



NEGROES FORCED TO MAKE CHANGES

True Reformers Select New Officers Under Official Pressure.

BUTTON ISSUED HIS ULTIMATUM

Order Once Bought in Its Own Property for \$50,000—Allied Bank Did Not Pay Insurance Checks—Successful Future Is Now Expected.

Yielding to repeated demands made by State Insurance Commissioner Joseph Button for a complete change in management, the Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers, in biennial session in Richmond, yesterday chose E. W. Homes, of this city, as grand worthy master, in place of W. L. Taylor, W. P. Burnett, whose administration has been entirely satisfactory to the Bureau of Insurance, will be re-elected grand secretary. The officers have been selected by what is known as nomination, and will be formally elected to-day.

Probably the entire future of this order, the largest, most successful and most prominent among all colored secret societies in the world, was involved in the choice of the Grand Fountain of its president. Recent troubles have brought the organization to a critical stage, and it is generally believed, to ignorance of business methods and partly, perhaps, to the machinations of more intelligent negroes who found in the members of their race easy dupes to their plans.

Holds Highest Place. Remarkable indeed is the history of the True Reformers, which for nearly thirty years has held a place in the respect and admiration of the colored population of America. Its home office and central building are located in Richmond, on Second Street, near Leigh, where yesterday's sessions were held. The body, which is composed of delegates, met on Tuesday and will be in session the remainder of the week.

On one occasion this Grand Fountain, elected to represent the interests of the members, gravely and solemnly bought its own ritual, its own charter, and its own constitution and bylaws from its grand master for the sum of \$100,000, nearly \$50,000 of which was actually paid. This official, who is now dead, was the founder of the True Reformers, was a salaried officer, and actually had the ritual copyrighted in order to secure the continuation of a million dollars in his gains, his wife for nine years had the exclusive right to manufacture regalia for the members, and at last this right was "sold" back to the order for \$3,000.

Wore Holes of State. This founder, W. L. Taylor, it is stated, presided at the meetings of the Grand Fountain in flowing robes, to aid him in impressing superstitious reverence upon those who had united with the organization. In fact, if rumors be correct, vague ceremonies of this sort were practiced up to a very recent time.

An income of nearly \$300,000 a year, hosts of claims amounting in the aggregate to more than \$50,000, remained unpaid at about the beginning of this year. Numerous complaints of the non-payment of these claims, ranging from small sums up to \$500, were made to Commissioner Button, who ordered an examination. It was speedily learned that the trouble was not with the order, which was in splendid financial condition, but with a quarter of a million dollars to its credit in the bank. When attention was paid to the bank, it was here found that this institution, known as the Savings Bank of the Grand United Order of True Reformers, was holding the checks and not paying them. This was not conducted, and it was learned that the officials of the bank and those of the order are the same. In fact, the bank is an affiliated institution.

Checks Were Held. This was the method of procedure: The treasurer of the order was cashier of the bank. The checks for payment of the insurance claims would be properly drawn by the order, and charged off on its books. This was all regular. The order had the money in its deposit. Then the cashier of the bank would put these checks away in a drawer and they would not be paid. The records of the bank did not show that the checks had been presented. The bank looked all right, O. K.

Immediate demand was made by Colonel Button for the payment of the claims. The bank made its arrangements and paid them. But the commissioner was not satisfied with the management. He gave the order until the next biennial meeting, which is now being held, to clean up its books. For weeks past officers and members of the True Reformers have been notified that there must be a change of management. Taylor, the grand master, was told that he must step out, or he was given intimation to that effect. The result was to be an immediate investigation and firm application of the insurance laws. It was Colonel Button's intention, to reform the order, not to wreck it. He desired to build it up, for should it fall it would drag down with it, probably, the entire fabric of colored secret societies to which the negro race pins its highest hopes.

Stood to Guns. All day yesterday delegations of members called on the commissioner at his office in the Capitol, some of the members undertaking to argue the points at issue with him. He produced his reports and official records, and old them to the members. Expectation was of no use. To the last delegation he delivered his ultimatum. Taylor's head must fall in the basket. It fell.

Yesterday's action of the Grand Fountain is regarded as a complete return to sanity and conservatism. In new hands the order is expected to

CAVALIER DUPED, NOT BOB CHANLER

Brother Oreste Tells "Inside" of Famous Scandal.

WANTED SINGER TO PAY HIS DEBTS

On One Occasion He Threw Bread in Lina's Face, and She Responded Vigorously With Basket of Cherries—Welcomed Attention of Prince Dolgorouki.



ORESTE CAVALIERI.

