

HENRY GIVES DENIAL

Statement of Attorney General of Texas Denounced.

READY TO TESTIFY IN TRIAL

Democratic Caucus Chairman Says If Either Side in Waters-Pierce Case Desires His Sworn Evidence It Will Be Forthcoming—Curtis Investigation, in Court or Otherwise.

Representative Robert L. Henry, of Texas, chairman of the Democratic caucus, whose name is mentioned in the notice filed by the attorney general of Texas in the Waters-Pierce Oil Company case, now on trial at Austin, emphatically declared yesterday that every line, word, and syllable of the statement relating to him is wholly false.

He invited the most searching scrutiny by any one, anywhere, he said, and he offered to go at once to Texas and take the witness stand if any one on either side of the pending case believes his testimony is necessary.

The reference to Mr. Henry in Attorney General Davidson's notice demanding the production of certain papers, vouchers, checks, &c., by the Waters-Pierce Oil Company is as follows:

Voucher record of defendant in use June 15, 1906, showing entry of voucher F 86 to Henry & Stribling, of Waco, Texas, "account of expenses of anti-trust case of State of Texas vs. Waters-Pierce Oil Company at Waco," approved by J. D. Johnson; also draft drawn by J. W. Bailey for \$5,000 on Waters-Pierce Oil Company, account paid to Henry & Stribling; also cash book in use at that time containing folio 117, showing a record of said transaction.

"Inasmuch as Senator Bailey has already said through the public press that no such transaction occurred, and no such draft was drawn, it seems unnecessary for me to make any statement," said Mr. Henry to a Herald reporter yesterday. "But in order that no one may misunderstand my position, I authorize the following:

Never Heard of Transaction.

"Assuming that others interested are capable of taking care of themselves, and speaking exclusively for myself, I will say that I never heard of this alleged transaction till notice of it appeared in the press. "First—Neither Senator J. W. Bailey, J. D. Johnson, H. C. Pierce, the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, nor any of its agents, officers, employees, representatives, or attorneys, or any one else ever paid or promised to pay me anything as above alleged, or at any other time, or in any other manner. They never, at any time, owed me anything, and nothing is due me from them. I never received any money or thing of value from them or any of them, then or at any other time. The above statement refers to Henry & Stribling, as fully as it does to me in my personal capacity.

"Second—My entire connection with the Waco litigation was freely and completely stated in the Texas newspaper during the Waco State convention in 1900, when the Waters-Pierce Oil Company controversy was being agitated throughout the State. Nothing was concealed by me then, and I suppose nothing now. There was not one thing left unsaid by me at that time.

Ready to Go to Austin.

"Third—If any one conducting this litigation, on either side, thinks my testimony necessary or material, I shall speedily go to Austin and take the witness stand and state under oath what I say here.

"Fourth—I definitely challenge the most exhaustive investigation of this matter pertaining to me, in the courthouse, or in any other form.

"Fifth—Every line, word, and syllable contained in paragraph fourteen of the attorney general's notice (the one quoted above) is wholly false, as to me, and to Henry & Stribling, and I invite the most searching scrutiny by any one anywhere."

SHAKESPEARE BORES HIM.

Count Tolstoy Can Find Nothing Interesting in Great Dramatist.

London, Dec. 2.—Gount Tolstoy has just given his opinion on Shakespeare and his plays. He says Shakespeare is a disappointment. Fifty years ago, on first reading his plays, Tolstoy, instead of experiencing the delight poetry usually gave him, had a fit of irresistible repulsion and tedium. He has since read the plays often, in English, Russian, and German, and still retains his original impression that Shakespeare is much overrated and "cannot be recognized as a great genius or even an average author." Tolstoy thinks the reverence for Shakespeare is explained by hypnotic suggestion, and that we are all incultured from early childhood with the idea of Shakespeare's greatness, an error from which we never free ourselves in after life. "Naturally these opinions are attracting the wide attention, but little sympathy."

REV. A. BLOOMBERG DEAD.

Lafayette College Professor Passes Away in Switzerland.

