



THORNTON HAINS GETS A FAINT RAY OF HOPE

Confident of His Acquittal in a Few Days

HAS STRONG WITNESS

Testimony of Henry Jesperson Develops Many Favorable Points for Defendant

CONFIRM REAL ESTATE DEAL

Jesperson Testifies That he Had Several Conferences With Hains Regarding Sale of Property on Douglas Waterfront

FLUSHING, N. Y., Dec. 24.—With the exception of one or two witnesses who will be heard on minor points, the state's case against Thornton Hains is practically closed, the defense will outline its case to the jury Saturday after the prosecution rests. When the defendant returned to the Long Island jail tonight he knew all the vital evidence the prosecution had obtained to prove their charge that he was one of the principals in the killing of William E. Annis. Before leaving the courtroom Hains declared his acquittal is only a matter of days.

District Attorney Darrin surprised Hains counsel by calling Henry L. Jesperson, former real estate agent whom defendant had planned to call as one of their principal witnesses. Jesperson's testimony developed many points favorable to the defendant. He said he had several conferences over the waterfront property at Douglas near Bayside and that he had made an appointment, with his partner, Mr. Bugg, about some property near Bayside Yacht Club. Jesperson further stated that Hains had postponed the real estate negotiations because of the illness of his brother. Hains' lawyers were delighted at Jesperson's testimony.

Darrin's purpose in calling Jesperson is not apparent. An incident of interest today was the demand of Lawyer McIntyre for the arrest of Martin Skura, an 18-year-old cabman who swore he made fake statements to Hains' lawyers, believing that they were newspapermen. Skura was excused after a grilling cross-examination in which he admitted making several false declarations in a statement given to the counsel for the defense.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF SALT LAKE BOY

Charles Seinoth a Messenger Found Dead--No Marks of Violence But Indications of Poison

SALT LAKE, Dec. 24.—Dead body of Charles Seinoth, a 16-year-old messenger boy was found today in the gravel pit of the Capital Hill Grounds. No marks of violence, but his features were distorted and froth around his mouth indicating probable death by poison. The police are mystified. Yesterday he was sent by his employers to the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company to accompany Chas. Washington, a negro porter, to the Pullman office to collect a bill for long distance telephoning which the negro had done. Washington, as soon as he heard of the death, surrendered

to the police. He says he and the boy went to the Pullman office, but were unable to get the money. Then they went to a club on Commercial street. He left the boy in the street and when he returned with the money, he had gone and Washington did not know what had become of him until today. He protests his innocence. His story is corroborated in great part. Another mysterious feature was the receipt this morning by a boy's message of the telephone message saying the boy had been found in Ogden, and would soon return here. The boy was industrious and his habits were good.

CASTRO VERY ILL.

Lies Stricken at Sanitarium in Ignorance of Caracas Affair.

BERLIN, Dec. 23.—Castro, the deposed dictator of Venezuela, is lying sick at a private sanitarium in complete ignorance of the turn of events at Caracas. It is impossible to see Castro and almost impossible to speak with any of his associates.

DEATH CLAIMS JOHN CORRIGAN

MAN WHO HAD BITTER FINANCIAL STRUGGLE WITH J. D. ROCKEFELLER PASSES AWAY.

APPENDICITIS THE CAUSE

Corrigan Borrowed \$170,000 From John D. Years Ago, and Being Unable to Meet Interest Rockefeller Bought His Standard Oil Stock.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 24.—Jas. Corrigan, 79 years old, who had a bitter financial struggle with John Rockefeller about 15 years ago and who since wrested millions from ore, coal and vessel and furnace industries, died today of appendicitis. Corrigan borrowed \$170,000 from Rockefeller early in the 90's and later made an additional loan to Corrigan and Frank Rockefeller his brother. During the panic times, Corrigan was unable to meet the interest and in 1895 Rockefeller bought Standard Oil stock which Corrigan had pledged for \$168 per share, selling them within a month for \$185. Corrigan sued John D., claiming the oil magnate knew the stock must go up and as trustee, should have put Corrigan in possession of these facts. Corrigan lost. It was this suit, it is claimed, that caused an estrangement between Frank and John D. Rockefeller.

