TO OUST PALMER FROM LEGISLATURE

Attorney Tangled in Root Scandal Faces an Investigation.

WAS SPEAKER CANDIDATE

Record as Member of Law-making Body Unsavory—Protest Raised When Coon Appointed Him on Judicial Committee.

By Staff Correspondent of Spokane Spokesman-Review.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—E. B. Palmer, former law partner of Judge Milo A. Root, who has become deeply involved in the Root scandal by testimony given in Spokane to the investigating committee, now faces a prospective investigation by the State Legislature, which may result in his expulsion from that body when it convenes in January.

In the recent election, Palmer was elected to the Legislature from the Forty-seventh District, King County. For a while he figured as a candidate for Speaker, but when the King County delegation indorsed Meigs, of Yakima, he was eliminated from the contest. Since then he has been a candidate for the chairmanship of the judiciary committee, but his candidacy is not looked upon as at all formidable.

Not Liked in Legislature.

Palmer was a member of the House of Representatives in 1901, and of the Senate in 1902 and 1905. He was defeated for re-election to the Senate in 1906 by R. F. Borah, but this year made a successful race for election to the lower house. In the 1905 session of the Senate Lieutenant-Governor Coon, at the request of Governor Mead, appointed him chairman of the judiciary committee, but the appointment proved so objectionable to many other members that he was compelled to decline it.

Palmer was law partner of Root up to the time of the latter's appointment to the bench by Governor Mead in 1905. He was also chairman, at the time, of the Republican state central committee. Stories told the Bar Association committee indicate that he has attempted to profit in his law practice through his personal and political relations with Root, notably in the Richardson case in which he is charged with having offered to exert an influence in Richardson's favor for a consideration of $3000.

Involved in Many Scandals.

In addition to his actions with reference to the Supreme Court Palmer practiced before the State Land Office while a State Senator and chairman of the Republican state committee. He acted as tax agent for the Seattle Electric Company and the Puget Sound Mill Company while enjoying the same official and political relations to the State Tax Commission, and was twice involved in scandals growing out of oyster land legislation proposed by him, as a member of the Legislature, while at the same time he was financially interested in a scheme to exploit oyster lands.

When the stories involving the names of Root and Palmer first became public, Palmer's law partners, Carroll B. Graves and James B. Murphy, practically dismissed Palmer from the firm, the formal dissolution occurring November 1.

PRESIDENT NAILS LIBEL

(Continued From First Page.)

gress and through the daily press and the whole matter has been threshed over in its details again and again.

"The News gives currency to the charge that 'The United States bought from American citizens for $40,000,000 property that cost these citizens only $12,000,000.' The statement is false. The United States did not pay a cent of the $40,000,000 to any American citizen. The News says that there is no doubt that the Government paid $40,000,000 for the property, and continues, 'But who got the money? We are not to know. The Administration and Mr. Taft do not think it right that the people should know.' Really this is so ludicrous as to make one feel a little impatient at having to answer it. The fact has been officially published again and again that the Government paid $40,000,000 and it paid this $40,000,000 direct to the French government, getting the receipts of the liquidator appointed by the French government to receive the same. The United States Government has not the slightest knowledge as to the particular individuals among the French government to whom was distributed the sum. This was the business of the French government.

No Rake-Off Received.

"The mere supposition that any American received from the French government a 'rake-off' is too absurd to be discussed. It is an abominable falsehood, and it is a slander not against the American Government, but against the French government.

"The News continues, saying that the President's brother-in-law is involved in the scandal but has nothing to say. The President's brother-in-law was involved in no scandal. Delavan Smith and the other people who repeated this falsehood lied about the President's brother-in-law, but why the fact that Mr. Smith lied should be held to involve Mr. Robinson in a 'scandal' is difficult to understand. The scandal affects no one but Mr. Smith, and his conduct has been not merely scandalous, but infamous. Mr. Robinson had not the slightest connection of any kind, sort, or description at any time or under any circumstances, with the Panama matter. Neither did Charles Taft.

"The News says that Mr. Taft was a member of the 'syndicate.' So far as I know there was no syndicate, there certainly was no syndicate in the United States that, to my knowledge, had any dealings with the Government directly or indirectly and inasmuch as there was no syndicate, Mr. Taft naturally did not belong to it.

Documents May Be Published.