Easton, Pa., Dec. 2.—Intelligence was received at Lafayette College to-day of the death of Rev. A. M. Ph. D., emertus professor of modern languages at Lafayette. Prof. Bloomberg held the active professorship at Lafayette from 1857 until June, 1895, when he retired on account of his advanced years. He was educated at the University of Wurzburg, and came to this country about 1850. Princeton conferred the degree of master of arts on him in 1856. He was a tutor at Princeton from 1855 to 1867. He was seventy-one years of age, having been born in Uffenheim, Bavaria, February 13, 1835. He is survived by a widow and son, Dr. Horace Bloomberg, a surgeon in the United States army.

Herman Training for Gane's Bout.

Monah, Nev., Dec. 2.—Kid Herman is training in a strait-jacket for his coming "mill" with Joe Gans. For the development of muscle, wind, and endurance there is nothing to compare, he says, with the exercise of wriggling free from the jacket's embrace. Herman will not put on the gloves for several days, as he wants to be in prime condition before he risks injury to his hands.

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ROYALTY FOND OF OYSTERS.

Chef to Prince of Wales Tells Kitchen Secrets of Household.

London, Dec. 2.—"What is the most favored dish of the English royal family?" was the question put at a London cookery exhibition to Cedard, chef to the household of the Prince of Wales. "It is difficult to say he replied," "but I think oysters would make a very bold bid. These are served to their royal highnesses almost daily. As a rule, however, both the prince and the princess prefer plain dishes, with a predilection for the French cuisine as compared with the English, while the time table of the day's meals is: Breakfast 9:30 a. m.; lunch, 2 p. m.; dinner, 8:30 p. m. "After a visit to the theater or opera," continued Cedard, "their royal highnesses simply have a light supper—that is all. "And the little princess, Ah! Princess Victoria, Prince Albert, and Princess Victoria lunch with the Prince and Princess of Wales, but the little ones partake of breakfast with their tutors and governesses. "In the evening the little princess, with their sister, are given no actual supper, no elaborate meal, but they have a few daintily cut sandwiches, a little game, or something of that kind."

SHONTS BACK FROM PANAMA.

Canal Commissioners Believe President's Visit a Great Benefit.

New York, Dec. 2.—The Panama Line steamship Colon, which arrived here to-day from Colon, had on board Chairman Theodore P. Shonts, Gen. Haines, Rear Admiral Endicott, and others of the Canal Commission.

Mr. Shonts said that the work on the canal was progressing slowly, but surely, and that he was sure to the isthmus of President Roosevelt had a wonderful effect.

His visit had stimulated the interest of the workers, and he had made them feel that in the future they would be proud to say that they had taken part in the great work. They would like themselves to veterans of some great war.

ESCAPES BURGLAR; IS KILLED.

Aged Pittsburg Woman Killed While Going to Bank with Cash.

Pittsburg, Dec. 2.—Fearing that her home would be visited by burglars, Miss Nancy McConnell, an aged and eccentric woman of Westmoreland County, started for the bank with several thousand dollars in cash which she had kept in the house for months, only to be run over and instantly killed by a train. She had hardly left the house when the expected burglars arrived and looted the place. To add to the tragedy, the complications, at least half a dozen wills, disposing of her estate, which is valued at almost \$1,000,000, have been found, and what will undoubtedly develop into one of the greatest will contests ever fought in the local courts has already been started. The last will, which gives all to the Bible Society, will be probated to-morrow, and it is believed will prove the one which will stand in the courts.

AMEND CONSTITUTION, IS CRY

Direct Election of Senators Will Be Demanded by Convention.

Call Issued by Cummins Meets Response from Many Other Governors of States.

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 2.—Determined to map out a plan for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, about 100 delegates, representing more than thirty States, will gather in Des Moines Wednesday.

The call for the meeting was issued by Gov. Cummins, on authority granted by the last legislature. The proposition was by no means generally popular among the Iowa lawmakers. When Senator Lewis, of Page County, introduced it, the "stand-patters" or anti-Cummins Republicans, fell on the resolution tooth and nail, and it passed only by the narrowest of margins.

