

## Taft Explanation Goes in Records

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER ON LAWYER MEMORANDUM BEFORE BALLINGER COMMITTEE

WILL BE PRINTED AS PART OF RECORD OF HEARING

Frederick M. Kerby, Discharged Stenographer Who Revealed the Lawler Incident, Called to Testify Before Senatorial Committee—General News.

Washington, May 17.—President Taft's explanation of the circumstances under which this letter exonerating Ballinger from the Glavis charges and dismissing Glavis was prepared, and presented by Chairman Nelson to the Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee when the hearing was resumed today. It will be printed as a part of the committee's record.

Attorney Brandeis, counsel for Glavis, has laid great emphasis upon the president's letter, contending that the memorandum upon which it was based was prepared in Ballinger's department by Assistant Attorney General Lawler. The president in the letter Sunday says he had the Lawler memorandum before him when he prepared his communication, but that he also had notes and memoranda given him by the attorney general, who had agreed with the president in the conclusion he had reached in the matter.

Kerby Called as Witness.

Frederick M. Kerby, a discharged stenographer of the interior department, took the witness stand today in the Ballinger-Pinchot hearing. Chairman Nelson laid before the committee the president's letter to him concerning Taft's letter dismissing Glavis and exonerating Ballinger. Attorney Brandeis thought Kerby's statement and the president's denial should go into the record. Nelson said no statement by Kerby was before the committee, whereupon Brandeis said Kerby was present and was willing to testify. Kerby then took the stand. He said he first spoke of the memorandum to the private secretary of former Secretary Garfield and later to Garfield at Pinchot's home, and in the presence of Brandeis. Kerby said Garfield told him he did not want to endanger his position, and would not call him as a witness unless it was necessary.

Promised Another Job.

Kerby admitted that he also told the story to a Cleveland newspaper man a week ago Sunday. He also said he told Brandeis of Ballinger's intention to remove Director Newell, of the railroad service, and appoint Robert H. Thompson, of Seattle, in his stead. Kerby admitted that Ballinger had always treated him well, but he did not think there was any impropriety in what he did in making public the confidential matter of the president's statement. He told of visits to him by various newspaper men. He said he had many conferences with them, and said if he had not been assured of a position he would not have adopted the course he did.

Thinks Ballinger Lied.

Kerby said he had read Ballinger's testimony that he knew nothing of the Lawler memorandum and other statements, which he (Kerby) did not believe were true. Kerby said he then decided to make the matter public. He said he saw the Lawler memorandum on the desk of Private Secretary Carr in the interior department. Witness said he knew Ballinger read at least portions of the Lawler memorandum and he did not think Ballinger had any right to read memorandum prepared for the president. He openly admitted that he had permitted the photographing of his notes of Lawler's dictation.

Many Knew the Story.

When the first call for the memorandum came to the department, Kerby said, Stenographer Masey, who also assisted Attorney General Lawler in preparing his memorandum for the president, said to Private Secretary Carr: "You know what this means, don't you?" Carr's reply, according to Kerby, was: "Yes, but they'll have a hard time getting it."

The name of Hugh A. Brown, private secretary to Director of the Census Durand, who formerly served Secretary Garfield in the interior department, was brought into the inquiry today. Kerby said he had mentioned to Brown soon after the publication of the president's letter exonerating Ballinger and dismissing Glavis, that "we practically wrote it in the secretary's office." He said he told Brown in confidence, but the latter mentioned it to Garfield. "Do you think it was a reputable transaction?" Senator Root demanded, "to go to persons unfriendly to your superior with confidential information of his department?"

"I did under the circumstances," replied Kerby. "The country had a right to any facts my superior had before him."

In League With Morgan & Co.

At this afternoon session Kerby read before the committee the letters of Secretary Ballinger to R. H. Thomson, city engineer of Seattle, suggesting that he accompany George W. Perkins, of J. P. Morgan & Co., to inspect Alaskan mineral lands. Kerby said he believed Thomson was slated by Ballinger to become the head of the reclamation service. Kerby pointed out alleged mis-

## SHIPMERS PROTEST FREIGHT INCREASES

### MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS FROM ALL SECTIONS IN CONFERENCE.

### PROPOSED ADVANCE MEANS \$100,000,000 LEVY OF TOLL

### Argument of Railroads That Wage Increases Compel Higher Rates to Be Combated—Iowa Not Represented at Conference—Injunction Suits Probable.