"The News demands that 'Mr. Taft appeal to evidence,' by which it means what it calls 'the records'—that is, the mass of papers which are stored in the War Department, save such as, because of their technical character and their usefulness in the current work of the canal, it has been found advisable to send to the Isthmus. All of these documents that possessed any importance as illustrating any feature of the transaction have already been made public. There remains a great mass of documents of little or no importance which the Administration is entirely willing to have published, but which, because of their mass and pointlessness nobody has ever cared to publish.

"Any reputable man can have full access to these documents." If you or Mr. Swift or Booth Tarkington or George Ade—in short, if any reputable man will come on here he shall have free access to the documents and can look over everything for himself. Congress can have them all printed if it wishes, but no Congressman has ever so far intimated any desire that this should be done; I suppose because to print such a mass of documents would be a great expense, and moreover an entirely useless expense, unless, which is not the case, there were some object in printing them.

Attacks Other Editors.

"Now, by dear Mr. Foulke, I have answered in detail your questions and the statements of the News. You are quite welcome to print my answer, but I must frankly add that I don't think any good will come from doing so. Delavan Smith is a conspicuous offender against the laws of honesty and truthfulness, but he does not stand alone. He occupies, for instance, the same evil eminence which such men as Mr. Laffan, of the New York Sun, the editorials of whose paper you or others have from time to time called to my attention, just as you have called to my attention these editorials of the Indianapolis News. I never see an editorial in any one of these or similar papers unless for some reason it is sent to me by you or by someone else, and of the editorials thus sent me there is hardly one which does not contain some wilful and deliberate perversion of the truth. For example, I have just made public the following statement concerning a tissue of utterly false statements which appeared in Mr. Laffan's paper, the Sun.

Prairie Oil Story.

"As the New York Sun story, entitled 'Roosevelt and Prairie Oil' has seemed to deceive a number of people, the following statement was made public about it:

"'As soon as the story was brought to President Roosevelt's attention he not only called for the reports concerning the statements from the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior, but also communicated with Secretary Hitchcock so as to be sure the President's recollection was not at fault. The story is false in every particular from beginning to end. Not only is there no such report in the Department of Justice and never has been, but no such report was ever made. In granting the franchise of the Prairie Oil & Gas Company, the President simply approved the recommendation of Secretary Hitchcock, submitted him precisely as all other recommendations were submitted. Moreover, in every case referring to the granting of franchises or the adoption of regulations as regards oil and gas franchises in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory, the President approved the recommendation of Secretary Hitchcock, with the exception of one small and unimportant grant to a Delaware Indian, to whom the Delaware Indians, in recognition of eight years of service to the tribe, had voted in council a fee of $50,000 which he had declined to accept and who was given twice the usual amount of land. The statement about the alleged promise to a Western Senator is a ridiculous falsehood, as is the story.'

Falsehood as Business.

"The fact is that these particular newspapers habitually and continually and as a matter of business practice every form of mendacity known to man, from the suppression of the truth and the suggestion of the false, to the lie direct. Those who write or procure others to write the articles are engaged in the practice of mendacity for hire, and surely there can be no lower form of gaining a livelihood. Whether they are paid by outsiders to say what is false, or whether their profit comes from the circulation of the falsehoods is a matter of small consequence.

"It is utterly impossible to answer all of their falsehoods. When any given falsehood is exposed they simply repeat it and circulate another. If they were mistaken in the facts, if they possessed in their makeup any shred of honesty, it would be worth while to set them right. But there is no question at all as to any 'mistake' or 'misunderstanding' on their part. They state what they either know to be untrue or could by the slightest inquiry find out to be the untruth.

"I doubt if they themselves remember their own falsehoods for more than a very brief period and I doubt still more whether anybody else does. Under these circumstances it seems hardly worth while to single out for special mention one or two given falsehoods or one particular paper, the moral standard of which is as low as, but no lower than that of certain other papers.

Not Worth Denouncing.

"Of course, now and then I am willing to denounce a given falsehood, as, for instance, as regards this case of the Indianapolis News or the case I have quoted of the New York Sun, simply because it appears that some worthy people are misled or puzzled by these direct shameless falsehoods. But ordinarily I do not and cannot pay heed to these falsehoods. If I did I would not be able to do my work. My plan has been to go ahead to do the work and to let these people and those like them yell and then trust with abiding confidence to the good sense of the American people in the assured conviction that the yells will die out, the falsehoods be forgotten and the work remain.

