

MRS. CROMBIE GAVE UP \$30,000 TO AID MORSE

Purchased Fine Editions Alleged to Be From the Banker's Library.

NOT WORTH OVER \$2,000

Had William H. Scott of Brooklyn Arrested on a Charge of Grand Larceny.

Love of fine editions and a desire to help Charles W. Morse while he was in the Tombs and needed money were what moved Mrs. Anverette Crombie, a widow of 19 West Thirty-first street, to part with something over \$30,000, according to an affidavit Mrs. Crombie makes in charging William H. Scott of 47 East Twenty-fourth street, Brooklyn, with grand larceny.

Scott, who is said to have been formerly connected with the Anglo-American Authors Association, recently prosecuted by the Federal authorities for book frauds amounting to over \$50,000, was arraigned yesterday before Magistrate Cornell in the Tombs police court, where his trial was continued and the case set down for further hearing on December 19. Scott was arrested Monday night. He got bail early yesterday, the bond being furnished by a surety company.

Warrants have been issued for three alleged accomplices of Scott's in this case and in her affidavit Mrs. Crombie mentions the names of several men said to be involved in the Anglo-American Authors roundup.

Mrs. Crombie says that on October 16, 1909, a man who said he was Sam Rosenfeld, and who she believed came from Chicago, called at her apartments and was then living at 113th street and Broadway—and told her of a man on the Pacific coast who had contracted to purchase for \$75,000 of more a set of books from the library of Charles W. Morse, who had paid \$48,000 for the set.

Mr. Rosenfeld, according to Mrs. Crombie, said he had heard that she was interested in fine books, and knowing that Mr. Morse was dying in need of money, she would advance \$18,575 in the books as security. Then, when the man who was yearning to pay \$75,000 for the books came along, Mrs. Crombie was to get her money back and a percentage of the profits of the sale.

Mrs. Crombie says that she had several talks with William H. Scott at his office at 113 Broadway and finally paid him \$1,000 in cash, gave two checks aggregating \$18,575 and received the books. The collection included a set of Shakespeare, a life of Napoleon, a set of Victor Hugo's works and the writings of Lincoln, all very prettily bound.

Next, says Mrs. Crombie, there came to see her a man who said he was Joe Thomas, but who was really Sam Ward. He said, she alleges, that he represented the purchaser on the Pacific coast and had come to look over the books for which his principal was ready to pay \$75,000. Mr. Thomas-Ward looked, and then, according to Mrs. Crombie, exclaimed:

"But where is the set of Col. Roosevelt's works?"

"Alas! Mrs. Crombie had no Roosevelt books, and Mr. Ward-Thomas said that lacking the Roosevelt work he couldn't take the books. Then he suggested, says Mrs. Crombie, that perhaps Mr. Scott might have a Roosevelt. Strangely enough, Mr. Scott had on November 17 Mrs. Crombie paid \$10,000 and secured the Roosevelt books.

Next, says Mrs. Crombie, came Romeo W. Nathan of Boston, representing himself as George Jarvis, a booklover who had heard of Mrs. Crombie's wonderful collection and had dropped in to see Mr. Jarvis admitted, but where was the Mark Twain? Mrs. Crombie pleaded ignorance and Mr. Jarvis, quite surprised, went on:

"Why, there's a famous Mark Twain edition. You should certainly add it to your collection."

Very opportunely Mr. Scott dropped in. Mrs. Crombie says that she had had in mind to buy a very fine Mark Twain. It would cost her only \$5,200. Mrs. Crombie says she paid \$500 down and later handed over two notes drawn to the order of the Anglo-American Bibliophile Society. These notes were endorsed by A. R. Keller in blank and later indorsed in rubber stamp. "Pay to order of Hartford National Bank, A. R. Keller & Co."

Later Mrs. Crombie, her eyes having been opened by the criticism of a friend, Belle Hamilton, concerning her fine editions, refused to pay the notes and when sued by Keller won her suit, it being shown at the trial that the books had been sold through fraud.

Belle Hamilton took a sample volume to a well known book store and reported that the collection was not worth over \$2,000 at most.

Frederick M. Hopkins, a book expert, in an affidavit filed with that made by Mrs. Crombie, says that the books had no "regularly established commercial value," and that the entire collection of Roosevelt and all, is not worth in excess of \$2,000.

NEGRO SHOT TRYING TO ESCAPE. Mitchell Draws Gun On Detective, Who Fires First.

Michael J. Quinn, a first grade detective attached to the West 100th street police station, shot and instantly killed Charles Mitchell, alias Reed, a negro, who was rear foot of the workshop of Rubi & Klein at 811 Columbus avenue yesterday afternoon.

Since May 17, the police of the West 100th street station say, they have been looking for Mitchell on a charge of stabbing Della Bradford.

