

MELDRUM SAYS WAS THREATENED

Burns and Heney Made Him Unwilling Witness Against Hermann.

HAD PROMISED HERMANN

Rather Go to McNeill's Island Than Testify—Did Not Say Government Wanted Him to Lie—Drank Freely With Hermann.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 6.—Ex-Surveyor-General Henry Meldrum, who was brought to Washington as a witness against Binger Hermann, testified today that since after his arrival he had been invited to Hermann's Washington home and been furnished with drinks while there, and during that visit had declared he would go to McNeill's Island before he would testify against the former Land Commissioner. It was shown by Meldrum's testimony that he was an unwilling witness against his former friend, and that he only testified against Hermann after prosecuting officers.

Meldrum was asked to what Government representative he had talked about the Hermann case. "To Burns and Heney in Oregon, and Rittenhouse, Adkins and Baker in the United States Attorney's office here." "Did Burns and Heney say anything to you to the effect that you would get a severe sentence if you did not tell all you knew?" "Yes, something like that."

Unwilling to Turn on Hermann. After establishing the fact that Meldrum, accompanied by Horace O. Patterson, another Oregon man, went to the residence of H. G. Gately, Hermann's son-in-law and junior counsel, where they conversed for a long time with Hermann and later with Gately and Hermann together, Mr. Worthington probed at some length into the occurrences on that occasion.

Got Letter From Brownell. "Did Patterson give you a paper purporting to come from George C. Brownell?" "Yes."

Witness was asked a number of questions along the same line, but he denied responsibility for the statement: "They want me to swear to lies, no matter how it was phrased."

Many Drinks With Hermann. "His son and son-in-law came to the National Hotel, where I was stopping," Meldrum declared, and he also mentioned an occasion when he was met in one of the corridors of the courthouse by Mr. Gately, given Hermann's address and invited to call.

Thought Hermann Honest. That practically ended the examination of Meldrum, and just before the noon recess Emmert Callahan, of Baker City, began the narration of a visit to this city in November, 1902, when he saw the President, Secretary Hitchcock and Hermann and protested to each against the "common stealing" incident and the disposition of Oregon public land. Hermann, the witness declared, impressed him as being absolutely honest in the whole Blue Mountain transaction, and he entered into a defense of Hermann before Mr. Hitchcock. Mr. Callahan said in so many words that he was Hermann's advocate.

Others Were at Conference. Horace O. Patterson, of Oregon City, who called at Hermann's home with Meldrum, testified that at the time of Hermann's visit to Meldrum's office several other persons besides Mays and Meldrum were present, but he did not, however, fix the date of that visit.

Whites to Supplant Negro Labor. BAYON ROUGE, La., March 6.—A plan which contemplates supplanting negro plantation laborers of Louisiana with state-imported white immigrants from Europe was announced today by Charles Schuler, State Commissioner of Immigration and Agriculture.

ITALY'S CHILDREN COME TO OREGON. (Continued From First Page.)

California was Andre Sbarboro, who worked his way from the bottom up and established night schools in order to impart the little learning he had to others. Genoese and Sicilian fishermen supply most of the sea food for the Pacific Coast. Los Angeles has 400 Italians engaged chiefly in truck-farming or fruit-raising, while there are between 200 and 400 engaged in the same work near San Jose.

In New Orleans there are between 15,000 and 14,000 Italians. They have a large church in the heart of the city, presided over by a priest from their own land. There are about 60,000 people of this race scattered over the truck farms in the vicinity of New Orleans, and throughout the agricultural portions of Louisiana. In Mississippi there are several hundred who own their truck patches and who are making and saving money.

The Austin Garbin plantation at Sunnyside, Arkansas, has tried Italian labor with the greatest success. It is found that an Italian can make a profit of \$5 where a negro would make \$3. This plantation has 11,000 acres under lease, which is divided between 90 negro families and an equal number of Italians. Each family is leased as much land as it can work for with a rental of \$7 an acre is charged. An extra tax of \$25 is made for a mule, and a small sum for tools.

The Italians not only make the best crops, but pick their cotton so much earlier than the negroes that they hire out to the latter and make extra money after harvesting their own crops. One Italian returned to Italy not long ago, taking \$500 in cash with him, which was the earnings of his family from a 32-acre farm on this plantation.

Success on Texas Farms. There is an Italian colony at Bryan, Texas, which is considered an example of the highest type. There are 3400 Sicilians there who are scattered over a territory of 18 miles. Those who are willing to clear timber land are given the free use of a farm for two years. The best results from this cleared land have been obtained by those who raise cotton the first year and cotton the second.

