ansell, former acting judge advocate general of the army and one of the prisoner's legal counsel; Col. John E. Hunt and Maj. C. C. Cresson were charged with conspiracy in connection with the escape of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, the draft evader, in a report signed by the five members of a special investigating committee, filed today with the house.

Characterizing Ansell as "the master mind" in the plan by which Bergdoll was released from a military prison under guard, to dig up a pot of gold, the majority report recommended that he be discharged from practicing in the courts of the nation, "above whose safety and integrity he has placed gold."

A minority report filed at the same time held, however, that there was no testimony to support the charge that Ansell, through those efforts as counsel the prisoner was released, "conspired to effectuate his escape of his motive was improper."

Demos Sign Report. One republican, Representative Lühring of Indiana, and two democrats, Johnson of Kentucky and Flood of Virginia, signed the majority report. The minority views were presented by Chairman Peters, Maine, and Representative McArthur, Oregon, republicans. The majority finding is the first of the many investigating reports submitted to the house since the close of the war where a republican member joined with democrats and enabled them to file majority views.

The majority held that Colonel Hunt, commandant of the barracks at Governors Island, from which Bergdoll set out on his errand, was directly responsible for the slacker's escape through failure to handcuff him or to provide an adequate guard. The minority, after declaring that no officer of the army "knowingly participated in the conspiracy, found "grave dereliction of duty on the part of Hunt."

Fort Crook Man Scored. As a basis for its criticism of Major Cresson, the majority report said that "as ugly as are the many phases of the whole matter, none is more defensible than the conduct of Major Cresson in his pretense of prosecution of Colonel Hunt," tried by court-martial in connection with the Bergdoll scandal.

Bergdoll's mother, accused by Bergdoll of the plot of having accepted \$5,000 to help obtain freedom for the prisoner, was exonerated by the majority. The minority reported that there was no evidence that Campbell was in any way connected with the escape.

Dismissal from the Department of (Turn to Page Two, Column Four.)

Negro Suspected of Slaying Des Moines School Teacher Caught

Des Moines, Aug. 18.—(Special Telegram)—Joe Williams, negro, wanted in connection with the murder of Barbara Thorsdale, has been arrested.

Sheriff's officials received news Thursday noon that Williams had been arrested at Charleston, Ia. Deputies have started after him, and will bring him back to Des Moines. Williams is being investigated by the grand jury at the present time. He is accused of attempting to assault a woman at Keokuk, Ia., last week.

James MacDonald, former detective head, and James O'Brien, assistant county attorney, who have been working on the Thorsdale case, declare they have enough evidence against Williams to convict. The Keokuk crime, if it can be traced to Williams, will be one more link in the strong chain of circumstantial evidence.

Barbara Thorsdale, a Des Moines school teacher, was attacked and slain as she was walking along a lonely road on the outskirts of the city several months ago.

International Justice Court of League Assured

Geneva, Aug. 18.—Creation of the permanent court of international justice is assured, it is announced here. The secretariat of the league of nations has been informed that Spain and Haiti will soon deposit their ratifications of the agreement to establish the court, and when they are received the number of nations which have deposited ratifications will have reached 24, the required number.

If they are received in time the assembly of the league of nations, which will meet next month, will be able to elect the judges and constitute the court.

Cheyenne Man Would Give Self as Hostage for Debs

Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 18.—(Special Telegram)—Daniel Hastings, landscape gardener, appealed to President Harding for the release of Eugene V. Debs, offering himself as a hostage for Debs good behavior in event of his release. In his message to President Harding, Hastings said he would go to Atlanta and fill out the unexpired portion of Debs' sentence if the latter was freed. Hastings is a highly educated and widely known Cheyenne resident with no idiosyncrasies or fanatical tendencies of any kind.

Fort Crook Officer Is Rebuked by Committee



Major C. C. Cresson.

'Ridiculous,' Says Accused Major of House Charges

Declares Record in Prosecution of Col. Hunt Speaks for Itself—Spent Own Money in Bergdoll Case.