PRINTING BILL INTRODUCED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23.—Representative Morris Sheppard of Texas has introduced in the House a bill which, should it become law, would give a lot of business to job printing establishments all over the country. The bill does away with the government's monopoly on printing

business cards on stamped envelopes and stamped paper, and also abolishes the limitations on such cards. The law now provides that the government shall print all such stamped paper and that the return cards in the corner shall contain no advertising matter or announcement of the business of the owner other than may be indicated in the firm name. The "First National Bank," for instance, may indicate its business, but "Jones & Co., hardware dealers," must content themselves with the simple announcement that the letter, in case of non-delivery, shall be returned to "Jones & Co." The Sheppard bill removes this restriction and provides that the stamped envelopes may be purchased blank and printed in any manner desired, or they may first be printed and sent to the government to have the stamps embossed upon them. Users of stamped envelopes have long complained against being compelled to use the very plain type and very meagre announcements which the government allowed on the return cards, but this is the first attempt ever made to get Congress to repeal the regulation. Mr. Sheppard believes stamped envelopes would be much more commonly used if greater liberty in the matter of printing were allowed.

RARE AND GOOD.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—C. J. (Buffalo) Jones, who for years was a familiar figure in Yellowstone Park, as a game warden, is here demonstrating the quality of buffalo meat raised in Kansas. He brought with him 4000 pounds of the meat.

DUTY ON PUDDING.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Is there anything dutiable about genuine English plum pudding. This is the weighty problem that has been confronting James B. Childs appraiser in Chicago customs mails. "For the last week we have had over 200 pounds of plum pudding come through here, not to speak of the vast amount of cake and another remainder to the foreigner of his particular fatherland," says Mr. Childs, "and the worst of it is, each one has to be examined to make sure no diamonds or other dutiable articles have been baked into the heart of these things."

EASTERN RAILROAD TO FILE TARIFF SHEET

SAID TO BE MOST REMARKABLE FREIGHT SCHEDULE EVER CONSTRUCTED.

MAINLY LUMBER SHIPMENTS

By Special Permission of Interstate Commerce Commission Chicago & Eastern Illinois For Itself and Frisco Lines Will Submit Tariff Sheet

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—By special permission of the interstate commerce commission the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company for itself and for Rock Island & Frisco lines, will file with the commission in a few days a most remarkable freight tariff sheet ever constructed by interstate carrier. Proposed tariff will be complication of local joint and proportional rates on lumber shipments from various points in the Middle West and East and Canada.

The companies state that the purpose of publication of this tariff is to place it in the hands of their shippers for clear and complete information as to lumber rates.

MORE PROTESTS.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 24.—The 500,000 trades unionists in Illinois through their officers tonight telegrapher a protest to President Roosevelt against sentencing to jail of the American Federation officials.

FINCH'S STORY OF KILLING

On Stand Two Hours But Avoids Details

TELLS LIVES HISTORY

Still Insists Fisher Hurlled Seal at Him and Attempted to Draw Gun

DENIES HE MADE THREATS

Doctor Falters Throughout His Testimony and Shows Reluctance to Relate His Experience in the Rooms of Attorney he Killed.

PORTLAND, Dec. 24.—James Finch, slayer of Ralph Fisher, of the State Bar Association today took the stand and gave his version of the killing. Finch seemingly showed a reluctance to relate his experience in the rooms of the attorney he killed. He spent a large amount of time in recounting the early history of his life and related the circumstances of his suspension from the practice of law. He time and again would get as far in his story as to tell how he approached the Mohawk building, in which were located Fisher's law offices, only to digress onto some side issue.

Finally getting down to the account of the killing itself, Finch said he entered the Mohawk building and asked to be directed to Fisher's office. Entering it, he asked the stenographer if Fisher was in. She replied that he was and Finch stepped into the private office, closing the door behind him saying as he did so, "Hello Ralph."