Chicago, May 17.—Vigorously opposing the proposed advance in freight rates in the official classification and western trunk line territories, shippers of all sections of the country gathered in conference here today. Among those who addressed the conference were William Duff Layne, counsel for the Illinois Manufacturers' Association; H. C. Barlow, of the Chicago Association of Commerce; E. E. Williamson, of Cincinnati; C. B. Gregory, of Rockford, Ill.; A. R. Dill, of Moline, Ill.; W. J. Evans, of the National Association of Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers; P. M. Hansen, of St. Louis; C. L. Linde, of Indiana Harbor, Ind.; O. F. Bell, E. T. Bentley and C. T. Bradford, of Chicago. All the speakers declared the rates on many articles already are too high and that the carriers are wrong in their contention that higher rates are necessary to meet increased operating expenses.

## EARTH AND COMET MEET

### Wednesday the Time When Scientists Schedule Passage Thru Tail—Whole World on Watch.

Chicago, May 17.—Tomorrow is the day when we float thru comet, bathe in comet, and breathe comet, if the diffuse rays can penetrate the atmosphere of the earth.

Spectral illuminations, meteors, showers of exploding aerolites, auroras, phosphoric effects, electrical storms, earthquakes, fantasmal deflections of the moon's rays, and other atmospheric phenomena are on the comet schedules of different astronomers.

From the predictions, bulletins, and other advice given out by savants who have been studying the astral wanderer since its advent it appears that the comet is an entirely harmless phenomenon which may destroy the earth, its inhabitants and the celestial spheres of the earth.

The earth will pass thru the tail in twenty-four hours. It will make the trip in two hours.

Here are some other conflicting statements made by these astronomers: "Probably there will be a shower of meteorites—Prof. Asaph Hall of the naval observatory at Washington. I don't expect that we will know we are in it—Prof. E. E. Barnard of Yerkes observatory. The comet will strike the earth in the night from the luminous tail of the comet—Prof. E. B. Frost of Yerkes. The atmosphere will be darkened—Prof. Robert H. Wilson of Harvard. A terrific explosion may result from the passage of the earth thru the tail—Prof. D. J. McAdams of Washington and Jefferson university. The whole tail could be packed in a suit case—Prof. Percival Lowell of Lowell observatory, Flagstaff, Ariz. There may be some explosions in the upper atmosphere when the gaseous molecules of the comet strike the earth's atmosphere—Prof. Daniel McHugh of De Paul university. The tail is too rare and diffuse to produce any effect at all—Prof. S. A. Mitchell of Columbia university. And most terrific of all, the prediction which has set the superstitious of the world ago with terror is that of the French savant, Camille Flammarion: "The populations of the earth face the possibility of laughing themselves to death when the incalculable mass of cyanogen gases sweeps down upon them."

To which authorities on this side of the earth reply: "Bosh."

Meanwhile the United States weather bureau has notified all its offices to be on the lookout for geogenic zodiacal light, halos, meteoric trails, auroras and other celestial phenomena.

"We don't profess to be astronomers," said Prof. Henry J. Cox, yesterday, "but we are going to try to get a good record of all these things that may or may not happen."

Whatever their views all astronomers agree with error is that of observation of the heavens tomorrow night. Sixteen cameras will be trained on the skies at Yerkes observatory.

### Tail Will Hit Us Sure.

Taunton, Mass., May 17.—The tail of the comet now extends considerably beyond the earth's orbit and the earth certainly will pass thru it tomorrow night, is the conclusion of Rev. Mr. Metcalf, a well-known astronomer of this city, whose observations have been accepted by the officials of Harvard observatory.

## BIG HOTEL FIRE

### Hundred Guests, Including Governor Sloan and Wife, Reach Safety By Climbing Out of Windows and Down Fire Escapes at Phoenix, Ariz.—Invalid Said to Have Perished.

Phoenix, Ariz., May 17.—More than 100 guests, including Governor Sloan and wife, climbed out of windows and reached safety by fire escapes when fire destroyed the Hotel Adams today.

