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### The History of Arthur Rich's Connection With Senator Page

The Rutland Herald, on Monday, Sept. 4, published the following affidavit, made by Arthur M. Rich, now of Boston, Mass., formerly of Newport, Vt. This affidavit contains the plain, simple story of Arthur M. Rich, former clerk for Senator Carroll S. Page, listed in the congressional directories of 1910 as Senate messenger.

The affidavit sets forth a straightforward story of Rich's employment by William S. Bean, clerk of the Senate Committee on Standards, Weights and Measures, of which Senator Page was then chairman, at a salary of \$120 a month, \$60 a month of which he was required to turn over to Senator Page, through the senator's private stenographer, Miss Seymour. (Mr. Bean has since died.)

According to the best of Rich's knowledge and belief, this money was appropriated by Senator Page and not applied to any other purpose. Rich also swears that the checks sent him in Vermont were turned over to Senator Page in full, and that as a result of working on half pay in Washington and without compensation in the summer he was obliged to seek other employment.

To the Herald representative this young man stated that he was never discharged by Senator Page, that he never had any correspondence with Prof. Stannard or anyone else regarding the \$60 which he was obliged to surrender, and that he never owed the senator any money which would justify him in holding back part of his compensation.

Rich also swears that Donald H. Scribner, assistant manager of Senator Page's calfskin and poultry business in Hyde Park and who married the senator's niece, was never in Washington, so far as he knows, except for a short visit, yet Scribner appears in the directories of 1911 and 1912 as clerk of the Committee on Cuban Relations, of which his wife's uncle was chairman. (This is verified in part by Robert H. Norton, former clerk for Senator Page, and by the townspeople of Hyde Park.)

"When I was summoned into Senator Page's office and told to give up half of my salary to Miss Seymour, I could hardly believe my ears," said young Rich. "I understood that Miss Seymour was Senator Page's confidential stenographer and devoted practically all her time to his calfskin and poultry food business in Hyde Park, which he directed largely from Washington. Senator Page, in response to my protests, merely turned his back and continued his work. He has a way of making it impossible to continue a conversation—a way that proved very effective in my case."

#### EVERY VOTER SHOULD READ THIS AFFIDAVIT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Boston, August 17, 1916.

Suffolk, ss.

Then personally appeared before me, the undersigned, Frederick A. Crafts, a notary public within and for the county and commonwealth aforesaid, Arthur M. Rich, who deposes and says:

That he lived in the state of Vermont from the time he was eleven years old, except for a few months when he was in Washington, D. C., until about two years ago when he came to Massachusetts; that he graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy, St. Johnsbury, Vermont;

That he went to work in a law office at Newport, Vermont, and continued to work in law offices for a number of years; that he was very anxious to study law and become a lawyer;

That he was unable to go to college or work his way through a professional school because of lack of funds and because he had a dependent mother; that William S. Bean, of said Newport, who was clerk of the Committee on Standards, Weights and Measures, of which Senator C. S. Page of Vermont was chairman, informed him that Senator Page at that time had another appointment on said committee, that this would be an opportunity for said Rich to work and earn a living and at the same time attend a law school nights in Washington, D. C.;

That the salary paid was \$125 a month; that at this time said Bean informed him that Senator Page would like to see him in Hyde Park, Vermont; that he immediately went to Hyde Park and told Senator Page of his ambitions;

That Senator Page told him that Mr. Bean was his secretary and also clerk of the Committee on Standards, Weights and Measures, and that he had one more appointment on said committee, that of assistant clerk or messenger, and promised him the position;

That Senator Page told him to report for work in Washington, D. C., on January 1, 1910, which he did;

That he was enrolled and placed on the pay roll at the Senate disbursing office as assistant clerk or messenger of the Committee on Standards, Weights and Measures, the salary being \$120 a month, payable twice a month when the Senate was in session, and once a month when not in session;

That the first time he was to receive his pay, the committee clerk, Bean, told him to get his pay at the Senate disbursing office and take the money to Senator Page; that he received that day \$60, being two weeks' pay, for which he received as said assistant clerk or messenger;

That Senator Page then told him for the first time, that he was to receive only one-half of said salary, that from that time on he only received one-half of said salary, or \$60 a month, the other half going to Senator Page;

That he remonstrated with Senator Page, but found that it was useless and that he would have to take that amount or go home, and he therefore gave up all hopes of law school; that he found that he was obliged to pay \$30 a month for a small room and two meals a day, that his lunches at the United States capitol, where he was obliged to eat at noon, cost him approximately \$12 a month, leaving \$18 a month to pay for laundry, carfare, clothes and incidentals;

