INQUIRY INTO THE CRAVEN LYNCHING

Coroner's Jury Continues to Hear Evidence Bearing on the Case.

MUCH INTEREST IS SHOWN

Citizens of Loudoun County Accuse Those of Fairfax of Being Most Prominent in Mob—Several Leading Men Mentioned as Participants.

Much interest has been occasioned in Washington and points throughout the South over the investigation in progress at Leesburg, Va., where a coroner's jury is hearing evidence bearing on the lynching of Charles Craven, the supposed negro murderer of William L. Wilson last Thursday.

The fact that the crime was committed in broad daylight, and that none of the mob was masked, was probably the most peculiar circumstance connected with the case.

A thorough inquiry is being made, and the authorities of Loudoun county are determined that the guilty parties shall suffer. The law-abiding citizens of the county feel keenly the blot which has been placed upon the State, and will leave no stone unturned in getting at the bottom of it.

Accuse Others.

Citizens of Loudoun county assert that the men from Fairfax committed the deed, while on the other hand it is asserted that those from the upper county composed the great majority of the mob.

Up to the present time the names of prominent citizens of both counties have been mentioned in connection with the case, and from present indication five or six men will be held by order of the jury.

One or two of these are well-known residents of Leesburg, while others came from Fairfax county and are well known throughout the State. Whether or not the grand jury will return indictments against the men is a question, but the opinion seems to prevail that even though this be done, that no jury will convict them.

There can be no doubt that in both Loudoun and Fairfax counties public sentiment was in favor of dealing out summary punishment to the prisoner, while he was a fugitive. Even after the lynching, too, a majority of the citizens, it might be said, thought that the ends of justice had been best served by the work of the mob. Others, however, doubted the policy of the course, and there were even those who had their doubts as to whether Craven was the right man. In this city, where the case probably has not been followed as closely as by Virginians, there are many who believe Craven innocent of the crime for which he suffered.

No One Saw Deed.

In justice to those responsible for his death, it might be said that while no one saw the deed committed the circumstantial evidence against him was very strong. He had seen Mr. Wilson change money in Herndon two days before the crime, and on Monday, when Mr. Wilson was found murdered, Craven had been noticed about the vicinity.

He had displayed a pistol, with which he said he was going to kill a man, and after the murder he was seen with a pouch of tobacco which had been purchased by Mr. Wilson. That he fled from the mob in another fact pointing to his guilt, although he claimed that this was because he thought they were after him for having held up a boy a week or so before. The fact that he could remember perfectly everything that had happened for a week before his capture, except his movements on Monday, operated against his case.

But with the Loudoun county authorities it is not a case as to whether or not Craven was guilty—it would have been all the same had he been guilty of the most heinous crime on the calendar. They are working on the theory that two crimes do not constitute a right, but that the law should have been permitted to take its course.

Feared Bloodhounds.

The Loudoun couny officials performed their duty the best they could, for they appreciated that the moment a shot was fired that many would have been killed or wounded. In order to secure the negro the mob was compelled to break into the jail, and then only after forcibly taking away the officials guarding the place. The jailer would not turn the keys over to them, and crowbars and sledge hammers had to be used in making an entrance.

Those who have never attended a lynching can hardly realize the scene enacted. As the man was brought from the jail the crowd gave a tremendous shout, women cheering as well as the men. It had been intended to take the man to the vicinity of Herndon, and hang him in view of the place where the crime was committed in Fairfax county.

On the road, however, the public burying ground was reached, and the suggestion that this was a most suitable spot, in view of the fact that the military was expected, appeared to meet with general approval. On the one scrub oak which stands beside the Alexandria turnpike, Craven was lynched. An entrance into the grounds was made through the wire fence, and after the negro had been given an opportunity to make a statement, he was hanged.

Tried a New Way.

In the West, the mob generally inflicts lynch law on a man by standing him on a horse or in a wagon and he is left hanging by driving from under him. It is no unusual thing also to throw a rope about a lamp-post or tree and pull the man up by hauling down the other end of the rope.

