

MORGAN WAS THE WRECKER---BUT MORGAN'S DEAD NOW But Mellen's Testimony Is Not All That Worries the Gang Now

THE WRITING ON THE WALL



HOME FOLKS WELCOME FRIEND

OYSTER BAY IS TENDERLY CORDIAL IN ITS GREETINGS TO "THEODORE."

A PICTURESQUE SCENE

Neighbors Are Shocked to See Their Idol With a Cane, but the Heartiness of His Voice Reassures Them and They Tell the Colonel That They're Glad to Have Him at Home.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., May 19.—Theodore Roosevelt got out of his native soil at 8:40 tonight for the first time in seven months. His homecoming was a quiet affair, in sharp contrast to the noisy welcome he received when all New York turned out to greet him on his return from Africa four years ago.

A group of 30 persons, old friends and relatives, stood quietly on the beach at the cove on Oyster Bay, just down the hill from Mr. Roosevelt's home. The former president, leaning on a cane and assisted by two men, toiled slowly up the gangway from the landing place. It was something of a shock to his old friends to whom his unusual physical vigor always had been a source of wonder, to note the change.

But although Mr. Roosevelt had paid his penny for his researches in the jungle, he gave no sign of change in his manner. His voice had the same ring as ever, his gestures were as vigorous and his teeth came together with the same sharp click as he stood on the beach to greet his old friends.

It was a picturesque scene. Since long before sundown the little group of persons had been waiting silently on the beach. Shortly after 8 o'clock the tug was sighted. She steamed in slowly, and after what seemed like an interminable delay a rowboat was put off and crept up to the wharf.

There was a family reunion at Sagamore Hill tonight. Colonel Roosevelt's youngest daughter, Ethel, and her husband, Dr. Derby, were there, as well as the members of the party who made the trip on the tug with the former president.

TO ANSWER.

Washington, May 19.—(Special.)—Superintendent John R. Eddy of Tongue River agency has been summoned to appear before the subcommittee of the senate Indian affairs committee, to answer charges and complaints which were submitted to the subcommittee when it visited the agency last summer.

OIL WELLS SAVED AND FEDERALS GONE

Washington, May 19.—Navy department dispatches during the day made it clear that the Mexican federalists, fleeing from defeat at Tampico, had left the oil fields about that city. Admiral Badger reported that between 2,000 and 4,000 troops under General Zaragoza had stopped at Tampico City, another oil center, but later evacuated that town. The oil wells there were unharmed. This news allayed fears of the foreign oil men that their interests might suffer in hostilities between the constitutional forces and that the wells in this section might be fired by the federalists in their retreat. Oil operations are now returning to normal in the Tampico fields, where all is reported quiet.

BANDITS SURROUNDED WHO ROBBED A BANK

Spokane, May 19.—Three bandits who locked the cashier of the State bank of Spangle, Wash., in the bank vault and escaped with between \$4,000 and \$5,000 today, were surrounded tonight in the woods along Hangman creek, four miles from Waverly, Wash. Posses under the leadership of sheriffs and deputies obtained bloodhounds from Moscow, Idaho, this evening and put the dogs on the trail. A member of one of the posses was O. W. Newton, the cashier of the bank.

Mellen Passes the Buck Declining to Be a Goat in the New Haven Game

Washington, May 19.—The story of absolute domination by the late J. Pierpont Morgan in the affairs of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad system—of the spending of millions in awe and ignorant silence at the command of the all-powerful financial ruler—was told to the interstate commerce commission today by Charles S. Mellen, former president of the railroad. It was the most extraordinary chapter yet unfolded in the commission's inquiry into the alleged exploitation of the great New England railroad and disappearance of fortunes from its treasury through acquisition at extravagant prices of subsidiary properties.

There was no time in a single day to crowd details of all the incidents and events dealt with in the witness testimony. He barely touched upon some of the big things paving the way for exhaustive questioning that will continue tomorrow.

Members of the commission, counsel and spectators fairly hung upon every word of Mr. Mellen today as his story developed dramatically under the examination by Chief Counsel Folk. Everybody listened with amazement as he related how he had stood in awe of Mr. Morgan because of his comprehensive grasp and perfect presence of financial matters; how he had consulted Theodore Roosevelt, then president of the United States, regarding the purchase of the Boston & Maine railroad; how he had prevented the late E. H. Harriman from acquiring the Boston & Maine by getting it himself for the New Haven, and how he had dealt with the late Police Inspector Thomas F. Byrnes of New York to obtain the Westchester stock held by persons whom he assumed to be connected with Tammany hall.

