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MAKE FIGHT ON PRATT

Street Car Men in Their Annual Convention at Salt Lake May Be Plunged Into Big Controversy

Salt Lake, Sept. 11.—With the annual reports of the president and general board out of the way and in hands of convention committees, the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America at this morning's meeting probably will hear reports of some of its committees, may listen to introduction of more resolutions, the bar on which goes up this evening, and will probably get some of the work for which it is called together out of the road.

One matter which the association must face, and which may or may not result in considerable delay, is the protest made by the former Philadelphia division, No. 477, regarding action of the association in suspending it, because of its persistence in maintaining its side of a controversy arising over the selection of Clarence O. Pratt as business agent.

This controversy arose immediately after the Chicago convention. Briefly, Mr. Pratt withdrew his card from the international office, was elected to office as business agent in the Philadelphia division, put his card of membership in with that division, and began work as a member of a conference committee with the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company upon an agreement providing for a closed shop under the rules of the Amalgamated association.

Protests against action of the local in suspending a bylaw which provided that a year's membership was necessary to office were made by E. E. Baron, financial secretary of the local, and sustained by the general board. The board, however, decided upon what they regarded as a favor to Mr. Pratt, that is, to allow him to retain membership in the division. The division insisted on retaining its relations with Mr. Pratt and finally after some controversy and a hearing by the board, Mr. Pratt was directed to return his membership to the international office. This was done, and a split resulted, in which the agreement with the transit company went by the boards, the union was disrupted, and a two-year's fight in Philadelphia precipitated.

Pratt Equipped.
Mr. Pratt is in Salt Lake, bringing with him a trunkful of documents which he hopes to sustain his position if he is given a hearing before the convention. No such hearing will be granted, in the opinion of officers of the association, who declared last night that he had ceased to be a member of the association, and who charged him with having organized an "outlaw" union. Mr. Pratt said yesterday that he had the backing of a strong minority of the delegates and that he believed he could secure a majority on the question of being heard. If not, he proposes to leave a fall, and there explain his side of the controversy to such of the delegates and of the public as come to hear him.

Predictions have been made that this dispute would disrupt the union, but such statements are laughed at by its officers. They assert that Mr. Pratt lost his position on the general board because of his opposition to a rule which would have made the chairmanship of the board an office to be filled by the board and not by the convention. He lost in debate on this motion, they say, and also on the motion, besides which a large part of the delegates who had supported him went over to his opponent, Fred Fay of Ypsilanti, Mich., who was elected.

Officers of the association said last night that there were only two pos-

sible solutions of the problem now presented to the three thousand or more former members of the association who are alleged to have bolted with Mr. Pratt. One is the sustaining of their protests and reinstatement over action of the international officers, the other the returning of the members as individuals to the fold of the association, which now has organized another division in Philadelphia.

The first contingency is not believed to be apt to happen, according to the officers, who point out that the convention would have to go behind the work of every member of its board, as well as of its president. Mr. Pratt made no prediction of success yesterday, but said that he had a strong minority behind him and could hope if he were given a chance for a hearing. He claims the support of two of the Chicago locals and of part of the third, has that of the rather small Salt Lake delegation, and claims some delegates from other cities. If he is successful, results would probably include election of many new officers to the general board.

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FEDERAL MAGAZINE FOR THE FARMERS

Washington, Sept. 11.—The United States government is going into the magazine publishing business for the benefit of the farmers. This is the announcement made today by the department of agriculture, which adds that the first issue of the magazine will be out this month and that other issues will follow regularly at monthly intervals. The publication will be devoted principally to a detailed review of crop conditions nationally and by states.

"This information will be prepared in a purely popular way," Assistant Secretary Galloway said, "with a view to enabling the farmer to determine at a glance just what plant-crop and animal-crop conditions are prevailing in his own state as compared with other individual states and the country at large and important foreign producing areas."

It is the department's purpose to make the magazine, which will bear the title of "The Agricultural Outlook," a magazine of from 12 to 20 pages. It will deal not alone with the production and condition of crops but will instruct the farmer as to marketing his wares.

RESPONSIBLE FOR LIVING'S HIGH COST

Washington, Sept. 11.—Back to the farm, the department of agriculture has traced some of the responsibility for the present high cost of living. In a report issued today the department sets forth that the prices paid the farmers for their products were more with few exceptions, on September 1 than they received last year at that time. Among the more important articles of food which showed slight increases were:

Potatoes, 10.3 cents a bushel; butter, 17 cents a pound; chickens, 1.1 cents a pound and eggs, 4 a dozen. Oats increased 4.3 cents a bushel; barley, 1.7 and cotton 0.5 a pound. The price of corn decreased 2.2 a bushel; wheat 8.7; flax 34.8; rye 7.8; buckwheat 6.6, and hay 25 cents a ton.