Maj. C. C. Cresson, now stationed at Fort Crook, yesterday morning characterized as "ridiculous" charges of conspiracy lodged against himself in connection with the escape of the slacker, Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, by a house investigating committee. Similar charges were lodged against Samuel T. Ansell and Col. John E. Hunt.

"My record in the prosecution of Colonel Hunt at the court-martial was under no duress, and I think so. The record shows that I presented all the evidence, and did my best to obtain a conviction, and I think, on the evidence submitted, he should have been found guilty."

Major Cresson, who was a colonel at the time of Colonel Hunt's court-martial, was charged by the investigating committee with "ceasing up" the prosecution.

"I wrote and telegraphed repeatedly to the committee," the major added, "offering my services and requesting to be brought before them to tell anything I knew. They never subpoenaed me, and did not even reply to my last telegram."

"Never Saw Ansell." "The chairman assured me my position was under no duress and that it was not necessary for me to appear. I never have seen Mr. Ansell but in my life, and that was while he was in service. I never knew Bergdoll had left the island until the newspapers printed the news of his escape."

Before Colonel Hunt was tried, I stated that I did not believe he would be convicted, but I prosecuted him as vigorously as possible, and still believe him guilty.

"I spent a good deal of my own money and my own time in going to the island to see the place."

Men Convicted in "Wild Horse" Case Get Respite

Respite of 30 days has been granted by President to C. A. Smith and J. Sidney Smith, brothers, convicted with Charles M. Thompson for alleged fraudulent use of the mail in the "wild horse" case. Sentences of three months in the Hall county jail and two years in the penitentiary, respectively, were affirmed for C. A. Smith and J. Sidney Smith by the circuit court of appeals in 1920 at the time Thompson was convicted. Thompson was pardoned by the president Thursday.

Stunt Flyer Killed When Parachute Fails to Open

Rockford, Ill., Aug. 18.—Burd Bridges of Chicago was instantly killed this afternoon when his parachute failed to open when he leaped from an airplane here. Bridges was practicing for an aerial circuit. He was formerly a moving picture actor.

South Dakota Bishop Is Received by Pope Benedict

Rome, Aug. 18.—Monsignor John J. Lawler, bishop of the diocese of Lead, S. D., was received by Pope Benedict yesterday, the pontiff evincing great interest in the bishop's report of the work done in the diocese.

Photos from Plattsmouth

A full page of photographs of Plattsmouth scenes and people is one of the features of The Bee Rotogravure section for next Sunday.

Anti-Beer Bill Scored In Senate

Wheeler and Volstead Denounced in Fiery Debate on Amendment to Campbell-Willis Measure.

Conference Broken Up

By GRAFTON S. WILCOX, Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Special Writer. Washington, Aug. 18.—Tensest debate, demonstrating that the prohibition issue is still alive and kicking, broke out in the senate today when the conferees on the Campbell-Willis anti-beer bill appealed for further instructions to guide them in their controversy with the house over the Stanley search and seizure amendment.

The compromise which the conferees arranged at yesterday's session went to smash in the melee and Senator Ashurst of Arizona, democrat, bolted the conference with a vehement statement in which he declared he would no longer be a party to attempts to break down the constitutional amendment. Three hours of heated discussion ensued, in the course of which Wayne B. Wheeler, anti-saloon league spokesman, and Representative Andrew J. Volstead of Minnesota, leader of the radical "dry" party, were the targets of a bitter denunciation by Senator Reed of Missouri.

Stand Pat On Amendment. Senator Ashurst contributed zest to the debate by declaring that a man "wouldn't be a very good American" if he failed to knock down a prohibition agent who attempted to search his property without warrant.

When the din of battle quieted, the senate voted to direct its conferees to stand pat on the amendment, providing heavy fines and imprisonment for "dry" agents who attempt to search private property of any kind without warrants.

Hostilities began when Senator Sterling of South Dakota, in charge of the Campbell-Willis bill, presented a formal motion for the Stanley amendment. Senator Ashurst informed the senate that he had quit the conference because he would not agree to sacrifice the Stanley amendment, which seeks to preserve the constitutional guarantee of the sanctity of person and private property against interference by dry enforcement officers.