As he did when on the stand last week, Mr. Mellen gave his testimony with apparent willingness, answer to questions readily and concisely—that is, every question except one. He did try to avoid telling about the time when Mr. Morgan humiliated him by brusquely refusing to give him information concerning the Westchester transaction, to which he thought, as president of the New Haven, he was entitled.

When he finally related the incident, his face was drawn into hard lines and he clasped his hands over the table in front of him almost convulsively.

His voice, however, indicated no signs of emotion. Later he even gave the story a touch of humor. When Directors Hemingway and Skinner of the New Haven demanded of him why the road was expending \$11,000,000 on the Westchester purchase, he had offered to appoint each of them a committee of one to find out; said he had "barked his shins in a futile endeavor to obtain information from Mr. Morgan, and that they could try it if they desired."

"They ducked," concluded Mr. Mellen grimly, and a ripple of laughter ran around the room. He testified that when he went to Morgan and told him that the Westchester report was not complete and did not show how \$11,000,000 had been spent, Morgan asked: "Do you think you know more about how it ought to be drawn than I do?"

"I allowed I didn't, and dropped the subject. I thought I was entitled to know why we were paying \$11,000,000 for a great basketful of air we did not know the value of. I never did know the real motive for the deal. I tried to find out and failed. The real value of the Westchester at the time of its purchase was worth amounting to about \$1,000,000 and real estate valued at about \$4,000,000."

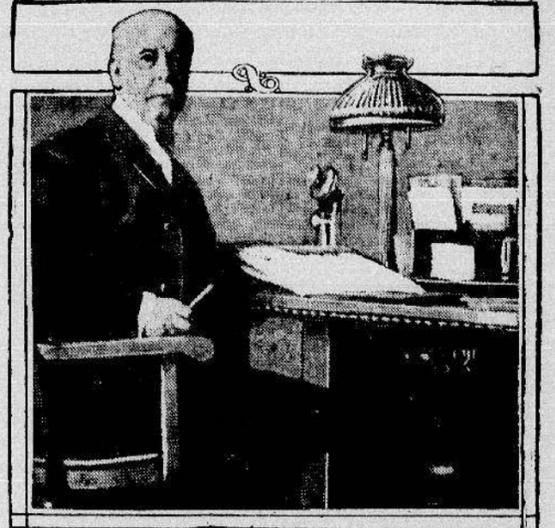
Mellen testified that he wrote a letter later, which was read, in which he said he was sick and disgusted over the Westchester deal and feared that many reputations might be damaged on account of it.

He said also that he expected he would be made the "Goat of the entire business."

"It looks as if I was a prophet when I wrote the letter," commented Mellen, for particular interest was aroused by Mr. Mellen's account of his conference with the then president, Colonel Roosevelt, respecting the acquisition of the Boston & Maine. He explained that he was a great admirer of Colonel Roosevelt, and frequently conferred with him about important questions.

Colonel Roosevelt said to him at that conference, according to the testimony, that he was not a lawyer and was not prepared to advise what he should do about the proposed purchase, but on Mr. Mellen's statement of the situation, he thought there might be nothing objectionable in it. Mr. Mellen added that the president said he could countenance no illegal action in the matter, and suggested that he confer with Commissioner Lane of the interstate commerce commission. From Mr. Lane, he said, he got no expression of opinion.

A letter was submitted by Mr. Folk, written on May 21, 1907, by Henry W. Whitney to Mr. Mellen, suggesting that he "say something at an early day touching the Boston & Maine matter."



CHARLES S. MELLEN.

God "a large public is still to be reckoned with" and concluding with this paragraph.

"I have thought it possible the little fellow" at Washington might like to get his finger into the pie, in which case if it should happen before the public had become reconciled to the change it might result in infinite harm to all your interests."

Mr. Folk then offered in evidence the reply to that letter the following day, in which Mr. Mellen wrote:

"It has been thought advisable by all concerned that just as little official information should get out to the newspapers regarding the Boston & Maine matter as is absolutely necessary. This was agreed upon by Mr.

Ledyard, Mr. Tattle and myself, and we are acting on this theory at the present time. The Washington situation I have, I think, completely cared for. One never knows for a certainty regarding matters there, but the ground has been carefully played, and every chance for trouble considered, and I think successfully eliminated."

Mr. Mellen told of his relations with John I. Billard and of the transactions between the New Haven and the Billard company. He estimated with a smile that Mr. Billard was a shrewd trader, saying that when he was conducting with him any business, he never looked anywhere except straight into his eyes.

