

PROF. TAFT WITNESS IN R. R. TRIALS

Former President May Be Called By Government To Tell of Conference With Lewis Cass Ledyard Regarding B. & M. Decl.

Charles S. Mellen, Appearing For Prosecution, Continues His Story of How the New Haven Made New England Monopoly.

New York, Oct. 21.—Counsel for the defense announced today that they would call former President Taft as a witness in connection with a conference between Mr. Taft and Lewis Cass Ledyard in regard to the taking over of Boston & Maine stock by the New Haven.

Mr. Taft, attorney for the government, said that the government would "if possible" avoid calling the former President.

Having laid the foundation in the two hours he was on the witness stand yesterday, for his story of the New Haven combination, Charles S. Mellen today continued with a description of such consolidation movements as took place from 1882 to 1899 when he was vice-president of the road.

Mr. Mellen was first questioned about the through freight lines or joint freight soliciting organizations maintained by the New York and New England, and the Metropolitan, Providence and Merchants & Miners Steamship lines. Then he named the various trunk lines with which these lines connected for freight service to the west.

The traffic outlets of other New England cities he similarly explained, revealing as yesterday an intimate knowledge of the railroad traffic situation in New England.

Mr. Mellen described the Merchants & Miners line as "very important." This ran from Boston and Providence to Baltimore, Newport News, Norfolk and Savannah.

The witness then sketched the character of manufactured products shipped from New England cities, from Boston these products went over the Boston & Maine, Pittsburgh, Boston & Albany, New York and New England, and the Metropolitan, Providence and Merchants & Miners Steamship lines.

Mr. Mellen described the character of the railroad traffic situation in New England as if a quarter of a century had not elapsed since the events he was describing.

Mr. Swacker, of counsel for the government, asked the witness about his early connection with the New York & New England as general manager.

"What were the conditions as regards competition between the New York & New England and New Haven?" he asked. "The worst I ever knew—just cut-throat work on both sides," was the reply.

Mr. Swacker wanted to know if Mr. Clark, then president of the New Haven, and named as co-conspirator in the case, had had a conversation with the witness about the competition.

Mr. Mellen said at that time the New Haven had announced the reduction in the rate of the three passenger trains from Boston to New York and that he went to Clark and protested that this reduction was unfair to the New York & New England.

"I persuaded him not to make a change in these trains," the witness said.

"What did you do to persuade him?" "I told him the things that were likely to happen."

"What were those things?" "Well, I had in my pocket a copy of an advertisement which I said I was going to put in the papers that afternoon, announcing that we would run a train to Allyn's point to connect by boat to New York and that the fare between Boston and New York would be 11. Clark said 'Is that honest in-jury?' and I said, 'It is.'"

Two months after this, Mellen said, he became second vice-president in charge of traffic of the New Haven.

"Who employed you?" "Charles P. Clark."

"What duties were assigned you?" "To look after the traffic," replied the witness.

"Did he say why he employed you?" "He said I made too much of a nuisance of myself on the New England."

Mr. Swacker then took up with the witness the New Haven's acquisition of the Housatonic, which was one of the New York and New England connections with New York. There was a freight connection by car boats from Wilson Point, Conn.

THREE U.S. SOLDIERS KILLED AND SIX HURT IN BATTLE WITH MEXICAN OUTLAWS

San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 21.—Three United States soldiers were killed and six others wounded in an engagement with Mexican bandits near Ojo De Agua about 3 o'clock this morning. The troops guarding the place, which is near Mission, Texas, and about 60 miles north of Brownsville, was attacked by a large band.

Details of the fight are lacking, but in a preliminary report from Captain McCoy received at Southern Department Headquarters at 3:45 o'clock this morning, the information was given that five dead Mexicans had been found in the dark after the attacking party had been driven off.

The killed and wounded were all members of Troop G, 3rd cavalry, and Company D, signal corps. The dead are: Sergeant Shafer, Troop G, 3rd cavalry, and first class Privates Joyce and McConnell, Company D, signal corps.

The list of wounded includes Privates Bomer, Behr, Langlands and Kubic, Troop G, 3rd cavalry, and First Class Sergeant Smith and Corporal Canshall, Company D, signal corps.