Finch faltered at this point, and fell away into a long description of the arrangement of the furniture of the room. Resuming the thread of his story, he said Fisher turned around and responded to his salutation with: "What do you want here?" to which Finch said he said:

"Ralph, I came over to see if you couldn't help a man out."

Finch said he continued to talk along that line when suddenly Fisher seized a notary's seal, exclaiming: "Get out of here." At the same time Finch asserted that Fisher hurled the seal at him, striking him a glancing blow on the head. Finch swore that he was dazed for a time, but when he recovered his full senses, Fisher was standing by his desk, astride his office chair.

Fisher reached into his desk, continued Finch, as Finch supposed to secure a revolver, which Finch understood he kept there. Finch drew his own revolver and fired. He says he thinks the shot went wild. Finch fired again and believes it was the fatal one. The third shot he said he fired convulsively. Finch explained the fact that no seal was found on the floor of the office, stating that he was completely dazed after the shooting and very likely picked it up when he picked up his hat. The next he remembered was being placed in the patrol wagon and taken to jail.

Finch was taken over for cross-examination during the middle of the afternoon. He was subjected to a searching fire of questions, and though some of his explanations appeared to the hearers as being forced, Finch was at no time actually disconcerted.

Finch denied emphatically having ever made any threats against Fisher. When court adjourned until Saturday Finch was still under cross-examination.

SELTZER AND RED PEPPER.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Patrolman D. H. Cornish, before the police trial board on a charge of being found drunk in a saloon, admitted he was there and said: "But I had been to the dentist and he gave me nine bags of laughing gas. One and a half usually is a good dose, so I was feeling all out of sorts. Someone suggested that seltzer and red pepper would cure me, so I ordered one." He was acquitted.

SKATING ON ROOF.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—New Yorkers have many novel diversions, but a skating rink 300 feet in the air and ice skating at that, is believed to be the latest. According to plans announced here today, such a rink will be opened on top of the new office building at Broadway and 23rd street although it is expected that this almost aerial sport will not be enjoyed until next winter, as the building will not be ready for occupation until May 1. The proprietor of a similar skating rink in Montreal is said to be behind the project.

SEVEN INJURED.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—The St. Louis Iron Mountain & Southern passenger train ran into the rear of the Jacksonville, Chicago & Alton local here this evening, injuring seven persons. Two of these were trainmen and they were injured seriously.

TIDY SUM TO COME.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Dividends and interests disbursements of trust companies, railroad and other corporations of New York City for the month of January, 1909, will exceed \$210,000,000, an increase of approximately \$17,000,000 over the disbursements of January last year. The increase is generally attributable to the extraordinary amount of securities issued during the year.

TRAIN WRECK.

ANGOLIA, Ind., Dec. 24.—The Lake Erie passenger train on branch between Jackson, Mich., and Fort Wayne was wrecked tonight near Pleasant Lake, Ind. Sixteen were injured, five seriously. The wreck resulted from a broken flange.

COUNCILMEN GOT AT LEAST \$176,000

AMOUNT ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PAID THEM FOR SELECTION OF CITY'S BANKS

ONE BANKER IS ARRESTED

Additional Bank Officials Will Be Arrested But Not Until After Holidays Unless Circumstances Make it Necessary.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 24.—That at least \$176,000 was paid councilmen for the selection of certain banks as depositories for city's funds has almost been positively established through evidence furnished by the voters league. Whether all the banks selected as depositories contributed to this fund has not been established. Officers of only one bank positively stated by those back of the probe: These, however, will not take place until after Christmas unless circumstances make it necessary. The league states that it has all the financial backing needed to conduct the prosecutions.

FAMOUS DOG DEAD.

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—Champion Roche, the famous bulldog of Arnold Lawson, son of Thomas W. Lawson, is dead. She was considered the finest bulldog ever imported into this

GOVERNMENT WILL INVESTIGATE PACKING INDUSTRY

country and was bought by Lawson in England nearly seven years ago at a price considered fabulous for a bit of dogflesh. At bench shows in this country the dog was defeated only twice, and this by kennel mates.