PRESIDENT EXPECTS BRIEF CONFERENCE AT NIAGARA FALLS

Washington, May 19.—With mediation proceedings removed to Niagara Falls, Ont., activity here in the Mexican situation was notably relaxed today. The American commissioners left early in the day for the scene of the conference, and were followed later by Minister Suarez of Chile, the last of the mediators to leave Washington.

A special telegraph wire from the headquarters of the American representatives at Niagara Falls to the White House was installed during the day, and preparations were made for keeping the president in close touch with the proceedings.

All important questions are to be submitted to the president before the American representatives take any action. There was every indication at the White House that officials do not expect a prolonged conference at Niagara Falls, especially since communication by telegraph with Mexico City now is good and there will be no difficulty in obtaining general Huerta's views.

President Wilson and the cabinet had a general discussion of conditions, but there were no definite developments relating to Mexico. In the senate brief debate was precipitated when Senator Williams of Mississippi read a letter from a government official at Vera Cruz, whose identity is withheld, saying that "the noisiest things in Mexico were American dollars."

Anxiety over the persistent lack of information as to American Consul John R. Silliman at Saltillo and the 19 members of the Smith family reported held at Torolu, Chiapas, continues at the state department, and diplomatic efforts to obtain definite reports were pressed.

The state department, in response to an urgent message, received a report from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City that representations had been made to the Mexican foreign office several times concerning the Smiths, and the Brazilian minister had urged the British consul in Chiapas to use his good offices to secure the release of the Americans.

Broken railroad communication between Mexico City and Saltillo was accepted as the reason for the failure to hear from Silliman, although the arrival of a train in Mexico City from San Luis Potosi without him caused disappointment.

The Brazilian minister, Secretary Bryan announced, reported conditions quiet in Mexico City, and stated that arrangements had been made to send a special train with 200 refugees from the capital tomorrow night for Puerto Mexico.

State and war department officials awaited further information as to the fate of Private Samuel Parks. No in-

formation as to Parks was forthcoming from any source, although the horses which disappeared through the Mexican lines near Vera Cruz with the American soldier were mysteriously returned to the American lines.

Secretary Bryan made it clear today what the status of Dr. Edward W. Ryan of Scranton, Pa., was at the time he was thrown into jail by federal authorities at Presidio on the charge of being a spy. Dr. Ryan was authorized by Charge O'Shaughnessy to go to Torreon and render medical assistance to the refugees. He was not commissioned to obtain information for the state department, and was not connected with the Red Cross.

CONGRESS LINES UP FOR EARLY FINISH

SENATE AND HOUSE MAKE READY FOR THE WINDUP OF WORK.

Washington, May 19.—Evidence that administration leaders in the senate do not propose to permit action on the tolls exemption repeal bill to be long delayed was given tonight when Democratic Leader Kern announced he would ask the senate tomorrow to give unanimous consent for a vote on the bill and the pending amendment on May 27.

The House. Washington, May 19.—The house settled down late today to dispose of the administration trust legislation program within the next three weeks. A special rule was adopted providing for immediate consideration of the bill to create a trade commission, the omnibus anti-trust measure, and the bill for federal control of railroad securities issues, and limiting general debate on all three to five hours.

MORE PLUMS. Washington, May 19.—(Special.)—The senate today confirmed the following Montana postmasters: August C. Sheridan, Big Timber; Thomas A. Busby, Conrad; John H. Booth, Ekalaka.

ALL IS READY FOR PEACE MEET

THIS AFTERNOON THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED.

Niagara Falls, Ont., May 19.—On the eve of the opening tomorrow of the mediation conference for the settlement of difficulties between the United States and the Huerta government in Mexico, practically everything was in readiness for the proceedings to begin. Three o'clock tomorrow afternoon is the hour set for the formal opening of the first session.

With the arrival tonight from Washington of the third mediator, Eduardo Suarez, the Chilean minister, and the two American delegates, Justice Joseph R. Lamar and Frederick W. Lehmann, the personnel of the conference awaited for its completion the three Mexican delegates, Babasa, Rodriguez and Elenora. They are due from New York tomorrow morning. Ambassador Da Gama of Brazil and Minister Naon of Argentina, who have been here since yesterday, were busy today completing many of the details of preparations.

While the mediators continued to maintain the strictest silence as to the nature of the mediation proposals, it was generally accepted tonight as extremely probable that the elimination of Huerta would be the first suggestion the mediators would present.

