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HANNA GIVES UP

His Fight on Roosevelt at an End.

OHIO WILL INDORSE HIM

President Wires the Senator and He Capitulates.

NO CHANGE OF JUDGMENT

National Chairman, However, is Willing to Do the Pleasure of the Executive, Now That He Has Spoken.

Marcus A. Hanna has met his Waterloo in a desperate attempt to prevent the Ohio State Republican convention from endorsing President Roosevelt for re-election. The President has given him to understand that he desires such endorsement, and Hanna has agreed to keep his hands off.

The star of Senator Foraker as a political boss in Ohio is now in the ascendancy.

CLEVELAND, O., May 26.—Senator Hanna has decided to offer no further opposition to the proposed resolution in the coming State Republican Convention endorsing the candidacy of President Roosevelt for another term. This action was decided upon late this afternoon.

When asked if he had heard from President Roosevelt with reference to the discussion concerning his attitude in connection with the resolution, Senator Hanna made the following statement to the Associated Press representative:

"I am in receipt of a telegram from President Roosevelt, which indicates to me his desire to have the endorsement of the Ohio Republican State Convention of his Administration and candidacy. In view of this, I shall not oppose such action by the convention, and I have telegraphed the President to that effect."

Senator Hanna positively declined further to discuss the subject, insisting that the brief statement quoted fully covered the situation. It is the general belief, however, among those close to the Senator that he still doubts the advisability of the adoption of a resolution endorsing President Roosevelt's candidacy by this year's convention. But, it is pointed out, in deferring to the President's judgment and expressed wishes, Mr. Hanna demonstrates that his original position in the matter was at no time prompted by personal antagonism to President Roosevelt.

GLAD HANNA IS SMOKED OUT.

Foraker Says the President's Statement Was the Proper Move.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 26.—Speaking of the President's statement from Walla Walla, Senator Foraker today said:

"The President has taken the proper position. It was to be expected that he would protect himself. The matter of endorsement is now an issue that will come squarely before the convention. Those who are in favor of the renomination of the President will have to make their friendship known. Those who are opposed to him will likewise have to go on record."

There is no doubt that Foraker and his friends intend to make all the capital they can out of the President's position, and make it imperative upon the convention to declare itself for or against the President. It is becoming more and more evident that there is a strong determination to prevent the nomination of Roosevelt next year, and it is also apparent that the President is fully aware of it. This being the case, say the closest friends of Roosevelt, now in Washington, a declaration such as he has made was necessary in order to make the fight now, instead of allowing his enemies to gain ground by delaying when their purpose was well known.

Foraker, while sincere in his work for Roosevelt, also desires to get even with Hanna on several counts. Twice in the National conventions he has made the speech nominating McKinley, who was Hanna's candidate, and was made Ohio's candidate even when Foraker and his friends were opposed to him. There never was any friendship between Foraker and McKinley. McKinley belonged to the Sherman wing of the party, that fought Foraker for years. Hanna took up McKinley, and has continued the fight, and although Foraker has been able to light himself in the Senate, he has never been able to control Ohio politics. What little he received in the way of patronage from the McKinley Administration was granted through courtesy of Hanna, and not because Foraker was powerful enough to enforce a demand for it.

Hanna did not want Roosevelt for Vice-President, and he does not want him for President next year, no matter what he says to the contrary. Roosevelt is probably aware of this, and, if Foraker is successful in securing an endorsement for the President, it will be Hanna's first defeat in Republican politics, and may mean a new era in the management of the party in that state.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOVE.

Foraker Says Hanna is Now Sure of Indorsement.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—When the dispatch announcing that Senator Hanna

WIFE IS ACCUSER

Mrs. Lesia Chief Witness of Murder.

SAYS DREWS DID NOT SHOOT

She Gives the Lie to Husband's Plea in Defense.

SHE WOUNDED HIM HERSELF

Divorced Couple in Jail Tell Conflicting Stories of Sunday's Tragedy—Woman Gives Account of Flight and Capture.

M. V. Lesia, the murderer of F. H. Drews, his father-in-law, and his divorced wife were captured at 5 o'clock yesterday morning in a barn across the road from O. Paulsen's house, on the Slough road, two miles down the Columbia River from the Vancouver ferry.

MANY HOMELESS BY FIRE

New Hampshire Blaze Causes a Loss of \$400,000.

LACONIA, N. H., May 26.—Nearly 100 buildings have been burned, 250 persons are homeless and a loss of between \$200,000 and \$400,000 has been caused by a fire in the Lakewood section, the area burned over being about 15 acres. The fire started in a boiler-room of the H. H. Wood hosiery mill. The flames spread rapidly, and in a short time, under the influence of a brisk southeast wind, the entire structure was burning. Next it spread to the finished-lumber plant of the Enoch & Gorrell Co., and then to the works of the Laconia Electric Light Company. In less than an hour both these plants were destroyed. The city fire department was helpless to stay the progress of the flames, and destruction went on until the fire actually burned itself out for want of material.

