

SIDE TALK ON CROOKS

Incidentally 'Billy' Edwards Says He Could Find Chris Norbeck.

The Gentleman Grafter Finds Cause for Laughter in Ames' Order.

"Billy" Edwards, who calls himself a "gentleman grafter," made some highly diverting observations at the county jail this morning. Speaking from the standpoint of personal experience, not as a crook, but as a "legitimate" swindler—the suave, the urbane Mr. Edwards was able to throw considerable light on the code of ethics, the rules and regulations of the select gentry who in devious ways "live by their wits." Equipped with such a liberal knowledge of the ways of the underworld, to say nothing of his altogether original and picturesque delivery, Edwards ought to be able to earn a much easier and more lucrative livelihood on the lecture platform than that derived from fleeing the unwary, past master though he may be at the latter.

Edwards scouted the idea that Norbeck has committed suicide.

"Why, I save that poor dummy the key to the Mississippi river months ago," he laughed.

"Is that place still running?" asked "Cheerful Charley" Howard, as he got a firmer grip on the bars, "I thought it was closed up."

"Now, that'll be enough for you, Charley," said the other. "Go and sit down like a good little boy; I want to talk to this gentleman."

"No, you can bank on their finding Norbeck alive," he resumed. "If he didn't have nerve enough to stick it out in the trial, it's a cinch he never killed himself. I believe he's right here in Minneapolis, and that he's being held for ransom. Now that he's dismissed the jury in his case, I wouldn't be surprised to see him turn up. I bet I could find him if they'd turn me loose."

"I've got my sympathy for Norbeck because of the way he treated his family, but he was an honest man when he was walking a beat. They put him on the detective force because he was an ignorant fellow and easy to corrupt. They certainly used him."

"Laughs at Mayor's Latest."

Edwards was deeply engrossed in a morning paper's report of the mayor's latest general orders to the chief of police when a Journal man appeared.

"That makes me laugh," he said. "You'd think that the old man was just tumbling to the situation, and was at last making an honest attempt to rid the city of crooks and grafters by the adoption of such strict measures as he proposes. Why, he's issued a lot just like that since he's been in office, but this is the first time he wanted them published broadcast. There are plenty of honest policemen walking beats in this town, but this is the first time they have dared carry out to the letter any such instructions as have now been handed to them. No officer with a family to support, who cared anything for his job, dared disobey the word quietly passed along the line that any attempt to molest certain privileged characters would cost him his position. That is why many a good patrolman has swallowed his scruples and done the bidding of those higher in authority."

"His inability to execute the orders of crooks and grafters was what caused Patrolman Myron Johnson to resign. His basis on Washington avenue constantly subjected him to insults and threats. He was always being 'kidded' by men who ought to be in jail while he was powerless to resent their taunts."

"Now, of course, the administration is out to make a front, and it is not against orders for coppers to be self-respecting. I see the mayor says there has been a large influx of thieves and crooks as a result of this investigation. The latter is true. The fact is that this investigation has scared them away. Every journey-crook in the country who might have been headed this way has got the tip that the town's 'sloughed up' and that there's nothing doing. There's no crooked work to speak of going on here now."

G. J.'s Work Did It.

"Crooks and grafters—and I'm speaking by the card now—kept on operating here under police protection for five weeks after Howard and I were pinched—if they had the price. The moment the grand jury began to indict police officials, the joints were closed and the licenses of proprietors revoked. The police did it to

GO WAY BACK
Or Feed You Can Keep Up.

People must be well fed in this world if they are expected to do any work. A carpenter with poor tools must take less wages and handle the poor jobs. So in life, the person with a weak, badly nourished body must get out of the way for the strong ones.

A school teacher writes from Vermont. She had been compelled to take a little, backwoods school for small wages because she had not the strength to conduct a better school.

"Small appetite and poor digestion kept me weak. I had been compelled to rest at the summer school for teachers. Being poor in purse and sick in body I could not pay the expense of boarding in a big place, so I rented a room and boarded myself. Grape-Nuts and cream tasted good and I lived almost exclusively on the food."

"Gradually, to my surprise, toward the close of the summer the sort of mental haze that had been about me for a long time broke away and I grasped the thought presented with a clearness I had not known for a long time."