But at Leesburg neither mode was tried. While one man climbed the tree, others lifted the negro from the ground so that when the rope was tied he was left dangling several feet above the ground. No one believes that the man met death by strangulation, for hardly had he been left when hundreds of bullets pierced his body. It seems almost miraculous that some one beside the victim was not shot.

POLICEMEN UNDER FIRE.

More Arrests as Result of Camden's Hot Primaries.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3.—By the time the next grand jury of Camden county gets down to work a very large percentage of the population will be ready to go before it as witnesses as a result of the strenuous Republican primaries last Monday night. Added to the murder of John Morrissey, the probably fatal shooting of Joe Goddard and the serious stabbing of Policeman Harry Miller, there have been many complaints of assault and battery growing out of the battles at the polls.

Yesterday Policemen Robert F. Miller and Albert Keaser, of the Third ward, were held in $500 bail each by Justice of the Peace Schmitz on a charge of assault and battery, made by George Murray. The latter was a Vansant worker, and the policemen were Loudenslager followers. This complaint is one of the echoes of the election riot in the Third ward, in which John Morrissey was shot and killed and Policeman Harry Miller was seriously stabbed.

Wright Cox, an ex-member of the fire department, was held in $600 bail by Justice of the Peace Schmitz on a charge of assault and battery, made by Robert H. Colkett, a present member. The trouble was brought about early yesterday morning by some discussion of the results of the primary elections, and Colkett says Cox blackened his eye.

VANDERBILT ENGINE FAST.

Mile Made in 42 Seconds by Experimental Locomotive.

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—There was rejoicing in the office of the New York Central Railroad Company yesterday when it became known that locomotive No. 1,413, built after designs furnished by Cornelius Vanderbilt, had turned out to be a record breaker. The engine belongs to what is commonly called the "Hog" type. Parts of this engine are patented by Mr. Vanderbilt. The firebox is his especial evolution.

The record trip was made Friday night during a run along the Harlem River road. The engine was drawing a train of five heavy passenger cars, Engineer Ross was at the throttle.

The train is known as the Mount Kisco Special. Between Pleasantville and Chappaqua, Engineer Ross pulled the throttle wide open and away dashed the train. A portion of the distance between the two stations was covered at a speed of a mile in forty-two seconds, which is the fastest run ever made on that branch of the Harlem road. There are many curves in the road between stations, but the train sped along at a record-breaking gait. The distance of five miles was covered in four minutes and fifteen seconds.

Engineer Ross said he felt that he could beat this record. With picked coal and a good head of steam the engine driver declared the new Vanderbilt engine would prove the wonder of the century.

When the news of the record breaking trip made with an engine designed by Cornelius Vanderbilt was received at the Grand Central Station it was stated that the report caused no great surprise, since it had been expected that as soon as the new Vanderbilt creation was properly tuned up it would prove a record smasher.

NEW PHASE OF THE JUSTICE QUESTION

Constitutionality of Their Appointment Is in Doubt.

OPIONION OF COMPTROLLER

Cites Circumstances Over Which Grew Out the Discussion—Same Lawyers Contend President Had No Authority to Fill Offices Before January 1.

The protest of the local justices of the peace against having their salaries reduced from $3,000 to $2,000 a year is apt to develop a new phase as to the constitutionality of their appointment to office. The information that they are to receive only $2,000 per annum was conveyed to them in the reply of the Comptroller of the Treasury, to the Commissioners' request for a decision on the matter.

The questions put to the Comptroller by the Commissioners at the request of the Auditor of the District are:

Whether, in view of the act of Congress amending the District code, approved June 30, 1902, there are at present any justices of the peace legally in office in the District of Columbia, and if so, how many;

Who are such justices, and what salary are they entitled to receive for their services as such?

The answer is that there are ten justices of the peace holding office by appointment under the code, and their salary shall be $2,000 a year, in accordance with the amendment to the code of June 30 last.

Anxious About Salary.

This decision puzzled the incumbents, because they cannot figure out why they are to receive only $2,000 a year salary, since the act under which they were appointed specifies that they should receive $3,000 per annum. It is true, they say, that the amendment to the organic act under which they were appointed provides that the salaries of the justices of the peace, at some uncertain time and under some certain conditions, shall be $2,000 a year.