Mrs. Roosevelt Will Go to Groton.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Mrs. Roosevelt, accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. W. S. Cowles, will leave Washington next Thursday for Groton, Mass., to attend the closing exercises of the school of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Many Fishermen Believed to Be Lost.

ST. JOHN, N. F., May 26.—The severe gale which raged throughout last Sunday did much damage to the fishing vessels on the Grand Banks. It is believed the fatalities will reach a large number.

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LANDSLIDE FOR REPUBLICAN.

Red-Headed Candidate for Congress Breaks All Records.

MINNESOTA WITH ROOSEVELT.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 26.—According to Robert Jamison, of St. Paul, chairman of the Minnesota delegation to the next Republican National convention will be undivided for President Roosevelt's renomination.

NEBRASKA WITH ROOSEVELT.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 26.—The Republican State Central Committee, at a meeting here today, adopted a resolution endorsing the Administration of President Roosevelt and pledging him the support of the party in Nebraska.

M. V. Lesia, the murderer of F. H. Drews, his father-in-law, and his divorced wife were captured at 5 o'clock yesterday morning in a barn across the road from O. Paulsen's house, on the Slough road, two miles down the Columbia River from the Vancouver ferry.

They had eaten supper at Paulsen's house the previous night and then came into the barn to rest, but, exhausted by their two days' wanderings, appeared to have fallen into a sound sleep.

Police Captain Simmons and his posse had just arrived at Paulsen's, and Simmons entered the barn and found them. He secured and disarmed Lesia, aided by Officer Burke, and brought man and wife to the City Jail. The news of the capture was published in the second edition of the Oregonian yesterday.

Lesia, the slayer of his father-in-law, declares that he killed in self-defense. Lesia's divorced wife insists that the deed was murder premeditated.

The alleged murderer avers that his father-in-law shot him first, and exhibits a bullet wound to verify his story. The wife maintains that she herself shot Lesia after the murder of her father.

Lesia denies that he forced the woman to accompany him. He contends that she went with him of her own volition.

But the woman says that she was constrained to follow him by threats of death to herself and her children. Lesia replies that he did not threaten the lives of his wife and children.

Behind the tragedy rises a dark background of domestic infelicity. The background is marked with paths leading in ungodly ways along which are dotted episodes of wrangle, shiftlessness, improvidence, alleged marital infidelity and other evils wherewith Satan has ever wrought calamity in the household.

Wanting in the tender attentions of domestic love and comely, surfeited with the follies of recent manhood and womanhood—such is the family whose door the fell hand of murder has branded with bloody fingers.

A man of low stature, slender of build and sallow of complexion, having large brown eyes, brown hair, protruding ears that narrow at the top, a spray of mustache and a long, pear-shaped face, clothed in cheap, threadbare, unkempt garments, possessing an unflinching gaze even when reciting what his wife brands as lies—such is M. V. Lesia, who has worn out all his days for naught but provender, and now must fight his way from within the shadow of the gallows.

A woman old beyond her years, pinched in countenance, meager in form, of average stature, having a look that betokens a share of the world's cares and troubles out of proportion with her years and that indicates a hard struggle under heavy, pitiless burdens, wearing a face which has lost its fairness against the servility-influences of domestic tribulation—this is Lesia's divorced wife, the woman who accompanied him in flight to save herself and children.

Wife's Bullet Almost Fatal.

The bullet fired by Mrs. Lesia penetrated her husband's left breast so close that only a marvel saved the man's heart. The projectile lodged under the skin, whence it was extracted yesterday.

"... but that hurts!" he exclaimed, wincing under the physician's knife. His undershirt was bloody, but he did not appear the worse for the wound. Providence evidently has ordained that Lesia is not born to die of a bullet.

Lesia peered from behind the iron bars yesterday in the City Jail. His wife rested from her terrible experiences in the women's quarters of the jail. The man will be kept in prison, but the wife will be allowed her freedom.

"I am very weak," she said, feebly, yesterday. "The excitement tells on me when it is all over. I didn't feel before," she said, and she recited the hair-raising tale of how her father was slain and why she had to flee with the slayer.

Wife's Story of the Crime.

"It is all like a dream," she remarked, and passed her hand over her brow. "So much like a dream! It was awful, and my children—but they are safe."

