

WIFE OF ETHERIDGE STANDS BY FUGITIVE

Broker Husband Victim of Lies, Says Woman.

Charges Branded False

Graphic Story is Told of Struggle of ex-Convict to "Go Straight" Against Terrific Odds.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—John L. Etheridge, quondam bond magnate of the Pacific coast, continued to deny himself to all visitors while enjoying the best accommodations that could be afforded at the city jail today.

The story of the wife of a reformed ex-convict, who will stand by her husband in another time of trouble, whether he appears right or wrong, because she loves him and believes in his honesty, was told by Mrs. John L. Etheridge, wife of the Portland bond broker.

Faith of Wife Unshaken. Her husband was released from the New Jersey penitentiary 14 years ago and is awaiting trial in Portland to take him back to the Rose City in connection with alleged discrepancies in the books of Morris Brothers, bond and real estate company, Seattle and Tacoma. But this does not shake her faith.

She brands many of the accusations against him as lies and declares that he has lived an honest and useful life. She says he is a big man—public spirited and generous—she has striven for years to live down a mistake made in his earlier life.

Her story tells of a man's hard, uphill fight after he has trespassed upon the law, even though he has once paid his full debt to society for his wrong doing. It is a plea for more fair-minded public and a more honest and less condemning public press.

Woman Fears Newspapers. The story was told by Mrs. Etheridge in her apartment at the Hotel Radisson, where she is waiting to return with her husband to Portland. She feared to be quoted, for she blames Portland newspapers for much of the trouble that has befallen her, but she finally consented after being assured that she would receive fair treatment.

"I want to say that my husband has worked hard, many days slaving both day and night to make up for his mistake, and he has lived an honest and energetic life since his trouble," said Mrs. Etheridge in a voice that carried much of bitterness in it.

"I only wish people would not be so eager to turn on a man before he has had a chance to present his side of the case.

"What good are our methods of reform if a man is not to get an equal chance with others after he has paid the price once?

Price is Paid Many Times. "Paid the price once—how weak that sounds. Why, I can never tell you how many, many times we both have paid it.

"I cannot speak of the trouble in Portland for I do not know the facts, nor does anyone else know them, although others talk much. But we will get back there and learn them and I am confident it is just the old trouble coming up again.

"Mr. Etheridge and I left Portland on a vacation, and as soon as we left the story of Mr. Etheridge's earlier trouble was published by a paper that has constantly hated and attacked him. What I think is that this story cut off the company's credit with the bond house and it was unable to continue business.

"We were not running away from Portland, as some have tried to make it appear. Oh! how false that is.

On Six Months' Vacation. "We were on a six months' vacation for Mr. Etheridge's health, which had broken down after months of hard work with the company, the state and the government Liberty Loan campaign.

"Mr. Etheridge was prominent in all public affairs in Portland, and was in charge of the Liberty loan drive in Oregon outside of Portland. Oregon led the nation in proportionate subscriptions.

MORRIS' HOLDINGS WILL BE IDENTIFIED

Bond House Receiver Is to Take Action Today.

FRED S. MORRIS IS HELD

Aid to Etheridge in Obtaining Citizenship When Not Entitled to It Is Charged.

(Continued From First Page.)

and learned that they were in no way connected with any bond companies in this city. They have taken full charge of the legal work, succeeding the firm of Teal, Minor and Evans. Mr. Minor, it was learned, had been the personal attorney for Fred S. Morris, while the law firm had been employed to examine the validity of many bond issues purchased by Morris Bros., Inc.

Mr. Whitcomb asked that all persons holding interim certificates and other creditors of the firm to address letters to him explaining any feature of their relations with the defunct firm, but not to attempt to obtain information by means of the telephone.

No Property to Be Removed. He said that under no consideration will any person be permitted to remove any bit of property from the building except upon order of court. The sole exception is when persons appear to procure personal property from safety deposit boxes.

