

TAFT ASKED MILLION AND ABOUT THE HALF SPENT FOR A JOB

Senator Curtis Says President Discussed McMurray's Ten Per Cent.

CURTIS BEFORE PROBE COMMITTEE

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 6.—More charges of attempted bribery in Oklahoma land deals were made before the congressional committee today. D. C. McCurtain, a Choctaw Indian, son of the governor of the Choctaw nation and attorney for the tribe, testified that J. F. McMurray had offered him \$25,000 to approve a land deal.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 6.—Not only United States senator Curtis of Kansas, but also vice president Sherman disapproved of contracts whereby "attorneys' fees" of three million dollars were to be allowed in the sale of thirty million dollars worth of Indian lands in Oklahoma.

This assertion formed the substance of the testimony given by senator Curtis today before the committee appointed by the house of representatives to investigate what is known as the McMurray contracts.

Senator Curtis related the details of a conversation that took place last April between president Taft, vice president Sherman and himself. The senator explained that he is a member of the senate committee on Indian affairs, has been for 14 years a member of the house committee, and that vice president Sherman had been chairman of the house committee.

"The president," said senator Curtis, "suggested the possibility of reopening the question of Indian entitlements. It seems that there are about 14,000 claimants who assert that they are Indians and who were left off the rolls. I told the president it would be a serious mistake to reopen that question.

"The president then asked McMurray and all of us what we thought about allowing ten per cent attorneys' fees. Both Mr. Sherman and I replied that we did not believe the Indians needed any attorney on a basis of ten per cent or any other basis. We called attention to the fact that treaties between the Indians and the government called for a sale of land by the government and that no counsel was needed.

"We pointed out that to give attorneys' fees would simply deprive the Indians of that much profit guaranteed them by the government. That formed the substance of our talk."

TAFT SENDS MAN INTO CALIFORNIA

Says He Is Looking Into the Colorado River Matter; Others Think Not.

Los Angeles, Aug. 6.—Without advance notice that might lead to publicity, Oscar Lawler, assistant attorney general in the department of the interior, has arrived in this city, where he formerly served as federal district attorney.

When questioned he admitted that he had come on a special mission from president Taft, but declared it had to do with curbing the Colorado river, although when they learned of his presence men interested in the current Republican primary campaign assumed his visit had a political significance.

Being a Californian and familiar with politics in the state, insurgents and regulars alike were inclined to regard him as an emissary sent by the president to survey the situation and report upon the course of the battle between the opposing Republican factions.

When questioned relative to this interpretation of his visit, however, Lawler said such a belief could find no basis in fact, and that he had come to find out for Mr. Taft how the \$1,000,000 recently appropriated by congress might best be employed in holding the Colorado river in check in the Imperial valley.

ENDS LIFE RATHER THAN BE MUSICIAN

A Michigan Boy Refuses to Play and When Punished, Suicides.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Aug. 6.—Blaine Thayer, 11 year old son of deputy sheriff Charles M. Thayer, hanged himself in his room yesterday. When he refused to take his music lesson yesterday morning, he was stated at the lad's home, he was sent to his room as punishment. He fastened his necktie around his throat and hanged himself to a bedpost.

HOUSTON ALMOST DOUBLES POPULATION
Washington, D. C., Aug. 6.—Census director Durand today announces the population of the city of Houston as 75,800, an increase of 24,157 over the census of 10 years ago, or a gain of 76.5 per cent.

REVOLVER SCARES WOMAN TO DEATH

Boise, Idaho, Aug. 6.—Drawing a revolver during a fight with a man and thereby frightening a woman to death, constitutes manslaughter, according to a complaint filed here against E. M. Helgoh, president of the Pacific & Idaho Northern railroad, and a member of the staff of governor Brady.

Helgoh became involved in a fight with Wesley Barton, a bank cashier at Weiser, and drew a revolver. Mrs. Sylvia Reizelman, Barton's mother-in-law, saw the weapon and fired.

The men stopped fighting and gave every attention to the stricken woman, but in 20 minutes she was dead.

A warrant for Helgoh's arrest was issued.

WILL BOTTLE UP "UNLUCKY JAKE" AND THE SALOONS BEFORE COLQUITT COMES IN.

That Appears to Be the Program

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Austin, Tex., Aug. 6.—The antics in the house this morning attempted to recover the ground lost under the "gas" rule late yesterday. Buchanan, of Washington, moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill known as the "ten mile law" was passed to engrossment. It prohibits the sale of liquor within ten miles of a state university, or college and would make Austin dry. It was argued that the passage was executed in violation of the rules of the committee and that debate was choked off. Robertson, of Travis, also asked a reconsideration, saying his constituents would lose hundreds of thousands of dollars through such a law and that the law would be unconstitutional.

Looney, of Hunt, spoke against the reconsideration of the ten mile law and upheld its constitutionality. He said: "The saloonkeepers are liable to lose thousands of dollars by the action of the local option laws, so should not be hurt more by the proposed laws."