Detective Quinn was walking down Columbus avenue when he saw a negro answering the description of Mitchell go into Rubi & Klein's pawnshop. The man had just placed a battered gold watch on the counter and was about to ask Julius Rubi for a loan on it when Quinn grabbed him by the wrist.

"Stand still or I'll kill you," Mitchell commanded as he backed toward the door of a partition at the rear of the shop, covering Quinn with a revolver.

Quinn fired once out in the pawnshop and again in a bedroom. As Mitchell smashed the wooden bars of the window, Quinn fired a third shot, which struck the negro just above the right ear.

ROCKEFELLER BLOT GUILTY. Black Hander Gets 20 Years for Highway Robbery.

WHITE PLAINS, Dec. 11.—Tales of how workmen on the big 'country estate of John D. Rockefeller at Ponaticio Hills were held up and robbed at pistol point by a band of bandits and blackmailers were told today during the trial of John Pugliese, one of the highwaymen, before County Judge Platt at White Plains.

The jury after hearing the evidence deliberated only ten minutes and then found the prisoner guilty of highway robbery in the first degree, the penalty for which is twenty years.

THREE THREATS TO KILL IN LETTERS TO WILSON. Gang Asked for Only \$1,000 From Him in First and Second.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11.—Chief Postal Inspector James B. Corley said today that President-elect Wilson is being threatened by a dozen men prominent in political affairs who have received Black Hand letters in the last two months, each demanding money under threats of death.

He said the arrest of Jacob and Peter Dunn and Seelye Davenport, the three mountaineers who are charged with threatening to kill Gov. Wilson if he did not give them \$5,000 in gold, wipes out a gang that has been feared for years.

According to Inspector Corley three letters were sent to President-elect Wilson in the last two months ago and the last one just prior to his election to the Presidency. The first and second letters demanded \$1,000 and threatened death if the matter was ignored.

The other men, Mr. Corley said, received letters postmarked at Wharton, N. J., and in each instance \$500 was demanded under penalty of death. He refused to divulge the names of these men, on the ground that they disliked publicity.

According to the inspector the three men under arrest have been arrested twice on counterfeiting charges. No evidence could be secured against them, but they implicated three other men, who are serving jail sentences. It is probable that at the hearing on Monday in Newark the three prisoners will be preferred against the Dunn brothers and Davenport.

An unsuccessful attempt was made yesterday to get confessions from the three mountaineers who are locked up in the Newark jail accused of sending a letter to President-elect Wilson threatening him with death if he did not give them \$5,000 in gold. The prisoners are Warren Dunn, 24 years old, his brother Jacob, 26, and Seelye Davenport, 42.

When Deputy United States Marshal Louis G. Beckman went to the jail the prisoners refused to talk. They will be before United States Commissioner in Newark on Monday, charged with misleading the mails.

It was learned yesterday that two threatening letters were sent to Gov. Wilson, one from Morristown before he was nominated for President. Joseph P. Tumulty, the Governor's secretary, received the letter and turned it over to Prosecutor Charles A. Rathbun of Morris county. Detectives found evidence that pointed to the men now under arrest.

Mr. Tumulty said yesterday that Gov. Wilson did not know anything about the threatening letters and does not know how unless he has heard through the cable.

TRAPS WM. J. BURNS AT DETECTIVE'S OWN GAME

Lawyer Offers Bait and Witness Quickly Bites in Cross-Examination.

ASKS FOR PROTECTION

Concrete Wall Scheme in Atlantic City Graft Case Described in Court.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 11.—The tables were turned on William J. Burns this afternoon and his own system of "baiting" to trap men accused of crime was admirably worked by the lawyer, hook and all, with such surprising readiness that he found himself in a corner where he had to appeal to the court for "protection."

Burns was put through a stiff cross-examination by Robert H. McCarter, former Attorney-General of New Jersey, chief counsel for the members of the City Council who went on trial this morning before Supreme Court Justice Samuel Kalisch at Mays Landing, charged with "conspiring to accept bribes for the passage of an ordinance authorizing the construction of a concrete boardwalk," at an expenditure of a million and a half.

Counsel McCarter had been tipped off beforehand that Burns was very susceptible to sarcasm, but the way Burns fell into the trap took everybody by surprise.

"Mr. Burns," asked McCarter, suddenly switching his cross-examination, "did you not have charge of the investigation of the alleged Northwestern land fraud, as the result of which investigation Willard N. Jones was convicted?"

"I did," replied the detective. "And was not Willard N. Jones afterward granted a full pardon by the President of the United States on the advice of the Attorney-General?"

"Yes," answered Burns, "because Jones was charged with the investigation of the alleged Northwestern land fraud, as the result of which investigation Willard N. Jones was convicted?"

"That's a lie too. The President was fooled, the Attorney-General was fooled, I was lied to by a clerk in the Department of Justice when I sought information. It is all a pack of lies."