MAYOR HARDER INJURED.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Mayor Harder of this city, were severely injured when his automobile collided with another. He was thrown to the pavement. He managed to walk to a nearby drug store and then went home, however.

BRYAN SENDS LEADERS SYMPATHY MESSAGE

SAYS HE WAS SORRY TO READ RECISSION BUT GLAD THEY TESTED THE LAW.

GET MANY OTHER TELEGRAMS

Message Received by Gompers From Throughout the Country Expressing Sympathy and Extending Moral and Financial Support.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—William J. Bryan was chief among nearly two score of men who sent messages today expressing cordial sympathy with Messrs. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison of the American Federation.

Messages which contained the varied sentiments of persons in almost every avenue of labor, conveyed feelings of regret over the court's decision and extended moral and financial support and expressed indignation.

Bryan telegraphed from Pittsburg: "Sorry to read the decision. You did your duty in testing the law. Glad you are taking an appeal."

WILL BE APPRECIATED.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—All employees of the New York Park Department whose pay is \$3 or less per day, will receive a bright new \$5 gold piece from Mrs. Russell Sage on Christmas day. Mrs. Sage inaugurated this custom last year when she sent 399 of the gold pieces for distribution.

TURKEYS FOR EMPLOYEES.

BUTTE, Dec. 24.—Following his annual custom of giving turkeys to all married men and single men who are at the head of families in his employ, Former Senator W. A. Clark today distributed between ten and twelve thousand turkeys in Montana, Utah, New Jersey, Arizona, Nevada and California.

WHOLESALE SUITS AGAINST O. & C. R. R.

67 Complaints Move to Annual Land Grants in Oregon to Oregon and California Railroad

PORTLAND, Dec. 24.—Pursuant to the order of court made several weeks ago council for 67 complainants moved to intervene in the government's suit against the Oregon and California Railroad Company and given permission to do so today. The suit is one in the United States District Court and asks to have annulled the "Old O. & C." land grant in Oregon.

Subsequent to the filing of the gov-

Move is Admitted at U. S. Attorney's Office

RAILROADS INCLUDED

All Roads That Carry Packing House Products are Asked to Show Books

SUBPOENAS ARE FIRST MOVE

Action of Government Indicates That a Far-Reaching Investigation Into the Whole Packing Business is to be Inaugurated Soon.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—That the far-reaching investigation into the whole beef packing industry is contemplated by the government and the serving of subpoenas upon employes of Nelson, Morris & Co. several days ago was only preliminary to that investigation was practically admitted about the United States district attorney's office today. District Attorney Sims has requested that all railroads which transport vast volumes of packing-house products open their claim books, reports and documents for inspection of the government.

Darius Miller, first vice-president of the Burlington, admitted all documents asked for had been turned over, but he said no subpoenas for any Burlington officials had been issued nor is there any intimation that the Burlington is in any way connected with the case.

"We simply complied with request," said Miller, "to produce our papers for the past two years."

Officials of the New York Central said similar request had been made of them and they had been complied with.

General Counsel Carr of this road, after conferring with Sims, expressed his belief that railroads are connected with investigation only in so far as they are able to give evidence of the packers' combination and illegal apportionment of trade.

HOLD UP JEWELER.

HELENA, Dec. 24.—When asked to be shown some diamonds, a robber made off with a tray between five and ten thousand dollars' worth of diamonds from Jaquemin's jewelry store tonight. The confederate's buggy was outside in which he made good his escape. They were evidently expert crooks.

ernment's suit, claimants of acreage in the grant moved to intervene or commenced separate action against the railroad. Judge Wolverton of the federal court some weeks ago threw individual suits against the company out of court and directed that these complainants make their appearance in the main case as intervenors.

There have up to the present time something over 400 claimants permitted to intervene in the case.