The blaze spread so rapidly that the main stairways were soon cut off, and the fire immediately spread to adjoining buildings, threatening a great portion of the city. An unconfirmed rumor was circulated that an invalid had perished in an upper room of the hotel. The loss is \$100,000.

## SHIPMERS PROTEST FREIGHT INCREASES

### MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS FROM ALL SECTIONS IN CONFERENCE.

### PROPOSED ADVANCE MEANS \$100,000,000 LEVY OF TOLL

### Argument of Railroads That Wage Increases Compel Higher Rates to Be Combated—Iowa Not Represented at Conference—Injunction Suits Probable.

Chicago, May 17.—Vigorously opposing the proposed advance in freight rates in the official classification and western trunk line territories, shippers of all sections of the country gathered in conference here today. Among those who addressed the conference were William Duff Layne, counsel for the Illinois Manufacturers' Association; H. C. Barlow, of the Chicago Association of Commerce; E. E. Williamson, of Cincinnati; C. B. Gregory, of Rockford, Ill.; A. R. Dill, of Moline, Ill.; W. J. Evans, of the National Association of Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers; P. M. Hansen, of St. Louis; C. L. Linde, of Indiana Harbor, Ind.; O. F. Bell, E. T. Bentley and C. T. Bradford, of Chicago. All the speakers declared the rates on many articles already are too high and that the carriers are wrong in their contention that higher rates are necessary to meet increased operating expenses.

## WHITE SLAYER CAUGHT.

### Enticed Young Girl From Illinois—Arrested in Two Cities.

Burlington, May 17.—Lynn Carns, aged 22, of Liberty, Ill., has been arrested here on a "white slavery" charge. It is alleged that Carns enticed Sadie Mason, aged 16, from her home in Bushnell, Ill., for immoral purposes.

Carns comes of a good family. He was arrested in Davenport with the girl, but was released, while the girl was sent to the industrial school at Geneva, Ill. Carns came here and was re-arrested.

## U. S. MAY INTERVENE.

### Knox to Take Immediate Action Relative to Peru and Ecuador.

Washington, May 17.—There is reason to believe that Secretary Knox contemplates immediate action, with the object of the re-establishment of peace relations between Peru and Ecuador. State department officials, however, decline to discuss the matter at this time.

## INSURGENTS STAND PAT

### Refuse to Compromise With Regulations on Cummins' Amendments to Railroad Bill.

Washington, May 17.—When the senate met today the Cummins' amendment to the railroad bill that suits be brought against the interstate commerce commission rather than against the government, as is provided in the administration bill, was pending. Several propositions looking to a compromise were made in vain, owing to the obstinacy of the insurgents. Later the regulars held a conference and decided this compromise with the insurgents was impossible.

## THREE INCENDIARY FIRES.

### Sioux City Citizen Bury in Effort to Rescue Daughter.

Sioux City, May 17.—Fire of incendiary origin at 11 o'clock in Morningside destroyed the residence of Frank J. Wishard, a newly constructed dwelling belonging to Mr. Wishard, and the home of Walter C. Arnold, entailing a loss estimated at \$12,000.

Today Mr. Wishard lies in the home of William J. Jerser with his feet, face and arms badly burned as a result of entering his burning home in a desperate effort to save his daughter, Grace, whom he thought was left in the flames. He did not know that she had escaped in her bare feet to a neighbor's house shortly after the first alarm. Mr. Arnold also sustained burns about the head and hands.

Fire was also discovered in the new Chapin house in a pile of shavings which had been soaked with kerosene. Twenty Morningside students formed a bucket brigade and extinguished this incendiary blaze, which was a headway. The house was damaged by smoke about \$300 and will have to be replastered.

The firebugs did their work well, for the telephone wires in the Wishard and Arnold homes were cut and several minutes of precious time were wasted in an effort to get to telephone central.

## Socialists Not Affraid.

Chicago, May 17.—Emphatic expression of opposing views on the immigration question again occupied the attention today of the socialist congress.

## Moonshiners' Case On.

Chicago, May 17.—The federal grand jury, which will investigate the alleged relations between important oleomargarine manufacturers and "moonshiners," was impaneled here today.