That when he went down there he had to pay his carfare and also upon his return;

That the latter part of May, 1911, Senator Page informed him that he would have no further work for him during the summer, that it was expected the session of Congress would

close very shortly, but that he expected to see him again in December;

That said Rich having received an opportunity to work during the summer for the Vermont Public Service Commission, went home the very last of May; that Senator Page's refusal at this time was not because he could not give him work in the "hide business" but that there was nothing to do during the summer in his position as assistant clerk or messenger; that before he left Washington, Mr. Bean had him sign a transfer of his salary to one Donald H. Scribner of Hyde Park, Vermont, so that no checks would come to him during the vacation period;

That in the fall Senator Page having been non-committal about Mr. Rich's returning to Washington, Mr. Rich finally forced an answer from Senator Page and learned that he could return to Washington upon the same terms as at the previous session;

That he went to Washington a second time in the winter of 1911, still hoping that Senator Page would give him this position, and was again placed upon the Senate pay roll as assistant clerk or messenger of said committee;

That at the end of the 61st Congress it was learned that there was to be a special session of Congress;

That Senator Page informed him that he would not require his services during the special session of Congress; that said Rich returned to Vermont on the 4th day of March, 1911;

That soon after his return he received a check from the Senate disbursing office for \$120, being one month's salary;

That Senator Page ordered him by letter to send the check to him, which said Rich finally did;

That about a month later he received a check for \$240 from the Senate disbursing office, being another month's salary and an extra month's salary voted by the Senate at the end of the session, which check was sent to Senator Page after repeated requests;

That Senator Page informed him, in substance, that said Donald H. Scribner had been appointed to succeed him as said assistant clerk or messenger;

That at the time he returned the last check, he signed and executed a second order transferring said salary to said Scribner at Senator Page's request;

That notwithstanding his repeated requests that he be allotted the salary allowed by the United States government for that position, which would enable him to earn a living in Washington and attend law school, Senator Page never in any way recognized his demands;

Said Rich further deposes and says that during the time that he was employed as said assistant clerk or messenger of said committee in Washington, approximately nine-tenths of the work done by him concerned Senator Page's private business at Hyde Park, Vermont, and not his work as United States senator;

Said Rich further deposes and says that on page 199 of the Congressional Directory of the 62nd Congress, second session, beginning December 4th, 1911, Donald H. Scribner is given as clerk of the Committee on Cuban Relations, of which Senator Page was then chairman; that said Donald H. Scribner was, to the best of his knowledge and belief, never employed in Washington for said Senate committee, and was only there, to the best of his knowledge and belief, once with his wife, who is Senator Page's niece, for a week's visit.

(Signed) ARTHUR W. RICH.

Subscribed and sworn to in said Boston on the day and year first hereinbefore mentioned, before me.

(Signed) FREDERICK A. CRAFTS, Notary Public.

"NOBODY WANTS FLETCHER BUT THE PEOPLE" THE ALLEN M. FLETCHER SENATORIAL CLUB Northfield, Vt.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bigelow and Miss Abbie Minor spent Friday and Saturday in Lincoln.

Miss Florence Doyle of Northfield is a guest of the Misses Vome and Esther Skinner.

Alec, Patrick spent Friday in Montpelier.

Mrs. Oramel S. Joslyn spent Friday in Montpelier.

Miss Johnson of New York City is at D. H. Skinner's for a few weeks.

The Misses Katherine Jones, Mary Moore, Elizabeth and Katherine Carlsson, Louise Stewart and Masters Walter Jones and Perry Githers returned Friday to their home in Newton Center, Mass.

Miss Lovainia Andrews of Montpelier returned to R. J. Gleason's Wednesday.

Remember the old fashioned harvest supper Wednesday at the Congregational church.

Mrs. J. E. Berry and Miss Clara Berry spent Friday in Montpelier.

Union prayer meeting at the Congregational church Thursday at 7:30 p. m.

John Conner of Henniker, N. H., has bought the Foley house at the ledges.

J. L. Baird has purchased the E. P. Chase residence in the village.

Miss Margaret Miller came Saturday for a month's stay at R. J. Brown's.

Mr. and Mrs. Carmi B. Gibbs and two children of Randolph spent Sunday in town.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Neill of Randolph were in town Sunday.

George Somerville of Colchester is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Somerville.

George Hastings spent the past week in Randolph and Braintree.

Mrs. Steven Stewart has returned from the hospital.

W. E. Long has been suffering from rheumatism for the past week and is obliged to use crutches.

Miss Alice Smith, Blanche McAllister, Doris Moriarty, James Moriarty, Carl Long and Gerald Stokes went Sunday on the Plattsburg excursion.

