

EDITOR VISITS PRESIDENT TAFT

WILLIAM R. NELSON OF THE KANSAS CITY STAR IS EXECUTIVE'S GUEST.

DISCUSSES INSURGENCY

Missouri Declares That Next Congress Will Be Either Insurgent or Democratic—Talks Unreservedly in Praise of Roosevelt—Taft to Provoicetown Today.

Beverly, Mass., Aug. 4.—Colonel William R. Nelson, owner of the Kansas City Star, who has been spending the hot weather at his summer home near here, dropped in on President Taft at Burgess Point this afternoon. On the way out to the president's cottage, the colonel said he was not going to talk politics. He could keep himself, subsequent reports from the front porch overlooking Salem bay indicated, however, that a hearty exchange of greetings was quickly followed by an earnest discussion of recent events in the political world.

President Taft and Old Bill Nelson, as he familiarly refers to the Missouri editor, have been friends for a long time. Their divergent views of the Payne-Aldrich tariff act have not severely interfered with their personal intimacy. Colonel Nelson probably had a few burning thoughts to convey to the president and there appears to be little doubt as to the conference.

"What about the results in Kansas?" Mr. Nelson was asked by the newspaper men.

"Oh," laughed the colonel, "my heart is not broken."

"And Iowa?"

"Well, I am managing to bear up under that pretty well, too," he said.

"What do you think of the possibility of the next house of representatives being democratic?"

"It looks as though it will be either democratic or insurgent. At any rate you can be sure it will be anti-Cannon."

"Kansas," the colonel said, "is filled with men who either made the state or the sons of men who made it. They think progressively out there and they act progressively. People in the east don't understand Kansas. But just watch Kansas and you can come pretty close to seeing what the rest of the country will do."

"Many republicans seem to think that the republican party is made up of a majority of the voters of the country. In that they are wrong. The democrats have never put up a candidate for president who ought to have won who did not win. Take Cleveland and Tilden for example."

"All this does not mean that you are going to support Judson Harmon, does it?" queried a venturesome reporter.

"Not against Theodore Roosevelt."

"Do you think Colonel Roosevelt can 'come back'?"

"Come back!" the colonel snapped, "why, he'd sweep the country. But I don't think he will run unless he has to."

Colonel Roosevelt's recent travels in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania claimed Colonel Nelson's attention for a few minutes.

"You will notice," he said, "that Colonel Roosevelt went to the coal mines and went to the National City bank; that he went to Father Curran and not J. P. Morgan."

Colonel Nelson then spoke of his friendship for President Taft.

"I am very fond of him," he said, "and I was much interested in his election."

"Do you think he will be re-elected?"

"Now, boys," laughed the colonel, "you must not ask me foolish questions."

The president had a number of visitors besides Colonel Nelson. Ambassador Bryce of Great Britain and Mrs. Bryce were at Burgess Point for an extended visit. Tonight President and Mrs. Taft slept on board the Mayflower, and will sail soon after daylight for Provoicetown, Mass., where the president is to review a fleet of 15 battleships and speak at the dedication of the Pilgrims monument.

Saxberg Murder Case Goes Before Jury

Butte, Aug. 4.—(Special).—Arguments in the Saxberg murder trial occupied the greater part of the day and in the early afternoon the case went to the jury. Saxberg is accused of killing Emil Mikelson at the White House saloon on the evening of April 3.

This trial has proven unusually interesting, and at times hard feeling has been shown by all interested. The testimony was concluded yesterday afternoon. The instructions were read to the jury this afternoon. Late tonight the jury was still out and it looks as if there is a possibility of disagreement.

VICE PRESIDENT SHERMAN NAMED AS "MAN HIGHER UP" BY GORE IN OKLAHOMA GRAFT INVESTIGATION

Sensation Is Sprung by Blind Senator Before the Committee Looking Into the Charges Made by Gore Before the Senate in June—Senator Curtis of Kansas Is Implicated, as Is Representative McGuire of Oklahoma—Denials Are Filed by All Concerned—Hamon, Who Is Said to Have Offered the Bribe, Declares He Neither Attempted to Buy Gore's Influence Nor Mentioned Sherman and Curtis as Being Interested in the Approval of the McMurray Contracts.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 4.—What happened in the private office of United States Senator Thomas P. Gore at Washington at noon on May 6, last, formed the basis of sensational charges, involving the names of Vice President Sherman, Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas, Congressman B. S. McGuire of Oklahoma and others, in a hearing before a special congressional investigating committee here today.

