

MELVIN HATCH A FREE MAN.

Acquitted of Complicity in the Yolo Train Tragedy.

THE DECISION ARRIVED AT ON THE THIRD BALLOT.

The Deputy Registrar of San Francisco
Held to Answer Before the Superior
Court, Charged With Feloniously
Inducing Illegal Registrations—Efforts
Made to Put Out of the Way
The Leading Witness in the Roscoe
Train Robbery Case at Los Angeles.

Special to the Record-Union.

WOODLAND, Dec. 7.—Melvin Hatch is a free man, and nobody is more surprised at the result than his own father and mother. The elder Hatch expected nothing better than a disagreement of the jury. The prevailing opinion was in accord with him. There were a number, and among them a lawyer, who believed there would be a verdict of guilty. Mr. Cook's masterly closing argument made a very marked impression upon the spectators, and even Hatch's most ardent friends seemed to lose hope as the chain of evidence link by link was forged as only a man who is skilled in the law and who has made a patient and diligent study of every phase of the case can forge it.

There was a great deal of speculation among people as to which of the jurors could be depended upon to hang out for acquittal. Some said that would be those others named and a number counted upon but one. The verdict, therefore, was in the nature of a surprise, and is the absorbing topic of conversation to-night. Such a verdict at the end of three or four days would probably not have excited much talk, but it is considered extraordinary that an agreement would have been reached in such a short time.

The jury was locked up at 11 o'clock. They discussed the matter fifteen minutes before taking a ballot. The first ballot resulted in a tie for acquittal and two for conviction. On the second ballot only one man stood out for conviction. On the third the vote for acquittal was unanimous.

When the result was reached there was loud cheering in the jury-room. The courtroom was almost deserted, but this cheering attracted attention and the crowd came in with a rush. A moment later Juror York came to the door and announced that a verdict had been reached. The jury was brought into the courtroom without any delay. Young Hatch was pale and nervous and kept his eyes riveted upon the jurors. His wife was deeply affected and the members of the family gave no indication of any violent emotion. Judge Grant warned the audience not to make any demonstration.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said the court, "have you arrived at a verdict?" "We have," came back in a chorus. "Arise and announce your verdict," said the court.

"Twelve men, instead of the foreman, arose and in one voice exclaimed, "Not guilty!"

The verdict was handed to the Clerk, who read it aloud.

"Gentlemen of the jury," queried the court, "is that your verdict?" "Yes," they all answered in one voice. "You are discharged from further consideration in this case," announced the court.

General Hart was not present, but Mr. Gaddis, the junior counsel for the defense, was as much affected as any member of the Hatch family. Mr. Cook, counsel for the prosecution, congratulated the defendant and his family. As the jury filed out of court each of them shook hands with Hatch and his family. The elder Mrs. Hatch and her daughter, as well as the elder Hatch, were profoundly agitated. The defendant's wife was almost hysterical with joy. Tears streamed copiously down her cheeks, and in ecstasy with delight, she declared: "I have not been so happy since the day I was married."

The courtroom was filled with friends and sympathizers of the defendant, and there is no doubt the verdict met with the approval of a majority of those present. The Hatch family left for Washington on a late freight train.

There is a rumor that a warrant is out for the arrest of Hatch on a charge of obstructing the mails, but it is charged to any reliable source. Attorneys here who represent the railroad company say they have heard nothing of such a move.

The crowd that watched the closing scenes of the Hatch trial had scarcely left the courtroom before the Appelman case was called, and the work of expounding the jury was commenced at once. This work is entrusted to Mr. Gladis for the defense, and Messrs. Armstrong and Clark, who assist the attorney. Whenever new witnesses are introduced Mr. Cook for the prosecution and General Hart for the defense are called to the venire, and when these were exhausted only two jurors had been obtained. The court ordered a recess to issue for forty additional jurors, returnable Tuesday morning at 2 o'clock.

EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGES.

A Stockton Clerk Accused of Appropriating Money to His Own Use.

