

Machen, Lorenz, and Groff Are Given Heavy Sentences

(Continued from First Page.) Pritchard and make a plea for the man who, he thinks, was convicted on unjustifiable grounds. The motions for a new trial and arrest of judgment in regard to the other prisoners yesterday were merely formal, and were made without the slightest hope that they would be granted. They will form part of the record on which the case will be taken to the District Court of Appeals. Machen has been indicted fourteen times since 1885. One of the indictments was for the conspiracy of which he has been convicted. Another is for bribery in connection with the same transaction, but that particular bribery charge will not be pressed now, so that really he has only twelve more indictments to face. As some of the indictments are in pairs, one charging conspiracy and one charging bribery, he will not have as many trials as might be supposed.

WILL APPEAL CASE TO HIGHER TRIBUNAL

Appeal in the Machen case will be taken to the Court of Appeals on a number of points which arose in the trial, and the case will also be taken to the United States Supreme Court on a writ of certiorari. The principal ground on which it will be taken to the Court of Appeals is that the prosecution was allowed to prove the fruits of the conspiracy before the conspiracy itself was proved. This is an important point on which the attorneys for the defendant say there is no precedent, and the decision in this instance will be of interest to attorneys all over the country.

PRESIDENT PLEASED AT RESULT OF TRIAL

President Roosevelt was greatly pleased over the outcome of the Postoffice trials. He indicated this to a number of callers and congratulated Postmaster General Payne on the results. Mr. Payne, who was with the President for some time in the afternoon, said: "It was certainly a great victory for the Government. I felt that the Government made out a strong case before the jury gave its verdict, but the impression seemed to be strong that conviction in Washington would be almost impossible. Even newspaper men and lawyers who followed the case closely doubted whether a conviction could be secured and looked for mistrials. Probably no one felt more pleased over the verdict of guilty than the officials at the Department of Justice. The general opinion among them is that the defendants will not be able to defeat the Government on appeal."