The farmer also received more for the meats he produced, except lamb, on August 15, this year, than he did at the same time last year. Hogs increased 65 cents a hundred pounds; beefs, 53 cents; veals 91 cents, and sheep 6 cents. The price of lambs decreased 10 cents per 100 pounds. Horses increased only \$1 a head, while milk cows increased \$8.70 each.

AUTO TRIP OF FUGITIVE

Many Amusing Situations During Flight of Harry Thaw From Canadian Border Through Vermont Into New Hampshire — With Two Newspaper Correspondents

Colebrook, N. H., Sept. 10.—Harry Thaw's ejection from Canada began with the breaking of a window pane. Aroused from his cot in the immigration building in the detention room at Coaticook, and told he was to be taken across the border, at once, he flew into a rage, picked up a heavy glass tumbler and with all his might hurled it at the head of the nearest immigration officer. The official dodged and the tumbler crashed through a window.

Five minutes later Thaw was half carried, half dragged down the stairs, forced into an automobile and whirled toward Norton Mills, Vermont, nine miles away. He protested throughout the short trip but his guards ignored him. At 8:55 he was whisked past a gray stone slab marking the boundary and like a rabbit being released was set gently down on a bit of open ground. He whimpered in bewilderment, looking north, south, east and west as if trying to decide which way to go. Half a dozen idlers stepped toward him timidly, but none attempted to lay hands on him.

For perhaps half a minute Thaw stood there, his hat pulled over his eyes, his hair awry; his face unshaven, his clothes rumpled. Then, as there was nothing else to do, he climbed into the automobile of a newspaper correspondent and asked to be driven away.

"Take me to the New Hampshire line," he implored. "Jerome has got the attorney general of Vermont fixed. In New Hampshire I believe I would have a fighting chance against extradition. Maybe we can reach a railroad somewhere and I can buy a through ticket to Detroit."

Talking incoherently of Detroit, his lawyers, his mother, and of writs of habeas corpus, he was driven east over a winding road, a stone's throw from the boundary. At Averill, Vt., five miles on, the car stopped at a small summer hotel. Thaw had not breakfasted.

He ordered bread and milk and gulped it down while he tried to get Montreal over the long distance telephone to tell his Canadian counsel and his mother of his predicament.

Wires Bad; Thaw Excited.

But wires were bad and Thaw was excited, and he could make no connection. He strode out on the porch only to learn that the chauffeur of the car had deserted. This man was Thomas Trihey, a substantial business man of Coaticook, and he had volunteered to assist the newspapermen, but had not counted on aiding Thaw. Besides, he had not reported his car on crossing the boundary as required by the customs regulations and was afraid of the consequences. Reluctantly he turned back, leaving Thaw fuming on the porch of the little hotel. Then up came Frank Cantin, a lean French Canadian. He was driving a small, four-seater car, and was ready to travel anywhere for money. "Sure I will drive you to hell and back," he assured the fugitive.

Thaw got in and so did the newspaper correspondents. Thaw clung tightly to a box of cigars, all the belongings he had carried. The little car jumped away. Cantin evidently thought it was a race for life. Thaw tried to appear calm. His hat was swept off, dust blinded his eyes. The little car took the Vermont hills like a squirrel.

"Never mind my hat," shouted the fugitive. "But hold on there, driver, we don't want to break our necks."

Road Looked Familiar.

Cantin pined his car down to 20 miles an hour. The wagon horse in sight. Thaw seemed frightened for a moment; then he settled back and tried to smile. He could not talk connectedly; he could give no idea of what he proposed to do. After several miles the car swerved north and was back into Canada again. Thaw grinned. "This is familiar," he said, "I was along here coming up."

Cantin gave his car more fuel and the car fairly hummed through the town of Canaan, Vt. Ahead, lay the Connecticut river and beyond it New Hampshire. Three minutes more and Thaw was parading about the public square of West Stewartstown. He wore a checked cap, a newspaper man had loaned him to replace the lost straw hat, and made no attempt to conceal his identity. In fact he appeared rather proud to let it be known who he was. Being in New Hampshire made him breathe easier and he entered the hotel and tried again to get Montreal on the telephone. Everybody within 50 miles was trying to telephone it seemed and Thaw gave it up as a bad job.