Denounces House Plan. "He denounces the house substitute as a vulgar concoction because it sets up breweries and distilleries in the homes and because, under its provisions, you will still be subject to being held up by prohibition agents, your pockets picked, your grips torn open and your automobile searched," Senator McCormick of Illinois facetiously suggested that Senator Ashurst must have had some experience.

(Turn to Page Two, Column One.)

Disabled War Vets Want U. S. Hospital At Grand Island Home

Grand Island, Neb., Aug. 18.—(Special)—Resolution appealing to Congressman Andrews, who has interested himself in the additional hospitalization by the nation for disabled war veterans, to request an appropriation for such a hospital at the state soldiers' home in Grand Island, were adopted by the disabled war veterans of this city. State Commander Crevier will at once urge the adoption of the resolution by all other chapters of the organization in the state. The resolutions set forth that Grand Island is a central point for the state and is best adapted for such an institution.

The Chamber of Commerce of the city was urged to add its aid in securing the institution thus suggested and initiated by the disabled veterans. The text of the resolution has been telegraphed to the congressman.

The previous high estimate of disabled veterans assembling here today, representing three days was more than doubled, almost 400 appearing in the district for the final adjustment of their war risk and compensation claims. The expenses to the veterans were borne by the Red Cross, and citizens' organizations entertained them while here.

Tammany Ticket Favorite In Wall Street Betting

New York, Aug. 18.—Election betting has started in Wall street with the odds heavily in favor of Mayor Hylan and the democratic ticket. Democratic money, the brokers report, is very plentiful and by no means all of it is being taken. The odds are 2 to 1 that the entire Tammany ticket will win and 2 to 1 that Hylan will be re-elected. Even money is being offered, without takers, that the mayor will carry every borough in the city and odds of 1 to 4 that he will double Curran's vote.

Dentist Charged With Murder Anxious for Trial

Portland, Ore., Aug. 18.—Dr. R. M. Brumfield, accused of murdering Dennis Russell, a laborer, near Roseburg, said today he was anxious to return to that town and clear up a lot of puzzling questions. Dr. Brumfield is held in the county jail, pending return from Calgary, Alta., near which town he was arrested, to Roseburg.

"I am glad to be back, but only wish I were in Roseburg now," he said in an interview at the county jail.

Farm Bureau to Probe Dairy Marketing

Chicago, Aug. 18.—A committee of 11 to investigate co-operative marketing of dairy products was appointed by J. R. Howard of the American Farm Bureau federation. It will function similarly to the federation's grain committee of 17 and live stock committee of 15.

Mr. Howard said he believed co-operating marketing would mean "a distinct saving" for the consumer, citing the example of St. Paul and Minneapolis, where the milk is sold at 11 cents a quart under the co-operative plan.

The committee includes C. Boehlheimer, Waterloo, Ia.

New Mexico Town Razed by Flood: Residents Saved

People Forced to Flee to Hills In Night Clothes—No Loss Of Life Reported.

Las Cruces, N. M., Aug. 18.—The town of Hatch, N. M., 38 miles north of here, was destroyed by a flood, according to reliable information received by the chamber of commerce here. The 500 residents escaped to the hills, most of them in their night clothes. There was no loss of life reported.

The cloudburst struck Santa Tereza, a village in the foothills two miles west of Hatch, shortly after 3 o'clock this morning. Only one dwelling was left at Santa Tereza.

Two hours later the wall of water rushed down the arroyo into Hatch, the male residents assisting women and children to flee in their night clothes, abandoning everything.

No Loss of Life. James Clapp, a business man, who was bedridden by a long illness, was carried to the hills by neighbors. So far as learned there was no loss of life.

Dean Goddard of the New Mexico college of agriculture and fine arts, and Thomas Brownlee have installed a radio at the office of the local Chamber of Commerce advised of the situation.

Tonight from three to seven feet of water lies in the stricken village. Officials of the United States reclamation service and railroad engineers are here to dig a deep canal, the town lies in a basin below the level of the Arroyo.