Captain McCoy arrived with retreating troops and the bandits fell back in the brush between Ojo De Agua and the Rio Grande. Additional troops were rushed to the scene from nearby border patrol stations and search made for the bandits.

A falling telegraph pole above Devon station on the New Haven road today caused the stopping of the Bankers' Express and severe injury to Charles Kuhn, aged 36, a resident of 37 Elm street, Bridgeport. Kuhn, who suffered a compound fracture of his left leg above the ankle, is in Bridgeport hospital, having been taken by the express train and brought to this city.

He was at work on a high cross arm of a pole belonging to the Western Union Telegraph Co. nearly 30 feet above the ground when the pole, said to be rotted at the bottom, suddenly gave way and Kuhn was precipitated across the tracks with the heavy mast just as the fast Boston and New York express hove in sight. The train was quickly flagged and the obstruction removed.

Kuhn suffered great agony on the train, the bone having been projected through the fleshy covering of his leg. He had to wait in the local railroad station nearly 45 minutes because the emergency ambulance had been sent upon a transfer case in place of the horse-drawn vehicle. Criticism of spectators carried to the emergency hospital was met with statements by the physicians in attendance to the effect that the emergency ambulance was repeatedly protested against the use of the motor ambulance for hospital transfer cases by private physicians, but that they are still authorized by the health officer, Charles Spencer, R. Gordon. Both the driver and the ambulance physician, J. H. Beaudry, disclaim any responsibility for today's delay.

At a mass meeting of the employees of the Max Ams Machine Co. last night in the Machinists' club, the men voted unanimously not to return to work until the demands they have made on the company are granted.

The officials of the company have issued a notice that all the men who do not return to work by Oct. 25 will no longer be considered. This was discussed at the meeting last night and afterward a vote was taken. None of the men, it was announced, will return to work.

The number of those who struck was 135. Of these, eight returned to their jobs, without getting the concessions asked. The strikers want increased wages.

The plants of the American Chain Co. and the Harris Engineering Co. are still being picketed by the machinists. According to George J. Bowen, business agent of the International Association of Machinists, the picketing is very effective at the Chain Co. as the company is trying to get 20 men to fill the places of the strikers and has not yet procured them.

The Harris Engineering Co. has a small force at work according to Mr. Bowen and because the plant is a small one, the factory is running fairly well. It is still being picketed, however.

A wedding which while quiet and simple, was of unusual beauty, was solemnized at 3:30 this afternoon when Miss Emma Florence Lake became the bride of Mr. Russell Bryan Porter at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lake of 254 West avenue. Mr. Porter is the youngest son of Andrew J. Porter of 145 Poplar street. Rev. John G. Sadtler, rector of Christ Episcopal church performed the ceremony, which was witnessed by about 40 relatives and intimate friends of the young couple.

The bride entered the library on the arm of her father who gave her in marriage. Her gown was of ivory satin trimmed with tulle, and had a bodice of Duchesse lace also veiled with the tulle. The train of satin was arranged in a cascade effect and caught below the shoulders with pearl ornaments. Her tulle veil was arranged about the head in an elaborate and elegant manner with blossoms. With this she carried a bouquet of white orchids with a shower of lilies of the valley.

Miss Roberts wore a Watteau gown of yellow tulle trimmed with gold silk net. Panniers of yellow broad-satin with figures in pink completed the costume. She carried a crook of yellow, from which Ward roses fell in shower effect.

A buffet luncheon was served following the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Porter will leave this evening on a wedding trip, the destination of which they have told no one. They plan to be away about four weeks at the end of which time they will take up their residence in New York. The bride will travel in a costume of African brown, fashioned with a Chin Chin collar, lined with coral. Her hat is a brown velvet turban trimmed with ostrich tips.

Mr. Porter presented his bride with a platinum crescent brooch of pearls and diamonds. His gift to his best man was a stickpin of jade set with a diamond. Miss Roberts received a tillage bar pin set with pearls and sapphires from the bride.

