

that he was elected for two years just as the State committee of 1908 was elected for two years, including those committee-men seated by himself and Murphy.

There is the greatest interest as to what shall be done at the approaching meeting of the committee with the State committee men who were arbitrarily seated by the Conners-Murphy combination in the Carnegie Hall convention of April, 1908. It was contended that these men, twelve in number, have no legal vote in the present controversy, and that they were not legally elected by their constituents of the Senate districts they now represent, but were arbitrarily put in their places by a resolution devised by Conners and Murphy in the time of the Carnegie Hall convention and against the protests of the delegates from the Senate districts.

The protest against the seven State committee-men from Kings county was, however, unsuccessful, and they were elected by fraudulent ballot box stuffing methods, but this charge, it was pointed out, was disproved at the primaries in Kings county last fall when by direction of the late Senator McCarran, both sides had election representatives at the primary polls and the McCarranites won easily in all the disputed districts.

These were the State committee-men named by Conners and Murphy at the Carnegie Hall convention.

- 1—Perry Belmont.
- 2—M. J. Cummings.
- 3—W. E. Weber.
- 4—T. F. Wogan.
- 5—M. E. Butler.
- 6—P. H. McCarran.
- 7—W. L. Shea.
- 8—Robert Wemple.
- 9—Clinton Beckwith.
- 10—John W. Potter.
- 11—Charles F. Rittigan.
- 12—J. O. Bennett.

Mr. Carr is now in jail, having been convicted of fraud in the Supervisor's office at Utica, but the Democrats of the district have filed a petition with the State Comptroller, Albany, announcing that Mayor A. B. Kissinger of Rome, editor of the Rome Sentinel, is their choice for State Comptroller, and not Harry S. Potter, who was seated in 1908, and who from time immemorial has been unmercifully defeated at the primaries.

The Conners-Murphy combination in the Carnegie Hall convention of April, 1908, substituted the following State committee-men for the foregoing:

- 1—Edwin Bailey.
- 2—John F. Delaney.
- 3—Frank R. McGuire.
- 4—William A. Doyle.
- 5—Thomas F. Byrne.
- 6—M. T. Meagher, succeeded by Edward Gannon.
- 7—William F. Doyle.
- 8—Denial Moynihan.
- 9—William S. Cameron in place of John Anderson.
- 10—Harry S. Patten.
- 11—William B. Harper.
- 12—Thomas B. Hefferman.

John A. Dix of Washington, Edward E. Perkins of Dutchess and Thomas M. Conway of Cayuga are among those mentioned for Conners's job. All sorts of influences were at work yesterday on the State committee-men in the doubtful column.

CONNERS HITS AT MURPHY.

Says the State Will Not Be Dominated by the Contractors' Gang.

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 18.—W. J. Conners, the chairman of the New York State Democratic committee, left Palm Beach this evening for New York. Mr. Conners does not seem in the least worried over the outcome and says: "They will have to show me where they have got anything on me. I'm going up there to fight and fight to a finish."

When asked about the situation he replied by saying: "You'll see me back here for the Florida State golf championship in March, and if things break right I'll only be gone about a week or ten days."

He issued the following statement: "In reply to your inquiry with regard to meeting of the State committee to be called next week and that they have thirty-five members who have signed the call."

"Murphy, Gaffney and company are very anxious to get control of the State Comptroller, to use the name of the State of New York, to auctioneer the same, as has been done with Judges in the city of New York. The man that pays the highest price for the same will get it. The Senate and the Assembly should investigate, and they will find that the judges that have been nominated for the last three or four years will be amazed at how much their friends and themselves paid for two nominations. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Attorney-General will be auctioned off in the same way, handing control over to the same party. This will give dignity to the party. I shall attend the meeting."

"The Democratic party would be wise to go slowly and be careful if they want to be successful. Things look good now for the Democrats as always very unfortunate in mixing it up at the right time, with every man who was ever removed from office there was always some reason for the removal, and the same reason of unpopularity or did not make good. Neither one of these cases apply to me. I made good in my city and county and up State when I had charge. In the present campaign I am a Democrat and I am a Democrat in New York city by the gang that wants to run the State to-day. Its up to the level-headed Democrats of the State of New York to move, and move for the terms of the next two years as State chairman and will not be dictated to by the contractors ring—Murphy, Gaffney & Co."

INTERESTED IN GAYNOR.

Mayor McGuire of Syracuse Brings From the South the Report.

James K. McGuire, former Mayor of Syracuse, now a resident of New York, called on Mayor Gaynor yesterday morning to ask the Mayor to accept the invitation of the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce to be the chief speaker at a dinner in Syracuse next month. The Mayor accepted the invitation, under the impression, Mr. McGuire, who has just returned from the South, said that "Southern Democratic leaders and editors are watching the work of the Mayor with curious interest." The subject set the Government of New York City.

PATRICIDE'S WIDOW SUES.

She Wants One-fourth of the Estate of George E. Sterry.

The transfer tax appraisal of the estate of George E. Sterry, the wholesale druggist who was shot and killed by his son, George E. Sterry, Jr., on May 19, 1908, was filed yesterday and shows that he left property worth \$259,725. The net value of the estate was \$72,090.