Farmers Guard River. One hundred and fifty of the residents are being cared for with supplies sent under charge of relief committees from the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce. Farmers, armed with shotguns, are guarding the bank of the Rio Grande south of Hatch to prevent raising of the flood gates. The farmers insist that raising of the flood gates will ruin their crops without being of material benefit to the flooded district.

A telegram from Patrick F. Campbell, cashier of the Bank of Hatch, said that the town and vicinity was completely under water and that every business and dwelling house was demolished. He said federal aid was essential.

Woman Representative Aroused by Statement of Women Voters' League

Washington, Aug. 18.—Aroused by a statement issued yesterday by the National League of Women Voters as to her attitude on feminine representation in the disarmament conference, Representative Alice Robertson issued a statement declaring she had been misquoted in the league's statement.

Miss Robertson contended she never had told President Harding there was no woman qualified to sit as an American commissioner. She said she, her statement continued, "show me the woman properly qualified," and her statement added that the league officials did not suggest such a woman to Mr. Harding.

She declared she did not "claim to represent women of the United States" in congress, Miss Robertson asked that she be permitted to represent citizens of the Second Oklahoma district "without interference from Indiana."

Bursum Named Candidate To Succeed Senator Fall

Santa Fe, N. M., Aug. 18.—H. O. Bursum was unanimously nominated as republican candidate for United States senator at the September special election by state republicans meeting in convention here today. The election was called to name a successor to former Senator A. B. Fall, now secretary of the interior. Bursum is filling the place by appointment of Governor Mecham, pending the election.

Man So Infatuated By Nurse He Forgets Names of Daughters

Chicago, Aug. 18.—When "Betty," a pretty nurse, calls a man "dear daddy," he falls quickly. This was the excuse offered today by Nels Rasmussen, who admitted he had been vamped by the nurse two years.

The Farmer's Dollar



You keep the rest, Cy!

Posse Captures State Convicts Near Plymouth

Henry Slack of Omaha and John Horton Surrender—Famished Men Offer No Resistance.

Lincoln, Aug. 18.—(Special Telegram)—Henry Slack of Omaha and John Horton of Daves county, who escaped from the state penitentiary Tuesday night, were captured by a posse near Plymouth, 50 miles southwest of Lincoln, and returned to prison tonight.

The two men offered no resistance to officers. Horton was captured about 2:30 by Charles Bentley and Mac Boone, farmers. He weighs about 200 pounds and told his captors he was unable to continue his flight for want of food and drink.

Since their escape the two men had but one loaf of bread to eat and for 24 hours had gone without food.

Hide in Cornfield. Slack surrendered to Sheriff Meller of Lancaster county about 6 after the cornfield in which he was hiding had been surrounded by state officers and farmers. Meller entered the cornfield with a shotgun, and Slack walked up to him and gave himself up.

Farmers first noticed the two men walking along the railroad track about noon and noticed Sheriff Emory of Gage county and other county officers in the vicinity. While awaiting the arrival of officers they formed a posse and surrounded the two men in a cornfield on the Henry Zimmerman farm.

Both men were serving sentences of from one to seven years on larceny charges and would have been entitled to paroles in a short time. They were employed in the kitchen, which is in the administration building outside the prison walls. They walked away while a base ball game was in progress.

Officers in Wreck. Upon their return to Lincoln they were placed in solitary confinement on a diet of bread and water as punishment for their escape.

Deputy State Sheriff W. A. Kirby, George Proctor, N. P. Harmon, Bud Myers, son of State Sheriff Gus Myers, Warden W. T. Fenton and Sheriff Meller of Lincoln were all hurried to Plymouth to participate in the chase.

State Bertillon Officer Hans Nielsen, formerly of the Omaha police force, and James O'Connell, clerk in the warden's office, were thrown out of an automobile when it overturned while speeding to the scene of the roundup. Both men escaped uninjured.

