

GRAHAM'S LETTER WAS ADMITTED TO REVEAL HIS "STATE OF MIND"

Prosecution in Case of Alleged Embezzlement and Larceny Against Former State Auditor Objected Strongly to Admission of the Letter.

CHECK FOR \$11,105.07 WITH THE LETTER

Ex-Gov. Graham Was on the Stand Yesterday Afternoon in His Own Defense—State Treasurer Scott Was Again Examined, This Time Regarding Refunds to State.

State Treasurer W. F. Scott was returned to the witness stand in Washington county court today to testify about a letter he received at the time a \$11,105.07 check was paid, the letter having been signed by H. F. Graham, Treasurer Scott followed Ex-Gov. Graham, who started his testimony yesterday afternoon in defense against the charges of embezzlement and larceny of state funds while he was auditor.

The state objected to the admission of the evidence. Judge Butler, however, admitted it and quoted the authorities. The court said he was at first in doubt about admitting evidence that pertained to a period prior to the date the defendant was suspected; but he came to the conclusion the ruling was proper.

The letter was admitted to show the state of mind of the defendant at the time the check was cashed. It was read by Mr. Stickney. Mr. Scott identified the check for \$11,105.07 as that mentioned in the letter.

The letter stated that the check was to cover the balance of all orders from July 1, 1914, not heretofore returned or vouchered for. The letter said he purposely refrained from paying the \$11,000 amount called to his attention by Mr. Gates. The first four years of his office were not covered, as he considered a very high check had been made by the inspector of finance and the legislative committee.

Regarding payments by Gov. Graham, witness said a refund of \$1,600 was made May 4, 1918, which was composed of \$140 in cash and a check for \$1,460, the National bank of New York, on May 16, 1918, \$3,580, a check of the treasurer of the Bankers Trust Co. of New York and endorsed by Mr. Graham; June 3, 1918, \$3,000, for \$1,200 on account of highways and \$1,800 on account of highway work; June 21, 1918, \$27,541, personal check of E. H. Devitt on the Capital Savings Bank & Trust Co.; Nov. 4, 1918, \$11,105.07, check of E. H. Devitt, special, with the Capital Savings bank, certified before presentation.

Being cross examined by Mr. Archibald, attorney general, the witness, Scott, said the certification on the \$11,000 check was made on Nov. 6, 1918.

"More than two months after the check was drawn?"

State Treasurer Scott was asked if he knew who dictated the words, "referred auditor of accounts," on the receipts. He said he had no personal knowledge, but thought it was placed there by Mr. Gates. He had no personal knowledge who wrote these words on any of the receipts, as he was not present in the office. He had no information on the amount of the overdrafts in the auditor's office. He did not know that he was ever informed that Mr. Devitt was Mr. Graham's attorney. He might have inferred it. He understood he was representing the respondent when the letter was presented. About Aug. 24, 1918, he received a communication from Bank Commissioner Williams, stating the amount claimed to be due from Mr. Graham. He did not think it was as early as March when he had information about this.

Mr. Graham Called.

Gov. Graham resumed his testimony at 11 o'clock, at the close of the forenoon recess. He testified he had an account in the National Bank of New York, made up of the state orders and other moneys as deposits. He drew on this account for notes and notes held by the Lamont County Savings bank, one being to pay a note of \$2,150 signed by Graham & Skinner, himself, his mother, and Augustus Padlock.

When he left the office he told Mr. Gates that his account as auditor was not settled; did not tell how it would be settled. Had not made payment before May 4 because the legislature was in session and he "had his hands full"; after that war was declared and he "did not have a moment's time." As soon as he did, he attended to this.

Mr. Graham testified he paid \$1,000, \$400, \$3,000 and \$2,500. He had funds in the treasurer's office. It was in an envelope which he gave to Mr. Cave, about \$2,500 to \$4,000. Relative to \$1,200 he explained that Mr. Cave advanced \$6,000 to the highway account and drew against it. Finally Mr. Bates took care of the advance, and Mr. Graham, thinking that another advance, drew an order, and it ended in a drawer and was left there until he moved it to the governor's office and then later

placed it in the treasurer's office until it was paid into the treasury.

