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KERBY CALLED TO STAND

DISMISSED GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE IS WITNESS BEFORE BALLINGER INVESTIGATION.

GOVERNMENT CONFIDENTIAL CLERK

Kerby Called to Stand to Testify Before Ballinger Investigation Committee on Orders of Chairman Knute Nelson—Letter Written by Taft Explaining Details of Lawler Memorandum is Filed as Investigation Record.

Washington, May 17.—Stenographer Kerby, who Ballinger dismissed from the department of the interior yesterday for giving out a statement Saturday regarding the preparation of the Lawler memorandum, was today called as a witness before the Ballinger investigation committee.

Senator Knute Nelson, chairman, after placing President Taft's letter of May 16, explaining how the Lawler letter was framed, on file, asked that Kerby be called. Brandeis asked that Kerby's affidavit of Secretary Carpenter's denial be also recorded, but Nelson refused.

When Vertress, Ballinger's attorney, asked Kerby if he was a "confidential clerk" Kerby replied that he occasionally handled confidential stuff, and that he was confidential clerk for the government but not for Ballinger. Kerby admitted he was friendly to former Secretary Garfield, but denied he was influenced or suggested to him to publish the statement of last Saturday.

Kerby said he gave the statement to Robert Wilson, a correspondent for the Scripps-McRae newspapers, and after concluding, he said he would be called to testify in the Lawler memorandum. He said he had first talked to Garfield who told him he must not act as a spy. He denied any selfish motive had caused the issuance of the statement and that after talking to the Scripps-McRae men, he read the next day of Ballinger's denial of all specific knowledge of the Lawler draft, and saw Ballinger had stated "other untruths," the witness said he thought it was his duty to make the facts public.

Senator Southerland asked whether

Kerby considered talking it over with Ballinger. "I know better than that," Kerby replied. "I had Glavin's case in mind. Brandeis said he had heard of the 'snake killing.'"

TO MAINTAIN THE LIGHTS.

Commercial Club President Solicits Today.

President Collier, of the Commercial club, spent today calling on the different business firms regarding free will donations to maintain the streamers of electric lights in the business district. He stated to the Observer that he was meeting with splendid success and remarked freely upon the public spiritedness of La Grande's people. Mr. Collier has little doubt that there will be sufficient money raised to keep the lights in place just as they are at present.

To Tour Chinatown.

San Francisco, May 17.—Members of the California Pharmaceutical Association commenced their annual convention this morning with a reception to be followed with trips about the city and a tour of Chinatown.

Atlanta Honors Citizen.

Atlanta, Ga., May 17.—Atlanta paid tribute to the memory of a public-spirited citizen today by unveiling a shaft of Georgia granite as a memorial to L. P. Grant, who gave beautiful Grant Park to the city on May 17, 1883. A great grandson of Grant unveiled the shaft.

NEGEL COMING WEST.

Secretary Will Study Irrigation in the Northwest.

Washington, May 17.—Secretary Nagel, of the department of commerce and labor, announced he will leave Washington the last of June for a trip through Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. He will investigate irrigation matters, and will look into the Alaskan fisheries problems.

HYDE STILL SLEEPS.

Conviction and Sentence Does Not Interfere With Regular Rest.

Kansas City, May 17.—Doctor Hyde's conviction and sentence didn't make him lose any sleep last night for eight hours. He was awake this morning early and greeted visitors pleasantly. His wife has issued a statement today that she believes Hyde is innocent and would stick.

SCRIBER CASE BODY MOVED TODAY IS SLOW

DEFENSE WILL NOT LIKELY INTRODUCE EVIDENCE UNTIL LATE TOMORROW.

GOVERNMENT HAS MUCH TO PROVE

McCourt Last Evening Outlined What He Intended to Prove Had Been Done in the Bank Here, and It is Evident that one or Two Days Will Be Required to Do It—Local Witnesses Held in Portland Long Time.

That the defense will not introduce its opening testimony in the J. W. Scriber trial until tomorrow or even the day after is the opinion of local men returning from Portland where they have been keeping in touch with the progress of the trial. Among them is T. J. Scroggin who arrived home this morning.

Defense witnesses who were called to Portland last week, have the greater part of a week ahead of them yet, according to popular belief. The introduction of so much statistical evidence by the government, is taking more time than was first thought.

A Portland Monday evening paper says of the trial:

It will be shown by the prosecution that Scriber issued nearly \$1,000,000 in personal notes during the time he was cashier of the bank, especially during the time that the bank was in trouble.

Further than this the prosecution will attempt to show that the La Grande bank was solvent, and had it been properly managed would have been a good and paying institution. District Attorney McCourt will introduce evidence to show that the bank, aside from Scriber's deals, was paying and on a sound footing. He will show that the mismanagement and loss of the Sumpter bank, run by Roy Miller, nephew of Scriber, shook the

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GLITTERING PAGEANT PASSES GREAT LINE OF PEOPLE ON WAY.