"I came back to my school with better health and memory than I have known for twenty years, and now, while at work, I repeat, I have better nerve and brain power, and better digestion than I have had before in twenty years."

There is a reason for this. Grape-Nuts Food is a sure, steady brain builder. It is made for that purpose and anyone can prove it by use. It was given by Postum Company, Battle Creek, Mich.

A booklet of excellent recipes in each package of Grape-Nuts.

protect themselves. They know that every time a trick was turned during the investigation the case against them would be stronger.

"I'm a crook. I want that understood. I'm a gentleman and a grafter and I live by my wits. I don't make any bones about it. I don't pretend to be any more than I am. I've lived in Minneapolis most of my life and I've got a reputation, such as it is, to protect. It's a mistake to suppose that because a man's in jail he's dead to the world. People expect to see me prouting horns. I've got feelings like other people. But I understand something about the way crooks are protected by the police and on what conditions they are released."

"You may put it down as a gospel truth that no crook could be as business as Minneapolis, unless he was 'sneaking,' if he hadn't been paid for the privilege."

"It's business as usual."

If he wanted to open up a line of goods in this town, all he needed was the price. If he was there with the coin at police headquarters he would get the best position that is, he would be free to graft or steal for a certain length of time. It cost so much a week, so to speak.

"It's a mistake to suppose that Howard or I or any one else had a monopoly on the situation. There was no limit to the number of crooks and grafters who could be in the city. We were opening bets for as many thieves who wanted to do business as were willing to make a 'divvy' at headquarters. The moment the jig was up and the police were looking for them on the square, they made a quick get-away, every one."

Edwards' Proof.

"Suppose there had been no investigation and crooks were free to come and go as they pleased. Do you imagine for a moment that you could have held that Elks' fair here, with a total attendance of about 120,000 people, crowded into a narrow street, without a single pocket being picked? Well, that's just what happened, and it was because the police had orders to prevent it. If the police department hadn't been on its good behavior, there would have been a hundred empty pockets looking around after the fair was over. It's up to the police to keep bad actors out of town. When they don't do it, it's a cinch that things have been fixed at headquarters."

Paul. There ain't a better protected town in the country. John O'Connor knows the crooks and he won't stand for them."

Why Crooks Were Sore.

"They made the great mistake in our case of not keeping faith with us. After they had sold us the privilege to do business for a couple of weeks at one or more joints, they would turn around and sell the same privilege to some one else for more money. You blame us for getting sore, when they had our money? They had \$300 of our coin when we were pinched. They let us open up our joints for a couple of weeks, and then they closed us up, so that we were 'sneaked,' when Hicks and Smith got us. I guess they hadn't been told to keep their hands off us, or else they had and they were going along with the administration. It was no easy matter to open up a joint. It was just as hard a proposition as opening up a dry goods store or some other line of business."

Edwards volunteered the information that both he and Howard had offers of several good paying positions along legitimate lines when they were released from custody.

"I think it's pretty well demonstrated," said Edwards, "that I'm on the square with you. I don't do anything for me. When my term is up, however long it may be, I intend to accept one of the positions offered which I consider best suited to my education and ability."

TANKE DENIES IN TOTO

HE STANDS QUESTIONING WELL

Defendant in Murder Trial Contradicts Flatly Most of State's Evidence.

Special to The Journal.

Henderson, Minn., June 19.—Defendant Frank Tanke was cross-examined today by Attorney Davis all morning. The state did not succeed in breaking down his testimony of yesterday afternoon, and he flatly contradicted the state's evidence.

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NORBECK'S FRIENDS UNDER PRESSURE TO MAKE THEM TALK

Continued From First Page.

trial to go on so that the case could be submitted to the jury. It was with evident reluctance that he discharged the twelve men selected to try the case, but he had no other alternative.

As usual, a big crowd gathered in Judge Harrison's court room this morning. Something was due to happen, and there was even a possibility that there might be a trial with no one to try.

The judge surveyed the scene before him for a moment after he had mounted the bench, and then said:

"Are you ready to proceed?"

"The state is ready," replied Al J. Smith.

"Your honor, the defendant's counsel is ready, but the defendant is not here," announced Mr. Erwin.

"You haven't seen him since Monday night?" asked the court.