## BODY OF LATE KING NOW LIES IN STATE

### WITH STATELY POMP EDWARD'S BODY IS STARTED ON WAY TO GRAVE.

### MANY ROYAL PERSONAGES TAKE PART IN CEREMONY

### Buildings Along the Route Draped in Mourning and Populace Appears in Black Garb—People Doff Hats to Queen Mother—Roosevelt Only a Spectator at Present.

### Special to Times-Republican.

Nevada, May 17.—The sheriff here was notified this morning of a successful robbery on a store at Cambridge, in the southern part of this county, during the night, and the thieves are believed to have used an automobile to get away with their plunder.

Some time during the night the clothing store of Ankeny Larson was entered. An inventory of the missing goods shows that thirteen blue serge suits were taken as well as two dozen pairs of shoes and a quantity of jewelry. The robbery was not discovered until the store was opened this morning. Tags from one of the suits were found near the Milwaukee depot, and at this point fresh auto tracks were plainly visible in the mud. Here the clue was lost.

London, May 17.—The body of King Edward was taken with stately pomp this morning from Buckingham palace on the first stage of the journey to the grave, and now lies in state in Westminster hall.

The procession today passed thru doubled lines of soldiers, flanked with rows of policemen and a mass of silent, black-garbed humanity. The buildings along the route were heavily draped with mourning. A battery at St. James park fired a salute of sixty-eight minute guns, while "Big Ben" in the tower of commons, which heretofore has been heard only as it struck the hour, tolled mournfully.

A guardsman with sword reversed was the first to come down the mall, and following him at measured tread came others of the advance guard. Field Marshals Roberts and Kitchener, admirals of the fleet, Indian orderlies, officers and aides de camp of the late king passed.

The services at Westminster hall were brief, occupying but a half hour. King George stood at the foot of the casket with the queen mother, Queen Mary and princess, the archbishop of Canterbury, at the head of the casket, recited the Lord's prayer, which was repeated by the whole congregation. At conclusion of the reading of the scriptural lesson the choir chanted a brief anthem and the archbishop offered prayer. He then addressed the congregation briefly and the services closed.

Royalty of Europe There.

As the gun carriage on which the casket was borne approached, the soldiers bowed their heads and kept their eyes on the ground while the body of the late king passed by. King George and the officers and other members of royalty followed afoot. King Frederick of Denmark and King Haakon of Norway followed, by other members of British and foreign royal families, were next in line. In the first carriage rode the queen mother, Alexandra, and reverently raised their hats to the pathetic figure who even in the hour of her great grief, acknowledged the silent testimony of sympathy by bowing repeatedly. The queen mother was accompanied by her sister, the Dowager Empress Marie of Russia, and by her daughters, Princess Royal and Princess Victoria. Queen Mary occupied the second state carriage, accompanied by her daughter, Princess Mary, and Prince Henry. Arrived at the palace yard of Westminster the gun carriage stopped, the casket was removed and the bearer company, composed of life guards, lifted the casket and carried it into the hall.

Roosevelt Did Not Participate.

Roosevelt, special American ambassador to the funeral of King Edward, did not remember to bring it. He bought it damned himself as a witness. If he had not testified as he did I think he would not be in the position he is in.

"At first I believed Hyde innocent, and until Sunday night I voted to acquit him. Then I recalled his testimony about the cyanide purchases and I thought he was guilty. I told Mr. Johnson I had changed my vote, and I talked about my decision. I think my reasoning had an effect on him."

A strange feature of Juror Croner's action is that his son, Albert, was sentenced recently to eighteen years in the state penitentiary for murdering Bertha Bowler, his sweetheart.

History of the Case.

Colonel Swope, millionaire philanthropist, died on Oct. 3 last at his residence in Independence, Mo., near Kansas City. His death certificate gave apoplexy as the cause. He was attended by Dr. Hyde, husband of his niece.

In December an epidemic of typhoid fever raged in the Swope household

## T-R. BULLETIN

### Noticeable News of Today

### The Weather.

Sun rises May 18 at 4:37, sets at 7:15. Iowa—Fair tonight, with frost and cooler in the east, Wednesday, fair with rising temperature.