"Therefore, as far as I am concerned, I would rather make no answer whatever in this case. But I have much confidence in your judgment and if you feel that these men ought to be exposed, why you are welcome to publish this letter.

Good Newspaper Benefit.

"There is no higher and more honest calling than that of the men connected with an upright, fearless and truthful newspaper; no calling in which a man can render greater service to his fellow countrymen. The best and ablest editors and writers in the daily press render a service to the community which can hardly be paralleled by the service rendered by the best and ablest men in public life, or the men in business. But the converse of this proposition is also true. Most corrupt financiers, the most corrupt politicians are no greater menace to this country than the newspapermen of the type that I above discussed. Whether they belong to the yellow press or to the purchased press, whatever may be the stimulating cause of their slanderous mendacity and whatever the cloak it may wear, matters but little. In any event, they represent one of the potent forces for evil in the community. Yours very truly,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"William Dudley Foulke, Richmond, Ind."

SMITH EXPLAINS EDITORIAL

Says Credit Was Given Source and He Was Absent at Time.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 6.—Delavan Smith, here today on his way to New York, was shown a copy of President Roosevelt's letter and made the following reply:

The President's comments on the Panama editorials are based on statements made by a prominent New York man to the New York Sun, which the Indianapolis News printed at the same time, with many other papers, giving full credit to the source from which it obtained it. In making the editorial comment to which the President takes exception, the editor of the News credits its information to the New York paper making the charge and distinctly disclaims any responsibility for its accuracy.

This editorial was published in the ordinary course of the daily routine of the editorial department at a time when I was absent from Indianapolis and therefore could not have been inspired by any personal motive.

During the campaign information reached me that Mr. Foulke had in his possession a letter of the nature of the one now made public and I was further informed that it was left by the President to Mr. Foulke's judgment whether the letter should be used in the campaign. When this information reached me I at once telephoned Mr. Foulke, extending to him the use of the columns of the News for this purpose, but Mr. Foulke did not see fit to avail himself of the opportunity during the campaign. So much for the personal criticism of me by the President. The News will deal editorially with the President's explanation in due time.

GIRL SAVES HER MOTHER

Rescues Parent When Attacked by Husband With Butcher Knife.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Nineteen-year-old Lulu Bankenbrink saved her mother's life and her own today by overpowering her father, August Bankenbrink, in a hand-to-hand struggle, after he had attacked them with a butcher knife and a revolver. Both women were seriously slashed by the frenzied man before the girl disarmed him.

Bankenbrink was arrested. He is 49 years old, and is said to have been acting strangely for some time.

PROMINENT FIGURES IN PARIS TRAGEDY

MADAME STEINHEIL

EX-PRES. FAURE — ARTIST STEINHEIL

BOSSLETS WROTH AT TIM WOODRUFF

New York Chairman Excoriated for Yielding Up Senatorship so Easily.

STRONG CLUB SACRIFICED

Prospects for Getting Good Jobs for Eager Aspirants of Empire State Regarded as Lessened by Woodruff's Rashness.

BY LLOYD F. LONERGAN

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—"And Taft wired to Woodruff to come to Hot Springs, and when Bill saw him he said, 'Here, kid! You give that Senatorship to Elihu,' and Tim did."

This is one explanation of the state chairman's renunciation of high office, whatever the facts may be, Woodruff's followers are highly indignant, and they are already planning to strip him of his remaining political raiment.

For the various party bossiets had expected that through the Senatorship they would be able to wring various concessions from the President-elect. So they declined to pledge themselves to Root, and talked gravely of the merits of various candidates, of whom Woodruff was the chief.

They imagined that a period of great activity would result, and finally Taft would be compelled to make terms which would redound greatly to their advantage.

So Barnes started a little boom of his own, and J. Sloat Fassett was mentioned, while Francis Hendricks, Senator Raines, George W. Aldridge, Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., Frank Black, and all the other minor leaders announced, in statesmenlike tones, that the "Legislature would decide."

Parsons Slid Down Pole as Usual.

The only bosslet who landed on the bandwagon at the start was Herbert Parsons, of New York. He always slides down the pole, one second after Roosevelt turns in an alarm.