ROOSEVELT, MONARCHS ABSENT

Catafalque and Coffin Passes Great Crash of People Along Mile Course on Way to Westminster Hall Where Gentry Will Get a View of the Late King—Dowager Queen and Relatives Chief Mourners in Procession.

London, May 17.—Removal of the body of King Edward from Buckingham palace where it has lain in state, to Westminster Hall where it will be viewed for the great funeral pageant that will be held Friday. Great streams of humanity lined the mile course, crowding house tops, windows, street posts, and an even thousand picked soldiers lined the streets, forming an impressive border for the cortege to pass.

Catafalque Mounted With Crown.

The catafalque, covered with black and purple draperies, mounted by a crown, scepter and flags, left the palace at 11:30 and arrived at Westminster at noon. The coffin was carried on the gun carriage, followed by several companies of soldiers.

Queen Mother Leads Mourners.

The first carriage following the soldier escort, contained Dowager Queen Alexandra, or the queen mother as she prefers to be termed. She was accompanied by her mother, and the Dowager Empress of Russia. Neither Colonel Roosevelt nor any European monarchs were in the procession today but will make their appearance next Friday at the time of the funeral proper.

Pickpockets Reap Harvest.

So great was the throng at Westminster this evening that authorities estimated a million and a quarter viewed the body during the day.

Pickpockets reaped a rich harvest. The police has warned all people to leave their valuables at home as pickpockets from all Europe are congregating in London.

Oklahoma Grand Army.

Alva, Okla., May 17.—Hundreds of Oklahoma veterans who wore the blue are here today in attendance at the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. A big parade will be held tomorrow, and the city has been handsomely decorated for the occasion.

Mississippi Merchants.

Brookhaven, Miss., May 17.—Business men from all over the state are here today for the annual convention of the Mississippi Retail Merchants' Association.

IRRIGATION NOT "WORKED."

Lack of It Has Retarded Growth of Eastern Oregon.

According to Portland census officials Eastern Oregon as a rule has not kept pace with the rapid growth of other sections of Oregon because of lack of attention to irrigation; irrigation being again considered the greatest elixir of life and added population of any force yet discovered. A Portland paper says:

Upon the result of the count to be announced will depend the apportionment of membership in the lower house of congress. Oregon is sure to receive one more member, with a possible chance of two. Representation is equalized by a bill to be presented and passed by congress in the session following the enumeration each 10 years.

Fire Protection Meeting.

Chicago, May 17.—With the aim of devising methods for saving a portion of the property worth many millions which annually goes up in smoke, the National Fire Protection Association today convened what promises to be the most important convention in its history. The discussion will occupy three days, the speakers on the program including Irving K. Pond, president of the American Institute of Architects, and F. S. Baker, president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. As the co-operation of the architectural fraternity is an invaluable factor in the reduction of the fire waste, the appearance for the first time of the heads of these bodies on the program of the National Fire Protection Association is indicative of a growing unity of effort.

GYPSY TRIES TO END LIFE

REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTS SUICIDE BUT FAILS THROUGH POOR MARKSMANSHIP.

ARRESTED ON INSANITY CHARGE

Cove Gypsy Camp in Terror at Frequent Attempts to Suicide by a Man of the Party—Exiled from Camp For Deserting His Wife and When He Returns Is Ruthlessly Driven Out—Seems in Much Pain This Afternoon.

Persistent and unsuccessful attempts to end his life with the use of a 22 rifle, has caused charges of insanity to be filed against a man of about 35 years who is a member of a Gypsy camp now in bivouac in Cove, or rather on the outskirts of Cove. The decision to end all that is dear on this earth came yesterday when the fellow inflicted a flesh wound with his rifle. He was bandaged up by Dr. Martin of Cove, but later in the afternoon tore the first aid bandage off and again shot himself with the rifle, this time scratching the shoulder. This afternoon telephone messages say that he is prostrate on the ground in the hot sun, moaning and whining at his apparent suffering.

He has been driven from the Gypsy camp repeatedly. It appears from what can be learned of the case at long range, that he married a young girl from the camp, but recently left her, only to return again, much to the chagrin of the entire camp. Yesterday morning he was given final orders to "vamoose" and rather than leave, he decided to end his life.

The camp is situated just outside the Cove city limits, and the authorities there can do nothing, hence the matter was referred to the officials here. He will be arrested at once and taken into custody and given examination. Whether he is in a fit of moroseness or suffering with acute attacks of heart aches at his ruthless exile from his meandering friends, is not known. It is feared that he will make a success of his suicidal efforts before he can be placed under careful guard.