Earlier press reports that Etheridge had \$75,000 in bonds in his possession when taken into custody at Minneapolis were found to be incorrect. It was said yesterday by District Attorney Evans, in a telegram from John F. Walker, superintendent of police of Minneapolis, the district attorney was informed that in addition to the \$11,500 in bonds, Etheridge had an American Railway Express receipt for the \$75,000 in bonds which he shipped from Tacoma on the night of his departure, and coupons from these bonds of a value of \$218.50. This sets to rest all former theories that Etheridge had made away with bonds either from the Portland or Tacoma offices of the company.

"Mystery Suit" Falls Through. The "mystery suit" which Dr. J. D. Duback announced at a mass meeting of creditors Tuesday night, failed to materialize when Barge E. Leonard, attorney for Dr. Duback, found out that the bond house, which was to be based on insufficient Dr. Duback had been given to understand that Morris Brothers, Inc., were agents for the city of Edmond, in the sale of more than \$2,000,000 in bonds to the local bond concern. If investigation yesterday had disclosed that the bond house had acted as agent for the Canadian city, attachment proceedings against the bonds, now being held in escrow, should have been started. Mr. Leonard, however, announced last night that no suit of this nature is to be filed.

Judge William McCamant, requested by John L. Etheridge to serve as chief counsel for the defense, could give no intimation of his probable reply when he returned to the city last night on being asked if he would accept, beyond declaring that his mind is open and that he prefers to talk with Etheridge before making a decision.

Kindly Feeling Expressed. "At any rate," said Judge McCamant, "I'm not going to join the hue and cry against Etheridge, whatever happens. I know him very slightly, having talked with him but two or three times. But I have a kindly feeling toward him, for I recognize the excellent public service that he rendered during the war drives. And I am not going to assume that all the things said about him are true."

"When he returns to Portland, I shall talk with him. Personally, I am inclined to believe that his attorney should be one who would devote his entire time to the case. And my desk is piled high with responsible work, that must be attended to. If it develops that he must have a lawyer who can give individual and entire attention to the case, then, in any event, I shall be unable to serve him."

Morris has been cited to appear before United States Commissioner Fraser at 2 o'clock Friday, January 7, for his preliminary hearing. It was announced yesterday at the federal building. The federal grand jury will be called for early next month by United States Attorney Humphreys.

ASHURST WANTS ACTION (Continued From First Page.) Forster, assistant secretary, was out of the city. No one authorized to get the senator in touch with the president was in the White House.

After attacking all possible openings, Senator Ashurst decided to take the White House by storm. He exclaimed angrily, "and I have a right to seek the president in a matter of such importance to thousands of innocent men who are in danger of being robbed of everything they have worked for."

With this announcement the Arizona senator made a direct frontal attack on the main entrance of the White House. Here he was met by the suave doorkeeper, Hoover. Having denied admission to many in his day, one senator more or less made little difference to the after guard. Senator Ashurst was repulsed.

Finding storming attacks useless, Senator Ashurst returned to Secretary Tully's office for a last effort. He announced he would stay there if it took all winter.

In the meantime Secretary Tully was found and endeavored to soothe the ruffled feelings of the Arizona senator. It was no easy task. Mr. Tully explained that the bill was on his desk, but John Barton Payne, secretary of the interior, is in Pinehurst, N. C., and until Mr. Payne could be reached the president could not be approached. Mr. Tully explained to the angry senator that without the recommendation of the secretary of the interior, the president would probably veto the bill if an attempt were made to rush him.

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READJUSTMENT SALE!

We purpose taking our losses quickly and have it over with. It is our plan to sell every dollar's worth of our present merchandise in the shortest possible time and thus be able to restock with goods of 1921 manufacture.

AMAZING REDUCTIONS!

Every Winter Overcoat in Our Stock 1/2 Price

Every Business Suit in Our Stock as Follows:

All Suits Up to \$65, Now \$38

All Suits from \$75 to \$90, Now \$58

All Evening Garments, Vests, Pantaloon, Sport Garments and Raincoats at 1/4 Off!

All Furnishing Goods 30% Off!