Kennedy asked: "Why not pass state wide prohibition immediately?" Looney replied: "The handwriting is on the wall and the saloonkeepers must lose. We are going to carry it over the protest of your antics."

A message from the governor was read recommending the appropriation of \$50,000 for a sewer system for the Terrell asylum and amending the Terrell election law.

The house recessed until 2 this afternoon to vote on a reconsideration of the "ten mile law."

SLUSH FUND TALK

When the resolution to investigate the charges that a slush fund was used in the recent Democratic primaries came up in the senate this morning, Holsey moved to suspend the rules and take up the resolution, which came from the committee with majority and minority reports. The motion carried and Monday, August 15, set for its consideration by a vote of 15 to 14. The pros wanted immediate consideration but the antis used steam roller methods similar to those used in the house yesterday by the pros, delaying the matter until next week. The pros argued that a two-thirds vote was necessary to postpone it but Alexander, who was temporary chairman, ruled that a majority vote was all that was required.

Motion to suspend the rules and consider the adverse committee report on the bill prohibiting the drinking of liquor on the premises where sold, failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote this afternoon. Holsey moved to adjourn until Wednesday night, but the motion was lost, 14 to 15.

PROS. IN THE SADDLE

With the message which opened up the way for all manner of anti-liquor legislation governor Thomas M. Campbell has caused consternation in the ranks of the liquor interests in Texas. The representatives of this powerful body are rushing to Austin and from now on the fight will be bitter.

The first to arrive was Jake Wolters, of Houston, chairman of the state wide anti-prohibition league of Texas. He is known at Austin as "Unlucky Jake" because he is such a consistent loser when engaged in poker games with members of the legislature. He received a warm welcome in some quarters for \$5 a day don't go very far when a saloonkeeper has a rooming at the Driskill hotel and some stay to maintain.

Accompanying "Unlucky Jake" was John A. Hulien, former adjutant general. Mr. Hulien originally comes from Minneapolis. He is one of Joe Bailey's closest friends and considered an old hand man in Texas. For several seasons part Mr. Hulien has been training with Wolters as well as Bailey. Some of the astute politicians see something very significant in this.

The kind concession of the anti-prohibitionists in agreeing to permit the submission amendment to be voted upon after they found out that there is no doubt that the present legislature was in favor of it, does not seem much of a concession to the prohibitionists and they refuse to see anything magnanimous in "Unlucky Jake's" action. In fact the pros are in a position to give the antis the horse laugh despite the fact that they nominated a governor, and the guffaw resounds through the corridors of the capitol every time some anti-generals offers to do something the pros know they are in a position to make them do without any asking.

For four years the antis have lorded it in the capitol. Secure in the knowledge that they controlled the senate, they heaped more indignities than goals of fire on the heads of the pros. Now that they are getting blow for blow they are doing some squirming and some mighty loud hollering. In fact they are showing that they are mighty poor losers.

Drastic Laws Proposed.
The anti law, the 10 mile law, the 6 o'clock law, the anti-generals law and the abolition of drinking in saloons are all pending. It is known that there are a majority in the house in favor of either one or all of the laws. In the senate, Terrell has 12 men pledged. Only one more is needed and, if the law is passed, it would put the "fixing" on the lawlessness attending the liquor traffic in Texas.

Senators Scared.
The senators are scared. They have read the political obituaries of Senator Dallas Kellie, of Beaumont, and all others. This causes cold chills to ripple up and down certain senatorial backbones. They like office nicely well and, while they would like to fight the "streets" of the whiskey interest, which come in handy when campaign expenses are desired, many of them think that the people who vote (Continued on Page Four.)

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The Socorro Mines company had five bars and the Ernestine Mine company seven bars.

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Surgeon's Widow Charges Big Fraud



Mrs. Mary Nevine Blaine Bull, widow of the famous surgeon, who recently caused the arrest of John Qualey, president of the Magnesia Asbestos company in New York charging him with having taken \$35,000 in cash in return for stock which Mrs. Bull's attorneys claim is worth no more than the paper on which the certificates are printed. Mr. Bull says that Qualey assured her that within six months her stock would be worth \$200,000. Qualey has promoted a number of companies and has been under arrest several times.

\$2000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS STOLEN AS WOMAN FAINTS

New York, Aug. 6.—With \$2000 worth of diamonds in her handbag, Miss Tina Bonnie, a saleswoman for a jewelry store, fainted on the street Friday. While a policeman was assisting her to her feet, somebody from the surrounding crowd plucked him by the arm and said: "Here's the sick lady's handbag."

WIFE TELLS WHY WENDLING LEFT

Says She Mistreated Him. Wendling Is Little Concerned.

Denver, Colo., Aug. 6.—"Thank God," exclaimed Joseph Wendling, the alleged murderer of 8 year old Alma Keltner at Louisville, Ky., when told that his wife had acknowledged that it was her fault that he went away, and had secured a lawyer to defend him.

"She has told the truth, and now I am more certain than ever that I shall be a free man soon after I get to Louisville."