The bride attended the local High school, and later continued her study of music under prominent teachers of that art. Mr. Porter was a member of the class of 1911 of E. I. S. Later he followed his study of journalism at the Columbia University. He is well known in local newspaper circles, having been city editor of the Sunday Post, and in the same position with the Bridgeport Telegram. He is now assistant dramatic editor of the New York World. His first metropolitan experience was with the New York Press.

FALLS WITH POLE IN PATH OF FAST BOSTON EXPRESS

Mast Crashes to Tracks with Human Burden As Train Approaches.

ENGINEER'S QUICK STOP SAVES KUHN

Elm Street Resident Has Fractured Leg As Result of Experience.

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RUSSELL PORTER WEDS MISS LAKE AT BRIDE'S HOME

Scene is Bower of Beauty As Popular Couple Are United.

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DR. DUMBA, BOUND HOMEWARD, MAY TALK SOME MORE

London, Oct. 21.—The arrival at the Hague of Dr. C. T. Dumba, lately recalled as Austrian ambassador to the United States, is reported in a despatch from the correspondent there of Reuter's Telegram Co.

Dr. Dumba intimated he might make a statement tomorrow.

MOONSHINER IS IMPRISONED

Brownsville, Tex., Oct. 21.—John L. Casper, of Kansas City, alleged head of the Moonshine conspiracy, who pleaded guilty in the United States district court here yesterday, was sentenced today to nine years and three days in the Leavenworth penitentiary and ordered to pay a fine of \$33,000.

The six others who admitted their guilt received sentences varying from six months in jail to two years in the penitentiary.

DELAYS OF LAW ARE NO HIT IN CASE'S COURT

Lawyers Predict Trial Will Run Three Weeks—It Doesn't.

"NOT IN THIS COURT," DECLARES THE JUDGE

Involved Litigation of Bellamore Co. is Speedily Tried Out Here.

The usual delays and technicalities which are supposed to block the progress of the law will not be allowed by Judge William S. Case, who is presiding over the present term of the civil superior court. When the complicated suit of George C. Miller of this city against the Bellamore Armored Car & Equipment Co. was tried Tuesday, Judge Case asked the lawyers how long it would take.

"About two or three weeks, Your Honor," replied one of the lawyers. "Not in this court, gentlemen," declared Judge Case.

He made the lawyers eliminate all unnecessary delays and the result was that the evidence was finished in two days and arguments heard this morning. The court reserved decision.

He next considered the suit of Harry D. Miller against J. L. Orton and others of this city, an action which also resulted from the troubles of the Bridgeport Vehicle Co. Miller, who was formerly president of the Vehicle Co., seeks to foreclose the property on Fairfield avenue. He claims to hold a note for \$4,800 on which \$500 has been paid.

E. A. Godfrey of the Blue Ribbon Auto & Carriage Co., which at present occupies the property, testified that Miller agreed to transfer the note but Miller denied this. The court reserved decision.

MYSTERIOUS NURSE AT EMERGENCY IS MRS. JOHN W. FIELD

De Ver H. Warner's Daughter First Aid Methods in Practical Manner.

The mysterious nurse at the Emergency hospital, it became known today, is Mrs. John W. Field, of Brooklawn place, daughter of De Ver H. Warner and wife of John W. Field, former star Yale halfback.

For several days a young woman has been receiving instruction at the hospital, in first aid treatment. She has been an enthusiastic student. Her presence became more or less of a mystery.

It was learned today that Mr. and Mrs. Field plan a trip to the Maine woods, where emergencies often arise, when a physician is not available. Mr. Field will act as physician on the trip.

COM. BROPHY IS NAMED PRESIDENT OF COUNTY HOME

At the annual meeting of the county home board, held yesterday in Norwalk, County Commissioner John Brophy of Ridgefield, was elected president and Commissioner Henry Crawford of Greenwich, secretary. Secretary Kellogg, Miss Walters and Dr. Pons, all members of the state board of charities, were present as also were the board of visitors of this county.

Mrs. M. H. Ford of this city is a member of the latter board.

The figures submitted by the board of visitors show that in spite of the great increase in population in this city and throughout the county, the number of children committed to the county home has not greatly increased. In 1914 there were 84 committed and in the present year 111.