STOCKTON, Dec. 7.—R. C. Watkins, a young man who has been employed for two months past at a clerk in the Mission house, is accused by the proprietor, Mrs. Ritzloff, of being an embezzler, no mean ability. His delinquencies during the period of two months are said to amount to nearly \$1,000. Mrs. Ritzloff charges that when given money to pay the bills the clerk would appropriate the money and enter the bills in the books as paid, and that he also collected small sums, of which he made no account. The money was dissipated in gambling. Young Watkins' family resides in Berkeley. An attempt has been made to prevent prosecution.

SPECKLES NOT THE PURCHASER.

Denial of a Report Concerning the Sale of the Chino Ranch.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—It is positively denied to-day that Claus Spreckels has purchased from Richard Gird the Chino Ranch of 40,000 acres, in San Bernardino County, with the best sugar factory, the Chino townsite, Chino Valley Railroad, and other appurtenances. Robert Oxnard, a partner in the Chino Ranch, who owns the best sugar factory at Chino, and who is associated in the business with Claus Spreckels, was interviewed by the Record-Union to-day. He said: "No such negotiation has been made, and none is in progress or in prospect."

ROSCOE TRAIN ROBBERY.

Informant Elster Passes Through Several Starting Experiences.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—Charles E. Elster, the informant against the Roscoe train robbers, has passed through several startling experiences the past week. In

fact, the officers having the matter in charge claim that two attempts have been made on the life of Elster.

A few evenings since some unknown parties induced Elster to accompany them on a little tour of the city. He was not only treated like a prince, but money was offered him to get him out of the country. This was the last of the Elster. The next day he informed the Southern Pacific detectives what had taken place, and said he desired to take their money. The officers kept a close watch on their man for a time, but he was not again approached the matter was lost sight of.

Now comes the story that on Wednesday night Elster, while laboring under an over-indulgence of liquor, was set upon by unknown parties, and had not help arrived at an appropriate moment he might have been gone away with.

But those who desire to get rid of this important witness, and had it been successful would have left no clue behind. It appears that they again caught him napping after getting him drunk took him to his room and kept him there until he had turned on the gas and quietly left the place. Fortunately for Elster, some parties occupying an adjoining room discovered the escaping gas before it had time to get in its deadly work.

From now on a close watch will be kept on Elster.

DOWNY ESTATE SUE.

J. H. Coleman Asks the Court to
H. Award Him \$11,830.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—The case of J. H. Coleman against the estate of John G. Downy, deceased, was heard before Judge McKinley to-day. The plaintiff claims that in the years 1863-64 he handed over to the late Governor Downy the sum of \$5,000 in trust to be saved for him, and of this amount, so he alleges, received only \$300 in return. He further contends, however, that on September 1, 1891, the late Governor Downy employed him as his companion, but that on the 15th of that month he was suddenly and without any notice or warning, and without any explanation, removed his position as companion, and the plaintiff prefers claims of \$4,000, being the balance yet due on the trust property, and \$7,200, being the amount of the debt of the governor's estate.

The defense made a general denial to the claim for the money, and contending that the claim for the money deposited in the hands of the Governor was stale before the latter's death, and is barred. While denying that the plaintiff was employed as companion on a salary, a counter claim is set up that Coleman owes \$100 on a promissory note dated December 7, 1892, and the court is asked to award this amount with accrued interest.

LAST NIGHT'S STORM.

The Severest of the Season Over
Central California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—The storm which broke over Central California to-night was the most severe of the season. Last night the Weather Bureau announced that the weather to-day would be of the clearing kind, but it proved to be the opposite and seemed to storm even harder than yesterday. At 7 p. m. the wind was blowing fifty miles an hour from the southeast. Thunder and lightning were frequent, and the storm, and for a time it looked as if a real Eastern thunderstorm had broken out.

When Weather Observer Hammond discontinued his observations at 11 o'clock, the storm was about to visit this part of the State by the issuance of a bulletin to that effect for the benefit of shipping, and to-night sailing vessels would have left the harbor as moored safely at their wharves.

So far no great damage has been reported as a result of the storm. It is said that at one time 15 of an inch of rain fell within five minutes. Further storming is predicted for to-morrow.

TERIBLY BURNED.

A Man Awakes to Find Himself
Surrounded by Flames.