Mr. Graham testified to a talk with Mr. Gates at Vergennes, telling him then he had paid some money into the treasury. He testified he had a talk with Mr. Gates in his office. This was after he had asked Mr. Devitt to check up the accounts. This was after some of the money was paid in.

Relative to the highway in Greensboro, he testified to conversation between C. W. Gates and himself over the building of the road. "He arranged with me to advance the money to finance it," said Mr. Graham. The witness then testified to the bookkeeping and the account being kept only on the highway department. He did not know how the advances stood at all times. He made advances by check and orders.

He testified to a statement prepared by Mr. Wallace which was introduced to show that at the time he drew the \$1,800 order he had sufficient balance to draw the order, supposing there was a balance of \$2,600 to draw against. He afterward found out this was wrong, and there was an overdraft. He returned the money to the state treasury as a part of the \$3,000 paid to the treasurer. He showed a receipt covering that amount and made the payment as soon as he could after he found out about it. There would be no voucher in the auditor's office.

Graham Explained Office Methods.

On going on the stand yesterday afternoon Ex-Gov. Graham explained the methods of the office during the time he served as auditor, stating that there was no change in general methods but the system had grown as the work increased after the voucher system was adopted. At first it was simple.

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TALKING WITH PLANETS NOT RIDICULOUS

It Is Possible to Send Messages from Earth to Other Members of Sun's Families, Says Italian Professor.

Rome, Jan. 29.—Inter-planetary communication, as suggested by mysterious waves recently caught by wireless plants throughout the world, is not a subject for ridicule, says Professor Domenico Argenti, the widely known scientist. He asserts it is possible to send messages from the earth to other members of the sun's family because they will convey electric waves as readily as air.

"These mysterious communications," he said today, "make one think of spiritualistic phenomena, which have been commonly believed to be due merely to natural forces. Because of the regularity with which they have been observed, however, scientists have concluded that they are not mechanical, but to intelligent force."

An Opposite View.

Florence, Thursday, Jan. 29.—Father Alfani, director of the Nimenan observatory, said today that he was subject to rumors relative to inter-change of messages between planets was "absolutely scandalous."

"What has been observed at wireless stations at London and New York," he declared, "has been caused by atmospheric discharges, which have always interfered with radio communication."

He added that William Marconi, inventor of the wireless telegraph system, should "sue for libel" the man who interviewed him recently and quoted him as believing that faint signals picked up by wireless stations might come from some source outside the earth.

3 BODIES REPORTED; POLICE FOUND BUT 2

Theory Is That One of the Men First Discovered Near Cleveland Recovered Sufficiently So That He Crawled Away.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 30.—Search was made today for the slayer of two men, whose bodies were found in a lonely spot in Pearl road, in the outskirts of the city, early this morning. First reports from a passerby who discovered the bodies said there were three, but the police found only two. The theory was advanced that the third man was unconscious and recovered sufficiently to crawl away. It is thought the murders were committed in the city and the men taken to the spot in an automobile.

Letters found in the clothing apparently identified the men as Sylvester T. Russo, a designer, and Michael Velazco, both of Buffalo, N. Y.

ORDER TO DISBAND ARMY

Said to Have Been Issued to Northwest Russian Force.

London, Jan. 30.—A Moscow wireless message reports that an order has been issued for the disbanding of the north-west Russian army. A Kharkov message says that the first Astrakhan Cosack regiment has surrendered completely to the bolsheviks.

There is no intention, according to this information, of evacuating Moscow, where the reported outbreak of plague is denied, as well as the rumored revolt of the Reds.

Speculation in Foreign Exchange Is Barred.

Brussels, Jan. 30.—Speculation in foreign exchange will be punished by severe penalties under a royal decree which will be issued soon, according to the Belgian independence.