Woodruff was the busiest little man in New York for several weeks. He rounded up the Kings County delegation, and they unanimously voted to support him to the bitter end. He also picked up pledges in other parts of the state.

And then, while the Woodruff army was drawn up in battle array, the General hastily appeared and announced that he had surrendered everybody, without the honors of war. He advised them to line up for Root, and in ten minutes the Secretary of State was the only candidate in the field.

"Betrayed," Cry Bosslets.

But the bosslets are angry and declare they have been betrayed. And unless Taft feels inclined to interfere, or Roosevelt postpones his lion hunt, Timothy L. Woodruff will lose his political scalp.

"Woodruff has made our organization the laughing stock of the Nation," says one man, regarded upstate as large potatoes. "We had an excellent chance to show Taft that we controlled things, but now he will not bother about consulting us, and nobody can blame him.

"On previous occasions Woodruff has been a quitter, but this time we really believed he would stick. He said so for one thing, and in addition had everything to gain and nothing to lose by making a fight. But at the very first harsh word, Tim throws down his arms, and leaves the organization up in the air.

"We need a new state chairman, and the matter is under discussion now. As yet we have not picked out a candidate, but it wouldn't surprise me a bit if Congressman Herbert Parsons was the man. Everytime we have been forced to do something we do not want to do, Parsons has landed in the wagon about three jumps ahead of the dognet. The rest of us are roped and thrown in, so Parsons is justified in claiming that he is never coerced, and always acts on his own judgment.

"Any man who can read storm signals and act on them as promptly as Parsons can, would make a good director-general of our organization. Of course he would take his orders from Washington, but that is what all the rest of us would do in the end, so what difference does it make?"

This politician, like all his associates, realizes that Woodruff cannot be ousted, unless Taft and Roosevelt agree to keep their hands off. So they are now straining every nerve to convince the incoming and the outgoing President of the absolute unfitness of "Little Tim."

Where Woodruff Does Not Shine.

One point against the state chairman is that he is decidedly persona non grata with Governor Hughes. In fact he has never been a welcome guest at the Executive Mansion, and added to his unpopularity last Fall when he led the battle to prevent the Governor's renomination.

On the other hand Parsons and Hughes are on fairly friendly terms. They have been lined up on legislative matters a number of times, and the Governor has frequently called the Manhattan Congressman into consultation. In fact Parsons is one of the few men in the state who can be said to have an intimate acquaintance with Hughes.

While plans are under way to steal Woodruff's state chairmanship coat, certain individuals in Brooklyn are preparing to take away his county leadership vest.

Of the 23 Assembly district leaders, ten have already formed a combination, and they expect to win over half a dozen more within a month or so.

Congressman William M. Calder, who, strangely enough, represents Woodruff's home district, is the man slated for leader, and seems to be the choice of practically all the insurgents.

These leaders claim that Woodruff is neither recognized nor consulted at Washington, and is snubbed at Albany. He has no patronage to dispose of and does not stand well with the rank and file of voters. Therefore they believe he should step down and make room for a man who can do things, brace up the organization and annex patronage that, by rights, should go to Brooklyn.

Woodruff Called "Easy."

"Woodruff is the only big leader who didn't secure a place on the state ticket which was elected in November," said one disgusted follower. "We had candidates, but Tim refused to allow their names to be presented. The other leaders told him he ought to make way for other counties, because Brooklyn would be represented when he was elected United States Senator.

"And Woodruff took it all in, and left us unprovided for, because he believed it would help his own fight. Now none of us have got anything, and Woodruff is as badly off as the rest."

The report that the state chairman will be consoled with a Ambassadorship has been received with laughter and expressions of disbelief. However, things may shape themselves so that Woodruff will be "rewarded." He declares himself that he is not a candidate, which, in some quarters, is taken as an indication that he will be one of the 1909 brand of diplomats.

It is pointed out that if Woodruff is in Bucharest, or Sofia, or Constantinople, he will naturally resign his political offices, and the way would be cleared without excitement or yells of anguish, for a new state chairman and a new leader of Kings County.

Sun Waxes Sarcastic.

"Yes, it would be cheap at the price," remarked an up-state Congressman who is a bitter foe of Woodruff, "and perhaps he would make a good Ambassador."

