ASK RESTITUTION OF THEIR LOSSES

Stockholders of Cement Company File Suit Against Directors.

ALLEGE MISMANAGEMENT

Money Sunk in Reckless Investment Said to Be More Than $2,000,000.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

New York, December 21.—General Francis Vinton Greene, former police commissioner, who was one of the directors of the Seaboard Portland Cement Company until it went into bankruptcy in 1910, is named as one of the defendants in a suit filed in the Supreme Court to-day to compel the directors to make restitution to the creditors because of alleged reckless management of the cement company.

Among the other defendants named are George A. Beaton, at one time secretary to ex-Senator Foraker, of Ohio, and president of the cement company, and Joseph M. Shellaberger, a lawyer, who was secretary and treasurer. The losses alleged to have been suffered by the creditors amount to over $2,000,000.

The complaint states that the company was incorporated in 1907 at $5,000,000, and that in 1910 Beaton, claiming to be holder of over $75,000 of a $2,000,000 bond issue, filed suit for the appointment of a receiver. William H. Allen was appointed, and he brings suit in behalf of the creditors.

It is alleged that the directors permitted the funds of the company to be wasted and the stock rendered worthless to the damage of the stockholders and creditors. It is also alleged that the directors permitted Beaton and Shellaberger to run the affairs of the company in their indivisual interest, and without proper supervision by the directors.

The complaint states that the officers of the company made loans to irresponsible persons and carried on the business "in a wild and reckless manner." It is alleged, further, that funds and securities were converted and unlawful profits made by the officers at the company. On these grounds the suit asks that the defendants be compelled to make good the losses of the cement company.

Failed to Make Good.

The Seaboard Portland Cement Company was promoted by George A. Beaton, who came here from Ohio about fifteen years ago, and promoted the stock of many corporations that failed to make good. In the course of the promotion of the cement company, Beaton organized many other companies affiliated with the cement company to some extent, in order to bring in additional cash for promotion purposes.

Receiver Allen found that about 800 investors had bought bonds representing a cash outlay of $1,818,000, but the books showed a total expenditure on the plant of the company of only $818,000. The receiver found the treasury so bare that he had to advance money for expenses incident to the receivership. The company bought 700 acres of land at Alsen, on the west bank of the Hudson near Catskill, but made only a small payment, and owed $87,500 when the receiver was appointed.

Three of the directors named as defendants in the receiver's suit are Edwin C. Willetts, president of the First National Bank of Mineola, L. I.; Alexander I. McLeod, president of an automobile company in Detroit, and M. V. Brewington, president of a water and lighting company at Salisbury, Md.

A committee of bondholders has been trying to reorganize the company for several years.

CABINET MAKE-UP STILL UNSOLVED

(Continued From First Page.)

of Federal patronage in the various States according to senatorial or congressional recommendation, the President-elect said:

"No, I have not, but I have adopted the general policy that those who apply are least likely to be considered."

Governor Wilson expects to hold a conference with Speaker Clark next week, similar to the one he had with Bryan to-day. Other prominent Democratic Senators and Representatives will also be invited to visit him and give him their information and opinion concerning Cabinet material and legislation.

This evening Governor Wilson returned to Princeton to spend Sunday with his family. He planned to be in Trenton again Monday and probably Tuesday. He will spend Christmas here with his family.

FLETCHER SWORN IN

Young Man of Barton Heights Succeeds Raleigh Phillips as Deputy Clerk.

T. C. Fletcher was yesterday sworn in deputy clerk of Henrico County to succeed E. Raleigh Phillips, who resigned last week to begin the practice of law. Mr. Fletcher has been in Clerk Waddill's office for three years. He has been acting as deputy clerk since Mr. Phillips's resignation went into effect.

Mr. Fletcher is a son of John C. Fletcher, of Barton Heights. He is a member of the second year law class of Richmond College, and was elected as its president at the commencement of the school year. He will take his degree in June.

RAID BY REVENUE OFFICERS.