During a conference held in that office Senator Gore testified he had been approached by Jake L. Hamon, former chairman of the Oklahoma state republican central committee, and said that he had been offered a bribe of \$25,000 or \$50,000 to remove certain legislation pending in congress, so that \$3,000,000 might be paid to J. P. McMurray, an attorney of McAlester, Okla., and his associates.

The money was to represent "attorneys' fees" of 10 per cent on \$20,000,000, which was to be secured from a New York syndicate for 450,000 acres of coal and asphalt land now owned by the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians in this state.

Vice-President Sherman.

Vice President Sherman's name was mentioned by Mr. Hamon, Senator Gore testified, as being "interested" in the land deal to the extent of favoring the approval by congress of what are known as the McMurray contracts with the Indians.

What happened in another private room in Washington, and also where, it is alleged, Hamon made more "overtures," was told by Congressman C. E. Creager of the Third Oklahoma district. Congressman Creager supplemented the testimony of Senator Gore. He said that on last June 16 he had been invited by Hamon to meet him in a private room at the Occidental hotel in Washington.

Having gone there, Mr. Creager testified, he was informed he could have a "substantial interest" in the land deal if he would withdraw his opposition to the approval of the McMurray contracts by congress.

Asked the question, "Were any figures mentioned as to how much you were to receive?" Mr. Creager replied:

"No, I did not let it go so far as that. I made it plain it was not open to being influenced in that way. I firmly opposed to the granting of such an enormous fee to attorneys."

McGuire Interested.

Congressman McGuire of Oklahoma, who was charged by Senator Gore as being "interested" in the McMurray contract, was said by Mr. Creager in his testimony to have been at the time of his visit an occupant of the same suite of rooms with Hamon and McMurray at the hotel.

Clerks of Senator Gore testified to having been invited by McMurray and Hamon to "frog-leg" snappers at Washington, at which the Indian suit act were to be "talked over." These invitations, it was declared, were all "turned down."

On one occasion, one of the clerks testified, Hamon said Senator Gore was "awfully hard on his friends."

Thomas H. Owen, counsel for Mr.

Senator Gore in his testimony asserted that the offer of bribery went so far that Hamon said the \$25,000 to \$50,000 would not be paid over in the form of a check or marked money, but that "it would be all cash, hard cash."

The Investigators.

The committee that heard the charges was appointed by resolution of the house of representatives to investigate the McMurray contracts, which are declared to have been made by McMurray individually with 10,000 Indians, each of whom agreed to turn over 10 per cent of their profit from the sale of their land, provided the contracts were approved by congress.

The committee, headed by Congressman Charles H. Burke of South Dakota, is composed of Congressmen Philip P. Campbell of Kansas, Charles B. Miller of Minnesota, John J. Stevens of Texas and E. W. Saunders of Virginia. Its initial session was held today. Congressman Creager's appearance on the witness stand followed a series of sensational statements. Among Senator Gore's assertions were the following:

The Charges.

That Hamon told him a man "higher up" in the government was interested in the approval of the contracts and that, therefore, there was no reason why Senator Gore should not be. When asked who the man higher up was, Hamon had replied, "The vice president."

That Hamon told him Senator Curtis of Kansas was "interested" in the deal. That Hamon told him Congressman McGuire of Oklahoma was "interested" in the deal.

That Hamon told him an employee of the department of justice at Washington was "interested" in the deal; that the employee knew the name of the employee, but would not divulge his name or the name of his informant, especially because the latter would lose his position.

That former Senator Long of Kansas, acting as counsel for McMurray, had gone to President Taft on April 28 to urge the approval of the contracts, but that the president had said it would take a good deal to convince him that the amount of the fee asked by McMurray was justified.

Senator Curtis today sent a telegram to the committee denying that he was in any way interested in the contracts and offering to appear before the committee. Chairman Burke said Senator Curtis would be subpoenaed to testify.

Gore Hesitates.

An account of that part of Senator Gore's testimony referring to Vice President Sherman follows:

Mr. Burke: "In your conversation with Mr. Hamon you stated he named a very high official that he said was interested in these contracts. You omitted his name."

Mr. Gore: "I say again that I should very much prefer not to name him. I am, however, subject to the will of the committee."

Mr. Burke: "Then the committee is here to get the facts and we must have all of this conversation."

Thomas H. Owen, counsel for Mr.