By the terms of his will the entire net estate went to his four sons, and Mrs. Mildred Sterry, widow of the son, George, who shot himself after killing his father, and his claim to one-fourth of the estate under the terms of the will. She has refused to settle for \$25,000.

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Senator Wainwright brought the question to a head a few minutes before the trial was to be closed for the day at 1 o'clock when he asked Senator Conger: "Mr. Conger, did you know or did you understand that that \$4,000 was to be retained exclusively by Mr. Burnett, or was to be divided by him with some one?"

Senator Wainwright and none of the other Senators apparently remembered that an hour before Lewis E. Carr had asked Senator Conger: "Did the instructions from your brother Frank go far enough to indicate to you what division, if any, was to be made of the \$4,000?"

Senator Conger said he did not know how it was to be distributed. Mr. Carr then asked: "Q. Then, so far as your instructions went and so far as your information went, you had no knowledge of what was to be the ultimate destination of the \$4,000?" A. No, sir.

Q. All that you knew about it was that it was to be given to a man whose name you had directed to be written on the envelope? A. Yes.

Senator Conger also said he did not remember who in Albany was responsible for the \$4,000 demand made upon the bridge companies at the meeting in Syracuse in 1905.

Senator Conger went further and gave a clean bill of health to all of the members of the Legislature he has so far mentioned in connection with the bridge "strike" legislation since 1901 except Speaker Nixon and Assemblymen Aids and Burnett.

Senator Conger then recalled another conversation he had had with Senator Aids when Mr. Aids was chairman of the joint legislative committee which drafted the new highway law in 1907. It was at night in the New York Central station in Albany, while Senator Aids was buying a railroad ticket.

Judge Van Hoesen—You may state that conversation. A. Senator Aids said: "We are getting our report upon that bill prepared on the general highway law. There are some pretty damn bad things going into that for you fellows meaning the bridge interest, and you better come up and see us about it."

Q. What did you say? A. I said: "I am not interested at all in the matter and I don't care to see you."

Lewis E. Carr completed the cross-examination of Senator Conger shortly before the trial was adjourned for the day. Both sides reserved the right to recall him. Mr. Carr saying that he was investigating certain things which he might desire to question Senator Conger about later.

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Mr. Carr indicated there was another bridge fund distributed by Senator Conger in 1901 aside from the Deacon Moe fund of \$6,000.

Q. Now, Mr. Conger, was there any other fund to your knowledge brought here for distribution to influence highway legislation in the year 1901 except this one? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know Benjamin Babcock, who was a member of the Assembly in 1901? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was he a member of the Committee on Internal Affairs? A. I don't remember. I don't think so.

Q. Do you know J. H. Clark? A. Who was that?

Q. J. H. Clark, do you know such a man as that? A. I don't recall him.

Turning to the \$10,000 demand made upon the bridge companies in 1905, Mr. Carr asked: "Q. Yesterday you stated you had personal knowledge that a demand was made by some person for a sum of money, \$10,000, in 1905. Where did you have that personal knowledge? Where were you and where was the person by whom that demand was made? A. I don't remember."

Q. Can you tell whether it was a personal interview or some other way? A. I don't remember about it.

Q. You don't remember whether you talked with a man personally or whether somebody talked over the telephone? A. I don't remember.

Q. Do you remember whether you were in Grotton or not? A. I don't remember.

Q. Did you receive any telegram or letter with reference to it from any one? A. I don't recall about that.

Q. Well, in some way you recognized who it was that made the demand? A. I might have at that time. I don't remember now.

Q. Do you remember whether he was a member of the Legislature at that time or not? I don't remember that.

Q. Do you remember whether he had been a member of the Legislature? A. I don't remember about that, sir.

Q. You stated if expenditures for bridges had to be approved by the taxpayers of the town they frequently would refuse to approve them and the bridge would fall and the town would frequently have to pay heavy damages? Has such a thing happened anywhere in the State since the anti-bridge legislation of 1905 passed? A. No, sir.

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The storm and stress under which Senator Trillman lived in politics had been obstructive to his health and he was devoted to his family and each member of it to him. For this reason it was a hard blow to him in his infirmary health when his son and daughter-in-law brought their troubles into the divorce courts.

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The storm and stress under which Senator Trillman lived in politics had been obstructive to his health and he was devoted to his family and each member of it to him. For this reason it was a hard blow to him in his infirmary health when his son and daughter-in-law brought their troubles into the divorce courts.

There was the keenest interest manifested by Mr. Trillman's colleagues to-day in the news of his illness. Many expressions of profound sympathy were made to some very close friendships among his colleagues and few if any enemies. He has given and received some hard knocks in the course of his career, but he has cherished resentment and the brusqueness which appeared on the surface whenever he entered the Congressional debates was not reflected in his personal contact with his colleagues in Congress.

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At the Senator's bedside in his apartments in the Balfour are Mrs. Trillman, his daughter, Miss Lona Trillman, and his eldest son, Benjamin R. Trillman, Jr. His private secretary, Mr. Knight, and one of his closest friends and advisers, legislation assistant Librarian of the United States Senate, also were in the sick room at times in the day.

The Senator was unable this morning to recognize his secretary when he spoke to him, but when called at noon he recognized him. While Senator Trillman's family and his closest friends are hopeful, they realize that the Senator's chance of recovery are slight.

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