STRANGER FALLS INTO TURNTABLE PIT IN MOST MYSTERIOUS MANNER

Falling into the O. R. & N. turntable pit during the night hours in some manner not known, bruised internally by the swinging of the table, sustaining serious skull and scalp wounds in the fall and buffeting about during the night as engines were taken and sent out over various approaches to the round house, and today hovering between life and death is the story of an aged man named Samuel Moffett who was found at day light this morning in the bottom of the turntable pit by O. R. & N. employees. How he came to fall, or how he came to be there may never be known unless he recovers this afternoon sufficiently to relate the circumstances pertaining to the accident.

Carried Considerable Money.

A phase of the incident that adds mystery and incidentally removes any robbery theory, is the fact that he carried a considerable sum of money on his person, found this morning by the police when the victim had been rushed to the Bacon & Hall offices for treatment. A draft in his favor on the Walker Brothers bank of Salt

Lake City for \$400 and cash to the amount of \$64.20, comprises his financial condition at the time of the fall. Chief of Police Walden will take the matter up with the bank unless Moffett recovers his faculties and can explain the accident.

Several theories were framed as to the probable reason of his being there. One is that he came in on a passenger train and wandered in the wrong direction in search of the depot, and accidentally stumbled into the pit. Another is that possibly his mind was temporarily unbalanced; others of less apparent plausibility are advanced. It is thought however, by the physicians that he will recover his senses and be able to explain at least some of the mystery.

At the hospital today he gives little evidence of recovery though it is not impossible for him to live. He is hurt internally and badly bruised about the head. It seems he was rolled under the monster table during the night when the engines were sent out. The scalp wound resembles one that might have occurred had he fallen on the cement bottom of the pit.

VICTIM OF RUNAWAY DIES AT EARLY HOUR TODAY

At 3 o'clock this morning death ended the suffering of Mrs. Rice, the aged lady who Sunday afternoon leaped from the W. D. Grandy family carriage when the team became frightened on Adams avenue and sustained fatal injuries. Death was expected momentarily from the hour the accident happened, as physicians found she was injured in so many places that her frail constitution could not withstand the shock. Her face was horribly bruised and mangled, indicating that in the accident she must have been run over by the carriage. The entire episode by the carriage. In its inception and so brief in its duration that no one will know definitely how the fatal affair actually occurred in a detailed manner.

Mrs. Grandy Still Suffers.

Mrs. W. D. Grandy, daughter of the

victim of the accident, is still in pain today as the result of the injuries which she received. Effort will be made this evening to have Mrs. Grandy leave her bed to sit up a brief time.

The funeral of Mrs. Henrietta Rice will be held at the residence of W. D. Grandy, corner Second and Grandy avenue, tomorrow at 2 o'clock. Interment will take place in the Odd Fellows cemetery.

Miss Henrietta Lewis was born in Bloomington, Ill., in 1835 and was married to Simeon Rice on Jan. 1, 1854, and his death occurred on Jan. 7, 1870. She is survived by her four children, Mrs. Alverda Haworth of Weiser, Idaho, Charles Rice of Payette, Julius Rice of West Fall, Oregon, and Mrs. W. D. Grandy, of this city.

DISAPPOINTMENT GREET'S EARLY RISERS WHO SEEK A VIEW OF THE COMET

New York, May 17.—Professor Harold Jacopy Rutherford, Professor of Astronomy in Columbia University, in a special article for the United Press, today says there is little likelihood of the comet striking the earth or causing injury tomorrow night. He says the head is solid but won't come within 14,000,000 miles of the earth. The tail will perhaps envelop the earth but no damage will be done as the tail is less dense than the air in a vacuum test made by a mercury air pump.

Comet parties were many this morning, but all in vain. Halley's comet could not be seen this morning, nor will it be seen tomorrow morning, though tomorrow evening is the date of the passage through the tail of the comet by earth. Several parties climbed the hills west of La Grande at an early hour this morning, but failed to get a view of the comet, because it is swallowed up in the glare of the sun. The same will be true tomorrow morning. Comet Parties Tomorrow. Arrangement for several comet parties

tomorrow night are now under way. Most of them are headed for prominent peaks in close proximity to the city from where the strange phenomenon will be viewed.

Some assert that they saw the nucleus of the comet this morning, which is very probable, as the comet is the morning star, and shines more brightly than any other. Locally there is a diversified opinion as well as in other localities and as authorities disagree on what will actually occur, so do those who keep in touch with the opinions of authorities. At any rate, La Grande is making arrangements to see all there is to be seen tomorrow night. The hills afford a much better view as the street light glare interferes with a clear and unobstructed vision of what may happen at that time.

Long Race Fulle.

Los Angeles, May 17.—Mrs. Belle Fulton's race from Los Angeles to Paris to her sick son is lost. Today dispatches say her son Robert is dead of typhoid fever.