Gore: "In that connection you spoke of an article appearing in a Kansas City newspaper that two gentlemen had called on the president. I wish you would say who was mentioned in that article."

Mr. Gore: "In the newspaper of April 14 Vice President Sherman and Senator Curtis were named as having called to discuss the segregation of coal and asphalt lands. I think before the senate met the next day the information came to me."

Senator Gore explained he believed Vice President Sherman was favorable to the contracts, and a short time later he introduced a resolution in the senate that would require further action of congress before the contracts could be approved.

Congressman Creager.

Congressman Creager did not take the stand until late in the day. Asked if he ever met Hamon, he replied: "Yes, I met him by appointment in his rooms at the Occidental hotel in Washington. He invited me there, saying he wanted to talk over a little matter. At that time he was trying to have the president approve the McMurray contracts. I had already gone on record as being opposed to their approval. Well, when I got to the room with Hamon, he began to urge me to withdraw my opposition. He suggested I might have an interest in the contracts."

Congressman Miller: "Were any figures mentioned? Did he say how much interest you might have?"

Mr. Creager: "No; I did not let it go that far. I made my language pretty emphatic that I was opposed to the contracts and would not be influenced."

Congressman Stephens: "You mean to say that you regarded the offer of such a character as to arouse your indignation?"

Mr. Creager: "Yes; that's it. I regarded it as an offer to influence my attitude toward the contracts. It was even suggested that I call together all the officials I could and defeat the measure opposing the approval of the bills."

Congressman Miller: "What kind of rooms did Mr. Hamon and Mr. McMurray have at the hotel?"

Rooms in McMurray's Suite.

Mr. Creager: "Oh, three or four front rooms." Representative McGuire of Oklahoma occupied part of Hamon and McMurray's suite. I met Hamon

later at different time. When he heard I was coming to testify before this committee he urged me not to. He expressed the hope that I would make no statement before this committee."

Recalled to the stand, Senator Gore was asked to mention the names of the employees of the department of justice who had told him that another employee, or an official in that department was interested in the contracts.

"That I could not do," replied Senator Gore. "The matter was important to me in confidence, and I regret that it was mentioned here at all."

"Now, senator," interposed Congressman Campbell, "don't you think it unfair to go so far before this committee and yet not tell all you know? You know, we are here to learn the truth and we would like to have all of it made known."

Refuses to Answer.

"No, I would rather not. It is well known that heretofore employees of that department have lost their positions for giving information and I would rather that this feature of the investigation be dropped."

E. P. Phil, attorney for the Choctaw tribe of Indians, then questioned the senator as to what he knew of President Taft's attitude on the McMurray contracts.

"I think some people interested in the contracts went to see the president on April 28," said the witness.

"The president stated that former Senator Long had already submitted the matter to him and that Long's clients (meaning the McMurray interests) might have their day in court. I think the president said everybody might have his day in court, but that it would take a good deal of argument to convince him that the amount of fees asked for in the contracts (\$3,000,000) was just. In fact, I think the president made it plain he was opposed to the contracts."

Hamon.

Senator Gore testified he and Hamon had been friends and had been interested in other business transactions at Lawton, Okla., in which money loans were involved. Mr. Hamon is an attorney of Lawton, which is Senator Gore's home town. Hamon is 37 years old and married. Aside from republican chairmanships, he has been city attorney of Lawton and has practiced law in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

Appreciated Value.

Explaining what led up to his opposing the approval of the contracts with the Indians, Senator Gore, in his testimony, asserted that as far back as 1905 he wrote a letter to Senator La Follette calling attention to the great wealth of the coal and asphalt lands owned by the Indians. He said the United States geological survey had estimated the mineral deposits to be worth \$150,000,000.

In 1905 he said, McMurray had obtained contracts with the tribes of Indians for the sale of the lands on a 10 per cent basis. In 1908 President Roosevelt had registered his disapproval of the contracts. In the same year McMurray obtained contracts individually with 10,000 Indians, there being at that time no law against the execution of contracts with individual Indians. It was this condition that

Washington, Aug. 4.—Again charging that the Zelaya fortune, through the manipulations of a son-in-law of the former Nicaraguan president, was being poured into the Estrada coffers to defray the expenses of the warfare against the Madriz government in Nicaragua, and reiterating stories of the unpopularity of the former president, a statement was made here today by Dr. Sebastian Salinas, who, with Modesto Barrios, came to this country to try and establish friendly relations between Madriz and the United States.