"Then everybody was fooled but you?" queried McCarter. "Yes—I mean no. It was just framed up against me. I wrote letters to the Department of Justice about it."

"Well, then, you didn't pack the jury. And Jones was guilty. And he should not have been released. And the President of the United States was wrong. Is that the way you pack the jury?"

"Cornered and almost beside himself with anger, Burns threw up his hands and appealed to the court for "protection" from McCarter. After protracted argument Justice Kalisch stopped the interrogation along those lines.

In his testimony concerning the grafting cases the detective said he had been summoned here and employed by Harvey Thomas, editor of a morning paper, in the spring of 1910, to ensure officials who were suspected of dipping into the public treasury for regular dividends. He said he had originated the "concrete wall" idea.

Edward J. Reed, a former Burns operative, occupied the stand for the greater part of the day, permitting Burns to interpolate with his testimony, so that his ex-chief might leave to keep an important engagement in New York tomorrow. It was Reed who posed as J. K. Harris, a wealthy New York contractor, interested in promoting the concrete boardwalk.

Reed testified that he came to Atlantic City during the summer of 1911. He met W. J. Palmer, a realty broker, who in turn put him in touch with Phoebus. To Phoebus Reed presented the proposition of building an ocean wall of concrete. Phoebus thought kindly of the scheme. Later, Reed declared, Phoebus intimated that the officials who had agreed to vote for the passage of the ordinance authorizing the construction of the boardwalk would have to be laid off.

Reed testified that he acted as intermediary in carrying the news and some of the money under a contract of \$500 each to the councilmen, with another \$1,000 when the deal was safely through and an additional \$5,000 when the contract was awarded to him (Reed) for the work.

The witness detailed many conferences with Phoebus at hotels in New York, Philadelphia, Newark and Atlantic City and stated that he had finally paid him the \$1,500 for distribution. This was in marked bills.

Ex-Councilman James Lane and William Malia, who had entered pleas of not guilty some weeks ago when they were arraigned to stand on indictments in the case, retracted and substituted pleas of guilty. Samuel Phoebus, suspected with being the leading spirit among the councilmen in the application, also pleaded guilty, and a like course was followed by Gustav Kessler, who withdrew a plea of not guilty. Harry Doughterty, Harry J. Mulrook, John Donnelly and John Mortland, indicted jointly with the other four, all pleaded not guilty.

FARRAR SAVES SON'S SLAYER. Lawyer's Plea Leads Pardon Board to Commute Death Sentence.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 11.—Yielding to the plea of Edgar H. Farrar, former president of the American Bar Association, the State Pardon Board tonight saved Rene Canton, murderer of Mr. Farrar's son, more than a year ago.

Canton slew Edgar H. Farrar, Jr., after robbing his house. The board commuted Canton's sentence to life imprisonment. There seemed no mitigating circumstances in Canton's crime, and members of the board are unanimous in saying that it was solely upon the letter of the elder Farrar that they acted. The letter was written Thanksgiving Day to Gov. Hall and by him transmitted to the board. It said in part:

"We feel that this young brute is the product of our system of society, for which all of us, particularly persons of our position, are to some extent responsible. His father and mother are hard working people. The struggle for existence was too bitter and exacting to permit them to devote the time and personal care necessary to develop the good and repress the evil in their son, who thus grew up amid malignant influences that surround children of the poor in a large city. We believe that he shot my son as instinctively as a snake would strike one who crossed his path, and while the act was murder in law and in fact, yet it lacked that forethought and deliberation which makes a crime of this sort unpardonable."

"This man is now in no condition of mind to be sent into the next world. We hope and pray that time and reflection will bring repentance and that his soul may be saved."

Since the murder both Mrs. E. H. Farrar, Jr., and Mrs. Canton have given birth to sons.

THREE INDICTMENTS FOR TYPEWRITER FRAUDS

Government Charges Illegal Employment of the United States Mails.

Three men have been indicted by the Federal Grand Jury for fraudulent use of the mails in the sale of stock of the American Typewriter Telegraph company. When this stock was offered to the public as an investment opportunity of the century it was selling at \$5 a share, par value \$10. It had dropped to 50 cents when the Government began its investigation last summer.

The former president of the company is Dr. George A. Cardwell of Flatbush, inventor of the typewriter-telegraph. Much of the stock was sold by E. J. Beach & Co. of 27 William street, which firm consisted of A. B. Benesh and E. J. Beach.

It is understood that the Grand Jury investigated particularly the operations of these three men. The indictments were sealed. It is expected that their contents will become known to-day when the persons accused of swindling are arraigned before United States Commissioner Shields.

The indictments charged that the company had failed to keep its attractive prospectus and that stock for which they paid as high as \$7 on the representation that they knew of no machine ever ordered slumped to 50 cents. The Government now charges the indicted men with having sold more than \$200,000 of stock which they knew to be worthless.