"Your honor, I haven't seen him since he left the court house here at the adjournment of court Monday evening, and I have not had any communication with him since that time, except the telephone message between 8 and 9 o'clock Monday night, the substance of which I gave your honor in my statement heretofore. I have no further knowledge of him except such as I have received from the officers and the public prints, the newspapers, either through him, or through his family, or directly or indirectly, and no intimation as to the cause of his flight, or where he has gone or anything about it. We feel that we are in a very unhappy position here and would like to withdraw from the case if this man's disappearance is meretricious. It certainly appears to be meretricious."

"Almost immediately after the case was called on day before yesterday the sheriff and other parties appeared, and immediately the different cities of the United States, and search has been made thoroughly to find him, but without success," explained the state's attorney.

"The officers' report," stated his honor, "that they are not able to get any trace of him. It is certainly a misdemeanor for the state, and it is a deplorable thing that a defendant by getting up and leaving court, after the evidence has been introduced against him, and after he has voluntarily appeared, that he can thwart the ends of justice in a way like this."

"It seems to me to be a very deplorable state of the law, yet our statutes provide expressly that a defendant shall be present on the trial of a felony, and my judgment that deprives the court of the power to proceed. The court is satisfied that this defendant, that it has received notice of, has fled from the jurisdiction, and has escaped; and the officers being unable to arrest him, the court is unable to proceed on account of the absence of the defendant, Mr. Norbeck. And therefore, this jury having been held such a length of time as to give him all reasonable opportunity to appear, and the state being unable to force his appearance, the court feels that it is compelled to discharge this jury from their consideration of this case. And, gentlemen of the jury, you are discharged from further attendance upon this court."

"While we are counsel for the defendant, and we would like to see the honor to permit us to place upon the record our request, so far as we have any power to do so, that the jury be discharged, in order that my new facts in this case brought to light. The state endeavored to hold the defendant to statements made to J. H. Block, who made extensive investigations of the case immediately after Wellner's death. Tanke's statements at these examinations were taken down in shorthand and the state is now using the results of these investigations as foundation for cross-examination. Tanke's story, however, does not differ materially from his original testimony as given to Block, though there are a few instances where discrepancies were apparent."

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PANAMA WINS VOTE 42 TO 34

Continued From First Page.

retary of State Hay concerning the point raised in the isthmian canal debate by Mr. Kittredge (S. D.).

"I am requested by the minister of Costa Rica to advise the committee on inter-oceanic canals that he has been instructed by his government to make known to that of the United States that the government of Costa Rica is prepared to take all necessary steps to put themselves in a position to negotiate with the government of the United States a treaty for appropriate concessions for an isthmian canal on terms substantially as proposed by the government of the United States."

The communication was laid on the table.

Mr. Clark favors Nicaragua.

Mr. Spooner then offered his amendment as a substitute for the pending so-called Hepburn Nicaragua canal bill.

Mr. Clark (Montana) then addressed the senate in support of the Nicaragua route. He thought if one-half the objections to both routes were valid neither route would be adopted. The difficulties of constructing the canal he believed, were exaggerated. He thought that the Nicaragua route was more to be preferred as it was more feasible and more practical.

Mr. Clark declared that the Panama canal scheme was a hoodoo which ought to be avoided. The Panama canal plan had left a heritage of ruin, disaster and desolation.

Mr. Allison's Views.

Mr. Allison explained why he should vote for the Spooner substitute. He pointed out that the eyes of the American people had been directed particularly toward the Nicaragua route because it was supposed that as a French company had the concessions for the Panama route the United States was barred from that route. Mr. Allison's view was that it was proposed now to build a canal thirty-five feet deep and wide enough and with a volume of water sufficient to float the largest ship now in the world. It was proposed for the construction of the canal he believed, would be more than \$200,000,000.

To meet this enormous expenditure he favored the borrowing of money, making proper provision for the security of the principal and interest of the bonds.

Mr. Morgan Closes the Debate.

Mr. Morgan, chairman of the inter-oceanic canal committee, at the conclusion of Mr. Allison's remarks, began his speech. Mr. Morgan's view was that the canal issue seemed to have come down to a single point—that of finance. On that point he deferred to Mr. Allison, but did not believe with him that it would be necessary to issue bonds to pay for the construction of a canal.

The senate then adopted Senator Fairbank's amendment to the Spooner bill, providing for the construction of a canal 37 to 36.

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