STEAMER BROKE IN TWO AND SANK

Captain and 22 Men of the American Steamer Mielero Are Missing

BOAT WITH 18 MEN WAS PICKED UP

The Mielero Was Bound from Cuba to Philadelphia When Lost

New York, Jan. 30.—The American bank steamer Mielero from Matanzas, Cuba, Jan. 23, for Philadelphia, broke in two and sank at sea, according to a wireless message received here today by the naval communication service. One boat with the chief officers and 17 men has been picked up by the steamer Ozette and another boat with the captain and 22 men is still missing.

The loss of the tanker was reported by the steamer Ozette by wireless, relayed through the U. S. S. Clemon. The position given by the Ozette indicated that she picked up the men approximately 150 miles east of Savannah, Ga. The message said:

"Picked up lifeboat, containing chief officer, third mate, four engineers and 12 members of crew of tank steamer Mielero, which broke in two on Jan. 28 and sank. Captain's boat with 22 men still adrift. Heavy northeast sea moderating."

The message was dated at 1:30 a. m. today.

BOLSHEVIK ADVANCE IS MADE SLOWER

Difficulties of Supply Have Stopped the Advance Along Trans-Siberian Railroad.

London, Thursday, Jan. 29.—Difficulties of supply have probably stopped the advance of the bolsheviks along the Trans-Siberian railroad west of Irkutsk, according to advices to the war office. All resistance to the soviet army seems to have disappeared. Bolshevik detachments are reported to have reached the Chinese frontier southeast of Irkutsk.

Armored trains under the command of General Semenov bombarded Irkutsk on Dec. 30, at which time the city was practically in possession of the insurgents. Then Semenov troops attacked and captured the railway station, but were later forced to retire. The allied missions were in the station but were unable to induce Semenov's men to postpone their attack, although they violated the agreement that the railroad should be considered neutral territory. Frequent breakages in the line prevented the departure of the missions for some days, but they were assured of their safety by the ultimate arrival of a Japanese battalion which occupied the station.

Representatives of Admiral Kolchak's government asked on Jan. 2, that allied officers mediate with the insurgents in an effort to secure an armistice of 36 hours. This was done by members of the mission. In the meantime, virtually all of Kolchak's troops joined the insurgents, and when the allied representatives left Irkutsk on Jan. 5, it was evident the government's cause was lost.

Latest reports seem to show that relations between the new government and the Czech-Slovaks have become worse and that bolshevism appears to be gaining ground. Encounters between Semenov's troops and Czech detachments are reported and it is stated Admiral Kolchak and his staff have been in prison at Irkutsk.

In south Russia the bolsheviks have resumed their advance against General Denikin. On the western half of the front the main effort of the soviet troops appears to be directed southward against Crimea, and southwestward against the Kherson-Nikolaiev-Odessa area.

On the eastern half of the front the threatening red advance along the western shores of the Caspian sea has been checked and thrown back; but in the Don region the anti-bolsheviks are maintaining their positions. All reports concur in saying the Russian retreat is being carried out in an orderly manner and that the soviet cavalry is gaining ground only step by step and is being severely. The fighting spirit of General Denikin's men has revived, it is said.

In western Russia, the Lettish advance along a ninety-mile front has attained a maximum penetration of about 45 miles. Difficulties between Poland and Lithuania continue and threaten to become acute, owing to acts of aggression by partisan detachments. Allied representatives are trying to mediate there.

ODESSA CAPTURED

Big Victory Is Said to Have Been Won by Gen. Pavlenko, According to Ukrainian Press Service.

Vienna, Thursday, Jan. 29.—The capture of Odessa by Ukrainian forces commanded by General Pavlenko is announced by the Ukrainian press service.

STRIKE DRIVES SHIPS AWAY

Boston Port Business Hit by the Freight Handlers' Action

UNION SENDS WORD TO OTHER PORTS

Telling Workmen There to Look Out for the Diverted Ships

Boston, Jan. 30.—Diversion to other ports of steamships bound here was begun today because of a strike of 1200 freight handlers. With dock space scanty and wharves piled high with accumulating freight, the shipping board steamer National Bridge was ordered by wireless to bring her cargo from Chilean ports to New York instead of this port. Fifteen other vessels are due within a few days and, if settlement of the strike is not in sight, most of them probably will be similarly diverted.