South Dakota—Fair tonight, with frost in the east and warmer in the west; Wednesday fair and warmer.

Telegraphic News: Lawler Incident Goes Into Records. Kerby Testifies Before Committee. King's Body Conveyed to Westminster.

Shippers Protest Freight Advance. Fear Big Fight Will Be Stopped. Comet Tail to Hit Us Sure.

Page Two and Three.

Low: All Doesn't Deny Feinberg Charges. Kills War Veteran. Elks' Roads Boosters' Program. Corn Rotting in Ground. Highest for Mrs. Bolander's Fortune.

Page Four.

Story: Among the Apple Trees. Pages Six, Eight and Nine.

City News: Cast For Class Play Arranged. Seniors to Present "The Gallopers." Large Entry List For Graded Meet. Elks' Dedication Decided Successful. British Explorer Visits City. Drop Old Cases Against Saloons. Grinnell Club Entertained Here. General News of the City.

Page Ten.

Markets and General: Reaction Follows Wheat Slump. Corn in Easier Tone. Hog Getting Back Towards \$10. Steers Unchanged, Butcher Staff Dragsy. Long and Short Haul Fight Memorable.

during which eight persons were stricken and one, Chrisman Swope, died.

John G. Paxton, executor of Colonel Swope's estate, and Mrs. Logan Swope, mother of Chrisman, instituted an investigation.

A physician came forward with the statement that on March 10, Dr. Hyde had obtained from him an active typhoid culture. On Dec. 10 Dr. Hyde, when under surveillance by detectives, was stricken with a mild case of what he declared to be typhoid. The attending physician denied that it was typhoid.

Suspicion being strengthened, the bodies of Colonel Swope and Chrisman Swope were disinterred and the stomachs sent to Chicago for examination and analysis.

Drs. Haines and Hektoen, of Chicago, and Vaughan, of the University of Michigan, reported finding strychnine in the colonist's stomach. Then Dr. Hyde was arrested.

The state arrested the physician poisoned the millionaire by administering strychnine to him in capsule form.

The motive alleged was to obtain wealth. By the terms of Colonel Swope's will Mrs. Hyde was to receive a share of her uncle's property and some money. Desiring to hasten the settlement of the estate, and also to prevent certain changes which the colonel had planned from being made in the will, Dr. Hyde, the state sought to prove he had killed the aged capitalist.

The indictment upon which Dr. Hyde was tried was for first degree murder. It was voted against him on March 5.

At the same time ten other indictments were returned against the physician. One charged first degree murder of Chrisman Swope, a nephew of Colonel Swope, by administering poison.

An indictment for manslaughter was voted accusing Dr. Hyde of negligently killing James Moss Huntton, a cousin of Colonel Swope, by bleeding him. The eight remaining indictments charged the physician with attempting to poison the Misses Lucy Lee Swope, Mildred Fox, Sarah Swope, Georgia Compton, Nora Bell Dickson, Stella Swope, Margaret Swope, and Leonora Corbridge. All of these were attacked by typhoid fever when it was prevalent in the Swope household, and it is averred Dr. Hyde caused their illness.

No indictment but that one relating to the death of Colonel Swope entered into the case just ended before Judge Lathshaw.

## NEGRO SCARED TO DEATH

### Young Railroad Laborer Drops Dead on Street in Fort Dodge After Running Some Distance Following Crash of Lightning.

### Special to Times-Republican.

Fort Dodge, May 17.—Joe Anderson, a colored man aged 25, employed with an extra gang on the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad, dropped dead on the street here Monday night, following a heavy crash of lightning.

The man ran thirty-five or forty feet after the shock and laid of marks on the body leads to the belief that death resulted from fright rather than the lightning.

## IOWA HAS A \$1,000,000 RAIN.

### Great Benefit to Crops from Downpour.

Des Moines, May 17.—More than \$1,000,000 is estimated as the benefit the farmers of Iowa received by the heavy rain which began falling Sunday night and which continues. The rain has been general over the state and reports have been received at the local weather bureau concerning the great help given to crops.

## Forest Fires Drowned Out.

Asbland, Wis., May 17.—Heavy rains today extinguished the forest fires.