BY ADA PATERSON.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] New York, September 14.—A handsome young Italian, as handsome in his own sturdy way as is his beautiful sister, told me to-day in a voice, with nervous gestures, the story of Lina Cavalieri's shipwrecked romance, about which two countries are greedily reading. He told it as the spokesman of his sister, told it, he said, as she would tell it herself if she chose to lay aside the garments of reserve and defend herself. But, he admitted, the fire of indignation burned more fiercely in his breast than in hers.

"Ladies are so strange," said Oreste Cavalieri, in his still slightly halting English. "They have special reasons for some of their acts that no man can understand. I did not want my sister to marry Robert Chanler. I believed from the first that he was false. But she reflected, and at last decided there was no more to be said. I have great influence with my sister. Chanler knows that, and that is the reason he waited until he thought I had gone to Rome to run away from Paris. For that is what he did, run away from Paris.

"Fortunately, because of some business I wish to settle before going into banking in Paris, and also because of a love affair—I told you two years ago that I am in love with an American lady—I came to this country instead of going to Rome, and I did nothing to my sister or her husband about it. My sister and I are superstitious. We have always believed in our star. It has always taken care of us. It will take care of us now.

"But listen. My sister is the victim, the only one in this case, that Chanler has trusted into public notice. She has at all times been perfectly honest with her husband.

"She told him she did not love him. Before she sailed for Paris she said: 'I do not love you. I have affection for you, but I do not love you.' He said that was enough for a beginning.

"It was he who offered to adopt her son, Alexander. She made no suggestion of going to Rome to write him. No, Alexander will be twenty in a few years, and then he may decide whether he wishes it. Perhaps he may not want to bear any name but the one I had given him.

"When he was courting her he said that he wished to marry her, and said to get her to write a letter to his creditors in America saying she would pay his debts. He said he would write the letter, but she would not write it. He said that she would write it, but she would not write it. He said that she would write it, but she would not write it.

"Before they were married he told her he had some debts. He said he owed about \$500. He said he would pay them, but she would not let him. He said that she would pay them, but she would not pay them. He said that she would pay them, but she would not pay them.

"When Lina became ill and had to be operated on for appendicitis, Chanler sent a telegram to Dolgorouki, asking him to come to Richmond.

DIDN'T INTEND TO BRIBE SPEIGHTS

But Electrical Fixture Man Is Sent on to Grand Jury.

WITNESSES TELL OF CONFERENCE

Johnson Says He Offered Speights and Apperson Suit of Clothes Each After He Considered Differences Adjusted—Officials Put Another View on Case.

William E. Johnson, representative of the J. S. Sands Electrical Company, of Wheeling, W. Va., was sent on to the grand jury from Police Court yesterday afternoon on a charge of attempting to bribe Leroy Speights, City Electrical Inspector, to obtain his fall the duty of inspecting the electric fixtures in the American National Bank Building.

Because of the absence of Mayor Richardson, who was called away to attend some ceremony, the hearing did not begin until 1 o'clock, and through the long, tedious interim the lawyers waited, unwilling to have the case continued. There were but three witnesses—Mr. Speights, A. H. Apperson, electrical inspector for the South-eastern Underwriters' Association, and Mr. Johnson. All admitted that there had been an offer of a suit of clothes. But Mr. Johnson contended that the offer—and he did not consider it a bribe—was made after he had come to an agreement with the other two men as to remedying the defects in the electric fixtures in the American National Bank Building.

Most Damaging Point. The most damaging point against him was the testimony of the two witnesses that he had previously said that he would make it all right with them if they helped him.

Messrs. Speights and Apperson swore that there was no agreement among them, that they had agreed to pass upon the remedies offered by Mr. Johnson until he had had his firm listed under the National Board of Fire Underwriters' Association. Mr. Johnson claimed that he agreed also to this, and in substantiation produced in evidence a paper in which he had drawn up the agreement he had offered to Messrs. Speights and Apperson in their meeting in his room at Murphy's Hotel Monday night. On the failure as to the alleged agreement the case hung, and it was the turning point which sent Mr. Johnson to the grand jury.

H. M. Smith, Jr., who represented the defendant, and Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes represented the prosecution, occasionally conferring with Mayor Richardson, who was present through the hearing.

Speights was the first witness called. He said he was elected by the Council Committee on Electricity and that he reported to W. H. Thompson, City Electrician. It is his duty, he said, to inspect all electric wiring in the city and to pass on it. He told of inspecting the fixtures in the American National Bank Building, when, he said, did not come up to requirements. He spoke of the matter to W. H. Jenks, who had applied for a permit to install the fixtures, but who had been refused. He mentioned the matter also to Charles K. Bryant, the architect. Upon request he granted permission to install some of the fixtures in the building, on the top floor of the building, with the understanding, however, that they were to come out later. He spoke of the matter also to Mr. Goedicke, of the Sands Electrical Company, and told him that the fixtures did not meet with the requirements; then he informed Oliver J. Sands, president of the American National Bank, that the fixtures would not be accepted unless they were approved by the National Board of Fire Underwriters' Association.