In its prospectus the company set forth a vision of leasing 30,000 machines at \$40,000 a year and of paying 33 1/2 per cent dividends. The prospectus stated that 10 per cent of the income was allowed for maintenance and operation. In a letter to a prospective buyer the company alleged that the stock was selling at \$100 a share and that 25 per cent of the stock had been turned down.

When the company's affairs became tangled George A. McAlpin, a member of the Stock Exchange, took hold as president. He and his friends had invested in the enterprise and were trying to pull it through. One of them, William F. Holwell, formerly a prominent agent of the Lackawanna Railroad, was treasurer. It is understood that no complaint has been made of their management.

SUES FOR LOST SYMMETRY.

Miss Summerville Sues Contour and Future Are Both Spoiled.

Miss Amelia Summerville, whose symmetrical lines have been of more or less aid to her in theatrical career for some years, has lost them. She said so yesterday when she filed suit against the Broadway owner of the Riverview Theatre, to recover \$5,000 damages. She says because a wash basin became dislodged from the wall when she was playing at the theatre on November 20 and so injured her that, she says, she can't appear in tights or short skirts again.

The complaint, filed in the City Court, recites that Miss Summerville was "seriously, painfully and probably permanently injured" because the falling wash basin caused multiple contusions of both tibia on an accident which occurred in her bath on an evening when she was in her bath. As to the effect of the accident on Miss Summerville's theatrical future, the complaint says:

"And also plaintiff will, because of said injury, be unable to wear tights or short dresses in her future theatrical work because said injuries have affected her contour, which is a requisite of much larger than the other and thereby affecting their symmetry, which symmetry was a great asset to her in her profession."

DECISION WILL HIT SPECULATORS HARD

Banks Must Stop "Clearance" Loans if New Ruling Stands.

AFFECTS DEALS ON MARGIN

No Change Likely Till Congress Investigation Ends.

A sharp curtailment of Stock Exchange speculation through the limitation of credit by banks to brokerage houses is the far-reaching effect that bankers see in the decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, handed down on Tuesday, which ruled in effect that banks have absolutely no lien or claim on the general securities of a brokerage firm for payment of the "day" or "clearance" loans made to them.

Several of the largest bankers in Wall Street said yesterday that if the present decision stands it will inevitably result in the elimination by the banks of these "day" or "clearance" loans. Such loans are the basis of the greatest part of the trading done on the Stock Exchange. If the banks cease to make them, as they must for their own protection if the decision remains unchanged, it means that the whole present day scheme of trading in stocks on the exchange will have to be radically changed.

The "day" or "clearance" loans, aggregating large amounts, are made by banks to brokerage firms on the notes of the latter at 10 o'clock in the morning, to be paid at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The broker makes his purchases and sales of stock during the day on this loan. The loans run during the day without interest and without specific security, outside the general obligation of the broker, either to pay or to deposit collateral at the end of the day. There is, of course, the general contract between the bank and the broker in which the general assets of the broker are pledged for the borrowings. The present decision makes it impossible for the banks to appropriate these assets in payment of the "clearance" loans, which are made by the broker on the judgment of the lower court held that the banks had no claim to an equitable lien on the general securities turned over to them, as the general contract between the broker and the broker contained no provision as to the securities of the broker not in the possession of the bank. The further contention by the banks "that in this matter was disregarded by the court as not proved, the court holding that brokers have neither agreed nor are they bound by usage to hand over general securities on "day" loans, nor are the banks entitled to the proceeds.

Bankers pushed the present cases to the Appellate Court in order to get a definite rule for guidance in the future. It has not yet been decided whether the cases will be carried to the Supreme Court.

In the opinion of one of the officers of a large Wall Street bank doing extensive Stock Exchange work the prime result of the decision will be that "the brokers will have to carry themselves in their transactions instead of having the banks carry them, at the same time assuming the risk for their inability to pay." This means, according to the several bankers who talked on the decision yesterday, that the New York Stock Exchange will be compelled to adopt a system of settlement such as that of the London market. In New York brokers settle their balances with other brokers and with the banks, while in London the brokers settle forthrightly, and between settlement brokers depend for credit in their transactions upon themselves.

This means simply that narrow margins, trading in stocks will be greatly reduced, if not almost wholly eliminated. If they cannot get ready credit at the banks on securities other than those directly deposited, brokers will not be able to accept the accounts of customers now very generally accepted on narrow margins. The man who would speculate in stocks under the new conditions this decision is expected to create will have to do it largely on money borrowed directly from the bank on good security, or put up with his broker a great deal more than the present 10 or 20 per cent margin. Heavy speculation will be possible only for men of extensive capital and credit, and much of the sort of popular speculation that results in panics will be eliminated by the opinion of conservative large bankers.

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