On Thursday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Z. H. McAllister entertained a party of 15 in honor of Miss Smith's six girls who have been spending the summer at the Congregational parsonage, and who returned to their homes Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Roys, son Claude, of Roxbury, and Mr. Hayden and son and daughter of Cambridge, Mass., were guests Sunday at Dr. W. J. Howard's.

Mr. and Mrs. James Thalon are visiting Mrs. Thalon's mother, Mrs. Jennie Green B. Boyce.

Saturday night there was almost a frost, the thermometer going down to 40.

#### EAST CABOT

George Morse spent Saturday at Montpelier on business.

Mrs. W. D. Barr accompanied Mr. and Mrs. O. K. McCosco and Mrs. William Shires of West Danville on an auto trip to St. Johnsbury.

W. I. Abbott was a business visitor in Barre Saturday.

Mrs. Thomas O'Brien and children of Cabot spent Friday at Carl Durgan's.

Miss Gladys Armstrong of West Danville is spending a few days at Harry Young's.

A son weighing 12 1/2 pounds arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Faxon Bowen Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Miner and three sons from New York arrived at "The Cobble," their summer home, last Friday for a ten weeks' stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Waldo and son, Stanley, of Wallingford are guests at the home of her father, J. A. Chedel.

Mrs. Fred Chase and children, who reside in southern New Hampshire, are visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walden White.

The Gaysville Lumber company are moving their machinery and lumber from the J. E. Safford property to the mouth of Stony brook, where they will erect a mill.

Miss Fieda Hassam was in Washington last Wednesday to attend the funeral of a classmate, Miss Hazel Bohanon.

Mrs. Leon Perkins is entertaining her father, Mr. Perkins, from Linwood, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Osgood were weekend visitors at C. H. Osgood's in Sandown, N. H.

Carl Tenney has returned to his work in Concord, N. H.

Guests at the Wyman home recently were Mrs. Alice Ralph of Wallaston, Mass., Miss Anna Brown of Manchester, N. H., and Mrs. Robert Noble of Bethel.

Ned Sheldon of Boston is visiting his mother, Mrs. Cornelia Sheldon, this week.

Miss Mildred Hickey of Bethel was a visitor in town the first of last week.

Faxon Bowen was a business visitor in Boston last week.

Miss Leda Smith went last Friday to Brattleboro to be a guest at Henry Shipman's for a few weeks.

Miss Alice Chedel spent last week in Randolph, a guest at the home of her uncle, George Chedel.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wilson spent Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Barrows.

Kenneth Hodgkins of Lowell, Mass., is spending a few days at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Hodgkins.

Mr. and Mrs. William Flint, jr., of Sidney, N. Y., are visiting his parents in this village.

A. H. Harrington took a party to Rutland last Wednesday consisting of William Bishop, Mrs. James Amisden, Mrs. Carl Still and Gordon Still.

Mrs. Lincoln of Bethel is a guest of Mrs. Cornelia Sheldon.

Mrs. F. V. Hassam, Misses Fieda and Gladys Hassam of Hardwick are visitors at G. H. Martin's.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Osgood attended the meeting of White River Valley grange at Barnard last Thursday.

#### MIDDLESEX

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kellogg and two boys of Fitchburg, Mass., are visiting his mother, Mrs. Henry Daniels.

The home circle will meet with Mrs. Levi Swift on Thursday afternoon of this week.

Mrs. Flora and Edna Walker, who have been spending their vacation in town, returned to their homes in Massachusetts today.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scott and children of Massachusetts are visiting his mother, Mrs. Mary Scott.

J. P. Eagan, who has been in the state hospital for treatment since May 1, has returned home much improved in health.

Ernest Scott, who became mentally deranged, was taken Sunday night to Montpelier jail for safe keeping.

Richard Bailey of Windsor was a weekend visitor at his parental home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Smith and two sons of Montpelier are visiting his mother, Mrs. George Smith, in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scott and children of Massachusetts are visiting his mother, Mrs. Mary Scott.

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Mrs. George Smith and two sons of Montpelier were guests of Albert Crane and family a part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. White and two daughters of Worcester, Mass., were recent guests of N. Stockwell and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stockwell and daughter of Richmond spent Sunday in town.

Miss Edna Lebourneau, who has been spending three weeks with Mrs. L. C. Jones, returned to her home in Lawrence, Mass., Friday.

Miss Ella Comstock, accompanied by Miss Rachael Erwin of Montpelier, spent the week end at F. J. Eaton's.