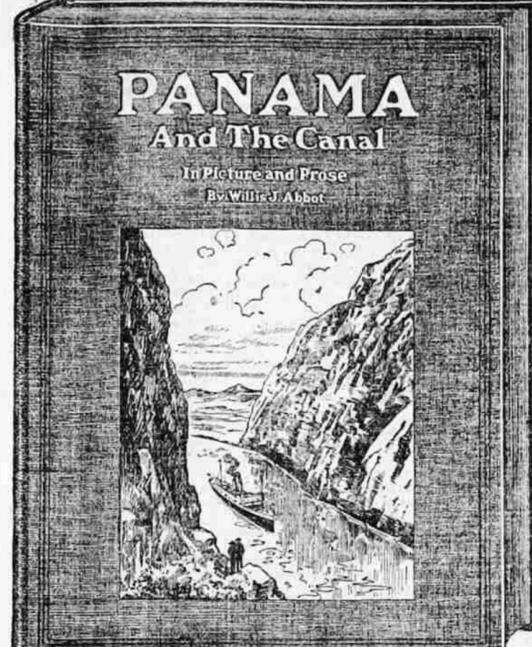
"Come on," said Thaw to his companions. "I want to strike a railroad and get to Detroit."

Goes to Farm House.

But he could not hold to his resolve and his inability to telephone any-

EVERY DAY THEY GO

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LIFE BEYOND THE GRAVE

Birmingham, England, Sept. 11.—Published forecasts of the address of Sir Oliver Lodge, president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, intimating that he would make statements of a startling character concerning immortality and the proof of life after death, although publicly denied by Sir Oliver himself, caused the reading of his address at the meeting to be anticipated with lively interest and heard with profound attention.

His subject was "Continuity" and summarized in his own words Sir Oliver's argument was:

"A marked feature of the present scientific era is the discovery of, and interest in, various kinds of atomism; so that continuity seems in danger of being lost sight of.

"Another tendency is toward comprehensive generalizations from a limited point of view.

"Another is to take refuge in rather vague forms of statement and to shrink from further examination of the puzzling and the obscure.

"Another is to deny the existence

Chasm May Be Bridged.

Sir Oliver further declared the "discernible intelligence, under certain conditions, may interact with us on the material side," and that "we may hope to attain some understanding of the nature of a larger, perhaps ethereal, existence and of the conditions regulating intercourse across the chasm."

In his remarks leading up to these declarations Sir Oliver said:

"Eliminating from our purview, as is always necessary a great mass of human activity, and limiting to scrutiny on the side of pure science alone, let us ask what, in the main, is the characteristic of the present age, though perturbing, period which we live. Different would give different answers, but the answer I venture to give is, progress, combined with fundamental skepticism."

Skepticism in All Realms.

Sir Oliver explained that by fundamental skepticism he did not mean the "well worn and almost antique theme of theological skepticism," but a skepticism which is always present in abundance just now. He continued:

"In physiology the conflict rages round vitalism. In chemistry the

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body seemed to gall him. Less than four miles out of Stewartstown, running south and east, he made the chauffeur stop again. The farm house of Mrs. Martha Wagner, whose husband was away cooking for a lumber camp, stood well back from the road. Into the yard Thaw had the chauffeur drive and into the kitchen he tramped Thaw. He had noticed a telephone wire running into the kitchen.

Mrs. Atherton was out in the barn, but in the kitchen sat her aged step-grandmother, Mrs. Elvira Day.

"I am Harry Thaw," said the stranger.

Mrs. Day apparently had not read the newspapers much of late. "Is that so?" she commented mildly.

"What can I do for you?"

"May I telephone?" said Thaw, taking off his hat for the first time.

"You surely may, sir," said the old lady. "We believe in being neighborly."

Thaw smiled and went to the telephone and found it useless. He himself, though he apparently did not realize it, was responsible for the situation. News of his liberation and wild automobile ride was being flashed over the countryside. Even then someone was trying to notify William Travers Jerome, others were notifying Sheriff Drew in Colebrook so that he might block the roadway. Thaw was cooking his own goose. He talked long with the operator urging her to get J. N. Greenfields in Montreal, his erstwhile chief counsel. He spent more than twenty minutes in the endeavor, sitting at intervals in a quilted rocking chair, smoking.

Mrs. Atherton came in from the barn.

"This is Mr. Thaw," said Mrs. Day in a matter of fact sort of way.

Woman Was Stupefied.

"Thaw rose and bowed. Mrs. Atherton was stupefied. Apparently she had read the papers and she was too overcome to move or speak. Here was Harry K. Thaw, slayer of Stanford White calmly smoking a cigar in her kitchen. She gazed at him a moment, then offered him a limp hand. As Thaw took it, she said:

"We are neighborly folks, Mr. Thaw and if we can help you in any way, we'd like to do it. I'll cook you a meal or hitch up the team or anything you say."

Thaw declined assistance with thanks.

"I must be going in a few moments he said.

He stepped to the telephone again