These who favored the meeting were equally opposed to a constitutional convention. Such a convention, they argued, might not stop with the Senatorial question, but assail the Constitution at other points—divorce, railroad rates, and the liquor traffic, perhaps. The Cummins men think the desired amendment can be secured in the usual manner, by Congressional submission to the States for legislative ratification.

Each State in the Union was invited to send five delegates, chosen by the respective governors. In some States no appointments were made, however, and from others the full quota of delegates will not be present, all being required to pay their own expenses. Several governors, among them Governor Higgins, of New York, and Guild, of Massachusetts, notified Gov. Cummins that they had no statutory authority to make the contemplated appointments.

While the delegates, of course, will be expected to speak their own minds, it is assumed that all will favor popular Senatorial elections, and the conference will resolve itself into a debate concerning the best method of securing the desired constitutional amendment.

The gathering will be the first ever held to consider such a plan, though direct balloting for Senator has often been suggested, and was even recommended once in a Congressional message by Andrew Jackson, the only President who ever openly advocated the amendment.

WAR ON SUNDAY SALOONS.

Chicago Mayor May Be Compelled to Act by Writ of Mandamus.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Chicago saloons are to be closed next Sunday for the first time in decades, if the Sunday-closing League succeeds in its plan to force Mayor Dunne's hand by means of a writ of mandamus.

The petition for the writ is already in course of preparation by the league's attorneys, Church, McMurdy & Sherman. It will be filed in the Circuit Court early in the week.

The decision was reached only after a serious consideration of a suggestion to go before the grand jury with the demands for the mayor's indictment on a charge of malfeasance in office.

A third proposition, not very seriously considered, includes the wholesale indictment of saloonkeepers. Should the appeal to the civil courts fail, members of the league say resort will be made to criminal proceedings, both against the mayor and the saloonkeepers.

Mayor Dunne has frankly refused to enforce Sunday closing. He says he believes a majority of the citizens wants the Sunday saloons, and he does not intend to bow to the will of a small minority, however respectable.

Ocean Steamships.

New York, Arrived Sunday: Steamship Minnetonka, from London, November 2. Leaving Steamers: Monday: Princess Victoria, to London, December 10.

SHIRTS WRECK FAULT

Mattoax Asserts Lawyers Operator Was to Blame.

SAYS HE GOT CLEAR TRACK

Declines in First Statement That He Obtained the O. K. Signal from Other Dispatcher Before He Let the Limited into Block—Other Telegrapher Refuses to Answer Charges.

C. D. Mattoax, the operator at Rangoon, whom the Southern officials have said is solely responsible for the wreck on the Southern Railway on Thursday morning, made a statement yesterday, shifting the blame to R. J. Jacobs, the telegrapher at Lawyers. Jacobs last night refused to reply to the charge or make a statement of any kind.

Special to The Washington Herald. Lynchburg, Va., Dec. 2.—Operator C. D. Mattoax, who was in charge of the Rangoon telegraph office when the wreck occurred on the Southern ten miles south of Lynchburg Thursday morning, was seen this afternoon for the first time by a correspondent.

He was found in his boarding house, a small one-story structure, typical rather of Georgia than of this section. It is in the foothills of Sanders Mountains, a few hundred yards from the main line of the Southern, although a mile from the telegraph office. Mattoax is twenty-two years old and is intelligent looking.

He talked freely, although carefully, of the incidents surrounding the wreck, and disclaimed absolutely any responsibility, holding that R. J. Jacobs, the night operator at Lawyers, was at fault instead.

Mattoax's Explanation. "On the night preceding the wreck," said Mattoax, "I went to a party and returned home, and stayed there until the time to go to work, which I did. I think I can easily substantiate this fact. Operator Clemmer and a student heard the operator at Lawyers give me a clear track for No. 33 (the train to which President Spencer's car was attached). This was at 6 o'clock, as the block sheet in the office will show.