Frank Alexander of Montpelier and Harry Reor of Windsor spent Sunday at George Bruce's.

Mrs. E. A. Johnson of Jackson, Me., spent the week end at F. J. Eaton's.

John McCarthy and Miss Koe of Lawrence, Mass., who have been in town for several days, went Saturday to Waitsfield for a few days' stay.

A daughter was recently born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith.

Mrs. Josephine Jackman of Bridgeport, Conn., is visiting Mrs. Flora Bigelow for a few days.

Charles Gaultette's family is under quarantine for whooping cough.

Services were resumed at the Universalist church Sunday. After this, services will be held on Sunday at 11 o'clock.

Mrs. F. C. Huntington was able to take a short ride in her auto Sunday.

Harold Bigelow is employed by F. E. Worthley in his store.

Mrs. Coy is stopping with her daughter, Mrs. G. A. Bohanon, for the present.

#### WASHINGTON

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#### COPY OF BEAN LETTER TO RICH.

December 27, 1909.

Dear Arthur: Yours of the 24th received. I think your plan a good one. If you leave Newport at 11:25 Saturday night, you will reach N. Y. about 11:35 Sunday morning. If you turn to the right as you go out of the station towards 43rd avenue, you will find a good restaurant in about a minute's walk, right hand side of the street, Child's Restaurant. That will be handy and will save you lots of time.

I enclose you Penn. folder showing Sunday trains to Washington. Presume you will have time to get lunch and get across the city in time for the 1:25. You had better allow yourself three-quarters of an hour or an hour to get

# THE FAMOUS RICH AFFIDAVIT

## RICH'S OWN LETTERS PROVE HIS AFFIDAVITS TO BE A TISSUE OF FALSEHOOD

### Another Chapter in the Fletcher Campaign of Mud, Money and Misrepresentation

For weeks information has been coming to Senator Page that there had been prepared in the office of Williams & Smith at Newport (political headquarters of Allen M. Fletcher in Orleans county) an affidavit by a former employe of the senator, Mr. Arthur M. Rich.

Senator Page, in his political advertising last month, made mention of this affidavit showing that it was a part of a well-laid plan to discredit him—Page—and that it emanated from the same office as did the Lamolle County Savings Bank & Trust Co. attack.

It would never do to print this tissue of falsehood, misrepresentation and insinuation after its Newport parentage had been exposed to the public. Another affidavit therefore had to be secured.

The Rutland Herald under date of September 4 under a five-column front-page heading, gives the Rich affidavit and the Herald's story. Someone has well said that "a chain is no stronger than its weakest link," and if this line of reasoning should be applied to this unique concoction it loses all its force, if it ever had any.

It is exceedingly fortunate in this campaign, where the wrecking of character seems to be the chief business of the Allen M. Fletcher Club that Mr. Rich's original letters and a copy of the replies thereto have been preserved, for no bold or more deliberate attempt at character assassination was ever perpetrated upon a citizen of Vermont than this Rich affidavit secured by the Rutland Herald.

When Senator Page went to the Senate in 1908, he found there Wm. S. Bean, who had been the secretary of both Redfield Proctor and John W. Stewart. Senator Page was then entitled to a secretary and clerk, and he appointed Wm. S. Bean.

Mr. Bean was from Newport, Vermont, and living at that place was one Arthur M. Rich. Mr. Bean suggested that Senator Page secure Rich's services as stenographer and that he also bring from his home office at Hyde Park another stenographer, assuring the senator that he could handle his work better in that way and that these two stenographers would gladly work for the allowance made for clerk or messenger.

Without further introductory remarks this is presented herewith the letter press copy of William S. Bean's letter, which tells a story, not written in the stress of a political campaign, not written when it was ever expected that there would be need of its publicity. Even without comment, Senator Page feels that he could leave the letter of William S. Bean alongside the affidavit of Arthur M. Rich with fullest assurance that the reasoning judgment of his people would condemn the affidavit.

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## PARK THEATRE

Vermont's Best Photoplay House

Matinee, 2:15 and 3:30—Tel. 613-W—Evening, 7 and 8:30

### TO-DAY

Fox Presents Ruth Blair and Clifford Bruce in

## "THE FOURTH ESTATE"

A strong drama of the outdoor world and full of thrills and anxious moments.

Also a good comedy and a NEWS PICTURE

Thursdays, September 7

HAMILTON REVELLE IN

## "THE HALF-MILLION BRIBE"

A wonderful Metro picture that we know you will like.

Also MAX FIGMAN in a reel comedy and a METRO TRAVEL PICTURE.