The woman is a plucky, gritty little body, and tells her story "as straight as a string," says Sam Simmons, captain of detectives, who captured Lesia in the barn yesterday morning. The police believe that the woman is telling the precise truth. They have no faith whatever in Lesia's veracity. "A pack of lies," they call his story.

"Papa was murdered," said the woman. "He had no pistol with him. It was in my bedroom. After the first shot papa made a loud cry and I woke up. Then I heard another shot. I snatched up my pistol and ran to the door. Portieres hung in the

doorway. A gun was pointed at me through the curtains—by whom I do not know. I raised my pistol and fired."

"What caliber was the pistol?"
"Thirty-two caliber." The weapon was a safety Smith & Wesson, a very formidable pistol, automatically fired by compression of the stock.

"I did not hear the report of the pistol," went on the woman; "I was so excited. 'Don't shoot!' my husband had shouted, and when I fired he cried: 'My God, you have shot me!'"

"No, I haven't."
"Yes, you have."
"Where?"

"Here," and my husband pointed to his breast. Then he took hold of me and I screamed:
"Oh, Van, what did you do to papa?"
"Nothing," he responded, in a tone of levity.

"What time was it then?" the reporter asked.
"It was about 7 o'clock when papa woke me. I told him I did not wish to get up. Then he milked the cows and left the bucket on the back porch. I heard a shot and then papa screamed in agony. Another shot was fired and I snatched up a revolver from the head of my bed."

"What was the revolver for?"
"I kept it to guard myself against danger of robbery and hold-up. When my husband came into my bedroom he said he had killed papa, and ordered me to get dressed. He told me he had fired twice—once into papa's back and then, as papa sank down, into his head."

"While I was dressing my husband went to the kitchen for a pan of water, which he took out of the front door.
"Don't look out," he commanded.
"What is the water for?" I asked.
"To put out the fire," he answered.
"Papa's vest and coat are burning."
"Threat to Kill Children."

"When he came back he wanted to kill the children. On my knees I pleaded for their lives.
"Then leave them here," he ordered, "and you come with me."
"No, I won't," I answered, for I did not want to leave them all alone where such awful things had happened.

"Then you dress one and I'll dress the other," said he, and we did so.
"Then he took us out the back door, commanding me not to look around for papa. We got into the woods. I got tired and stopped to rest. Then he said:
"We cannot bother with the babies. Let me all them."
"How could you kill the poor, innocent babies?" I answered.
"I'll not hurt them," he replied, "only stick a knife into their hearts so they wouldn't feel it."

"I begged so hard that he spared the babies. When we came to the first house he said, 'I'll leave the babies here; now don't you say a word or I'll shoot you dead.'"

"So he took the babies up to the house and told the lady there that our house had been burned and that papa had been hurt by a falling partition. He gave the little girl to the lady and I laid the little baby on the bed. Then he took hold of my arm, led me down the steps, and we went through the woods."
"Did you ever resist him?" asked the reporter.

"I didn't dare. I knew he would kill me. I did everything he wanted. Once he said:
"Played Tracy and Merrill."
"I'm Tracy and you're Merrill. If I had a rifle, I'd be as good as Tracy."
"Would he have killed you if anybody had tried to capture him?"

"He told me if anybody tried to catch him he would hold me in front of him with his left arm and shoot with his right. He said nobody would fire at him through me."
"What did he intend to do with you?"
"He said he would take me as far as the Columbia River and would drown me. Then he would go ahead alone."
"Why didn't you kill him?"
"I couldn't. He had the two pistols in his pockets and I couldn't get them. But I would have shot him if I could."

Story of the Flight.

"Where did you go from your father's house?"
"We went in a zigzag course through woods and gullies until we came to a thicket near the barn. That was about noon. There we stayed until afternoon and dusk. I heard somebody ringing a cowbell as if for dinner, but we had nothing to eat. On Monday I told my husband I must have something to eat, and he said we would get something. He was quite faint about this time, for he said, 'I am going to die.'"

"But we stayed in the barn until dark. Then we went through the woods to a house and knocked on the door, but nobody came. We went to another house a little further west. My husband told the people there that we were from Vancouver, were hunting for a dairyman named Wagner, and had got lost."

Afraid to Tell Truth.

"Why didn't you tell the people who you were?" Mrs. Lesia was asked.
"Because I was afraid. Before we went into the house my husband said he would kill me if I told. He said he would keep his gun on his lap all the time, and that he would shoot me without even raising the gun above the table."
"How many guns did he have?"
"Two. One of them, a 38-caliber, he had used to kill papa; the other, a 25-caliber, I fired at him when he entered my room."
"While we were eating," resumed Mrs. Lesia, "my husband said his name was Walker, and that he was a Frenchman. The people there said that didn't sound like a French name, and he responded that his father must have changed his name when he came to this country."