In 1914 the number of children placed with persons not relatives was 35 and those sent to relatives numbered 28. In the present year 50 have been placed with outsiders and 40 with relatives. The number returned to the home in 1914 was 33 and this year it was 49. These results indicate that the children have been getting into good homes and the report was very favorably received.

BULGARS AND SERBS IN TERRIFIC STRUGGLE

Paris, Oct. 21.—The Athens correspondent of the Havas Agency sends the following despatch under date of Wednesday:

"A great battle is going on in the heights of Vlassona and Kotschana. The Bulgarian object seems to be to march on Monastir so as to cut communications with Saloniki. In the Negotin region two Bulgarian attacks have been repulsed.

"The newspapers state that after the occupation of Istip and Kotschana by the Bulgarians, the Serbians fell back on Uskup. The population of Uskup has left. Communications between Nish and Uskup are cut.

"The ministers of the quadruple entente have left Nish for Kraljevo. The Bulgarian army is advancing rapidly on Kumanovo and Uskup, according to information from a Bulgarian source."

SERBIANS ADMIT ARMY IS FACING GRAVEST DANGER

Official Statement, Issued at Nish, Says Army is Menaced Fiercely By Invading Troops of Bulgaria and Teuton Powers.

Germans Renew Attacks Near Rheims and Violent Artillery Duels Are Begun—Allies Watching Attitude of Greece.

Paris, Oct. 21.—An official statement issued yesterday at Nish, as forwarded by Havas News Agency, says that the Serbian army is now menaced fiercely. The Serbian war office and the railroad line to Saloniki has been cut in two places.

Paris, Oct. 21.—Following their futile bombardment last evening to the east of Rheims, the Germans renewed their attacks in this region, according to an announcement made after noon by the French war office. In spite of a very violent preparatory artillery fire they again were checked, and cut down by the fire of the French artillery and machine guns. They did not succeed in winning a single position in the French front line trenches.

Paris, Oct. 21.—The entente powers are bringing all possible pressure to bear on Greece in order to elicit an unequivocal definition of her policy toward the other Balkan states and the European belligerents. They have intimated clearly that on account of the geographical position of Greece and her treaty obligations to Serbia, her announced policy of neutrality will be difficult, if not impossible, to maintain.

It has become a question, in the opinion of the allied diplomats, of not permitting Greece to continue what is considered an ambiguous policy until their opponents in the war are able to utilize the neutral position of Greece to her own advantage.

The Greek government is now considering a British offer of the island of Cyprus, which according to an Athens message, Britain will cede immediately on condition that Greece joins the allies. The Russian foreign minister, Sergei Sazonov, has issued a statement to the effect that he considers the allies justified in adopting any measures to prevent their enemies from taking advantage of the neutral position of a third power.

The fleets of the allies already have established a close blockade of the Aegean coast of Bulgaria.

It has not been established whether the Bulgarians have occupied Vranovo on the Nish-Saloniki railroad, concerning which there are conflicting reports. It is a fact, nevertheless, that railroad communication between Nish and Uskup has been interrupted, and if the Bulgarians have not actually crossed the line they have at least advanced far enough to interrupt traffic, which accomplishes the same purpose.

The principal pressure on Serbia is now coming from the Bulgarian side. Recent despatches reveal no further advances of importance by Field Marshal Von Mackensen's German and Austrian forces.

The two outstanding features on the Russian front are the continued offensive of the Austro-Germans in the south of Riga. In the latter districts the Germans are making a strong effort to force the Dvina river, in a country presenting many difficulties to the invader.

In the southern area Russian successes have modified the situation radically, and the Austro-Germans from Finsk to Lemberg is no longer held securely.

Except for further details of the unsuccessful German attack on British positions near Bulloch and on the French front in the vicinity of Rheims, there is no news of importance from the western front.

SAYS ENGLAND OFFERED GREECE ISLE OF CYPRUS

London, Oct. 21.—The Daily Chronicle says it understands that Great Britain has communicated to her allies her offer of the island of Cyprus to Greece and that the offer is now under consideration by the Greek government. The paper, in an editorial, says:

"The masses of the Greek nation is not behind M. Zaimis, (the Greek premier) but behind M. Venizelos (the former premier) and in order that its will may prevail over German influence in high offices.