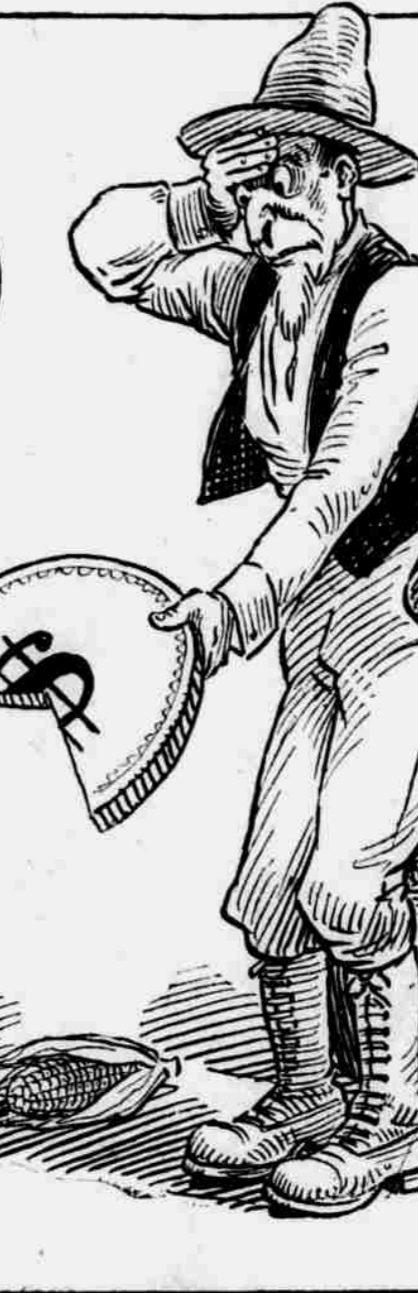
Auto Bandits Get \$9,000 In Frisco Pay Roll Holdup

San Francisco, Aug. 18.—Bandits this afternoon held up Walter Mayers and George Beban, paymasters, and escaped with \$9,000, the pay roll of the American Can company, which they were transporting from a bank to the factory here. The robbers escaped in an automobile.

Dentists Choose Los Angeles For 1922 Convention City

Milwaukee, Aug. 18.—Los Angeles was unanimously chosen for the next annual convention of the National Dental association, it was announced today following an executive session. Officers were to be elected here today.

The Farmer's Dollar



You keep the rest, Cy!

Finger Prints Of Bankers May Be Held by State

Disappearance of Financiers Leads to Discussion of State Law Calling For Ample Description.

Lincoln, Aug. 18.—(Special)—Discussion of a law forcing all bankers to have their finger prints taken and pictures on file in the office of Hans Nielsen, state finger print expert, is the latest development here in connection with the large number of bank failures and escape of several bank officers against whom warrants have been issued.

J. E. Hart, secretary of the department of trade and commerce, admitted today this had been proposed to him.

"It might be a mighty good plan," he said, "but for me to advocate it would mean suicide for me."

Arguments for Plan. The arguments advanced in favor of the passage of such a law by the next legislature are:

The government forced the "flower of America," its soldier boys, to undergo finger print impressions on file now at Washington, D. C.

Bankers at conventions have suggested taking finger prints of certain of their depositors and often demand photographs of certain customers.

State officers obliged to put up bonds to cover possible shortcomings while in office are not insured and public funds are entrusted just as much to bankers as to state officers and private funds are exclusive.

The direct cause for the proposal of a finger print and photo system for bankers is the disappearance of E. A. Rusler, cashier of the Octavia State bank.

Opposed Having Picture. For years, according to officers, Rusler had an abhorrence for having his picture taken, and as a result, the only means of identification is a small kodak picture which is hard to discernible.

State officers admit that failure to have Rusler's finger prints and his picture on file here, his picture and finger prints would have been run off on thousands of post cards 24 hours after his disappearance and in four days his picture and finger prints would have been in the hands of chiefs of police and sheriffs throughout the country.

Soft Drink Dealers Will Not Have to Pay License Tax

Washington, Aug. 18.—Elimination from the republican tax bill of the section proposing a license tax of \$10 a year on vendors of soft drinks was agreed upon today by majority members of the ways and means committee while general debate on the measure was continuing in the house. Another amendment adopted would exempt from the income tax all sums received as pensions or allowances from the government by veterans of all wars or their dependents.