ALBANY (Or.), Dec. 7.—Abram Jones, who lives alone near Detroit, was terribly burned last night. While asleep his house caught fire. The flames soon spread to his bed. When awakened he was surrounded by fire. He rushed through the flames and escaped by breaking down a partition wall. He walked a quarter of a mile through six inches of snow to the nearest neighbor, where help was given and a physician summoned. The patient's condition was so bad that he would have died had he not been so promptly attended to. His face and hands were so badly burned that he will be laid up for some time.

TORRENS LAND TRANSFER ACT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—There will be an important meeting in this city to-morrow—that of the commission appointed by the last Legislature to examine the methods of land transfer and registration as existing under the Torrens Act. The commission is composed of Messrs. Frank Miller, President of the D. O. Mills National Bank of Sacramento, and Messrs. J. M. Alister, Edson F. Adams of Oakland, Assemblyman Robert F. Bulla of Los Angeles, and Senator Bart Burke of Santa Cruz. The commission is expected to prepare a report to the Legislature.

Eight Years at Hard Labor.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—For the second time Michael Gordon and Ringo Cell, the two Italians once before convicted of counterfeiting, were sentenced in the United States District Court this morning. They pleaded guilty, and were given eight years at San Quentin and hard labor. When first sentenced there was some technical error in the commitments, and the case had to be gone over again. These men were several months ago apprehended by the act of counterfeiting in a two-story house in this city.

Deputy Registrar Held to Answer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—Louis Steinberg, the Deputy Registrar of Elections, who is charged with having feloniously induced August Gutman to register illegally in the Baldwin Hotel previous to the recent elections, was held in the sum of \$10,000 by Judge Wallace this afternoon to stand trial in the Superior Court. Steinberg is the fourth man to be held on criminal charges resulting from the recent election.

Attorney Philbrook in Trouble.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—Horace W. Philbrook, the local attorney who bitterly attacked the reputation of Supreme Justice Harrison in a brief recently filed before the Supreme Court in the case of Rankin vs. Newman, has been cited to show cause before the Supreme Court and appear in person at the act of counterfeiting in a two-story house in this city.

Found Dead in the Road.

MADERA, Dec. 7.—James Dond, a farm hand, was found dead in the road near town this morning. It is supposed that while in an intoxicated condition he fell from the wagon when going home, and the wheels passed over him, causing his death.

A Peep's Sentence.

VALLEJO, Dec. 7.—W. L. Sayer of Tulare was sentenced this morning to six years' imprisonment by Judge Gray for swearing falsely in the Howard murder case.

UPPER SANDUSKY (O.), Dec. 7.—At

Cupper, twelve miles north of here, a man was exploded to-day, killing Nicholas Goe and his wife, and wounding several help seriously.

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION.

House Banking Committee to Take the Matter in Hand at Once.

A BILL EXPECTED TO BE REPORTED BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.

White Secretary Carlisle's Plan is Favorably Commented upon by Prominent Members of Both Houses, That Proposed by Comptroller Eckels in His Annual Report is Believed by Others to Have Superior Merit—Plan Suggested by a New York Banker.

Special to the Record-Union.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The programme for the speedy consideration of the financial plan proposed by the President and White Secretary Carlisle was arranged by the House Committee on Banking and Currency to-day. Three resolutions were passed.

The first resolution specifies that Secretary Carlisle and Comptroller of the Currency Eckels be invited before the committee at 10 a. m. Monday, and the hearing will close Saturday, December 15th. The sentiment among the Democrats was for proceedings as fast as possible, and reporting the bill before the holiday recess.

The second resolution authorized Chairman Springer to invite members of the committee next week to give their views. This was carried, although Walker and Johnson were opposed. The resolution adopted authorized a call of the committee at any time, and makes five a quorum. This is to prevent delay in the speedy presentation of the bill.

The meeting disclosed that there would be no factions opposition from Republicans toward getting the bill before the House.