The amendment cannot, however, they contend, be so construed as to regulate the salaries of the justices of the peace appointed under the organic act of the code. It is pointed out as a matter of fact that in the amendment which provides for a salary of $2,000 for justices of the peace, in no way, nor on any terms, nor by any construction of the language, does it appear to refer to the ten justices of the peace appointed in December 1 last.

Reading of the language of the amendment plainly indicates that when by either death or removal from office the present number of justices is reduced to six, then their salaries shall be $2,000 a year. The fact that Congress made no appopriation for the payment of their salaries at the rate of $3,000, the justices contend, does not effect the matter.

Proposition Answered.

The proposition is answered by them with the question, "Does the failure of Congress to make an appropriation sufficient to meet a certain condition, act as a repeal of the original act, by inference, without any reference whatever being made to it?" The amendment which states that when the number of justices shall be reduced to six their salaries shall be $2,000 a year, does not even by inference, imply that the salary of the present incumbents, ten, shall not be $3,000 as stated in the act providing for their appointment. In fact the amendment makes no reference to the present officers either by number or by the amount of salary they receive.

So it appears that with the justices of the peace protesting against the operations of the amendment in reducing their salaries and members of the bar questioning their right to hold office and to exercise the powers of it, on the ground of the unconstitutionality of their appointment, the whole matter will be productive of an interesting legal battle.

The question put to the Comptroller is plain and unequivocal: Are there at present any justices of the peace legally in office in the District, and if so, how many?

To this he replies: "While your communication does not question the validity of the appointment of the ten persons now at least de facto holding the offices of justices of the peace * * *" He then goes on to say: "The doubt as to the validity of their original appointments grew out of the following facts." He then goes on to cite the circumstances.

Legality of Appointment.

In making reply as to the legality of the appointment of the ten justices of the peace by the President, in December last, the strongest argument put forth by the Comptroller is the decision in the case of the State against Irwin, 5 Nev., III:

"A prospective appointment to fill an anticipated vacancy in a public office made by the person or body which, as then constituted, is empowered to fill the vacancy when it arises, is, in the absence of law prohibiting it, a legal appointment, and vests title to the office in the appointee."

This decision, it is contended by some members of the bar, is not applicable to the point at issue, because there were no anticipated vacancies. It is argued if there was one anticipated vacancy there were also ten anticipated vacancies. If that were true the President had a perfect right and the power to name ten persons to fill the anticipated vacancies.

At the time he made the ten appointments there were fifteen justices of the peace, and it is claimed that he has not the power to abolish the offices of five justices, simply by anticipating the appointment of only ten.

It is not contended by those who question the legality of the appointment of the justices of the peace that the President has not the power to make an appointment in anticipation of a vacancy in an office, which has been created by law, and is filled by an appointment under the act establishing it. That, however, it is argued, is not the case in point.

Present Contention.

In the present instance, it is contended that the offices for which the President made the appointments are new creations of the code, and were not filled, and consequently there could be no vacancies to be provided for under the law. The law creating the ten offices of justices of the peace became operative on January 1, 1902, and was not simply a re-enactment of the old law relating to justices of the peace, with an amendment reducing the number from fifteen to ten. The act of January 1 last is new in many important features.

It not only changes the number of justices, but changes their powers, increasing some and lessening others; fixes their salaries, abolishes the office of constable, and provides for the service of deputy United States marshals in their stead, and other changes.

Under all these circumstances, it is contended by some lawyers that the President had no power before January 1 last to fill the ten offices created by the code.

WEEK MAY SETTLE COURSE OF STRIKE

(Continued from First Page.)

to him to say that all his acts have tended to carry conviction of his sincerity in this respect.

But there is a limit to his ability to control those under him. There are subordinate leaders and agitators who know that there may be an unpleasant day of reckoning for them when the end comes. Some of these men are capable of resorting to desperate measures. It is from the mthat it is feared the trouble may come.

