

Testimony Hits Thomas In Phony U. S. Payroll Case

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — The government produced testimony that the three women from whom Rep. J. Parnell Thomas (R-N.Y.) is accused of taking salary kickbacks drew federal pay totaling nearly \$9,000 for the period involved.

This is far more than the \$1,698.57 mentioned in four counts of the indictment. The congressman is charged with defrauding the government by padding the payrolls of his office and the house un-American activities committee which Thomas formerly headed.

Thomas, 54, is on trial in federal district court along with his 64-year-old former secretary, Miss Helen Campbell.

The two are charged with plotting for Thomas to get salary kickbacks by putting on his office payroll the niece of Miss Campbell, Myra Midkiff, and her maid, Arnette Minor.

Thomas alone is accused in three separate counts involving alleged kickbacks from Mrs. Jacqueline B. Hill, who was listed as an employee of the Un-American Activities committee.

U. S. Attorney George Fay brought back to the witness stand the assistant disbursing officer of the house of representatives, J. Crawford Shanks. Shanks identified what he said were official payrolls on which the Midkiff, Minor and Hill names appeared. The prosecution says none of the three women did any government work.

Fay produced canceled checks he said were issued to the three women and Shanks identified the numbers on them as corresponding with those on the payrolls.

Miss Campbell's attorney said in his statement to the jury yesterday that any payroll actions she performed were done under "compulsion" from Thomas.

Trumans To Have More Room In New White House

By D. HAROLD OLIVER
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—President and Mrs. Truman are going to have room for extra guests when they move back into a safe and modern White House in late 1951.

They'll have space, too, to store all those things that people don't like to throw away. They will find it expanded into a 77-room mansion with a two-story basement when the repair job about to get underway is finally completed.

The present 150-year-old structure, to be completely renovated inside, has 69 rooms and no basement.

Engineers disclosed today that eight additional rooms will be built on the top-or-fourth-floor, possibly for use by guests.

In the past this floor has been used for maids' quarters and guests who could not be accommodated in the limited bedroom space on the third floor. The third floor is used by the chief executive and his family.

Presidents themselves have been known on rare occasions to sleep in the "attic" to permit very important visitors to occupy their bedrooms. So, when the new rooms are added, it may not be necessary ever again for citizen No. 1 to do like the office clerk who doubles up on a sofa to make way for a rich relative.

Mr. Gen. Glen E. Edgerton, one of the engineers attached to the renovation commission, said the new White House should last 150 years or more. Congress has appropriated \$5,400,000 for the whole job.

Socialite Loses Verdict On Adultery Grounds

LOS ANGELES.—(AP)— Mrs. Florence Walton, Los Angeles society matron, is deprived of full custody of her three sons after being accused of adultery with a former film actor.

Her husband, Delvy T. Walton, was awarded a contested divorce decree of her relations with Richard Powers, a real estate broker formerly known in pictures as Tom Keene, superior judge William R. McKay declared.

"The evidence is so conclusive that Mrs. Walton was guilty of adultery with him that I must give Mr. Walton the divorce."

Lake County Again Under State Milk Control

PORTLAND.—(AP)— State milk control was re-established in Lake county beginning Dec. 1. The order was issued by Administrator Thomas Olson.

The State Milk control regulations for the county had been withdrawn in 1942. Olson said the order establishes a minimum producer price of \$1 a pound butterfat and \$2 a hundredweight. This compares with 90 cents and \$1.50 for the two classifications prevailing in Portland and most other Oregon market areas.

Minimum retail prices were set at 20 cents a quart on standard milk.

ESTATES IN PROBATE

Laura M. Peterson has been named administratrix of the estate of William V. Peterson, who died Nov. 14 at Eugene, at the age of 37 years. He was a resident of Reedsport. The order issued by County Judge D. N. Busenbark upon the petition of Mrs. Peterson, also names Anton Hall, Melvin Jensen and Robert Smiley as appraisers.

Another order by Judge Busenbark names Melvin D. Jensen as administrator of the estate of Arthur L. Clift, who died Nov. 12. Appraisers include R. M. Shepherd, Clarence Heyes and Antoine Hall.