While Mr. Carlisle's plan is favorably commented upon by many prominent members of the House, there are others whose opinions are of value, who argue that the plan proposed by Comptroller Eckels in his annual report has superior merits. The plan proposed by Eckels will meet with general approval. A prominent Senator who is recognized as an authority on financial matters explained to the Associated Press his view on two of the plans. He said:

"Mr. Carlisle's plan for currency reform, when applied to the present situation, will produce the following result: Taking for the purpose of illustration, a bank having \$100,000 capital: Such a bank would be entitled to issue in an emergency gold certificates for 75 per cent of the capital, or \$75,000 (75 per cent of the capital) before doing so must deposit legal tender notes to the amount of \$25,000 (25 per cent of the capital). This in effect would be equivalent to net issue of \$50,000 in circulation by the bank, or \$75,000 received in notes from the Government, minus the notes deposited with the Government. Upon the \$25,000 of currency the bank would earn its profits, provided it could keep them in circulation, after deducting costs for redemption tax for 'safety fund' and for administration of Comptroller's report. As a plan for relieving the Government of its burden and for charge for redeeming United States notes, it would, according to the Secretary's estimate, result in securing the currency of the banks at a cost of 10 per cent to the Government, if national and State banks now in existence should take out circulation to the full amount of their capital."

"Let us see how this result could be arrived at. At present the capital of all national banks in existence is about \$950,000,000. If the Government should issue the capital of State banks availing themselves of the privilege, a total capacity of \$1,000,000,000 would be had as the basis for the issue of gold certificates. Assuming that all the banks possessed of the legal issued currency up to the full limit of 75 per cent, we will have an issue of \$750,000,000 of gold certificates from circulation, after deducting costs for redemption tax for 'safety fund' and for administration of Comptroller's report. Against this legal tender to the amount of 20 per cent of circulation must be deposited, or \$225,000,000. What will remain in circulation? Add bank notes issued, \$750,000,000; less national bank currency retired, \$17,000,000; legal tender deposited, \$225,000,000; from circulation, \$225,000,000; total \$850,000,000. Net increase in circulation, \$100,000,000. Assuming that this increase could be kept in circulation, the amount of \$225,000,000 of United States notes is effectively temporarily, but as there are \$850,000,000 of these altogether outstanding, there would be a net increase of \$625,000,000 in the mass of about \$2,000,000,000 of the treasury by presentation for redemption in gold. If the \$750,000,000 is not kept in circulation, the amount of legal tender secured by redemption of circulation would be added to the large sum now funded. Again, if the legal tender deposited by the banks are to be used for redemption of these notes, no difficulty in procuring any amount of them by presenting bank notes."

"So much for the practical working of the Secretary's plan, and we now take a look at the plan proposed by Comptroller Eckels. It is a plan which is based on a base compulsion, but should it outline the principles of the plan, only a hypothetical illustration of its practical workings can be given. Taking a bank having \$100,000 capital, as in the case of the Comptroller's plan appears to require that bank deposits with the treasury \$25,000 in United States notes or legal tender (for cancellation) in exchange for which it will immediately receive \$50,000 in bank notes for the current redemption of the bank notes of this class upon the failure of liquidation of the bank. This feature, therefore, is neither expansion nor contraction of the currency; simply the exchange of one kind of currency for another just as good, but for the purpose and with the effect of entirely relieving the Government of burden and cost of current redemption during the existence of the bank receiving and issuing the same."

Under this branch of the Comptroller's plan, with the present capital of national banks, viz., \$950,000,000, \$24,000,000 of legal tender would be immediately retired and withdrawn from the possibility of being converted into gold by the Government. While a banking capital of \$1,000,000,000 would serve as a basis for retiring the entire issue, both of United States and State bank notes, amounting together to about \$8,000,000,000.

"Passing to the other feature of Mr. Eckels' plan, it is found that a bank with \$100,000 capital could also issue as much as \$50,000 of gold certificates, and could issue a first lien upon its assets and upon the liability of its shareholders, and redeemable in gold by the Government, or the bank by a light tax upon all banks issuing this kind of circulation. It is upon this class of notes that the bank could make a profit which should be a clean one over and above the light expenses for cost of redemption and taxation for the safety fund, and for the cost of operation of the Comptroller's bureau. It is on this class of currency that the element of 'elasticity' would be found, for which the banks could issue either none at all or as much as 50 per cent of its capital.

GHASTLY DISCOVERY.

Mutilated Body of a Man Found in a Shipping Case at Chicago.

LOCK OF WOMAN'S HAIR IN THE BOX WITH THE CORPSE.