Two Hundred Gallons of Beer Destroyed in North Carolina.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Washington, N. C., December 21.—Two hundred gallons of beer and fifteen empty barrels seized and a still put out of commission near the head of Chocowinity Creek was the accomplishment of revenue officers yesterday. Deputy Collector C. C. Fagin, Deputy Collector M. L. Wood and Deputy Marshal J. A. Potter made the raid. They found the still near the head of Chocowinity Creek, and without ceremony proceeded to destroy the plant. They succeeded in capturing the beer. The still proper had been pulled up and carried elsewhere before the revenue officers reached the scene.

Auto Truck Hits Post.

While backing in Main Street at Fourteenth yesterday, an automobile truck owned by the W. H. Harris Grocery Company, Inc., crashed into a gas lamp post, smashed it and a letter box, and scattered its contents about the street. The broken box and letters were gathered up and turned over to the post-office authorities. The truck is said to have gotten out of order, which caused it to skid and run into the post.

Alleged Housebreakers.

William Banks and Martha Robinson, colored, were arrested yesterday on the charge of entering the dwelling of Lucy Smith and stealing one ring and a dress.

They Spend Day in Conference

W. J. BRYAN. WOODROW WILSON.

CHANGE IN POLICY HIGHLY PROBABLE

Amateur Leagues Likely to Have Only Four Clubs Each Coming Season.

A final date having been set by Secretary John R. Hooper, Jr., for the first meeting of the Amateur Commission in the new year—January 10, to be definite—much speculation is being indulged in by the amateur ball tossers as to the complexion of the several leagues for the new season. Certain it is that there will be many more leagues than last year, and the policy tends toward four instead of eight-club organizations. The advantage of the lesser number of clubs in any given league must be obvious where the season is necessarily short and where but one game a week can be played.

With just four clubs competing for honors in a league, the teams will get together just 33 1-3 per cent oftener than if there were six clubs. In other words, a fairer test can be made of the relative ability of four clubs within a short period than could be made of six clubs in the same period. Of course this will be something for the commission to discuss and decide upon.

Another thing which is obliged to occupy time and attention will be the changes in the rules to be suggested by the rules committee appointed for that purpose last fall, just after the close of the season. This committee has held no session yet, but it will convene before the meeting of the commission and have its report ready to be acted upon at that meeting.

Nothing but conjecture can guide those who may want to know the new leagues. Of course the Capital City League will be in existence, but if it is reduced to four clubs, which will be the clubs to drop out? The Collegians will surely be in there, fighting close to the front. Manager Hart, of Ashland, will not give up his franchise, nor will Major Price, of the Grays. Dr. Parker has already announced that he would not be in the older organization, for he expects to organize and head a new class "A" organization with four clubs. Rumor has it that there will be at least three class "A" leagues—Dr. Parker's, the Capital City and one to be formed from the Chesapeake and Ohio shops, the Locomotive Works and the Cedar Works, with another big manufacturing plant represented.

The Old Dominion League will certainly be in existence; so will the West End, East End and Packers' Leagues, all successful organizations last year. Altogether, though a trifle early to make prophecies, Richmond's third year of organized amateur baseball promises to be immeasurably more successful than any before.

Schwarzschild Bros.

Christmas Gifts

For Those Who Have Delayed The Purchase of Their Christmas Surprises

There are many, as usual, who have put off the selection of their Christmas tokens.

You need not worry, for although we have supplied thousands of gifts, we have this week supplied ourselves with an abundance of new and attractive articles.

Nowhere will you see so beautiful and complete a display of Christmas Gifts at this late hour—and we can help you make selections which will render this Christmastide the happiest and merriest of all.

Gold and Silver Novelties

Diamond Rings *Gold Watches*

Articles purchased here handsomely engraved without charge.

Schwarzschild Bros.

Richmond's Leading Jewelers, Second and Broad Sts.

MURPHY REFUSES TO ATTEND DINNER

(Continued From First Page.)

powers, hopes for better things and demands better government.

"We must be up and doing and keep apace with the best thought of the times. If the Democratic party stands still the hope of Democracy is doomed. The people, however, are familiar with the truths of history. They know that Democracy will never die until the pillars of the republic totter and crumble and liberty is no more. The opportunity is now ours and the people expect us to make the best of it—or take the consequences—and consequences they say are unpitying.