"If my recollection serves me right, No. 33 passed Rangoon at 6:05, and I reported this to Lawyers. I cannot recall that he signed for the report, but it was his business to be there to take it. I let No. 33 in the block because Lawyers gave me the right of way for the train.

"When No. 37 (the train which crashed into the rear of No. 33) left Wilmers, the first block station north of Rangoon, I began to call Lawyers. I continued to call until the train was nearly in sight of my office, and got Lawyers just as 37 was coming in sight. Lawyers gave a clear block for No. 37 at 6:12. I remember the time very distinctly, and the train passed at 6:14.

"As No. 37 was passing Rangoon, I was talking to the operator at Lawyers. He wanted to know when No. 32 went by. I told him the time my sheet showed, but I can not now recall the minute. Then I asked him: 'When by did you not let me know?' but did not give me the time. I did not know No. 37 was coming until the operator at Lawyers told me he was 'by,' and I can prove this by Operator Clemmer, and by the student operator who has been studying at the office for the past year and a half. He told me, and the block, Lawyers told me that No. 33 was 'by,' and when I asked him the time, so I could record it, he opened his key and did not reply. I did not know then 'I do not feel responsible for the accident, and the railway authorities can find me at any time. I have no desire to get away, but would court an investigation to clear my name up.'"

Mattoax then reported for work on Thursday afternoon, but found another operator in his place and he went back home.

Still Thinks Mattoax to Blame. General Manager C. H. Ackert, of the Southern Railway Company, was shown Operator Mattoax's statement last night. He said:

"It is impossible definitely to place the responsibility for this regrettable accident at present, owing to the lack of authentic information now in our possession. To the observer, however, it appears as if the fault lies with Mattoax, the block operator, in giving the limited express a signal for a clear track."

Mr. Ackert refused to say whether the Southern would take any cognizance of Mattoax's claim that the fault lay with Jacobs, the operator at Lawyers. He insisted that no action could be taken or no positive charge made until after the official investigation, which will be held in this city on Wednesday. At that inquiry both dispatchers will be called upon to explain.

"I have no information," he declared, "other than that in the possession of the public, and consequently do not like to give an opinion until I have heard more of the details. The investigation which begins on Wednesday will be thorough and complete, and every phase of the question will be carefully considered. Doubtless many new features will develop through the statement of Mr. Mattoax. Undoubtedly many of the facts previously withheld will be brought to light."

Southern Is Not Vindictive. Mr. Ackert was evidently affected by the recent disaster and the funeral of Mr. Spencer yesterday. He talked nervously and showed marked agitation. He reiterated several times:

"Somebody is to blame for this awful accident; somebody is to blame. I think it must be the block operator. I will find out, and we will do what we can to get justice. We must find out who is to blame."

Mr. Ackert said that the Southern was not vindictive, and had no reason for apprehending the operator excepting a desire to know the truth and to fix the responsibility. He added that the officials were not seeking a man to punish, but wished to find him merely to get his story and an explanation of why he let the express into the block. He did not think he would be prosecuted, and said he did not even know whether he was guilty of violating the law.

No official action was taken by the officials of the Southern yesterday. At the office it was said that no information had been received from a company's representatives at Lawyers. The matter, however, will be taken up to-day.

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PHOTOGRAPHING PRAYERS.

French Savant Shows Negatives of Petitions at Lourdes.

Paris, Dec. 2.—Dr. Baraduc, lecturing on the curative force observed during the last pilgrimage to Lourdes, declared that the chief factor was the force of prayer ascending from 60,000 pilgrims, which caused a rain of mercy to descend in the form of tiny drops, the photo-chemical action of which produced an impression on photographic plates included in radiographic paper, which were exposed in the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Two plates similarly exposed in Piscina showed an entirely different impression. Dr. Baraduc displayed these plates and negatives made at Lourdes, but not submitted to the action of the curative force. He also displayed negatives made at a pleasure fair in Paris.

The latter gave no result. Dr. Baraduc ascribed this to the nonpolarized action of the vibrations of the material's thoughts, which were not concentrated as at Lourdes.