As an illustration of the general feeling toward Woodruff the following editorial from the New York Sun is of interest:

"We must protest against the malicious attempt or desire to export the Hon. Tim Woodruff. No doubt he would shine as an Ambassador. If he has not the tongues he has gifts more potent. Compact of person, beautiful of habiliment, of long experience in the negotiations and diplomacies and deals of politics, accustomed to yield, yet rising from temporary disappointment with unconquerable ambition still seething in his patient bosom, he would surprise foreigners and glorify himself anew in parts of the infidels. But New York, the country cannot spare him. In vain the Patagonians stretch out imploring arms and the rude anthropophagi of the Solomon Islands await him with ecstasy. The American market for an American statesman."

It must be admitted that this notice is hardly as "classy" as Woodruff's famous waistcoats.

Maeterlinck Writing Play.

PARIS, Dec. 5.—(Special.)—M. Maurice Maeterlinck, whose last play was "Monna Vanna," is at work on a drama which touches upon far-reaching questions. "Marie Madeleine" will be a play of clashing religions, and the two faiths opposed will be Christianity and the austerest doctrine to which the ancient world arrived. Stoicism.

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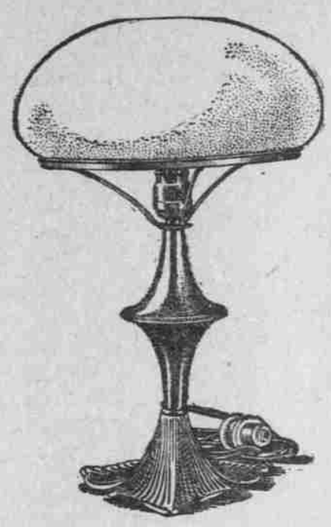

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WEIRD RITES AT POTLATCH

NOOKSACK TRIBE DISINTERS BODIES OF THEIR DEAD.

Chief Yellowkanim Spends Thousands of Dollars in Lavish Entertainment at Lynden.

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—An Indian potlatch, or gift feast, given by Jim Yellowkanim, the old chief of the Nooksack tribe and the wealthiest Indian in the northwestern part of the state, has just closed at his ranch at Lynden.

It was attended by 400 Siwashes of every tribe in the section from Skagit County to the Fraser River in British Columbia, and was marked by the wild, peculiar ceremonies of the aborigines.

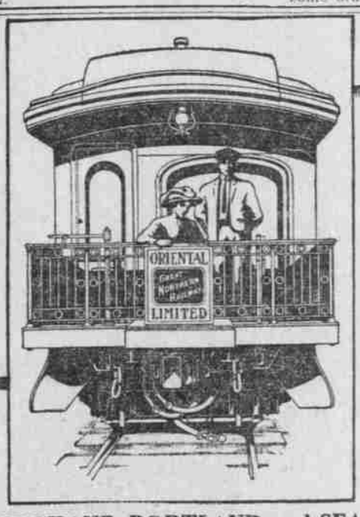
The Indians disinterred and reburied all the dead of the Nooksack tribe, the weird rite being performed in the cemetery owned by the chief, marked by all due solemnity and ritualistic performances. A big "medicine dance," in which all the guests took part, closed the congress of the natives.

Yellowkanim distributed, during the course of the potlatch, gifts to the value of hundreds of dollars, and his lavish entertainment of the tribes cost him thousands.

$20,000,000 ORANGE CROP

Southern California Will Have a Yield Equal to Last Year.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 6.—Information from correspondents in all the orange-growing districts of Southern California received tonight by the Times shows the orange crop will bring this year in the neighborhood of $20,000,000. The crop will total in number of carloads about that of last year. It is ripening slowly. There is a decrease in the yield in some sections and an increase in others. The fruit is of smaller size than that of last year and the quality is high. Shipments are being prepared for holiday trade and some oranges are moving.



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FOR VANCOUVER.
Ticket office and waiting-room Second and Washington streets.
A. M.—6:15*, 6:50, 7:25, 8:00, 8:35, 9:10, 9:50, 10:30, 11:10, 11:50.
P. M.—12:30, 1:10, 1:50, 2:30, 3:10, 3:50, 4:30, 5:10, 5:50, 6:30, 7:05, 7:40, 8:15, 9:25, 10:35**, 11:45**.
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