"As the Governor of New York, I shall to the best of my ability endeavor to give the people of the State an honest, efficient, an economical and a businesslike administration of public affairs. I say businesslike advisedly, because I assure the business men in every portion of our State that they can rely on me at all times to do my utmost to promote the commercial interests of our city and of our Commonwealth. I realize how important they are, and I shall be exceedingly careful to take no step to jeopardize the financial supremacy of the first city and State in the Union.

"Suffice it to say that I am the friend of every honest business, whether big or little, so long as it is legitimate, and will always have its welfare in view. To this end I shall work unceasingly for quicker and better transportation agencies and for improved and larger terminal facilities in order that New York shall continue to receive her just share of the trade and commerce of the country.

"To the best of my ability I shall make honesty and simplicity, economy and efficiency the watchword of my administration of the government of New York."

Although Murphy was absent, most of the well-known Tammany men were on hand. Alton B. Parker, who defeated Bryan for the temporary chairmanship of the Baltimore convention, August Belmont and Thomas F. Ryan, who were named in the now famous resolution offered by Bryan; Harry Payne Whitney, Samuel Untermyer, William F. McCombs, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Congressman Jefferson M. Levy and Martin W. Littleton, John H. McCooey, boss of Brooklyn's Democracy, William G. McAdoo, William B. Hornblower and former Mayor of New York George B. McClellan were among those who listened to the speeches.

Bryan's Tribute.

Paying high tribute to President-Elect Woodrow Wilson and Governor-Elect Sulzer, Bryan expressed the utmost confidence in the belief that the pledges of the Democratic party to revise the tariff downward and "give the little man a show" will be carried out.

In Governor Wilson and Sulzer, Bryan said, opportunity and preparedness met. Both men, he said, were able to perform the tasks that faced them when they were selected to be advanced to the positions of high honor.

"Never in fifty years has a Democratic President so held the good will of the Republican party," said Bryan. "One-half of the party is rejoicing because he defeated Taft, and the other half is rejoicing that he defeated Roosevelt.

"The time is ripe, the people are ready, the hour has come and the man is here. I have faith in Woodrow Wilson because I find in him conscientiousness and sympathy on the side of the mass of the people.

"I take much more pleasure in coming to New York than I once did. It used to be that a man who believed in the income tax was severely criticized by men, who thought him an anarchist. Now New York is one of the States that has ratified the income tax. And some of the men who used to consider the income tax anarchistic now admit that it is the only just and equitable tax."

Bryan then pointed out that there have been three financial panics in this country, and that two of them came under Republican administrations and the third under a Republican law.

Cannot Afford Panic.

"The Democratic party cannot afford a panic," he said. "We have not the resources that the Republicans have to last through one.

"All of the agitators of the West have never molested the vested interests as much as 1,000 gamblers molest them every day. You have all come to see that the laws which you formerly feared must now be enacted for your own protection.

"We will never see another national convention where the delegates will nominate whom they, please. Before the next national convention meets enough States will have adopted the presidential preference law that the delegates will only have to ratify the choice of the people.

"The little man, who has been crushed under the feet of the trusts and robbed of his opportunity, will have an equal chance for existence. And we have more than one head of the Republican party ready to atack us if we retreat."

Senator Ollie James also declared the party pledges would be kept and the tariff revised downward.

"We are going to have prosperity that you can pass around to the people and not pass up to the people," declared the Kentucky statesman. He also paid high tribute of the late Justice Harlan, of the Supreme Court of the United States, as the real friend of the people.

Bubonic Plague in Russia.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

St. Petersburg, December 21.—The bubonic plague has broken out at Popovka in South Russia. There have been deaths from the disease, and the town is now isolated by soldiers.

The Russo-Chinese situation is becoming more acute, and an encounter along the railway line between the rival troops is expected at any moment. British and Russian firms have asked the railway authorities to reinforce the military guards. The Chinese government is alleged to be encouraging anti-Russianism.

