



SENATOR CLAPP, CHAIRMAN OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.

EVER since Moses Edwin Clapp was elected prosecuting attorney for St. Croix county, Minn., away back yonder in 1878 he has been looked upon in his state as a rising young man. He was only about twenty-eight then, but he is older now; also he has profited by experience, and he has risen. He sits in the United States senate when he is not standing on his feet making oratorical appeals for some of his favorite bills. Senator Clapp is not essentially an orator. He is a working senator. As chairman of the highly important committee on Interstate commerce he has become almost without his own co-operation one of the leading figures in the American house of lords, we were about to say, but we won't. Mr. Clapp succeeded Senator Cushman K. Davis when the latter died in 1891 by appointment first and election later, and he was re-elected in 1905. Now he is going back for a third term—Senator Clapp has no compunctions against third termism in so far as it relates to senatorships—and no doubt will be continued at the head of the Interstate commerce committee. Senator Clapp is a native of Indiana, but he left his native state too early to be sidetracked as a mere author.

PLAY WITH DEATH

Men Who Are Reckless in Handling High Explosives.

STORIES BY HUDSON MAXIM.

The Accident by Which the Inventor's Left Hand Was Blown Off—John Bender's Contempt For Dynamite—Mixing Fire and Nitroglycerin.

"It is practically impossible," writes Hudson Maxim in Adventure, "to make the ordinary laboring man appreciate the necessity of care in the safe handling of explosives, and the life of the careful man is always endangered by the actions of the careless one."

"After I had sold the works at Maxim and had invented motorite I needed a place in which to make the material and hired a branch of the works there for that purpose. It was winter. My wife had accompanied me as a precautionary measure. She was sitting in the laboratory to keep warm, near a big barrel stove charged with bituminous coal.

"On entering the laboratory for something my wife asked me what was in those two tin pails sitting near the stove. She said that she had a suspicion it might be nitroglycerin, and she informed me that one of my men had just been in stirring the fire and that the sparks flew out in all directions, some of them lighting in the buckets to be quenched on top of the oily liquid.

"Horrors!" I said. "It is nitroglycerin!"

"I called the man who had placed it there and told him to take it away. As it was necessary to keep the material from freezing he took it into the boiler house near by. A little later on, going into the boiler house, I saw one of the men stirring the fire while the other was standing with his coat tails outstretched in either hand, forming a shield to keep the sparks from flying into the nitroglycerin.

"In the manufacture of high explosives and in experimenting with them a little absentmindedness, a very slight lack of exact caution, a seemingly insignificant inadvertence for a moment, may cost one a limb or his life. The accident that cost me my left hand is a case in point.

"On the day preceding that accident I had had a gold cap put on a tooth. In consequence the tooth ached throughout the night and kept me awake a greater part of the time. In the morning I rose early and went down to my factory at Maxim, N. J. In order to test the dryness of some fulminate compound I took a little piece of it, about the size of an English penny, broke off a small particle,

placed it on a stand outside the laboratory and, lighting a match, touched it off.

"Owing to my loss of sleep the night before my mind was not so alert as usual, and I forgot to lay aside the remaining piece of fulminate compound, but instead held it in my left hand. A spark from the ignited piece of fulminate compound entered my left hand between my fingers, lighting the piece there, with the result that my hand was blown off to the wrist.

"Once when entering my storage magazine at Maxim, in which were several cartons of dynamite along with 37,000 pounds of nitroglycerin, I saw John Bender, one of my employees, calmly but emphatically opening a case of dynamite with a hammer and a chisel. I promptly discharged him.

"Not long afterward the innkeeper at Farmingdale called on me to buy some dynamite and said he had engaged Bender to blow the stumps out of his meadow lot. I told him Bender was courting death for himself and everybody around when handling dynamite, but Boniface still wanted Bender to do the work.

"Well," said I, "the dynamite you want is 10 cents a pound, but if John Bender does not succeed in blowing himself up and killing himself with the dynamite you can have it for nothing. On the other hand, if he does blow himself up you must pay for the dynamite."

"A few days later there was some hitch in Bender's exceptional luck. A particularly refractory old stump had resisted a couple of Bender's dynamic attacks. The failure to dislodge the stump Bender took as a personal affront because it reflected upon his skill as a stump blaster.