The broad international scope of the proceedings was evidenced by the arrival today of Dr. Gonzalo C. Cordeva, minister from Ecuador to the United States. He intends to inform his government by cable of all important developments during the conference. It is understood that Dr. Alberto Membrano, minister from Honduras, and Latin-American diplomats or their representatives also will be on the scene.

It was said that the general Pan-American desire to see the mediation a success was as great as that of the three South American countries whose good offices have been accepted. The arrival of the Ecuadorian minister, therefore, was the subject of much comment. Tomorrow will be devoted mainly to the formalities. Welcome to Canadian soil will be extended by two representatives of the Dominion government, Martin Burrell, minister of agriculture, and Senator Loughheed, government leader in the upper house.

After this the mediators and the delegates will return the call. Following this there will be a gathering of the mediators and of the delegates from both sides for formal introductions for the presentations of credentials, and for the adoption of such rules as will apply during their proceedings.

Cordial Welcome for the Colonel as He Gets Home

New York, May 19.—Theodore Roosevelt returned home today from his visit to South America.

Accompanied by two naturalists of his party, George K. Cherry and Lon E. Miller, the former president arrived from Para at quarantine shortly before 4 o'clock on board the Booth liner Aidan.

With a few crisp sentences, punctuated by decisive gestures, the colonel reaffirmed the verity of the "River of Doubt," curtly denied having expressed himself as to presidential possibilities for 1916, declared he would not run for governor of New York, made a few deprecatory remarks about his critics and with harbor craft tooting and flags fluttering, was taken on board a tug which proceeded to Oyster Bay.

Friends who had been alarmed by the reports of Colonel Roosevelt's severe illness were greatly surprised when they saw him. He was noticeably thinner and he used a cane as he walked, but his face wore a healthy tan and he had apparently not lost an ounce of the vigor and energy which have become characteristic of him. After stopping to days in this country, Mr. Roosevelt will go to Spain to the wedding of his son, Kermit.

As the tug which carried several members of the Roosevelt family, including Mrs. Roosevelt, W. Emlen Roosevelt, Archie and Theodore, Jr., approached the Aidan, the familiar figure of the colonel could be seen leaning far over the rail as he waved a greeting, his lips flexed into the familiar smile.

Not a few eyes were wet as the collector of the port, Dudley Field Hempstead, upflore CVU2b2k HT HTA, and a host of newspapermen scrambled up the companionway. The colonel stood at the top and shook each man by the hand.

Mr. Roosevelt anticipated most of the things people were anxious to know as he submitted to a fusillade of questions before going on the tug that took him home.

"Not a word about the political situation," he said. "I don't know anything about it for I haven't seen a newspaper. Any papers which have given my views on the Mexican situation have misquoted me. That applies to what has been said about my presidential intentions," he added.

He was informed that he was reported to have said that he would not run as a candidate on the republican ticket and that if he became a candidate it would be on the progressive ticket.

"Not a word of truth in this," the colonel said. "I have not made a single declaration about the political situation in 1916."

"I haven't been asked whether I would run for governor of New York," he replied in answer to another question. "If asked, I would say that I would not."

"As to the river, it is extraordinary

to have put on the map a river as long as the Rhine, but there is no more doubt of its existence than there is of the Rhine."

Mr. Roosevelt was asked how he felt.

"I don't look like a sick man, do I?" was his rejoinder. "I have been very ill with jungle fever, but I'm all right now. I feel fine."

It was learned, however, from Mr. Cherry that the colonel still suffered from slight symptoms of fever. Mr. Roosevelt confessed he had lost 55 pounds, part of which he had regained. He had also been troubled by bites of poisonous insects.

Mr. Malone asked him whether he was bothered by the criticism made by the English explorer, Henry Savage Landor.

Mr. Roosevelt laughed deprecatingly. Neither that nor other similar criticisms worried him, he said.

The colonel told friends and newspapermen who crowded around him that he would make only one address before sailing for Spain.

"I will give this," said Mr. Roosevelt, "before the National Geographic society. At that time I will answer questions that any respectable person wishes to ask me about my trip. More than this I do not care to say now."

In the baggage brought by the colonel were a number of alligator skins and other trophies, which some but the customs house officers saw. The only exception which the colonel took to the procedure of these officers was their handling of a manuscript which lay on the trunk.

"Please don't touch that," he warned. "I shouldn't want to be separated from that."

He would not say what it contained. As Mr. Roosevelt talked his illness did not show either in his face or his manner. His dominant feeling seemed to be one of tremendous gladness at getting home.

Half an hour after the Aidan had entered quarantine Colonel Roosevelt stepped down the companionway into the tug which took him to Oyster Bay.