Becomes British Bride.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

London, December 21.—Another American girl became a British bride when Miss Margaret Eleanor Crosby, daughter of Ernest H. Crosby, formerly a New York lawyer, was married to Lieutenant William C. A. Van Neck, of the Thirteenth Hussars.

Soldiers Can't Race on Sunday.

El Paso, Texas, December 21.—Protests made by the Pastors' Union of El Paso to-day caused General E. Z. Steever, commanding the United States troops here, to issue an order forbidding American army officers to participate in any army day race meet in Juarez to-morrow. It had been planned to make the event an elaborate army affair. With army officers from Fort Bliss riding their own mounts. The ministers threatened to file a complaint with the War Department.

GREAT SECRECY IS MAINTAINED

Known, However, That Report Shows Bad Conditions in Rubber District.

Washington, December 21.—Great secrecy is being maintained at the Department of State with regard to the report submitted by United States Consul Stuart Fuller at Iquitos, Peru, regarding labor conditions in Putumayo district, where it is alleged Peru has failed to put a stop to the atrocities committed against Indian rubber gatherers.

Mr. Fuller, who arrived in New York to-day, made a special investigation in the Putumayo last summer at the direction of Secretary Knox. He has forwarded to the department in advance of his own arrival in Washington preliminary reports which he will supplement after conference with department officials. In spite of the secrecy, it is definitely known that he found conditions far from satisfactory. Mr. Fuller gathered evidence indicating that the reforms promised by Peru had been of little effect toward ameliorating the condition of Indian laborers in the rubber fields.

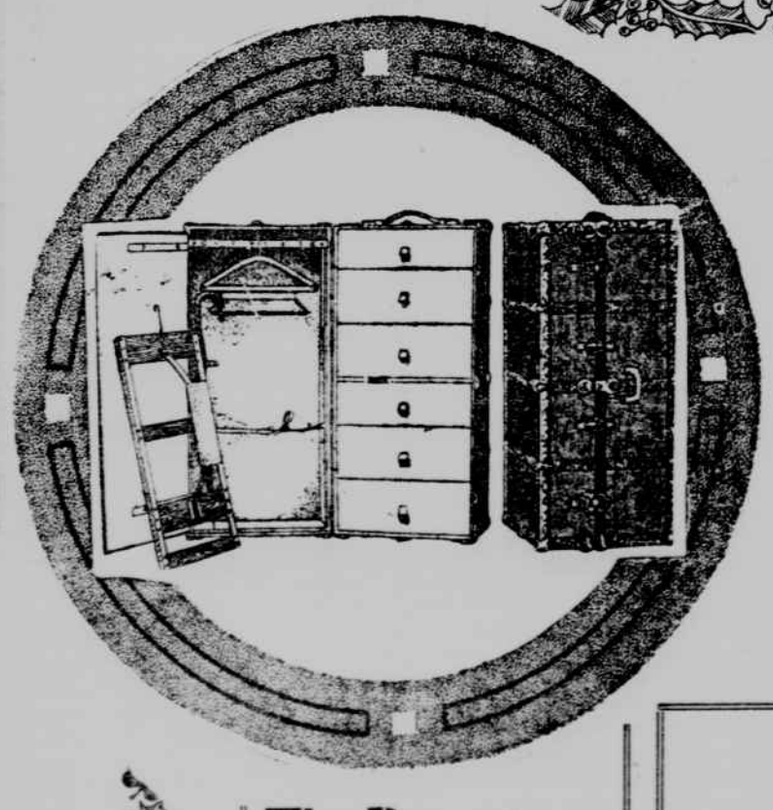
It is asserted in Peru that Colombians are responsible for the agitation now going on, especially in Great Britain, over the conditions in the Putumayo.

The State Department is now engaged in preparing for submission to Congress, in response to a resolution of inquiry, a large mass of information regarding conditions in the Putumayo. It is said this material will include at least a large portion of the information contributed by Fuller as a result of his investigations of last summer.

Feat of Aviator.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Trieste, December 21.—One of the most remarkable aviation feats of the year was the flight to-day of Georges Chemet, the French aviator, who crossed the Adriatic from Venice to Trieste in a hydro-aeroplane, and returned again to Venice. He carried with him a passenger.



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