"Next time," said he, "something is going to happen." He placed about twenty pounds of dynamite under the deep rooted veteran, touched it off, and several things happened in very quick succession. The huge stump let go its hold on earth and proceeded to hunt Bender.

"It was a level race, but the stump won. Striking Bender on the north quarter, it stove in four ribs, dislocated several joints and damaged him in several other respects and particulars. Boniface came to settle for the dynamite.

"Sixteen cents a pound," I said. "Bender hasn't a chance in a hundred. Wait till the doctors are through with him."

"What do you say to a compromise," suggested Boniface, "of 8 cents a pound? For, really, I do not believe that Bender is more than half dead." And the account was settled on that basis.

Kind words are the brightest of home flowers. They make a paradise of the humblest home.

Blank forms for making annual reports of corporations on sale at the River Press office.

MONTANA BRIEFLETS.

SHORT ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

What Has Happened in Montana During the Past Few Days.

MISSOULA, Feb. 16.—Mrs. W. W. Dixon, widow of the late William Wirt Dixon, at one time congressman from Montana, has announced in Washington that she will give \$5,000 to equip a library for the law school of the state university in case the legislature creates this school at the present session, the library to be a memorial to her late husband, whose private library she has already presented to the university.

HELENA, Feb. 16.—The Great Northern Railway company acknowledged judgment in the action instituted by the government for violation of the 28-hour law, in the federal court this morning, but reserved the right to later state mitigating circumstances. The complaint against the defendant company charged that they kept 93 hogs loaded on the cars longer than 28 hours. The hogs were in transit from Condo, N. Dak., to Kalspell, and were consigned to Henry Bierman of the Kalspell Meat company. The penalty claimed by the government is \$500.

HELENA, Feb. 16.—The granite cutters at the state capitol walked out today and for the second time since the construction of the new wings began, all is silence in the extensive plant of Kain Brothers, the granite contractors. According to Mr. Kain, the grievance of the stonecutters is that the quarrymen, in getting out the granite, are doing certain work that belongs to the cutters, that is, getting the rock as near its final shape as possible. This Mr. Kain asserts, has been done at the quarry from the very inception of the work. About one hundred men are involved.

MISSOULA, Feb. 17.—Two of the three members of the board of county commissioners, Chairman D. T. Curran and Commissioner Frank Nelson, and a member of the board as it existed until the first of the year, stand indicted by the grand jury, on charges of being interested in county contracts and of selling to the county while in office. The second partial report of the grand jury contains nine true bills against Mr. Curran, four against Mr. Nelson and one against Tyler Worden, ex-commissioner.

HELENA, Feb. 17.—Homer Seek, a locomotive fireman, whose home is in the city of Livingston, has started suit in the district court against the Northern Pacific Railway company for damages in the sum of \$40,000. The plaintiff declares an engine on which he was working collided with a freight truck at Laurel, August 27, 1910, resulting in injuries to his leg and subsequent amputation thereof. He sets forth that at the time of the accident he was 23 years of age and capable and was earning between \$150 and \$160 per month.

GREAT FALLS, Feb. 16.—An unknown Italian was shot and fatally injured in The Five Taps saloon on First avenue south here late this evening. The shot is said to have been fired by Francesco Margotto, who made his escape a few minutes after the shooting occurred. The injured man was taken to the Deaconess hospital. He lost consciousness shortly after, and as he did not have any letters to identify him, nothing is known of what he is or where he came from.

KALISPELL, Feb. 16.—Great excitement was occasioned here today by a report that a portion of the Flathead Indian reservation that was reserved as a part of an irrigation project had been thrown open to settlement, and there was a frantic rush of homeseekers from Polson. They came by automobile and horseback, and tonight a boat load of belated land-seekers put in an appearance. All rushed pell mell to the land office and lined up in a string. The land office officials were in ignorance of any throwing open of lands to settlement and tried to induce the would-be land seekers to wait, but in vain. How the rumor started it is impossible to know.