## FEARS THAT FIGHT MAY BE PREVENTED

### SPORTING FRATERNITY ENGULFED BY BILLOWS OF UNCERTAINTY AND APPREHENSION.

### PROMOTERS OF JEFFRIES-JOHNSON CONTEST WARNED

### Scarcely Time For Sports to Take Breath of Relief After Referee Question is Settled Until New Trouble Arises—District Attorney Preparing Legal Opinions.

### San Francisco, May 17.—After an apparent settlement of the troublesome referee question, which was reached at yesterday's conference by the selection of Promoter Tex Richards to preside over the Jeffries-Johnson battle on July 4, the sporting fraternity barely had time to take a breath of relief before ominous rumors of trouble at Emeryville plunged them into other billows of uncertainty and apprehension regarding the scene of the championship contest.

Eight promoters have been warned that the authorities may not permit the contest at Emeryville.

District Attorney William Donohue today admitted that he was preparing an opinion on the law, covering the right to hold the fight, and Sheriff Barnett stated that he was awaiting Donohue's verdict.

## MAD LEAP TO DEATH.

### Prominent Chicago Business Man Jumps From Twentieth Floor.

Chicago, May 17.—John R. Ryerson, a prominent Chicago business man, jumped from the twentieth floor of the chamber of commerce building tonight and was instantly killed, his body being mashed into a pulp.

Dr. E. W. Ryerson, a brother, said that his brother has invested a great deal of money in the automobile business and he believed that financial losses were responsible for the act. The dead man was the president of an electrical company. His wife, who was formerly Violet Stone, daughter of the Rev. James S. Stone, the pastor of St. James' Episcopal church, and well known in society circles, was prostrated and fears for her life are expressed.

## CONVICTS BURNED TO DEATH.

### Thirty-Six Negroes in Alabama Stocked and Lived.

Centerville, May 17.—Thirty-six negro convicts lost their lives here yesterday when the stockade of the Red Feather Coal Company at Lucile, fifteen miles north of here was destroyed by fire set by one of the prisoners in an effort to gain freedom. Thirty-five were burned to death and another was killed by the guards while trying to escape. All dead were convicts leased by the state to work coal mines. The man who set the fire is dead.

The latest reports place the number of convicts who met death in the burning stockade at Lucile, early Monday, at thirty-three.

## THREE SALUTORY FACTORS.

### Striking Workmen Quieted by Militia, Heavy Rain and Closed Saloons.

Chicago, May 17.—The arrival today of four companies of state militia and a heavy rainfall, quieted the striking workmen at the cement works at Inasco, where a riot was threatened yesterday. All the saloons are closed.

## More Troops Needed.

Jefferson City, Mo., Governor Hadley was advised today by Colonel McDonnell, in charge of the militia at Inasco, where the cement workers are on strike, that additional state troops are needed. It is reported the soldiers were fired upon by the strikers, but no one was hurt.

## FOURTEEN REPORTED KILLED.

### Exploding Boiler at Canton, O., Deals Death and Injury.

Canton, O., May 17.—Fifteen workmen are reported killed and nearly fifty injured in a boiler explosion here this afternoon.

It is reported that seven boilers of the American Sheet Steel Company plant exploded, and that the dead may be thirty.

## SHOT BY HER SON.

### Target Gun in Hands of Youth Causes Accidental Injury.

Cumberland, May 17.—Mrs. Joseph Engle, living two miles west of Cumberland, was accidentally shot by her 15-year-old son, Roy. The boy was aiming at a target and pulled the trigger just as Mrs. Engle stepped around the corner of the house. The ball entered the left shoulder, glanced around the bone and came out at the back of the arm.

## COMET GAZER'S FATE.

### Chicago Man Steps On Skylight and Falls Four Stories.

Chicago, May 17.—While on a roof gazing at the sky early today, with other members of a comet party, Israel Grigul stepped on a skylight. He fell four stories and suffered a fracture of the skull. At the hospital it was said that he would die.

## Whale Wrecks Whaling Ship.

Sunou, Alaska, May 17.—The whaler Seneau, owned by the Tye Whaling Company of San Francisco, was wrecked by a blow from the tail of a humpbacked whale off Cape Ommanay last Thursday and sank in four minutes, giving the crew barely time to escape in the small boats.