Mystery of Bank Crash Investigated

State Starts Sweeping Probe Following Finding Letters In Octavia Bank—Others May Be Arrested.

Forgery Warrant Issued

Lincoln, Aug. 18.—(Special)—A warrant issued today at David City for the arrest of E. A. Rusler, missing cashier of the Octavia State bank, does not end the activities of Attorney General Clarence A. Davis in the investigation of the manipulation in that bank which has caused a loss of from \$60,000 to \$100,000.

Around the disappearance of Rusler, and in a igarewetter letter written by him to his wife, is a mystery which will result in an investigation extending perhaps for weeks. The paragraph in the letter which has started the probe reads:

"Will Hahn has ruined us all. I am leaving as I can't stand the pressure."

Will Hahn is a brother-in-law of Rusler and probably was the bank's biggest customer. Records in the bank showed that as a cattle dealer Hahn checked out thousands and thousands of dollars.

Hahn Is Questioned. Davis and Gus Myers, state sheriff, spent two hours last Sunday interrogating Hahn. The latter continually maintained that he knew absolutely nothing about certain transactions on the part of Rusler and the placing of thousands of dollars to his credit on the bank's books by Rusler.

But that sentence written by Rusler in Omaha just before he disappeared from his invalid wife and family and the further charge made shortly after the bank's failure and Rusler's disappearance by J. E. Hart, secretary of the department of trade and commerce, that "part of the difficulty in the bank was the attempt of Rusler to keep Will Hahn on his feet" has caused Davis to send Assistant Attorney General J. B. Chase to Octavia and David City with instructions to "get at the bottom" of the whole business.

When Chase left for David City today he was armed with a warrant calling for the arrest of Rusler charging him with seven different forgeries, amounting to \$7,473.25.

Sympathy for Father. The pitiful condition of George Hahn, founder of the bank, father of Will Hahn and father-in-law of Rusler, is evincing much sympathy at Octavia, according to state officers. Hahn was in Florida last winter and, according to information in the hands of state officers hurried back to Octavia upon receipt of urgent telegrams from his relatives and upon his arrival was obliged to pay up \$5,000 to keep Hahn and Rusler out of trouble. According to officers Will Hahn at the present time is in debt more than \$50,000 to his father.

At the same time Chase released new and interesting facts discovered by Bank Examiner Brock in his probe of Rusler's affairs.

Brock discovered a note in the vault written by Rusler which read:

"Forgeries have a cross mark in the lower left-hand corner of the notes."

And, sure enough, in the lower left-hand corner of the seven notes was this cross mark.

There was another note of a personal nature written by Rusler to his wife which was found in the vault.

Feared Next Life. From the contents of this note it was apparent that Rusler was in a morbid mood as he sat in the bank that night before he left for Omaha, which he sneak out of the town in which he had virtually been "king" for years to become an outlaw at the age of 51.

In the note he hinted at suicide, admitted his failure to make good in this life and forecasted much difficulty in "getting by" in the next life because of his conduct here.

The forged notes do not represent the total shortages in the bank. The books, now in the hands of state officers, show where accounts of customers have been juggled to the tune of thousands of dollars. The notes and the amounts, which the state claims are forgeries, follow:

C. E. and A. J. Knepper, \$2,000; J. H. Rutt, \$1,015.94; A. F. Pospischal, \$309.61; C. T. Ashbire, \$500; Edward Dostal, \$182.70; Peter Hockstra, \$3,000; James Voloric, \$385.

Seven Men and Four Women Taken in Raid on Boat

Cleveland, O., Aug. 18.—Police early today took seven men and four women into custody in a spectacular seizure of the steam yacht Venice, said to be in the service of a whiskey ring operating in Canada and the United States. The seizure, made at Whiskey Island, netted 95 cases of imported wines and liquors.

Six of the men seized, including Capt. William L. Curry of Toronto, Canada, said to be the owner of the yacht, are charged with violating the prohibition law. The seventh man, the engineer, and the woman were held for investigation.

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