HELENA, Feb. 17.—That Jack Truscott, alias James H. Johnson, held in the county jail on a charge of having robbed the postoffice at Clancy, is wanted at Sand Point, Ida., for forgery, and that he is a notorious crook, is the belief of the local officers. It is also believed that Truscott is a partner of a man named Baker now serving a term in the Idaho penitentiary.

MISSOULA, Feb. 17.—John M. Evans, a well-known attorney of this city, was made defendant in a \$20,000 libel suit here today filed against him by County Attorney Edward C. Mulroney. The case resulted indirectly from the charges brought against County Commissioners Curran and Nelson and ex-Commissioner Worden, all three of whom were indicted by the Missoula county grand jury yesterday for selling to the county while holding public office.

MISSOULA, Feb. 18.—All things conspired to make the fourth red apple banquet of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce, held here tonight, the

most largely attended and the best, from every point of view, of them all. Seated at the tables, arranged in the spacious waiting room of the new Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound passenger station in South Missoula, the red apple affair serving as the dedication of the handsome new structure, were 325 representative men of the Treasure state—representative of all walks of life.

Terms of District Court, 1911.

CHOUTEAU COUNTY.
Tuesday, April 4.
Tuesday, July 11.
Tuesday, October 31.

VALLEY COUNTY.
Tuesday, February 21.
Tuesday, May 9.
Tuesday, September 5.
Tuesday, November 14.

TETON COUNTY.
Wednesday, May 31.
Monday, July 31.
Wednesday, November 29.

FERGUS COUNTY.
Wednesday, March 8.
Thursday, June 8.
Friday, September 8.
Friday, December 8.

Girl Wanted.

A good girl, from 13 to 14 years old, to work on ranch to help lady do cooking, etc. Liberal wages for six or seven months. Address MRS. J. H. EVERS, Fort Benton.

For Sale.

A couple of milch cows and some chickens. Address NORTHWESTERN LIVE STOCK CO., Fort Benton.

Coal waiver filed.

Notice For Publication.

United States Land Office, Great Falls, Mont., February 17, 1911.
Notice is hereby given that EDDIE BOYD, assignee of John Stone, of Lonetree, Montana, who, on February 23, 1907, made desert land application No. 2963, serial No. 02424, for lot 2, SW 1/4 NE 1/4 section 4, township 19 north, range 10 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office at Fort Benton, Montana, on the 3d day of April, 1911.
Claimant names as witnesses: James L. Stillwell, John O. Stillwell, Maurice M. Jensen, of Lonetree, Montana, Harry B. Dickinson, of Knerville, Montana.
E. L. BARNES, Register.

Coal waiver filed.

Notice For Publication.

United States Land Office at Great Falls, Montana, February 17, 1911.
Notice is hereby given that ROXIE BOYD, of Lonetree, Montana, who, on February 16, 1907, made desert land entry No. 2361, serial No. 04777, for W 1/2 NE 1/4, W 1/2 SE 1/4, NE 1/4 SE 1/4 section 22, township 20 north, range 10 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. commissioner, at his office in Fort Benton, Montana, on the 3d day of April, 1911.
Claimant names as witnesses: James L. Stillwell, John O. Stillwell, Maurice M. Jensen, of Lonetree, Montana, Harry B. Dickinson, of Knerville, Montana.
E. L. BARNES, Register.

Non Coal Land.

Notice For Publication.

United States Land Office at Great Falls, Montana, February 17, 1911.
Notice is hereby given that CATHERINE SHERIDAN, of Portage, Montana, who, on January 24, 1906, made homestead entry No. 2206, serial No. 08779, for SW 1/4 NE 1/4, W 1/2 SE 1/4 sec. 21, NW 1/4 NE 1/4 sec. 28, township 23 north, range 4 east, Montana meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, U. S. land office, at Great Falls, Montana, on the 3d day of April, 1911.
Claimant names as witnesses: Daniel Bannatyne, William F. Wood, Theresa B. Lennon, of Portage, Montana, Neil Bannatyne, of Floweree, Montana.
E. L. BARNES, Register.

REAL ESTATE

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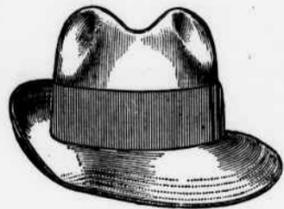
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