"The offer is a notable one, not only because of its magnitude but because we are offering something already in our hands to give and if the Greeks allow the Zaimis government to reject the world will have to revise its views of the seriousness of Hellenic aspirations."

HUNTERS KILL 27 DEER IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY, SAY REPORTS

According to the reports to the superintendent of fish and game at Fairfield, 27 deer have been killed in Fairfield county since the new deer law went into effect, August 1, 1915. An effort is being made to ascertain whether or not all deer that have been killed have been reported. A penalty of \$100 is stipulated for those who fail to report.

The total number of deer killed, according to the reports, is 314, divided as follows: Sixty-nine, Hartford county; 75, Litchfield; 27, Fairfield; 45, New Haven; 18, Tolland; 29, Middlesex; and 29, Windham counties.

THE WEATHER

Fair and cooler tonight and Friday, moderate southwest and west winds.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL HOLDS SECOND SESSION

Report Shows Increase in Inmates Not Great Considering Population Increase

New Haven, Oct. 21.—With Henry M. Bardsley, former mayor of Kansas City, who was elected moderator yesterday in the chair, the National Council of Congregational Churches resumed its labors here today. The number of delegates had been greatly increased by the overnight arrival of many from distant points.

Rev. C. E. Carter, of Hartford, chairman of the executive committee offered a number of recommendations for the government and maintenance of the council. There were a number of other reports received from various church committees.

John H. Perry, of Connecticut, reported proposed amendments to by-laws, one pertaining to deputizing of alternates to the council being lengthily debated because of differing opinion over phraseology, and being adopted after acceptance of clarifying amendments.

The following committees were elected: Executive committee for four years, Herbert J. Brown, Portland, Me.; O. J. Hill, Kansas City, Mo.; and D. M. Perry, Detroit; commission on missions for four years, Arthur L. Shipman, Connecticut; Burton Payne Gray, Massachusetts; David F. Jones, Minnesota; President H. C. King, Oberlin College, Ohio; Roger Levitt, Iowa; Albert Parker Fitch, Massachusetts, and Rev. Lewis T. Reid, New York; for two years to vacate, H. W. Darling, Kansas; Rev. Archibald Haddon, Michigan, and Frank Kimball, Illinois. On the same board from societies, Rev. E. M. Noyes, Massachusetts, from the American Board, Dyer P. Holdrege, New York, from the Board on Ministerial Relief, Miss Sarah Louise Day, Massachusetts, from the Woman's Relief Mission Board.

The Women's Home Missionary Federation opened its annual meeting this morning.

BURGLARS WORK AT LEISURE IN HOUSES LEFT UNTENANTED

Former Police Commissioner Baldwin Tells How Cracksmen Operate Here.

That burglars who have a practice of robbing untenanted homes in a series of visits, are prevalent in Bridgeport, is the belief of former Police Commissioner George M. Baldwin. According to Mr. Baldwin, the plan carried out at his home in the several burglaries there, was to get most of the valuable property by repeated visits.

Mr. Baldwin asserted today that the time his house was burglarized two years ago, Mrs. Baldwin had entered the house at the same time a burglar was there and after she left the burglar made his getaway.

According to the former police officer, Mrs. Baldwin returned to the house and discovered that a drawer was open. However, as her husband's valuable Masonic charm was in the drawer she thought nothing was amiss, she left for an hour or so, and when she returned the charm was gone, with other valuable articles.

It is the belief of Mr. Baldwin that the thieves watch the columns of the newspapers for the names of persons who have returned home for the first time, to learn what families are leaving home for vacations. In this manner they discover what houses are the safest to rob.

In each of the burglaries at the Baldwin house, evidence was found that the depredators intended to return for another load.

In the New Haven police court yesterday, Harry Hoad, alias Harry Hoadley, alias Harold Rooney, who is accused of the most recent Baldwin burglary, was arraigned and his case was continued until Saturday under bonds of \$2,000.

Hoad or Rooney, as he is known most frequently, is said to be wanted in Ansonia and Naugatuck on suspicion of having been concerned in breaks in those cities.

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