

POPENOE AFFAIRS REVEALED

Three Trustees Appointed to Straighten Them Out.

Owes About \$50,000 to Eastern Clients.

USED THE MONEY.

Was Paid to Him on Account of Mortgages.

When Creditors Demanded Money Mr. Popenoe Left.

NOW IN COSTA RICA

Will Return if Business is Adjusted.

Hopes to Get Money Spent in Mines.

DISASTROUS EFFORT

Lost \$20,000 In Booming the Capital.

Country Home and Other Property Transferred.

F. O. Popenoe is still in Costa Rica and the indications are that he will not return to Topeka soon.

Mr. Popenoe was reared on a farm and early in his life learned shorthand.

He was an expert stenographer and fifteen years ago was employed by the T. E. Bowman Loan company which was then and still is one of the substantial financial institutions of the city.

He married the daughter of the head of the company and started life with bright prospects for he was industrious, energetic and honest.

When Mr. Popenoe left the Bowman company it was to take charge of the affairs of the Topeka Investment company, one of the concerns whose existence was squeezed out in the Kansas boom.

He managed his affairs satisfactorily and upon its ruins erected another company which he called the Accounting Trust company.

The star of the young financier was in the ascendancy and when he organized his company in 1894 he had no trouble in drawing to him some of the most substantial citizens of Topeka.

Among the early directors of the company were Edward Wilder, C. S. Gledhill, E. P. Ware, P. I. Bonebrake and E. B. Merriam.

Men stood ready to do his bidding and the prospect was bright indeed. The company had a nominal capital of \$50,000 but Mr. Popenoe was the one dominant force in the organization.

What he willed was done and the directors simply lent the influence of their names to help him in his plans.

They stood as sponsors for the young man in the business world.

As time passed some of these men thought that the president of the company was too daring or reckless and the directory was revised.

The report made to the secretary of state last June showed the following as



F. O. Popenoe, Topeka Financier Now in Costa Rica.

directors of the Accounting Trust company: F. O. Popenoe, president, Topeka, Kansas; C. L. Holman, treasurer, Topeka, Kansas; R. Barrett, secretary, Topeka, Kansas.

E. Wilder, Topeka, Kansas; D. B. King, Plymouth, Ohio.

Occasionally there was a transaction which filtered through to the public which would not bear the close scrutiny of business men but the people at large did not dream that the institution and its head did not stand on the most secure foundation.

BUILDS A COUNTRY RESIDENCE. Two years ago Mr. Popenoe secured the old J. K. Hudson homestead of ten acres in Highland Park.

His father-in-law and benefactor had passed away and left the Popenoe family a large sum of money, estimated at \$40,000.

Mr. Popenoe was now regarded as a man of independent wealth by many though occasionally a veteran in the business world would think that money was as good as ash as the public supposed.

The Hudson home was torn down and Mr. Popenoe began on its site the erection of a magnificent country home. Expense was not considered in the erection of the house.

The interior was finished in mahogany, rusewood and other costly and rare woods, and when it was completed the home was an ideal one.

The rooms were filled with costly furniture and nothing was overlooked that would add to the comfort of those who were to occupy it.

A corps of servants consisting of cooks, butlers and waiters were stalled. Mr. Popenoe settled down with his family to enjoy the comforts of life.

He was an officer of the State Temperance Union and gave freely to the cause of the association.

Ambition was now firmly rooted in the mind of the young man. He had an excellent family, beautiful home and he had parently everything the heart of a man could desire but still he was not satisfied.

BUYS A NEWSPAPER. Mr. Popenoe desired to enter a new domain. He wished to shine in public life and the Topeka morning paper was then laboring under a load of debt.

He offered him the opportunity. He sought and he bought the Daily Capital. He sought and he bought the Daily Capital. He sought and he bought the Daily Capital.

Then came the Sheldon edition, with its phenomenal notoriety and circulation. The name of the Popenoe paper was heard from one end of the country to the other.

The circulation jumped to 100,000, then to 200,000, and did not stop at that. Mr. Popenoe may not have known that the people who subscribed for the paper did not care for the Daily Capital, but they wanted to familiarize themselves with the plans for a new paper.

Mr. Popenoe thought that he would control the paper. Much foreign advertising had been lost because of the Sheldon edition, nearly all the foreign advertising having been denied the use of the Sheldon edition.

Mr. Popenoe set about to win back what had been lost. He had by this time given up the idea of continuing the paper on the Sheldon plan.

For the subscribers for that week had all dropped out, but Mr. Popenoe had a definite plan to make the paper one of the greatest in the west.

Mr. Popenoe bought the paper last May, and on August 1 he assumed personal charge. The profits of the Sheldon edition, which were more than \$20,000, were available, and the young financier saw a bright future ahead in his newspaper career.

for the purchase of the First National bank, and even contracted for the purchase of the bank building to be sold to him. He then went east evidently for the purpose of interesting eastern friends who had money in the scheme, but for some time the sheriff held two warrants against Popenoe for personation property tax.

Mr. Popenoe's parents who are at present residing at the Highland Park place are among the most respected and highly esteemed people of this community.

The same is true of the other relatives by marriage and otherwise, none of whom are in any way directly or indirectly connected with Popenoe's misfortunes.

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chicken ranch for \$1. In December 1900 the 360 lots making up the chicken ranch were mortgaged to R. Merriam for \$3,000.

In April 1898 the home place sold to C. A. Hart was mortgaged to the Burlington Savings bank for \$5,000.