Conference With Johnson. On Monday night the witness said he received a call from Mr. Johnson, whom he had never met. He diverged to say that the material must also be approved and that the supplying company must be listed on the National Board of Fire Underwriters' Association, that he had called on Mr. Goedicke, of the Sands Electrical Company, and that he had called on Oliver J. Sands, president of the American National Bank, to whom the contract had been submitted, but being so listed. Witness stated also that the fixtures did not comply with the specifications for the building. He said he could have passed the fixtures by keeping his mouth shut, but he returned to the meeting with Johnson and met the latter in the lobby of Murphy's Hotel, having Mr. Apperson, with whom he had made a previous appointment, with him. Together they went to Mr. Johnson's room. He said that Mr. Johnson asked "how he is interested" pointing to Mr. Apperson. Witness had replied that Mr. Apperson was inspector for the South-eastern Underwriters' Association, and was equally interested.

Mr. Johnson, the witness went on, said that he was here representing the American people, and that he was all for any trouble, any assistance that might arise in connection with these fixtures.

"I told him," said the witness, "that in this territory, meaning Richmond, they did not charge any fees, and could not and would not accept any fees." Witness stated that Mr. Apperson said the same thing.

"Mr. Johnson then said," continued

To Pay for Trouble. Mr. Johnson, according to Mr. Speights, said he would remedy the defects and added, "I will make it all right with you boys. I will pay you for any trouble, any assistance that might arise in connection with these fixtures."

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PRINCIPALS IN ALEXANDRIA TRAGEDY



ETHEL MAY PIERCE.



WILLIAM FIRTH, JR.

NO TRACE OF SEX HAS BEEN FOUND

Impossible to Tell if Remains Are Those of Belle Elmore.

VICTORY FOR CRIPPEN

Physician Cool, but Miss Leneve Is in Mental and Physical Distress.

London, September 14.—Testifying at the resumption to-day of the Crippen murder trial, Prof. Augustus J. Pepper, pathologist of the University of London, said that his examination had convinced him that the human parts found in the cellar of the Hilldrop Crescent home were severed by a hand skilled in surgery and directed by a mind that possessed a real knowledge of anatomy.

Dr. Hawley H. Crippen, who is charged as the principal of the murder of his wife, Belle Elmore, the American actress, was seemingly as cool and collected as ever.

Ethel Clare Leneve, accused as an accomplice after the fact, was wan and plainly in mental and physical distress. She was attended for the first time in court by a lawyer, and she stood in the dock with a look of despair.

Prof. Pepper, for the prosecution, said that he had identified pieces of flesh as belonging to various parts of the body, except the head, hands, forearms, feet and legs below the knees. He could say that the members found were not those of a human body. No bones were discovered, nor was there any trace of the genital organs.

The whole viscera was present in tact, and the only wound was a cut in the upper part of the windpipe. Other parts were left undisturbed by the one who did the killing, and the way in which the parts had been separated convinced the expert that whoever was guilty of the mutilation did his work with an exactness born of familiarity with the human body.

Prof. Pepper said that the hair discovered included short strands of fair hair, more than eight inches in length, the size commonly used by men. The witness identified particularly a piece of flesh by seven inches in size as coming from the abdominal wall, and which bore a scar which, in his opinion, was undoubtedly left by a wound from an operation.

Scar Described. The witness said that the scar was in a vertical direction, and more than four inches in length. It was old, and might have been on the body for a year, possibly many years. The condition of the organs in recovered was healthy, and in his judgment indicated a stoutish person in middle life, whose hair was dark brown where it had not been artificially bleached.

Witness said that he found no trace of the sex. The parts had been buried for not less than four months and for more than eight months.

Here Solicitor Newton asked the witness to be more specific in his statement as to having found "no trace of sex." The professor agreed with counsel that it was impossible for him in any manner to determine the sex from information, and the inspector told him, in technical detail, what the trouble was.

SEES BUT LITTLE CHANCE FOR G.O.P.

Former Republican "Whip" Says Congress Will Be Democratic.

BLAMES ROOSEVELT

Declares Former President Has Widened Breach in Party.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] New York, September 14.—EX-Congressman James D. Watson, of Indiana, who was used to be the Republican "whip" in the House, and who is an active campaigner, came down from Utica today, where he had been with Vice-President Smerman, and left almost immediately for Pottsville, Pa., where he is to help open the Republican campaign to-morrow.

While chasing across town from Waldorf to the Twenty-third street ferry in a taxicab, Mr. Watson made some startling statements with regard to the outlook before the Republican party at the present time, so far as the fall elections are concerned, and gave it as his belief, that present indications are for a Democratic majority in Congress next year, or at least thirty. Mr. Watson blamed Colonel Roosevelt, not for making new insurgents or Progressives, but for helping to align them so distinctly that there is little hope of their getting together as things stand.