There will be at least two danger ger points near here tomorrow. One is at Duryea, where the Warnke washery, which has been prevented by mobs from working for several days back, is to be opened under a guard of deputies furnished by the sheriff.

Another Danger Point.

The other is at Edwardsville, where an attempt is to be made to open the woodward colliery of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company.

Duryea has been a storm center of violence from the start, and it is feared that there may be serious trouble at Duryea tomorrow morning, when the men go to work. At Scranton, too, there is more or less danger of disturbance. The collieries that are open there, the Oxford and Cayuga, will resume work tomorrow morning. There are rumors that others are to be started. It is promised that within a few days coal from the Scranton district will be put upon the New York market.

Bass Dislocated Woman's Shoulder.

SCRANTON, Pa., Aug. 3.—Mrs. J. W. Lee, of this city, one of a fishing party at Lake Como, Wayne county, dislocated her shoulder in landing a big bass.

UNDERGROUND WATERS OF KINGS RIVER DELTA

Remarkable Rise in Level Through Irrigation.

CLOSE TO THE SURFACE

Abundance Taken Advantage of by Inhabitants of Region — Many Wells Sunk—Used for Domestic Purposes, Stock, and Supplying Cities.

One of the interesting developments which of late years have been attracting considerable attention in connection with irrigation is the change in the underground water level of irrigated districts.

Within the last few months the United States Geological Survey has issued, in its series of water supply and irrigation papers, a report by J. B. Lippincott, resident hydrographer of the Survey for California, on the water storage possibilities on Kings River, which contains interesting information regarding the underground water conditions found in the irrigated portion of the Kings River Valley near Fresno.

Water But Little Below Surface.

The height of the ground water, or the "water table," is the distance beneath the surface at which the soil is found to be saturated with moisture. In the Fresno district the striking fact has developed that, while previous to the practice of irrigation there in 1879 the water table stood at sixty feet below the surface, at the present time it is found at from ten to fifteen feet, and in places even from four to six feet.

So high has the water risen in certain sections that some of the cellars near Fresno were flooded and had to be abandoned, and the ground water at present stands so near the surface that roots of alfalfa, vines, and trees readily penetrate to it and soils are kept continually moist. Surface wetting has become unnecessary in many sections.

Immense Amount Used in Irrigation.

This condition of saturation represents the use of an immense amount of water in irrigation. The total quantity of water brought to the vicinity of Fresno, as indicated by the report, during the seventeen years, between 1879 and 1896, would, at a very low estimate, have covered the 50,000 acres, to whose surface water is applied in irrigation, to an average depth of four and one-half feet per annum, or to a total depth of seventy-five feet.

Some of this water has, of course, been consumed in sustaining plant life; more has been evaporated; but the most of it still permeates the subsoils of the irrigated region and of the adjoining lands.

Abundance Taken Advantage Of.

The abundance of underground water has been widely taken advantage of by the inhabitants of the region, and over 850 wells have been sunk, whose individual capacity varies from a small discharge to over a million gallons. These wells are used largely for domestic purposes and for stock, but they are also employed for irrigation, street sprinkling, and city supply.

One of the largest pumping plants draws water from a well 600 feet deep, driven in a city lot 50x150 feet, for the supply of a city of 12,000 inhabitants.

ALEXANDRIA ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Light Infantry in Doubt Over Westmoreland Trip.

Not Believed That They Will Be Ordered Out to Act as Guard for Homer.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Aug. 3.—If the plans of the Westmereland county authorities are not changed, John Homer, the eighteen-year-old negro, who is now confined in the jail here on the charge of attempting to criminally assault Miss Susie Costenbader, daughter of Mr. Robert Costenbader, of Potomac Mills, Westmoreland county, will be taken to Montross tomorrow afternoon by steamer, and the grand jury at that place will investigate his case and return an indictment on the same day. So far as can be learned here the death of Miss Costenbader will not cause a postponement.

The members of the Alexandria Light Infantry, since their return from Ocean View, have been expecting to be ordered to go to Westmoreland county as guard to the prisoner to prevent any attempt at mob violence. Up to a late hour to night, however, they have not received any such orders.