His wife's corroboration of his story that he left home because of her scoldings and naggings appeared to have more weight over Wendling than the news that legal counsel had been secured for him.

The Louisville officials decline to give out any information regarding their future plan, in an effort to get their man safely in jail at Louisville before it is known that he has arrived.

Talking freely with the newspaper men, and seeming to relish the notoriety which has come to him, Joseph Wendling, accused of the murder of 8 year old Alma Keltner at Louisville, discussed a search of the church made by himself and Father Schumann after the girl's disappearance.

"We did not look in the place where the body was discovered." Then apparently realizing how the remark might be taken, he added hastily: "I do not know in what place the body was found, but we could not have looked there, otherwise we should have found it."

Either a consummate actor or else of too volatile a nature to comprehend the seriousness of his position, Wendling continues his lighthearted view.

"Even if they lynch me in Louisville," he said, "I do not care. I am innocent of the murder of Alma Keltner."

HUNDREDS DIE FROM RUSSIAN CHOLERA

St. Petersburg, Russia, Aug. 6.—Russia's scourge, the cholera, continues to spread with alarming rapidity, particularly in the southern mining districts and St. Petersburg, where conditions are fast approaching the proportions of the great epidemic of 1908.

In the week ending July 30 there were 15,244 cases of cholera reported and 6,944 deaths.

In answer to an appeal from the Mine Owners' association for special measures to check the epidemic and the panic which threatens to stop the production of coal and iron in south Russia, the government decided to send a special commission to study the situation and organize sanitary preventative works.

Around Yekaterinoslava, the panic has practically stopped the transportation of crops.

LOCKED IN MEXICAN PRISON; HELP ASKED

Douglas, Ariz., Aug. 6.—Appeals to their brethren of the American railway employes' orders reached here from conductors Parish, Haley, Chaffin and Eaglehart, of the Southern Pacific lines in Mexico, who have been imprisoned at Guaymas for nearly a month.

No particulars are given regarding the charges further than that the men have been accused of violating the Mexican railroad laws and have been unable to obtain their release on bail.

Officers of the Order of Railroad Conductors will ask the United States government to investigate.

WIFE MURDERER MAKES HIS ESCAPE

Though Wounded in Head, He Gets Away From Officer in Hospital.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 6.—Seizing the opportunity when his guard had left the room to return a tray of dishes to the pantry, Archie Griegoff, held for the murder of his wife, escaped from the Lane hospital, where he was being treated for a gunshot wound in the head, self inflicted in an attempt to commit suicide immediately after he had killed Mrs. Griegoff.

Griegoff, attired in his street clothes, had just finished dinner in his room at the hospital, after a walk in the yard with the policeman who had him in custody. The officer started out to return the empty dishes and Griegoff, however, ran stealthily down the main corridor and into the street, disappearing in the darkness.

Griegoff shot his wife July 1 in a fit of jealousy.

KING HAS CLOSE CALL ON YACHT

Alfonso of Spain Meets With Accident While Lipton's Guest.

Cowes, Isle of Wight, Eng., Aug. 6.—Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht, Shamrock, on which King Alfonso of Spain was a guest, was dismantled today in a stiff breeze, with a heavy rain falling.

No one was injured on board the Shamrock and only the topmast was carried away.

Ill luck seems to follow Sir Thomas in entertaining royal guests on the racing yachts. King Edward had a miraculous escape in 1901 on board the Shamrock II when the challenger for Americas cup was dismantled during a squall and the heavy steel mast and wreckage came down on the deck.

GOVERNORS WILL TALK CONSERVATION

Western Executives Plan a Meeting at Denver or Salt Lake Shortly.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 6.—Governors Edwin L. Norris of Montana, Bryant B. Brooks of Wyoming, and Wm. Spry of Utah, have written governor M. E. Hay endorsing his plan for holding a conference this fall at Salt Lake City to discuss conservation and consider means to keep control of water power and other natural resources of which the government could assume charge.

DOUGLAS IS SHORT ON SILVER DOLLARS

Douglas, Ariz., Aug. 6.—The government's refusal to pay freight on shipments of silver coin from the San Francisco mint has created a metal money famine in this city.

Silver dollars are conspicuous by their absence and the situation is becoming acute by reason of the banks' efforts to popularize dollar bills.

To relieve the stringency the banks have decided to pay the freight on large shipments of silver dollars.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT TO BRITISH SUBMARINE BOAT
Portsmouth, Eng., Aug. 6.—Two officers and five men were dangerously injured today by the explosion of petrol on the navy submarine A. No. 1. So great was the force of the explosion that the coxswain was blown completely out of the conning tower and fell into the sea.

The A. No. 1 seems ill-fated, being the same boat which was sunk in a collision off Portsmouth in 1894, all aboard being drowned.

U. S. SHIP IN TROUBLE

Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 6.—The U. S. monitor Amphitrite is anchored at Whitehall Landing, near Helena, Ark., where repairs are being made to the engines. According to a statement made by lieutenant T. L. Johnson, the monitor may not be able to complete the trip up the Mississippi river to St. Louis until next spring.

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