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NEW SULTAN

Arab Rebels Proclaim Mohammed V in Yemen.

He is a Brother of the Present Turkish Ruler.

YOUNG TURKS ACCEPT.

Open Enmity to Abdul Hamid Spreads to the Palace.

Patrols of Constantinople Have Been Doubled.

Mohammedans and Christians Arrested in Large Numbers.

Major Anderson Says the Prospect is Encouraging.

C. B. Merriam Says Means Increase in Property Values.

The importance of the passage of the Santa Fe shop extension proposition at the city election next Tuesday must not be overlooked.

"The Santa Fe shop proposition looks very encouraging," said Major T. J. Anderson this morning.

The real estate men of the city, who will be sure to make a great deal of business if the proposition is carried, are unanimous in the opinion that the question at stake will decide the future of the property values of the city.

It is also evident that there will be a considerable movement of properties. George B. Taylor, of the firm of Payne & Thompson, said this morning:

"There will be a steady movement of real estate if the bonds are voted. Property values in the basement of the firm's building, deal of building. People are holding off until after the election before making purchases."

"It is a matter of great importance," said Emmett Roubush. "Of course we real estate men are interested in the project as much as any one, but I am in favor of the proposition."

There are no resources in the Accounting Trust company and the only hope of its being able to straighten out his tangled affairs at once he sent the manager of the mining company, R. C. Shaw, to Topeka.

Mr. Shaw arrived in Topeka a little more than a week ago and introduced other trustees to act with him. The three trustees are John R. Mulvane, of the Bank of Topeka, Jesse Shaw and R. C. Shaw.

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"INSIDE NEWS."

Berlin Newspapers Make Public Russian State Secrets.

According to the same authority an ex-attendant named Piratoff, who was enrolled in the army is still increasing and is now earning \$200.

The Tagblatt's St. Petersburg correspondent says the recall of Count Muraviev-Amursky, Russian military attaché at Paris, has been ordered and that the Russian ambassador to France, Prince Ouroussoff, probably will soon be recalled.

China Failed to Sign the Treaty With Russia.

Making Manchuria a Part of the Czar's Empire.

Peking, March 27.—The Chinese had not signed the Manchurian agreement last night when the time expired.

The ministers of the powers do not consider that the murder of Rev. J. Stonehouse of the London Missionary society who was killed by Chinese brigands 14 miles east of Tien Tain recently affects the Chinese situation politically.

Some of the powers are perfectly aware that the country around Shi-Nan is infested with robbers who are naturally hostile to foreigners and would take such an opportunity as in the present case to kill one, Mr. Rockhill, the special commissioner of the United States, says he does not consider it safe for people to travel alone in the country districts and guards can not be supplied to the missionaries.

Consequently those going into the country take considerable risk. The district in which the murder was committed is policed by foreign troops. Therefore, the foreign troops practically looted Shi-Nan of everything worth taking and the people there are indignant against all foreigners.

ORDER NOT TO SIGN. London, March 27.—The officials of the Japanese embassy confirm the report that an imperial decree was issued by the emperor on the 25th inst., ordering that the Manchurian convention should not be signed until the date fixed by Russia, an intimation of this decree was telegraphed to the various governments concerned.

TRAIN IN THE RIVER.

Firemen and Two Passengers Injured on Lackawanna.

Binghamton, N. Y., March 27.—A passenger train on the Utica division of the Lackawanna and Western was wrecked early today a mile and a half east of Norwich.

The train was derailed by a high water which had undermined the tracks and they sagged under the weight of the train, throwing the engine and coaches into the stream.

STORM COMING.

Snow Began Falling at Denver This Morning.

Denver, March 27.—Another heavy snow storm began early this morning. At this hour (9 a. m.) about six inches of snow has fallen and it is still snowing.

Reports coming in from eastern Colorado towns today indicate that the stock losses resulting from the blizzard of Sunday and Monday will not exceed three per cent.

STOLE TRAY OF DIAMONDS.

Young Jewelry Salesman Robs His Employers at K. C.

Kansas City, Mo., March 27.—Twenty-year-old William A. Dearduff, a clerk, has been arrested, charged with stealing \$300 worth of diamond rings from his employers, Edwards & Sloan, wholesale jewelers.

Dearduff broke down and confessed. He was also charged with the theft of a diamond tray containing 100 diamonds worth \$1,000 in gold.

Dearduff said he planned the robbery himself and had taken no one into his confidence. His first idea was simply to steal the tray of diamonds.

He accomplished this, during the afternoon of March 11, and hid the rings in the basement. It then occurred to him that he could not immediately negotiate a sale of the diamonds and the scheme to extort money from Mr. Edwards was conceived.

Dearduff said he did not immediately admit the whole thing, said the youthful prisoner to a reporter at the station after he had signed a written confession by his prosecuting attorney. "No use to deny it any more. I am up against it."

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WARNING UP.

City Election Situation is Becoming Exciting.

Both Sides Claim That They Will Win.

REPUBLICAN FIGURES.

Workers Place Hughes' Majority High Enough.

Fusionists Silent But Hope to Win.

City politics is warming up, but it is getting warm on the quiet. The boss politicians on both sides are doing a lot of figuring and work.

The Democratic committee held a mutual consolation meeting last night and attempted to figure out how they could land their candidate for mayor.

After using up all their lead pencils, they came to the conclusion that they could win if they could get all the Democrats out and persuade the Republicans to stay at home.

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