The Body Identified as That of the
Custodian of the Hiawatha Building—
The Murderer Believed to Have
Been Committed Near Chicago and
the Body Boxed for Shipment, But
That the Principals, Fearing Discovery, Threw the Case in the Alley
Where Found.

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The shipping case bears a French stamp, indicating the body was shipped from France. The body is that of a man about 40 years old, of refined appearance. His head is partially bald, the face clean shaven, except for a blonde mustache. In the case, carefully wrapped in paper, was found a lock of dark hair, evidently that of a woman.

The box was marked "G. P. Peterson," numbered 2102, and the stamp "Made in France." The traces of other marks were found, but they had been carefully disfigured, making them unreadable. The doctors said the man could not have been dead more than two days, and it was thought a French shipping case was used to divert suspicion.

With the body were found clippings of a carpet, which were identified as having come from the Pullman palace-car shop, the clippings apparently having been used as packing for the body.

In the case was also found a torn bit of paper bearing the address "R. Y. Tins, 257 West Fifty-seventh street." A portion of the letter was also found, but its contents the police refused to make public. The police advance the theory that the man was murdered in the vicinity of Chicago and then boxed for shipment, but that the principals, fearing discovery, abandoned the body in the alley on the way to the railway station.

Late this afternoon the body was identified as that of A. J. Barnes, custodian of the Hiawatha building, thirty-seventh street. The identification was made by an employe. Barnes was proprietor of several saws, book and fruit stands and had been recently divorced from his wife, with whom he had had much trouble.

INDIAN TROUBLES IN UTAH.

Prospect of a First-Class Rumpus if
the Governor Arms Settlers.

DENVER, Dec. 7.—There is a feeling of military headquarters in this city that if the Governor of Utah intends to arm settlers and cowboys in Southeastern Utah to drive out the Ute Indians who are pasturing ponies and cattle in San Juan County, there will be a first-class rumpus. The military authorities here hold that the Indians have a right in that country, and it is likely, should trouble arise, that troops will be sent down from Fort Ligon to protect the Indians.

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TEXAS TRAIN ROBBERY.

THE AMOUNT OF BOOTY TAKEN
PLACED AT \$10,000.

Officers Confident That the Desperadoes
Are Members of the Cook
Gang of Bandits.

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FORT WORTH (Texas), Dec. 7.—The local managers of the Pacific Express Company declare it is impossible to say just how much the robbers who held up the Texas and Pacific train west of here last night got away with, as the way-bills are not yet received. It is believed they got very little booty, however. The contents of the iron through package box arrived here intact.

A Sheriff's posse of fifteen men, led by William Ray and Police Chief Maddox, has been out with a pack of blood-hounds since last night following the three robbers, who are well mounted and armed, and are traveling in a southwesterly direction.

The safe which the robbers looted was the one which was opened in the Gordon robbery a short time ago.

The best information obtainable warrants placing the amount of the booty secured by the robbers at \$10,000.

The officers are confident that the desperadoes are members of the Cook gang and are making for Indian Territory.

A detachment of the State rangers has started to cut off their retreat.

The report sent out last night that gold in transit to pay for Government bonds had been secured by the train-robbers is denied by the express officials. The only money sent by train to Fort Worth on Monday, which was unlocked when the local post-office was closed, was \$10,000 in gold, which was locked by a time lock, and was not opened by the robbers.

Messenger McEwan, at the express company's office, last night said: "It was dark when I heard a loud noise at the front door of the express car. The door gave way, and the engineer and his fireman were standing there. They held pistols in their hands, and had broken in through the door. There were two masked men, I think one small, and the other large. Both had Winchester rifles in their hands, covering me. I was not prepared for an attack, and could do nothing. They forced the engineer and driver to proceed to my car. They helped themselves. I did not dream of trouble until the door was broken and I found myself covered with two Winchester's."

SIX MEN INJURED.

Probable Fatal Explosion of Dynamite
at Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—This afternoon, while excavating near Elm Hill avenue and Severy street, six men were badly injured by an explosion of dynamite. A train of dynamite cartridges had been fixed for blasting rocks. Some exploded, but one or two failed, and the workmen were digging out the cartridges when one exploded. The following were probably fatally injured: James Calahan, James Oatley, P. Leonard, John McShane, John Cronan. The last two may recover.

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