FRANCE WANTS SHARE OF CASH. Tries to Force Japan to Spend Part of Loan There. PARIS, March 6.—The Credit Lyonnais is to handle the largest proportion of that half of the Japanese conversion loan of \$15,000,000 allotted to France. The loan will be issued at 5 per cent and the issue price will be 99.

As Japan is expending large sums in Europe for warships and other war material, a number of French concerns, fearing the negotiations concerning the placing of the loan here, tried to force an arrangement by which they would obtain a proportion of these Japanese orders, but whether or not this succeeded has not yet been made public.

Know All Points of Farming. In the old country the Italian farmer retained the soil so that his time is employed during the whole year. Principally he raises wheat, grapes and olive trees. You will often find the most ignorant-looking man an expert in the knowledge of conditions of the soil and what may be expected from it. He knows what to plant in damp ground and what will grow best where it is dry.

URSULINE NUNS ARE FINED. Not Allowed to Teach, Though They Own Buildings. NANTES, France, March 6.—A police court judge today inflicted fines of \$8.20 upon each of 27 Ursuline nuns and a fine of \$5 upon the mother superior for persistently refusing to quit their convent in compliance with the law dispersing religious communities.

FRENCH ARTILLERY MUTINY. Attack Petty Officers in Barracks, but Are Captured. TOULLE, Department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, France, March 6.—A mutiny occurred in the artillery barracks here today. The men attacked noncommissioned officers with revolvers and swords. Several men were wounded on both sides before the mutineers were captured and imprisoned.

Sorry Ship Subsidy Failed. BUENOS AYRES, March 6.—General disappointment is expressed in commercial and official circles over the failure of the American Congress to adopt the bill providing subsidies for steamers trading between the United States and South America. In this connection much sympathy is expressed for Secretary Root, whose efforts to strengthen the commercial and friendly relations between the two Americas are highly appreciated by the press and public.

Blow to British Socialists. LONDON, March 6.—Forty-nine reformers and 29 progressive Socialists were elected from the County Council of Somersetshire Monday. Apparently socialism is having a setback, for the party has lost in the municipal elections of Middlesex and North Wales. In the latter district the Conservatives captured 36 seats.

No Quarrel Between Them. VIENNA, March 6.—Semi-official denial is made of reports in circulation in France that Marie Christina, the Dowager Queen of Spain, during the Hispano-American war, conveyed her personal fortune to her mother, who afterward refused to return it. The Austrian imperial household has been much disturbed by the reports.

King Edward's Auto Burned. HARRING, March 6.—King Edward lost an automobile by fire last night in a peculiar manner. While the agent was examining the machine by lantern, the flame came in contact with the contents of a can of petroleum, and the immediately blazing up. The automobile was completely destroyed.

ARE FRIENDS AGAIN

Castro and Gomez Learn Schemes of Enemies.

HAVE BECOME RECONCILED

Venezuela Astounded by Sudden Turn of Affairs Growing Out of President's Recovery—Plotters Are Called to Account.

CARACAS, March 3. (via San Juan, P. R., March 6.)—An authoritative explanation of the meaning of the recent conference at Guayra, between President Castro and Vice-President Gomez, was obtained today by the Associated Press. The original cause of the estrangement between the President and Vice-President was the death of M. D. Gomez, was obtained today by the Associated Press.

Firm in belief that General Castro would never recover sufficiently to call them to account, certain members of the Ministry forbade Gomez's Rivas, proprietor of El Constitucional, to print editorial articles bearing on politics. Senator Rivas saw General Castro and ascertained that the President was ignorant of the issuance of this order. Thereupon Senator Rivas informed Castro fully of the political developments of the last five months. To the reported amazement of the President.

Within 48 hours the people were astounded by the news that General Castro had sent for Senator Gomez. Soon the differences between the two old friends had been explained and both men were happy in the reconciliation. Important administrative changes are promised when General Castro returns to Caracas. This means that those Ministers who have acted upon the assumption that General Castro would die, were made, after all, to give account of their husbandry.

BOOM IN READING EXCITES. (Continued From First Page.)

precious time to regulating the railroads. Admitting that the railroads to a great extent are responsible for the hostile movement now sweeping over the country, Mr. Harriman said the best way to solve the problem was for the government to take the great corporate interests to get into closer harmony and try to bring about a solution that will be to the interest of the government and of the railroads as well.