MYSTERY IN ATTACK ON MAN.

Victim, Though Dying, Gives False Information to New York Police.

New York, Dec. 2.—While policemen were patrolling Gramercy Park early to-day they saw a man lying on the ground with three men bending over him. It appeared as though the man on the ground was being robbed, and the police started after the trio, who fled at their approach. Two of them got away, but one, who later gave his name as Gilbert Kane, twenty-two years old, was captured.

The man on the ground managed to tell the police that he was Alexander McIner, aged forty, and declared that he was a guest at the Hotel Lincoln, at Fifty-second street and Broadway. A piece of lead pipe was lying beside him, and he said that he had been struck down from behind and then robbed.

He was taken to Bellevue Hospital, where it is announced to-night he was unconscious and would probably die. The police went to the hotel, but could find no trace there of any guest answering McIner's description. About \$200 in money and a number of valuable papers were found on McIner's person, but there was nothing about him which would clear up the mystery as to his identity.

CARS KILL FORTY-THREE.

Many Chicagoans Victims of Accidents on Traction Lines.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Forty-three Chicagoans lost their lives in street car accidents during November.

The figures are officially reported by the coroner, and the city officials supplement them by the statement that most of the accidents were due to the criminal carelessness of the traction companies. That the holiday rush will result in a number of fatalities is the prediction of City Transportation Superintendent Doty.

Mayor Dunne, who has fallen in one attempt to secure a grand jury investigation of the street car companies' methods, proposes now to arrest not only the street railway officials, but the passengers who are responsible for overcrowding.

REICHSTAG IN AN UPROAR

Herr Bebel Reveals Horror of Many Congo Atrocities.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—In the Reichstag yesterday Herr Bebel, the social-democratic leader, made a tremendous onslaught on the colonial administration, bringing atrocious charges against colonial officials. He accused Van Arman, Arndt and Kauffmann, three prominent members of the Reichstag, with intriguing to defend certain culpable administrators.

Herr Bebel worked himself into a trembling fury, which eventually communicated itself to both sides of the house. There was a tremendous uproar. For a long time the president was unable to quell the tumult.

Among the worse accusations, some of which were unprintable, Herr Bebel declared that a German lieutenant led an expedition to a village of the Cohos, a tribe in Southwest Africa. The natives refused to submit, and every inhabitant, except fifty-two children, was killed. The children were then put into baskets and thrown into the rapids of a river.

On another occasion the German commandant had three natives blown from the muzzles of cannon.

THOUSANDS FIGHT POLICE.

Riot When Members of Portugal Parliament Are Expelled.

Lisbon, Dec. 2.—There was serious rioting in Oporto to-day, arising from a meeting called to protest against the expulsion of the Republican members of Parliament, who some days ago made a bitter attack upon the King in the chamber. Twenty thousand persons fought the police, and many stones were thrown. Many of the rioters received sword wounds.

Appeals to Americans.

That the American people should strive to put an end to the horrible atrocities now being committed by the Belgian government under the leadership of Leopold in the Congo Free State was the subject of the lecture delivered before the Church of the Covenant last night by Herbert S. Johnson, entitled "Conditions in the Congo Free State."

Mr. Johnson began his lecture by remarking that there were three stages in the Congo reform movement in America which did much to injure its movement.

First, the doubt as to the existence of the atrocities; second, lack of information as to the nature of the atrocities, and, third, delusion as to the promised reform movement inaugurated by the Belgian government. Upon this last delusion, he announced, he proposed to spend the evening in discussing.

"Many Americans," said Mr. Johnson, "have been deluded by the promised reform movement of Leopold. His hypocrisy was shown by his attitude toward the commission of inquiry, appointed as a result of the alleged reform movement. For a whole year, while the people were tortured in a manner most all belief, the King did nothing. And when at last the committee of reform was organized, ten of the members were men who had been instrumental in killing and robbing the natives."