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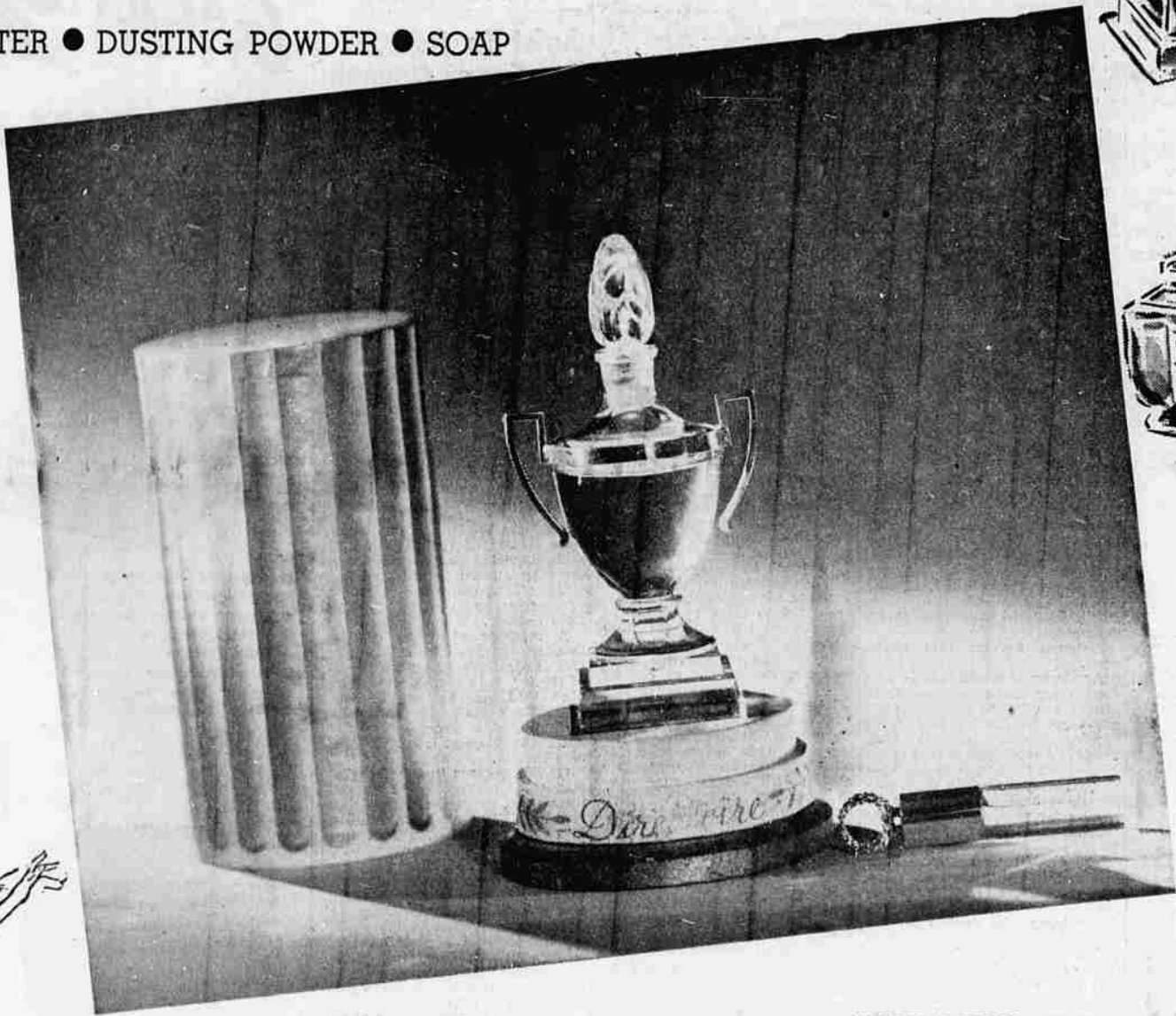
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