If the reports that reached here today be true, the Alexandria company will not be called. It is reported that Company L, of the Seventieth Virginia Volunteers, known as the Washington Guards, under command of Capt. M. B. Rowe, have received orders from Adjutant General Nalle to be in readiness to escort Homer to Westmoreland.

The local company will not be needed under these conditions, unless it is decided to send another company, and this is hardly probable. The Fredericksburg company was detailed to accompany Sheriff Sanday to Westmoreland last Monday, with the prisoner, but the plans were changed by the postponement of the preliminary hearing.

A free-for-all fight occurred shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon at the northeast corner of Pitt and Gibbon Streets. No one was seriously injured. A crowd soon gathered around the participants. In the meantime Lieutenant Smith and Policemen Ticer, Sherwood, Arrington, Housin, and Beach arrived on the scene and took in custody Charles Speakes, James Phillips, George Phillips, Herbert Phillips, George Craven, and Harrie Baker, the latter colored. They will have to face the charge of disorderly conduct and fighting tomorrow morning. Warrants have been issued for several others. The fight will be investigated in the police court in the morning.

The residents on Fayette Street, along the tracks of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, are loud in their complaint of the obnoxious smell that arises from the cars carrying garbage from Washington that pass over that road every day for Cherry Hill, about fourteen miles below here. The cars are said to be airtight, but, notwithstanding this, the smell arising from them as they pass through the city is horrible. The police have been directed to investigate the case.

The four memorial windows to be placed in St. Mary's Catholic Church have arrived and will shortly be placed in position. They are fine specimens of workmanship. One is a St. Patrick memorial of the Alexandria division of Hibernians, and the others are memorials of the late John T. Hill, Dennis Buttermore, and Mrs. Thomas Scott.

Rev. Frank J. Brooke, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, will leave for Loundoun county tomorrow and will return in time to preach in his church Sunday, August 10. He will then go to the Valley of Virginia, where he will spend his vacation until about September 12.

Rev. Dr. James I. Vance, formerly pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, but now pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, of Newark, N. J., preached tonight in the Second Presbyterian Church. During his stay here he was the guest of Mrs. C. C. Smoot.

After the meeting of the Potomac Baptist Association, which will be held at an early date, Rev. George L. Hunt, pastor of the First Baptist Church, who will deliver his annual sermon at the meeting, will leave for his annual vacation of about one month, which he will spend on the New England sea coast.

Mr. George Ayers, who keeps a locksmith shop on King Street, has reported to the police that on August 2 two pistols were stolen from his place of business. One was a .32-calliber Smith & Wesson, nickel plated, double action No. 82,297, and the other was a .32-caliber Smith & Wesson double action, blue hammer. No number is given for the last-named pistol. The police are investigating the theft.

Mr. Henry Phillips has reported to the police that between last Thursday and yesterday some one entered his stable on South Columbus Street, between Prince and Duke Streets, and stole therefrom a pair of rubber boots and a horse clipper.

EVOLUTION OF THE SEWING MACHINE

Brought Into Use More Than Fifty Years Ago.

INVENTION OF MR. HOWE

Hard Work of Mechanic to Get Funds to Perfect It—Mr. Singer Makes Improvement—Work of All Kinds Now Done Better Than by Hand.

"It was a little over fifty years ago that Elias Howe, jr., patented his first sewing machine, which event marks the actual beginning of the industry in the United States," says Mr. S. N. D. North, chief statistician for manufactures of the Census Bureau, in a recent edition of the Census Bulletin on Manufactures. "Previous efforts for stitching cloth and other materials had either resulted in failure or met with but temporary success.

"At this time the sewing machine was still in the experimental age," continues Mr. North, "and it was not until several years later that its manufacture became an established industry. After that its growth was rapid, and owing to the untiring energy and the ability of the inventors who applied themselves to the work of perfecting the sewing machine, it has attained in a few years a very important place among the industries of the country, and has come to be regarded as almost a household necessity.

Howe's Invention.