"GREAT STATE TRIAL," SAID THE DEFENDANTS

"A great state trial," never stopping when once started on the scene of crime. Mr. Bristow was given direct and absolute control of the large staff of experienced inspectors who were under his bureau, and piece by piece began to accumulate the evidence on which the Government hoped to secure the conviction of thirty persons who had been arrested as the result of his labors. One of the first divisions to which the finger of suspicion pointed was that of free delivery, presided over by Machen. Rumors of misfeasance there had been going the rounds for many weeks, but nothing had been done by the authorities, although The Times again and again insisted that an investigation should be made. Another division to which suspicion pointed was that of salaries and allowances, presided over by George W. Beavers. Hard to Trap Machen. Among those who believed there was "something rotten in Denmark," the opinion prevailed that it would be easier to place the finger on the cankers in Machen's division than in that of Beavers. There the wise ones made the mistake of the Hives. Beavers saw the fate hanging over him and incontinently resigned as soon as the investigation was officially announced. Machen was made of sterner stuff. Whatever his faults may be, he is possessed of the tenacity of a bulldog, and has showed great skill in trying circumstances that he is always willing to put up a fight and take a man's chances. He resolutely refused to resign, and steadfastly maintained that he would remain to bring confusion upon his minor delinquencies. Evidence of evil practices in the division of Beavers, who was considered the "slickest" man of the two, were found several weeks before they were unearthed in the free delivery division, and so slow was the work of exposing the true conditions under Machen, that it was at one time feared that the inspectors would never be able to obtain sufficient evidence to warrant an indictment. Led to His Arrest. Newspapers all over the country printed charges against Machen. They were in connection with appointments, letter boxes, painting letter boxes, giving address information to firms sending rural free delivery routes to gain political influence, and a large number of other subjects. So hot did the campaign of newspaper exposure become that on May 8, 1893, Postmaster General Payne summarily removed Machen from office and appointed M. C. Fosnes, one of the most prominent inspectors, acting General Superintendent of Free Delivery, under the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, J. L. Bristow, to whose bureau the division had been removed from that of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, R. J. Wynne. The removal had long been expected, but nevertheless created a sensation. Nothing more of a startling nature became public until on May 27 Machen was summoned from his home to Mr. Bristow's office. There he was interrogated by inspectors Mayer, Thorpe, Fosnes, and Mr. Bristow. A stenographer took down an exact account of what was said. At the conclusion of the interview, which occupied the whole morning, Machen was arrested by two United States deputy marshals, who were in waiting. Grafters Described. Warrants were issued the same day for the two Groffs and Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz. Samuel A. Groff is a member of the Washington police force, and was the man appointed on the old Metropolitan police force before it was reorganized and placed upon its present basis. He is an inventor of note, and has made much money out of devices he has placed on the market. His letter-box fastener was perfected and patented in 1892, and was adopted by the Postoffice Department in 1895. Since that time the department has purchased in the neighborhood of \$150,000 worth of the fasteners. Diller B. Groff is a Washington contractor and investor, whose building transactions here have amounted to more than a million dollars. His business career here has lasted more than thirty years of the sixty-eight years of his life. George E. Lorenz was formerly one of the largest operators in the great oil field of northwestern Ohio, has been many years the owner of a large perfume plant in Toledo, and is president of the national organization of perfumers. His wife is one of the best known women in Toledo, and the entire city was shocked by her unfortunate arrest, which was rendered necessary by legal technicalities. Least of His Crimes. Of all the crimes of which Machen had been accused up to the time he was arrested, the one which attracted the least attention was his alleged connection with the Groff letter box fastener. His arrest had been confidently predicted, and was momentarily expected, but when it came it was a surprise because of the transaction on which it was based. The case developed by the prosecution through the efforts of the inspectors, headed by Inspector Walter S. Mayer, was about as follows: Diller B. Groff was an owner of a half-interest in the fastener and was the business man for his brother, Samuel A. Groff. He also had power to sign checks and receipts in connection with the fastener. Diller B. Groff received in the period from 1895 to the arrest in 1903 sums from the Government aggregating nearly \$100,000 in payment for fasteners. From 1895 to November, 1899, the fasteners were sold for \$1.50, but then Machen arbitrarily reduced the price to \$1.25. Inspector Mayer found that as soon as Groff received a payment he divided it. The fasteners cost the brothers 25 cents each. One-half the profits, it was learned, were sent to George E. Lorenz in Toledo, while the other half was equally divided by the brothers. Deposited in Wife's Name. Another discovery was that the money sent Lorenz was deposited in a Toledo and a Cleveland bank in the name of Martha J. Lorenz, wife of George E. Lorenz, and it was that fact which led to her indictment, although the testimony at the trial showed that she knew nothing about the manner in which her name was being used. The next development was that when the money had been deposited in the name of Mrs. Lorenz, her husband, who had an equal right to draw against her deposits, checked out part of that money and parts of sums he had in two other banks. In addition to checks he also drew drafts for odd sums against the four accounts. The matter was extremely involved, but it was found by a careful study of the Lorenz checks and drafts that in almost every instance they represented just half the amount Lorenz had received from the Groffs, and that half was sent to A. W. Machen in Washington, who, in turn, deposited in Westminster, Md., where he kept his private account. Some times it was necessary to take two, three, or four checks and drafts in order to make up the amount, but in almost every instance it was one-half of Lorenz's remittance from the Groffs, or just one-quarter of the profits of the fastener. Prearranged Agreement. These circumstances convinced the inspectors that the money from Groff reached Machen as the result of a prearranged agreement between all the parties. On the same day, in April, inspectors called on the two Groffs in Washington, and Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz in Toledo. The Groffs were asked if they knew the Lorenzes, and said they did not. At almost the identical time the Lorenzes, out in Toledo, were denying that they knew the Groffs. George Lorenz was especially uncommunicative, saying that he supposed the inspectors were seeking evidence against his friend Machen, and that he would not give any information detrimental to that official. Diller Groff was seen again in May and said he would stand by his first statement. Acting on this evidence, the grand jury returned indictments, and all the parties were arrested. The indictment was demurred to, but Justice Pritchard overruled the demurrer, and the case came to trial on January 21, after two postponements, and was not definitely concluded until sentence yesterday, forty-seven days later. The prosecution produced the books of the banks, the bank officers, and the checks, drafts, and Treasury warrants in the case. Its theory was that Lorenz met the Groffs at the prompting of Machen, and gave them to understand that they could do no business with the

THE MACHEN JURY.