ALL CAUSED BY POLITICS. Harriman Attributes Anti-Railroad Agitation to Prejudice. CHICAGO, March 6.—A special to the Chronicle from Washington says E. H. Harriman is here to see for himself what the outlook is for a drastic anti-railroad campaign in the next session of Congress. Since Mr. Harriman has not been here he has met practically every one of the leaders of the Senate, aside from calling on President Roosevelt and on the Interstate Commerce Commission.

FOLLOWS HARRIMAN'S MOVE. Burlington Defers Omaha Improvements Pending Legislative Action. OMAHA, March 6.—Following the action of General Manager Mohler of the Union Pacific in calling off all work toward the construction of a 15-station general headquarters building in Omaha because of the Supreme Court's decision compelling the Nebraska railroads to pay delinquent taxes amounting to \$1,900,000 with interest and the action of the Legislature in attaching a 2-cent fare bill, the Burlington, through General Manager Holdrege, announced today that no work would be done toward the erection of its large freight depot, for which plans had been completed, until conditions had at least reached a "more settled state."

Signs Two-Cent Fare Bill. LINCOLN, Neb., March 6.—Governor Sheldon shortly before midnight signed the 2-cent railroad fare bill. A few moments later the bill would have become effective with or without executive approval. The Governor said he was justified in the action he did because of a doubt in his mind whether the emergency clause would have been effective without his signature.

THE DAY'S DEATH RECORD. Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson, Friend of Lincoln. STERLING, Ill., March 6.—Mrs. Eliza Wilson, an old resident of this city, died at her home here today at the age of 83. She was an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln and her husband, the late Colonel Lincoln, served in the Civil War. Her husband died today at his home here, aged 83 years. He was an eminent professor of diseases of children in the New York Polytechnic for

Persia Drilling National Guard. TEHERAN, March 6.—The oath of allegiance was administered to the members of the Chamber of Deputies yesterday. Seven hundred, comprising the volunteer corps of the national guard, are being drilled each day. It is reported that unrest prevails throughout the country.

Wedding in Rothschild Family. PARIS, March 6.—Baron Robert de Rothschild was married yesterday to Mme. Beer.

Italian Minister Stricken. ROME, March 6.—The minister of finance, Signor Mussolini, was stricken with apoplexy today and is unconscious.

COUNSEL TO HILL ROADS. SPOONER FINDS WAY TO MAKE UP SHORTAGE IN INCOME. Will Get \$50,000 a Year as General Counsel for Northern Merger. Beginning May 1.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 6.—(Special.)—Senator J. C. Spooner of Wisconsin is to become general counsel to the Hill interests, according to a report circulated today. It is said that May 1 he will be placed in supreme charge of the legal department of the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Burlington roads and the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Steamship companies. He will make his headquarters in New York and will have a salary of \$50,000 a year.

Although Mr. Spooner has not been in private practice for nearly 20 years, he is regarded as one of the most able legal men in the country. The death of M. D. Grover, general counsel of the Great Northern, removed a man of invaluable service to Mr. Hill, and it is said that ever since has been looking for a man who could fully look after the legal responsibilities of the Hill interests.

It is said that Mr. Hill took up the question with Mr. Spooner about six months ago and the Senator accepted on condition that he be given until May 1 before assuming his duties. At one time Mr. Spooner was general counsel for the road now known as the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, and is well versed in railroad matters.

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Questioned whether he did not believe the Commission would seek for more power over railroads, he said: "I should judge from the hearing at New York for what I understand is the purpose to impose further restrictions on the railroads of some kind or another. Apparently no attempt was made at New York to bring out anything except what might be used as a basis for asking increased power on the part of the Interstate Commerce Commission."

"But these things will come out all right. Everything the Commission gave a twist to will straighten itself out in the swing. The people will come to understand the situation. There was nothing done that has not benefited the people. I am not considering Wall street when I say this. I am merely considering the general public, which is the basis of the situation. On that point what I say is true. Everything that was touched on at the New York inquiry showed this."