"Howe's invention combined the eye-pointed needle with the shuttle for forming the stitch and the intermittent feed for carrying the material forward as each stitch was formed. The device for thus feeding the cloth consisted of a thin strip of metal provided with a row of pins on one edge, upon which the material to be sewed was carried in a vertical position. The cloth was fed the length of the plate, and had to be rehung as often as the plate had traversed its full length on the machine. The curved, eye-pointed needle used was carried on the end of a vibrating lever, which also carried the upper thread.

"The shuttle, which passed the lower thread between the needle and the upper thread, was driven in its race between two strikers, carried on the end of vibrating arms worked by cams. It is not known that any of Howe's machines were ever put upon the market. In his application for renewal of patent he only claims to have built three machines, and one of these was deposited as a model in the United States Patent Office.

"Not meeting with any success in securing capital in this country with which to forward his plans, Mr. Howe was compelled to dispose of his patent, and with the proceeds went to England, where his rights to a patent had been sold to a corset manufacturer for about one thousand dollars.

Worked for Small Salary.

"Mr. Howe engaged to work for this manufacturer at a small salary, while perfecting the machine, and adapting it to the manufacture of corsets. Failing in this, he returned to the United States in extreme poverty, and upon his arrival at Boston, found that sewing machines infringing on his patents had been manufactured. He succeeded in securing a half interest that had been conveyed to his father before his departure for England, and commenced suits in the Boston and New York courts to enforce his rights. In the long and bitterly contested legal controversy which ensued, Mr. Howe succeeded in establishing his claims, after which manufacturers using his patents were compelled by the inventor to pay the exorbitant bounty of $25 for each machine manufactured.

Mr. Singer's Invention.

"In September, 1850, Isaac M. Singer, a mechanic, of New York, who had become interested in sewing machine experiments, and was familiar with one of the machines then on the market, constructed a machine from a design of his own, which was a great improvement, in many ways, over previous machines. This was the first machine which had the rigid overhanging arm to guide the vertical needle, in combination with a shuttle, and what was called a wheel feed.

How They Improved.

"The sewing machines manufactured prior to the Singer, and many of them long after, used the vibrating arm for imparting motion to the needle. This result was accomplished either by means of the vibratory arm actuating a needle bar carrying a straight needle, or by means of the vibratory arm and curved needle.

"It is obvious that sewing machines constructed on either of these principles could not be enlarged or decreased in size without destroying their effectiveness; on the one hand the lengthening of the arm would naturally increase both the power required to operate it, and its liability to spring, and thus affect the proper action of the needle; on the other hand, decreasing the size of the arm would necessarily increase the curve of the needle and contract the space for turning and handling the work. Singer's arrangement of the rigid overhanging arm made it practicable to enlarge the machine to any desired extent, and added great solidity and strength to the machine, thus making it available either for doing the heaviest kinds of work or for sewing the lightest fabrics. The general style of the original Singer machine has been universally copied, and serves as a model for most of the machines now manufactured.

Adapted to Various Usages.

"The work of adapting the sewing machine to the various kinds of stitching required in the variety of manufacturing and mechanical industries to which it has been applied, was early taken up by Isaac M. Singer, Allen B. Wilson, and others, and has been successfully continued by later inventors.

"Machines for stitching with waxed thread have been perfected for use in the factory manufacture of boots and shoes, as well as in the manufacture of saddlery and harness and various other articles of leather. Heavy power machines are used in the manufacture of awnings, tents, sails, canvas belts, and articles of a like nature. Specially constructed machines for stitching gloves, and others for sewing the seams of carpets, sewing the ends of filled bags, stitching brooms, embroidering, and doing various other work, are produced by the leading sewing machine manufacturers. Machines for working buttonholes and sewing on buttons have been made very effective in their operation, and produce a quality of work equal to the hand product at a greatly increased rate of speed."

Burglar Shoots Watchman.

LEWISBURG, Pa., Aug. 3.—The residence in this place of J. Thompson Baker, who, with his family, is in Europe, was broken into by burglars and a number of trunks and bureaus ransacked. Charles Miller, watchman at the East Lewisburg planing mill of the D. M. Nesbitt Company, heard a burglar in the office about 1 o'clock yesterday morning, and, approaching, was shot in the arm. The wound is not serious.