W. O. Berryman, John Cocker, Carl Petersen, Clarence Bradburn, Roche Abell, Douglass Markham, W. P. Cannon, Hallie L. Herrell, John P. Gerhold, T. E. Clements, Charles E. West.

DATE FOR CONVENTION NOT YET ARRANGED

BOSTON, Feb. 27.—After being in session for nearly three hours this afternoon the executive committee of the Democratic State committee adjourned after appointing subcommittees to consider and arrange a date for the State convention and to consider filling the office of secretary and also as to the method to be employed in raising funds for the campaign. These subcommittees are to report their findings to the executive committee at a meeting to be held next Saturday. It is likely, according to Chairman McTear, that the date for the State convention will be definitely settled at next Saturday's meeting. Absolutely nothing was done today toward adopting resolutions favoring any candidate for President.

A Crooked Maze.

Lorenz said he reported this declaration of Machen to the Groffs, but, despite the fact that he could not render any service, and had paid only \$50 on the bargain and did not have a line of writing to show the obligation of the Groffs to draw one-half of the Groff fastener profits down to the time of his arrest in May, 1903, and in that time he received within a few hundred dollars of \$50,000. Lorenz accounted for the payments to Machen by saying that he owed Machen \$25,000 on a note given in settlement of oil deals between them when Machen came to Washington. The Government attacked both the validity and the consideration of this note. It was shown that it was \$250 more than the amount of money due Machen from Lorenz. The indorsement of payments on the paper were in lead pencil and neither of the parties had any books to show an accurate record of the payments. The same lack of correspondence, receipts, and accounts between the fasteners bearing upon whether it was alleged to be a perfectly legitimate series of contracts was noticeable throughout the trial. Such were the main points of the two sides in the now celebrated case, and the Government won.

SAM GROFF'S STATUS ON THE POLICE FORCE

Major Sylvester said last evening that he did not know at present whether Samuel Groff, who was suspended from the police force immediately after his arrest in connection with the Postoffice conspiracy case, would be dropped from the rolls or retained. He said he would be governed by what the law officer of the department, Corporation Counsel Andrew B. Duvall had to say in regard to the matter.

WILL ASSIST GEN. RIGGS.

Capt. Earle D. Pearce, Artillery Corps, has been ordered to assist General Riggs in command of militiamen on duty at the fire district in Baltimore. He will attend to this duty in addition to his present duty as inspector of the organized militia for Maryland.

DIED.

CANDFIELD.—On Saturday morning, February 27, 1894, at 20 o'clock, Mrs. JOSEPHINE L. CANDFIELD, at the residence of her parents, Joseph H. and Mary N. Lawrence, of 730 Tenth Street southeast. Funeral Monday, February 29, at 2 o'clock p. m.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF "PELEE CLUB"

Explorers Gather at the New Willard.

"BRIMSTONE" IN THE AIR

Prof. Hovey Reports Progress on Book Giving Story of the Expedition.

Fire and brimstone pervaded the atmosphere of one of the parlors in the New Willard last night. Gathered within the room was a party of newspaper correspondents, explorers, and Government officials, all of whom had visited the island of Martinique in the summer of 1902, during the volcanic eruptions of Mount Pelee and La Soufriere. Those who made the trip organized a club, and this was their second annual meeting. Prof. E. O. Hovey, curator of the American Museum of Natural History, in New York, who twice visited the island, reported that the composite book which is being compiled by the club is nearly in shape to be published. This will contain the experiences of those who saw the volcanic eruptions. Chapter by Gallagher. A chapter will be contributed by Major Hugh J. Gallagher, of the general staff of the army, telling how the relief stores sent from the Dixie were rushed to the scene. H. H. Smith will relate how the newspaper correspondents got to work in sending news of the destruction wrought by the outburst of fire and lava. Prof. Robert T. Hill, of the Geological Survey, will tell of his investigation of the geological formation of the mountain, and other chapters containing incidents and depicting the scenes in St. Pierre will be contributed. It was decided to broaden the scope of the club by opening the membership to any persons interested in the study of volcanoes. In this organization, which is to retain the name of "The Pelee Club," will become scientific in its character as it will be the special purpose to gather all information possible about volcanoes in the past and present, and to make a thorough study of the phenomena attending an eruption. Among the other Martinique explorers present last night were Lieut. Comdr. John B. Bernadou, commanding officer of the Dixie; Ernest Howe, of the United States Geological Survey; Capt. T. McLean, of the League Island navy yard, commander of the Cincinnati relief ship; and J. P. Hornaday, J. Martin Miller, J. O. Hammett, and George B. Lucey, newspaper correspondents.