"Men who have been most successful in their work of extermination, who have permitted their cannibal soldiers to roast and eat the bodies of their slain opponents, have been the men who have been promoted."

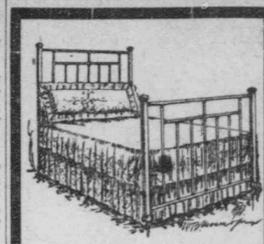
"In the name of justice and humanity, in the name of common decency, these outrages ought to stop, and the American public alone is capable of stopping them."

Polish Pupils Not to Be Punished.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—In connection with the prosecution of Polish citizens for not attending school, and because they decline to be taught religion in the German language, the Kaiser has given orders that the execution of the judgments is to be suspended. The rebel scholars will therefore not be sent to houses of correction. The Emperor's action has displeased many pan-Germans.

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SHIP'S SILVER GONE

Valuables Are Stolen from Cruiser Minneapolis.

Robbery Puzzles Officers

Secret Service Men Search Pawnshops of Philadelphia, but Find No Trace of \$7,000 Gift from City of Minneapolis to the Ship—The Theft Is Discovered Only by Chance.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 2.—Silverware and valuables, including the handsome service presented by the city of Minneapolis, have been stolen from the cruiser Minneapolis, at League Island, and secret service men are searching pawnshops here and in neighboring cities in an effort to recover them. The total value of the articles stolen amounts to \$7,000.

The robbery occurred November 23, but the navy yard officials conceded it in the hope that they could quickly track the thieves. Every employe and uniformed man in the yard has been searched and questioned, but to no purpose.

The Minneapolis, which recently returned from Cuba with a battalion of marines, was ordered out of commission two weeks ago. The cruiser, then on the river front, was ordered to the back channel. Everything valuable, including the silver service, was packed away in heavy trunks and locked in the captain's cabin. On Friday morning, November 23, one of the officers went on board to arrange for the removal of the trunks to a permanent place of safety during the cruiser's period of non-commission. The robbery was discovered then. The door of the captain's room had been forced, and the trunks were open. Articles were scattered over the floor and the silverware was gone.

The puzzling part of the case is that there was always an officer and a number of the crew on board at all times.

CROWN PRINCE IN PUBLIC.

Forced to Show Himself to Disprove Insanity Charge.

Belgrade, Dec. 2.—The report that Crown Prince Karageorgevitch has become insane, and that he will be confined in a foreign asylum, has caused great excitement in Belgrade, despite the fact that it has been officially denied that there is no truth in the rumor.

Prince George, accompanied by the officer on duty and Premier Pashitch, walked through the streets of the city yesterday, it is thought, in the hope of proving that he is not seriously ill. It was noticed, however, that the two men with him kept close on each side of him, and he failed to respond to the salutes of the townspeople.

People close to the throne declare that while the future monarch is probably not violently insane, there is no doubt that he is not strong mentally, and he is hardly likely ever to reign as King.

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Pfeiffer's Red Tag Xmas Piano Sale Starts To-day!

Every New and Used Piano in the House to be Closed Out to Make Room for 1907 Models.

Every Piano is Plainly Marked with Two Tags. The White Tag Shows the Original Price; the Red Tag the Sale Price, and You Can Figure the Saving for Yourself.

Remember, all Pianos—new or used—are backed by our reputation and guarantee. This is the greatest opportunity ever offered to buy high-grade instruments at real bargain prices.

Table listing piano models and prices: One Upright Piano, \$115; \$300 Upright, \$147; \$350 Upright, \$155; \$350 Upright, \$165; \$300 Upright, \$187; \$200 Flemish Oak Upright, \$190; \$250 Persian Walnut Upright, \$210; \$300 Steinway Parlor Grand, \$295; \$300 A. B. Chase, mahogany upright, \$300; \$400 Colonial Upright, \$295.

Don't wait until the best bargains are gone. Buy the piano to-day and have it set aside for Xmas delivery. 1328 F Street.

MRS. BOLCH ARRAIGNED.

Woman Who Swindled Washington People Held Under Bond.