Barrios is still in New York and the mission of Salinas to this city is non-political. He came here to place his young daughter in school and expects to return to New York tomorrow. He made no effort to see officials of the state department.

Zelaya has not contributed any money or material aid to Dr. Madriz," said Dr. Salinas. "But, on the other hand, I know personally that his son-in-law, Joaquin Puzos, holding his power of attorney, sent money to help the revolutionists at Bluefields. This money was turned over to the revolutionists through another relative who is now in Bluefields. The name of this relation is Carlos Cudra Pasos."

"Zelaya not only contributed nothing toward the purchase of the Venus, but he knew nothing about that transaction until after she had sailed."

Dr. Salinas ascribed to agents of the insurgents the reports that Madriz was the representative or the tool of Zelaya, and, therefore, unfriendly to American interests.

"Neither is true," said Dr. Salinas. "Dr. Madriz was the most powerful enemy of Zelaya's administration."

AUTHORITIES SUSPECT JAP

ORIENTAL BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN MURDERER OF KEN. DALL FAMILY.

CONFESSED TO RANCHERS

Yamaguchi Practically Told Neighbors of Murdered Family That He Had Fought With Them and Killed Them—Police Begin Hunt—Another Body Is Found.

Oakland, Cal., Aug. 4.—After an interview with Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Starbuck, owners of the ranch where the Kendalls had lived, District Attorney Clarence P. Lea of Sonoma county, said tonight:

"I hold Henry Yamaguchi, the Japanese who lived on the Starbuck ranch, responsible for the murders of Mr. and Mrs. Kendall and their son. We will now prosecute a vigorous search for him. He has practically confessed the crime to the Starbucks and with the other incriminating circumstances pointing to him as the murderer, I believe we are now on the track of the right man."

District Attorney Lea and Official Court Stenographer Scott called at the Starbuck home yesterday. There they were told that Yamaguchi, very excited and with his eyes badly discolored, came to their place on the evening of July 25. He stated that he had been in a fight with the Kendalls. In telling Starbuck of the affair he said:

"They all came at me and I fixed them all right. I put them away."

Yamaguchi disappeared and has not been seen since. He had the black dog from the ranch with him and the authorities expect to be able to trace him by this clue. A Japanese followed by a black dog was seen in the vicinity of Guerneville, Sonoma county, July 23. This is the day upon which Yamaguchi is supposed to have left the Starbuck ranch.

Yamaguchi is described as being small, weighing about 100 pounds and not over five feet, four inches in height. He has sharp features and has light brown skin. It is thought that there is a strain of white blood in his veins. He speaks English poorly.

Woman's Body Found.

Santa Rosa, Cal., Aug. 4.—The mutilated body of a woman with the head and legs missing was found late today in a canyon near the Kendall ranch. The body has not been positively identified but it is the general belief here that it is that of Mrs. Thomas Kendall, who has been missing with her husband and son since July 23.

Charles Denove, a Japanese, and a friend of Henry Yamaguchi, was arrested at Mesa Grande this afternoon. He has told the officers he had Yamaguchi in his house at Mesa Grande last Sunday night.

COLORADO DELEGATION PACKED FOR BALLINGER

Denver, Aug. 4.—The Times says that friends here of former Forester Pinchot today came out with strong denunciation of the delegation named by Governor John P. Shafroth to represent Colorado at the National Conservation congress to be held at St. Paul September 5. According to the Times, some of these friends of Pinchot went so far as to charge the governor with lending aid to an alleged plot to discredit Pinchot by packing the congress in the interest of Secretary of the Interior Ballinger. The Times says that Pinchot's friends assert that agents of Ballinger in states believed to be friendly to the secretary are at work in an effort to get control of the St. Paul meeting.

Investigation Shows Unbelievable Cruelty

Chicago, Aug. 4.—Human agents, acting on anonymous communication from neighbors forced their way into a dark room in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Lang and found their 6-year-old son trembling and emaciated, chained to the wall with a heavy log chain. The parents were arrested. Neighbors assert the boy has been punished so much he crawls on all fours to his parents when they call, and has spent a large portion of his life chained to the wall of a dark room.

A NEW CLUE.

London, Aug. 4.—According to the Daily Chronicle the police investigation has disclosed the purchase of the poisonous drug yosotin from a pharmacy last January. It is supposed by Dr. Crippen.



VICE PRESIDENT JAMES SCHOOLCRAFT SHERMAN.



SENATOR CHARLES CURTIS OF KANSAS.