A few vessels are loading or unloading at the piers of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad which is not affected by the strike, and on other vessels the work is being finished by the crews, but several are anchored in the harbor or tied up at docks because of the strike. Costs of the delay exceed \$1,000 daily with some of these vessels, and agents said they would be held there only a day or two longer, after which, unless work was resumed, they would be sent elsewhere.

The freight handlers' union countered the diversion of vessels with a message to affiliated freight handlers and longshoremen's unions in New York, Baltimore and other ports, announcing "strike on in Boston; look out for diverted ships." Members of the union who struck while receiving 43 cents an hour took temporary jobs as snow shovelers at rates of 60 and 90 cents an hour, and leaders said that as long as there was snow on the ground the strike would be without cost to the union.

Efforts of the Boston and Maine railroad to recruit men to fill the places of the strikers failed and the Boston and Albany, the only other railroad affected, announced that it would make no attempt to hire strikebreakers.

Reports that the effect was the embargo on less than half of the tonnage of freight were beginning to be felt elsewhere in New England as well as at the rail terminals here, came today from several cities. Efforts were made by shippers to pool their consignments and load the cars themselves.

Railroad officials of the future said the strike settlement of the trouble could come only from Washington, where the demands of the freight handlers' demands will be made by Director General Hines not later than Feb. 4, according to a letter to-day from J. C. Coyne, general president of the Brotherhood of Railway Station Employees. Mr. Coyne said he had been in conference with Mr. Hines. The director general, he said, extended thanks to the freight handlers on the New Haven system, for remaining at work.

FRANCE WILL RETIRE SOME OF ITS PAPERS

That Will Be the Essential Feature of New French Loan—Would Improve Financial Situation of France.

Paris, Jan. 30.—An important part of the proceeds of the new French loan will be applied to the retirement of paper in circulation. This will be one of the essential features of the loan, which is to improve the financial situation of France, the Associated Press is able to say.

Whether the new cabinet will favor an international financial conference to solve the question of exchange and other urgent financial difficulties has not as yet developed. Information is received from the best sources that the government had not intended to count upon such resources, but intends to take other prompt and energetic measures. The reduction of the formidable sum of paper money in circulation is considered a most necessary step, and as large a part as possible of the funds available from the new loan will be applied to this purpose. The amount of bank bills to be retired will depend upon the budget and, if necessary, rigid upon the side of the loan of the government.

Radical increases in taxation to balance the budget and the depreciation of the franc are other measures which have been decided upon.

NOT IN IRISH PARTY.

William Adamson Denies Affiliation With Organization.

London, Thursday, Jan. 29 (via Ottawa).—Reputation of any connection with the Irish Nationalist party marked an address by William Adamson, head of the parliamentary labor delegation, which has been visiting Ireland, during a meeting at Belfast on Wednesday, according to advices. Mr. Adamson made his statement in reply to questions by a delegation representing the principal trades unions of that city.

Mr. Adamson, on behalf of the delegates, subsequently issued a statement that whatever solution of the Irish problem might be proposed by the Irish Labor party as a whole, not merely that of its parliamentary members. The delegates' report will probably be issued within a fortnight.

Some critics assert that the delegation's visit to Ireland was promised because the Labor party was convinced it was imperative that the Irish question must be definitely settled in some way before the party attempts to form a ministry.

WELL-KNOWN RAILROAD MAN.

H. M. Mudge, Formerly of the Santa Fe Line, Died in Denver.

Denver, Col., Jan. 30.—H. M. Mudge, former general manager of the Atchafalaya, Tropic and Santa Fe railway, and one of the best known railroad men in the country, died here today.