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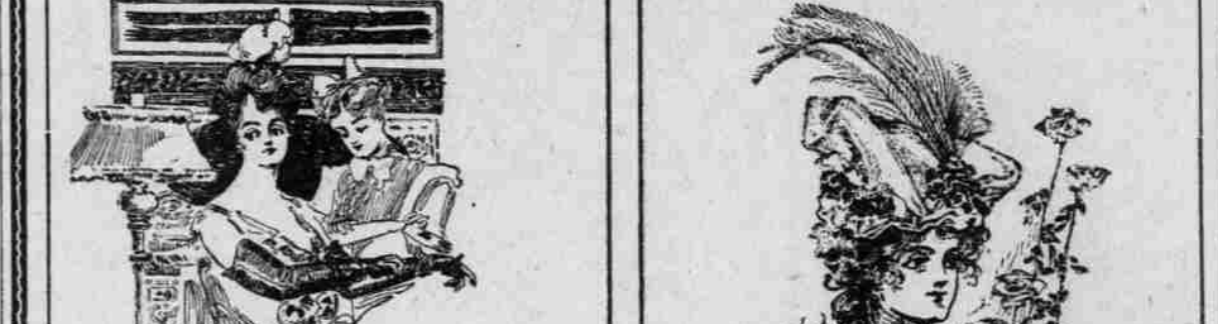


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FEATHER BOAS—A superb assortment, fluffy, rich and stylish; priced at, each, \$15.00 to \$45.00.

FANS—New designs in endless profusion; some in hand-painted effects; spangled and lace-trimmed; \$3.00 to \$15.00.

LACE BERTHAS, priced all the way from \$3.25 to \$125.00.

Lace Opera Coats, unlined, elaborately beautiful affairs, for wear over pretty evening gowns; find these at the Lace Counter, priced at \$75.00 to \$50.00.

Spring models in beautiful Millinery ready for wear to the theater now. 'Twill be easy for you to find a really charming hat that only needs a touch here and there to make it just what you want, and you'll have the satisfaction of having one of the prettiest hats that will be worn to the theater.

Don't be afraid that you can't be suited, for, with such a superb stock as this of ours, choosing is easy. Whether you want an elaborate creation, trimmed with plumes and one of the most exclusive Parisian models, or just a clever little model that doesn't cost but a modest sum, 'tis to your advantage to come here to look.

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Very special prices on Opera Glasses, today and tomorrow. We carry in stock the best makes in the world. We've taken two lines and priced them at such reductions that 'twill pay you to investigate the offering.

LA VALLIERE CHAINS, one of the very latest fads, priced especially low for the balance of the week.

Today We Repeat That Sample Sale Of Women's and Children's Underwear At Half Regular

Without doubt, this is the premier underwear bargain of the season. A sale of the best underwear possible to manufacture, at only half the prices that it retails for in the ordinary way. We secured the entire sample line of one of the largest and best-known manufacturers in the country—took an immense quantity and got the smallest price that has ever been quoted to us for goods of this splendid quality. Can't advertise the maker's name; agreed not to do that when we made the purchase. No cheap goods among them at all—nothing but THE BEST there is made in knit underwear for women and children. Sale begins this morning, and the wise ones that come first and take advantage of the entire assortment will find here the greatest underwear bargains they have ever been offered. Regularly these goods sell for all the way from 25c to \$9.50 the garment. Now you can choose any garment for half.

WOMEN'S VESTS, of cotton, lisle or finest silk; come in white or colors, plain or elegantly trimmed; low neck, sleeveless style; high neck, with long or short sleeves, or any way you want them. Regular prices of the vests run from 25c to \$5.00—SAMPLE SALE Half PRICES.

WOMEN'S PANTS, in knee or ankle length; wide lace-trimmed or fitted knee; come in colors and materials to match vests. Regular Half prices from 50c to \$5. Sale price.....

WOMEN'S CORSET COVERS, beautiful designs, in medium-priced or very fine materials. Regular prices from 75c to \$3.50 each. Sale Half price.....

On account of the very low prices at which we sell these goods, none can be returned or exchanged.

Lincoln and her husband, the late Colonel Lincoln, served in the Civil War. Her husband died today at his home here, aged 83 years. He was an eminent professor of diseases of children in the New York Polytechnic for three years and since 1886 had been professor of clinical medicine in the Post-Graduate Medical School. Dr. Fowler founded the Dietetic Gazette and for six years was associate editor of the American Journal of Obstetrics. The court said the courts of the United States cannot look after the interests of other than its own citizens and that the only way an alien can use our courts is through treaties between this and other countries, which have never yet been made, governing just such happenings as the one involved in the suit.

Frank T. Campbell, Ohio. LIMA, O., March 6.—Frank T. Campbell, ex-Lieutenant-Governor of Iowa, died today.

Princeton Sails for Seat of War. SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 6.—After talking on all the coal she could stow away, the gunboat Princeton left last night for San Salvador under hurried orders to join the Chicago in Central American waters. While the officers of the fleet will not talk much, it is understood that both the Chicago and the Boston are being made ready for orders, so they can move quickly if needed.