"They eyed us suspiciously all the time. When we left they showed us the way out. They shouted 'Walker' after us, but my husband did not recognize the name. Then we went back to the barn."
Lesia's Plan to Avoid Conviction.
"What did he propose to do?" Mrs. Lesia was asked.
"He said he would go to Vancouver and get married again and then would go off somewhere and live happily."
By doing this Lesia could prevent the woman from testifying against him. Whether she saw through the design or not, she knew better than to take up with him, for she said:
"I've had enough of him. I wouldn't have married him again for anything."

Just then several officers announced to her that the funeral of her father would be held Thursday afternoon. At this, the

IN TWO STATES

Roosevelt Covers Much Ground.

SPOKANE WELL HONORS HIM

Idaho Turns Out in the Rain to Greet Visitor.

GUEST OF SENATOR HEPBURN

Brief Reception is Held at Wallace—President Takes Up the Railroad Issue in Spokane and Shows He is Not Inimical to Capital.

President Roosevelt will be the guest of Montana today. He will reach Helena this morning, and will also visit Butte. He will return to Idaho Thursday, stopping at Pocatello, Boise, Nampa, Mountain Home and Shoshone. He will then leave the Northwest on his way East.

SPOKANE, Wash., May 26.—(Special.)—When President Roosevelt took up the railroad question in his speech here today it looked somewhat as if he had in view the strenuous campaign of next year. He showed clearly that he was not in any way antagonistic to what might be termed the money interests. He said the great railroads and steamship companies had worked wonders for the North Pacific Coast, and he desired to go on record as being fully in sympathy with all their legitimate efforts and accomplishments.

It will be observed that while the President praised the railroads and the great transportation companies of the sea, he also added, with clear-cut sentences, that they must obey the law. It was the latter declaration that elicited the greatest applause from the crowd.

Little applause or enthusiasm was pronounced by the important assemblage favorable to the railroads, while the every-day declaration of the campaign orator that corporations must obey the law brought out a burst of cheering.

It is in the Presidential train atmosphere that the President is mindful of the great and far-reaching influence of the railroad and steamship and allied corporations. These, it is understood, do not, as the New York Sun puts it, make light of the President's present trip and refuse to take him seriously. The trusts may be put down as being after his political vitals with a long knife.

Turner Takes In Every Word.

Accordingly, when the President began praising the railroads as having developed the Northwest, Senator Turner began to twist his black mustache. Others pricked up their ears and leaned forward to catch every word. It was voted one of the most significant speeches delivered by the President on the present tour. It was also looked upon as a proper sequence to the President's Walla Walla speech, where he paid tribute to the capitalists of industry.

Governor McBride's face was a study while the President continued to laud the railroads. His expression was one of apprehension. Senator Turner, rather nervously twisting his mustache, was a sharp critic of the important assemblage favorable to the railroads. Others pricked up their ears and leaned forward to catch every word. It was voted one of the most significant speeches delivered by the President on the present tour. It was also looked upon as a proper sequence to the President's Walla Walla speech, where he paid tribute to the capitalists of industry.

Senator Turner, in introducing the President, referred to politics, a thing the President has not done in the state. No mention has been made by the Chief Executive of Republicans or Democrats, and while the Senator did not refer to parties, he did say that in welcoming the President political considerations were sunk, and all joined in honoring their Chief Executive, or words to that effect.

Women in the Crowd Faint.

Three women in the crowd fainted, and twice the President asked every man and woman in the vicinity of the disturbance not to move, and not to try to get to some other place. This, he said, would avoid confusion and possible accidents. His admonition was respected and generally obeyed.

Spokane had several features not on the programme. For example, a horse attached to a light buggy ran away alongside of the procession, passed the President and disappeared in the distance. Another feature was the fact that several of the Rough Riders were too busy trying to keep astride their frightened and over-frisky horses to safeguard the Chief Executive.

Senator Turner was on the programme to ride with the President, but, as has been the case in other cities, the Mayor and Governor were given the places of honor. This is the general rule, and was graciously accepted by Senator Turner. It is assumed, however, that if the Senator and not the Mayor had been at the President's side, the latter would have stopped at the Athletic Club grounds. He was to have turned the first shovel full of earth for a new building, and thereby have literally dug up a silver plate making him a life member, the lettering being in gold. By mistake, he was driven by the grounds.

So! Mayor, who was in charge of the athletics, was almost heartbroken, but the President tried hard to satisfy the club members at the train when he accepted the souvenir, and said he hoped he would be able to return some time and make use of it.

Spokane claims the largest crowd in the

(Continued on Page 10.)

(Continued on Page 5.)