FARMERS DISSATISFIED: PRICES WILL BE HIGHER

Washington, D. C., Jan. 30.—Decreased farm production next year and a consequent increase in the cost of living, due to dissatisfaction of farmers, was predicted before the Senate post-office committee today by James I. Blakeslee, fourth assistant postmaster-general. More than 40,000 answers to 200,000 questionnaires sent to farmers, he said, indicated a condition "disturbing and portentous of disastrous consequences."

EUROPE MUST WORK OUT HER OWN SALVATION

Declares Sec. of the Treasury Glass in Commenting on Proposal for More Loans to European Nations.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 30.—Europe, insofar as the United States government is concerned, must rely upon her own resources in retrieving financial equilibrium. This is the interpretation here generally of the letter Secretary of the Treasury Glass has sent to a committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, which sought a government expression on the proposed international conference of financiers and commercial leaders to discuss reconstruction problems.

In a blunt statement of the facts as he sees them, Mr. Glass declared "that the American government has done all that it believes advisable and practicable to aid Europe." The conference, he added, would serve "to cause confusion and revive hopes, doomed to disappointment, of further government loans."

The treasury department does not offer objection, Mr. Glass said, if the Chamber of Commerce, by its action in the conference, wishes to name delegates to an informal conference, "provided the scope and character and limitations of such a conference, as well as the impossibility of United States government action, are clearly understood."

"If the people and governments of Europe," Mr. Glass declared, "live within their incomes, increase their production as much as possible and limit their imports to actual necessities, foreign credits to cover adverse balances would not be needed, and the demand for such impracticable methods as government loans and bank credits would cease."

"The American people should not, in my opinion, be called upon to finance the reconstruction of the European world to a demand that they finance the requirements of Europe insofar as they result from the failure to take necessary steps for the rehabilitation of credit."

There is no more logical or practical step toward solving their own reconstruction problems than for the allies to give value to their indemnity claims against Germany by reducing these claims to a determinate amount which Germany may reasonably be expected to pay. The maintenance of a credit which cannot be paid causes apprehension and serves no useful purpose."

Since the signing of the armistice, Mr. Glass pointed out, the treasury has made direct cash advances of \$2,380,800,000 to the allied governments and in addition made available \$3,647,000,000 to the governments through the purchase of their currencies in covering United States expenditures in Europe. Besides the United States has sold on credit approximately \$685,000,000 in supplies and has extended approximately \$100,000,000 in credit as well as allowing to accrue \$223,211,000 in unpaid interest on loans.

LOWER PRICES COMING SLOWLY.

According to Opinion of Reginald McKenna of Great Britain.

London, Thursday, Jan. 29.—Lower prices will be slow in coming, said Reginald McKenna, former chancellor of the exchequer and now chairman of the London City and Midland bank, addressing the stock holders today. Any attempt to suddenly bring about a decrease in the cost of living, he said, would mean disaster.

"The spending power of the public has increased from 1,108,000,000 pounds sterling in 1914 to 2,063,000 at present," he said. "There with loans to the public has raised bank deposits and consequently increased the buying capacity of the public. With increased currency prices of commodities have soared, but increased production will bring prices down. The purchasing power of the world, however, is not so much as it once was, and materially diminished. Deflation is bound to be slow, and any attempt to bring it about rapidly would mean widespread ruin among manufacturers and traders."

BAN JOHNSON LOSES MOTION.

Had Asked to Have Injunction Against Him Set Aside.

New York, Jan. 30.—The application of Ban Johnson, president of the American league, to have a preliminary injunction obtained by the New York club restraining him and the St. Louis and Cleveland clubs, from interfering with Carl Mays, a pitcher for the Yankees, pending trial of the suit for a permanent injunction, was denied today by the supreme court. The court expressed no opinion on the merits of the controversy giving leave to the defendants to move to vacate the temporary injunction if the plaintiff should fail to move the case for trial promptly.

LAKE UNDER NEW YORK COST THE CITY \$325,759

Contracting Firm That Built Subway Near Lexington Ave. Got Damages Because It Ran Up Against Uncharted Body of Water.