DARK HORSE MAY LAND THE COMMISSIONERSHIP

(Continued from First Page.)

plum. They are putting up a strong fight, and are bringing valuable influence to bear in his behalf.

Mr. Shoemaker's Statement.

Mr. Louis P. Shoemaker, who is being favorably considered for the Commissionership, yesterday made the following statement concerning his candidacy:

"My name has recently been advanced by friends for the lamentable vacancy on our Board of Commissioners. I entertain a very high appreciation of this evidence of regard and confidence on the part of many of our people.

"I have, however, told every friend who has approached me upon this subject, that my situation was such as to cause me to feel that I ought not to accept the position if I could obtain it.

"It is now reported in the papers that a delegation is about to call upon the President in my behalf. This is being done, if at all, without conference with me.

"I am deeply interested in the general welfare of Washington. I fully realize the serious and helpless situation in which our people are involved. I feel that it is caused to a very great extent by an ill-advised increase of taxation and in violation of well established principles in force elsewhere.

"I regard the present as a critical period in the history of the District, because of the burden of dealing with the New and Greater Washington is upon us. I have been, therefore, disposed, and, indeed, I have tried in the past and I am willing to exert my efforts in the future as a citizen and taxpayer to seek the accomplishment of the best results in behalf of the entire District. I am not, however, entering, nor do I ever expect to enter, into a personal contest for public office. There are men more than qualified to fill the vacant Commissionership at this critical period other than those mentioned. Either Samuel L. Phillips or Gen. John M. Wilson, retired, would, if they could be secured, advance the District of Columbia materially and adorn the office by their personality and capability.

"LOUIS P. SHOEMAKER."

CRUSADE PROBABLE AGAINST GAMBLERS

Alexandria County Grand Jury to Conduct Investigation.

THE JACKSON CITY FIRE

Outcome of Hearing Before Grand Jury —Many Witnesses Admit Connection With Alleged Games of Chance in Effort to Help Accused.

As a result of the burning of the gambling resorts at Jackson City on the night of July 14, a crusade is about to be started by the Alexandria county authorities which will bring to justice all those engaged in the practice. It has been generally known that for years faro, roulette, and like games have flourished each night both at Jackson City and Rosslyn, while during the day policy has engrossed the attention of the lawbreakers.

Startling revelations were brought to light at the hearing before Judge J. M. Love of John C. Nelson's application for bail, at the county courthouse, at Fort Myer Heights, on Monday and Tuesday of last week. No denial was made of the fact that the row of buildings destroyed were built solely for the purpose of gambling, and every witness who went on the stand admitted either being interested in the business or having visited the place for the purpose of playing cards or betting on the games.

During the hearing attorneys for the defense devoted themselves almost exclusively to showing the nature of the business conducted in the buildings burned. This was not for the purpose of assisting in any proceedings which might be brought in the future against Frank Foster and Charles E. Sanderson, who are complainants against Nelson and John Tighe.

Nelson and Tighe Interested.

They showed also that both Nelson and Tighe were interested in the business. Their aim was to show that not one of the buildings was used as a dwelling house, as setting fire to a dwelling is punishable by death, while ordinary arson is only a penitentiary offense.

At the meeting of the special grand jury on Friday last, when ten true bills charging arson were found against Nelson and Tighe, the jurors heard the same testimony given in the early part of the week, and the accused men were also afforded an opportunity to make statements. All of the witnesses stated that gambling was conducted at Jackson City, and they did not hesitate to mention the names of those backing the games.

Consulted Judge Love.

Prior to returning the indictments, the foreman of the grand jury had a conference with Judge Love and it was decided that some action should be taken to crush out the gambling games. Considerable evidence was secured against the former proprietors of the Jackson City resorts, and it is understood that since that time officials of the county have been investigating other places in the county.

Judge Love, instead of dismissing the grand jury when the indictments were returned against Nelson and Tighe, continued the body until Tuesday, at which time, it is understood, indictments will

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