Situation Is Acute. "I was out West with vice-President Sherman, in Missouri and Oklahoma," said Mr. Watson, "and have been campaigning in eleven States this year, and I tell you the situation is bad for the Republican party. I am not one of those who say their eyes and predict big majorities.

The Republican party is confronted by a situation that is acute, and it is no use to shut our eyes to it. The thing is to realize what it is and to get together to meet it. There is nothing reassuring about the situation, by any means.

"Of course, the eyes of the whole country just now are turned upon New York, and the question of the State chairmanship, I have no idea as to what is going to happen, and I cannot tell anybody who does. My own notion is that if there is a close vote on the chairmanship, it is going to be a bad thing, though I believe that anything short of an overwhelming victory would not be a disaster for the party."

Mr. Sherman has absolutely refrained from discussing the question, not only with the newspaper correspondents, but with those who have been closely associated with him. Even on the Western trip he declined to talk about it, so I have no idea as to what his sentiment in the matter is.

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POSSIBLE BREAK IN SOLID SOUTH IS DAY'S RESULT

Independent Democrats Indorse Republican Candidate for Governor.

A FORMIDABLE TRIUMVIRATE

Republicans, Prohibitionists and Independents Are Lined Up Solidly Against Regular Democratic Nominee, Who Is Backed by Patterson Machine.

Nashville, Tenn., September 14.—The Independent Democrats of Tennessee to-day indorsed the candidacy of Captain Ben W. Hooper, Republican nominee for Governor, and further cut loose from the Regular wing by referring the latter's harmony resolution to the new Independent State Executive Committee without discussion.

This was organized a formidable looking triumvirate to campaign for a Republican Governor, consisting of Republicans, Independent Democrats and State-wide Prohibitionists. The Independents and Prohibitionists are so closely allied as to largely overlap in their membership.

The possible break in the solid South, outlined in to-day's convention, extends only to one office, the governorship. There is a gentlemen's agreement between the Independents and the Republicans that neither party will invade the other's safe legislative territory, and this, the Independents say, assures a Democratic Legislature.

No Opposition. There was no opposition in the convention to the program of the leaders. An attempt was made to suspend the rules and nominate Hooper by acclamation, but this was ruled out of order by the permanent chairman, R. E. L. Mountcastle, national Democratic committeeman for Tennessee.

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The pardon of Senator Carmack's slayer was denounced repeatedly by the speakers, who were received with shouts of approval. Temporary Chairman G. T. Fitzhugh, of Memphis, brought the audience to its feet when he said of the Carmack-Cooper case:

"When the highest court, despite (Patterson's) efforts to control it, had handed down a verdict which branded him a murderer, he spat upon and trampled under foot this judgment, which was in accord with law and justice and which met with the approval of the civilized world."

The convention opened with Captain Hooper's name being called for cheering and applause. Speaking of the combination of Republican and Independent Democrats, he said:

"While the sequence of events is unprecedented in Tennessee politics, it contains no deep and hidden meaning. It would be extremely absurd for the forces of temperance, law and order to be divided in this contest along national party lines."

Picture Conditions. "We have not seen this State for the last four years what was perhaps never seen in a Southern State before, the assembling of all races and criminal elements under the banner of an unpartisan organization, an intensified imitation of the Tammany Democracy of New York, and the Republican ring of Philadelphia. We have seen the laws of this State trampled under foot, and then heard the chief executive of the State publicly proclaim from one end of the land to the other that these laws could not be enforced. We have seen the Governor, in a political asset and used for the financial enrichment of his henchmen and the political bootlickers of the streets of our State capital, with the utmost contempt, reaching the very climax of infamy in a bold and brazen attempt to coerce the State into a political asset for the Governor and his machine."

The platform adopted says in part: "We denounce the usurpation of party authority in the name of Democracy by the Patterson machine, and we condemn the efforts of Governor Patterson to coerce the laws and of all other officials charged with the duties of enforcing them."

The State Executive Committee appointed by the Independents to-day met this evening and referred the regular harmony proposal to a committee of three with instructions to report on September 24.

The Regulars to-night organized to fight it out with the fusionists all along the line.

Atlantic City Was 44,401. The population of Atlantic City, N. J., is 44,481, an increase of 2,623 or 5.97 per cent, as compared with 27,858 in 1900.

Woman Gets Her Bill, But Boy Loses Goat

Washington, D. C., September 14.—This tale of a goat is arranged chronologically:

A woman in Detroit wanted a new hat and drew a \$10 bill out of a bank. A gust of wind whisked it out of her hand.

A small boy driving a nanny goat to a cart happened by and the ten fluttered under nanny's nose.

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