PRESIDENT PALMA ISSUES WARNING

Riots at Elections Would Discredit Government.

WILL QUELL DISTURBANCES

Governors of Provinces Instructed to Act—Forecast of the Result in Cuba.

HAVANA, Feb. 27.—In order to prevent the disturbances that threaten to mar tomorrow's congressional election throughout Cuba, President Palma has issued a warning, which, in the form of a proclamation, is being posted all over the island, declaring that riots will seriously discredit the stability of the republic. All of the heads of provinces have been instructed to quell any disturbance at the outset. A forecast of the result indicates a Conservative-Republican victory in the provinces of Pinar Del Rio, Matanzas, and Santa Clara, while the Liberals Democrats will likely elect a majority of the congressmen from Santiago, Camaguey and Havana provinces.

CHURCH NOTICES.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE—First Church of Christ, Scientist. Last service in Scottish Rite Hall, 107 G Street northwest, Sunday, 11 a. m. subject "Man's Sunday school, 11 a. m. Opening service in church edifice, Fifteenth and R streets northwest, 2 p. m.; Wednesday evening meeting at 8. Public cordially invited. Free reading rooms in the Bond Building.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

WANTED—The name of the cabman who took a gentleman to 108 F Street, Washington, D. C., on Monday, DECEMBER 14, 1903. Reward for desired information. Address BOX 528, this office. fe28-3t

SPECIAL NOTICE—Dr. L. E. Rautenberg, (M. D.) Homoeopathic Mount Vernon Flats, corner Ninth Street and New York Avenue, has changed office hours to from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., and 4 to 8 p. m., daily, except Sundays.

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- THREE ORGAN BARGAINS 2 Manual Pedal Base, walnut case, 8 stop; hand blow lever and foot pedals, including bench... \$35 Terms, \$5 cash; \$3.00 per month. 14-stop "Wilcox & White" Symphony; a magnificent 14-stop organ, costing originally \$40; slightly used and as good as new. Plays automatic... \$125 Terms, \$10 cash; \$3 per month. 5 oct. 6-stop "Estey" Organ, walnut case; fine order... \$25 Terms, \$5 cash; \$2.50 per month. SQUARE PIANOS 7 oct. Steinway & Sons, rosewood case; fine order... \$150 Terms, \$10 cash; \$5 per month. 7 oct. Steinway & Sons... \$125 Terms, \$10 cash; \$5 per month. 7 oct. "Knabe"... \$65 Terms, \$5 cash; \$3 per month. 7 oct. "Meyer"... \$55 Terms, \$5 cash; \$3 per month. 6 1/2 oct. "Gaber"... \$50 Terms, \$5 cash; \$3 per month. 7 oct. Gale... \$25 Terms, \$5 cash; \$2.50 per month. 6 1/2 oct. Knabe... \$15 Terms, \$5 cash; \$2.50 per month. 7 oct. "Bladel"... \$40 (a beauty)... \$40 Terms, \$5 cash; \$2.50 per month. UPRIGHTS 7 oct. Steinway & Sons; rosewood; entirely remodeled inside... \$250 Terms, \$10 cash; \$10 monthly. 7-13 oct. Steinway & Sons; ebonized, 3 pedals; cost \$750 cash; has been carefully used... \$375 Terms, \$25 cash, \$10 monthly. 7-13 oct. Steinway & Sons; latest pattern, one year old; regular price, \$700... \$550 Colonial design... \$400 "Crown" rosewood finish, entirely new... \$325 "Mason & Hamlin" Puritan model, new... \$400 \$375 Bailey mahogany; hand-some case and tone... \$275 \$300 Hunt-ington, near-ly new... \$225 \$300 Hunt-ington, near-ly new... \$250 7 oct. "Bladel"... \$40 (a beauty)... \$40 Terms, \$5 cash; \$2.50 per month.

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