New York, Jan. 30.—An uncharted lake 30 feet under Lexington avenue, near 14th street, will cost New York \$325,759, under a verdict of jury in the supreme court. The sum was awarded to the contracting firm which built the Lexington avenue subway and which had based its bid on charts furnished by the public service commission. The contractors were obliged to drain the lake and also to fill a river bed found at a depth of 60 feet.

FEAR ATTACK ON THEATRE.

As Next Step of the "Prohibition" Reformers.

New York, Jan. 30.—Concern lest the theatre be next attacked by "prohibition" reformers is expressed in the current number of Equity, the official organ of the Actors' Equity association, circulated here today.

"The beetle spirit of reform" is in the air, says the publication. "The 'factory evil' had to go; horse racing faces the prospect of being completely suppressed; dancing in public places has been interfered with as a reputed evil; the 'evil of smoking' is being made much of, and the theatre must be prepared to be singled out as the next on the list of 'social excrescences' to be attacked."

NURSE ACCUSED OF BRUTAL ACTS

Miss Margaret E. Coumans Charged With Scalding Patient to Death

PLEADS NOT GUILTY AND PUT UNDER \$2,000

Mrs. Mary C. Lotz Died in a Private Hospital in Wellesley, Mass.

Dedham, Mass., Jan. 30.—A charge that she had first beaten, and then scalded to death, Mrs. Mary C. Lotz of Malden while the latter was a patient at a private hospital in Wellesley, was brought against Miss Margaret E. Coumans of Watertown, an attendant at the institution, today. She pleaded not guilty and was held until February 6 for a hearing. She was released on \$2,000 bonds.

The complaint on which Miss Coumans was arrested charged that on Nov. 11 last she assaulted and beat Mrs. Lotz at the hospital, and then willfully turned hot water into a bath tub in which she placed the patient, causing her to be scalded to death. Mrs. Lotz had been under treatment at the hospital several weeks for a nervous disease.

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NEARLY A THOUSAND NEW "FLU" CASES IN BAY STATE

Boston, Mass., Jan. 30.—Influenza reports to the state department of health rose to a total of 955 new cases for the 24 hours ending at noon today, an increase of nearly 150 from the previous high mark. The report issued yesterday showed only 770 new cases, while that of the preceding day totaled 831. The number reported today included 315 in this city.

NEW PASTOR AND WIFE WELCOMED TO BARRE

Rev. and Mrs. F. O. Hokerk of Universalist Church Were Tendered Reception Last Night.

In the vestry of the Universalist church last evening the clergy of the churches of Barre, the members of the Universalist parish and others gathered to meet and welcome Rev. and Mrs. F. O. Hokerk, the former of whom has come as pastor of the Universalist church. At 7:30 the doors of the vestry were thrown open and as the guests arrived they were introduced to the newcomers to the church. For more than an hour a social time was enjoyed, the guests being seated in visiting and renewing acquaintances.

A little before 9 o'clock selections by the Godeard orchestra opened a short program which had been arranged by the committee. Then followed several vocal selections and readings. George Mackay rendered the first of the vocal numbers, and was called upon for another song, which he gave. This was followed by a reading which took very well, being given by Mrs. William Lillie. Miss Henrietta Inglis also gave two very pleasing vocal solos. Then the orchestra retired and Dr. O. K. Hollister took a few minutes in introducing Rev. F. L. Godeard, telling of the co-operation of the clergy in Barre and how they had always worked hand in hand in pursuing the ministry in the place. He then introduced Dr. Godeard, who had been given the privilege of welcoming the newcomer to the city and who kept the floor only a few minutes.

Dr. Godeard gave a few remarks about the ministerial work in Barre and spoke very interestingly in welcoming the church workers to Barre. He said that it was a pleasure for him to have the privilege of welcoming them to the church work in Barre. He welcomed them with great enthusiasm and said that he was sure that the ministers of the city were ready to work hand in hand with him. He related several stories which were to the point and brought a wave of laughter over the company. He spoke of Rev. J. B. Ransom, who had been welcomed to the city and who kept the floor only a few minutes.

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