All Hats and Caps... 30% Off!

All Bags and Suitcases 30% Off!

At these stupendous reductions all purchases must be for CASH. This sale will, of necessity, continue for a few days only. Never in our business history have such drastic price reductions been made on high-class wearing apparel.

Winthrop Hammond Co.

Correct Apparel for Men

127 Sixth Street, Between Washington and Alder Sts.

Formerly Buffum & Pendleton Established 1884

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INTEREST HOLDERS IN MORRIS BROS., INC., CASE.

It is officially announced that all creditors concerned in the Morris Bros., Inc., case should file soon their statements of claims with the receiver in bankruptcy, A. M. Cannon, office in the old postoffice building.

Unless they file their claims, creditors are not considered, and should dividends be paid later, they will receive none, no matter how meritorious their claims may be.

Statements must be sworn to before a notary public. For details or further guidance, creditors may consult their headquarters, the office of Dr. J. D. Duback, 171 Broadway.

firm of McLaren, Goode & Co., today was auditing the books of the San Francisco offices in the Merchants Bldg. building, preparatory to turning them over to the receiver in bankruptcy.

Eaton said the volume of business done by the San Francisco branch, which had been ordered closed, was not large because the offices here were only established last April. He said that all transactions were completed in the head office in Portland, and for that reason the exact amounts of losses to investors in San Francisco and vicinity could not be determined until further check with the Portland office.

"The banks will be the principal losers here," said Eaton. "The losses to individual investors should not total more than \$20,000. The banks, however, which in some cases made partial payments before bonds were delivered, will be caught by the failure of the company."

"Most of the bond losses were of the city of Edmond, Okla., issue, which Morris Brothers bought. Deposits of these bonds in the city were taken, but the bonds have not been delivered in all cases.

"Some of the banks have received their bonds direct from the city of Edmond and will suffer no losses. Others, however, will be out money advanced.

"The affairs of the company are in a state of chaos, and I have not been informed of developments. Until I reach Portland and check up local accounts I will not be in a position to determine the effect the collapse of the bond house will have on San Francisco patrons of the company."

W. D. Whitcomb Bros., receiver in bankruptcy, in ordering the closing of the office of the San Francisco office of Morris Bros., Inc., sent the following telegram which has been posted on the doors of the concern:

"The undersigned this day has been appointed receiver in bankruptcy to Morris Bros., Inc. You are instructed to discontinue all business at the San Francisco office of Morris Bros., Inc., and to take all precautions possible to preserve existing assets. You are also requested to continue to act as agents for the San Francisco office pending further notice. It is suggested that you retain your staff intact until it is possible to have a personal conference with you in San Francisco or Portland."

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 29.—A. C. Miller of Seattle was elected president of the Washington branch of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, organized here today at the close of a conference of delegates representing 3000 disabled veterans of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Other officers elected were: F. L. Quinton, Tacoma, first vice-president; J. E. Shaw, Pullman, second vice-president; F. W. Woodbridge, Seattle, secretary; H. R. Langtry, Seattle, treasurer; board of trustees: E. J. Messenger and C. D. Johnson, Tacoma; F. P. Fountain and S. C. Hodgson, Pullman; F. B. Knapp, Seattle.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN RALLIES Second Operation Upon Senator Deferred Owing to Relapse. THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU. Washington, Dec. 29.—Senator Chamberlain showed considerable improvement tonight, when he suffered a serious relapse, according to emergency hospital authorities. It was said that the high temperature which caused alarm reappeared only in a mild form today.

Spokane Crime on Increase. SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 29.—Crime in Spokane on the increase, according to police records, and authorities are considering the employment of additional force. The present force is unable to cope with the situation, police assert. Drug addicts, they say, make up the majority of persons arrested for petty crimes.

WOUNDED CONVICT WORSE

SHOT IN THROAT DANGEROUS, SAY PRISON DOCTORS.

Man Hurt in Attempt to Break Out of Walla Walla Penitentiary is in Serious Condition.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Joe Smith, a guard injured in the break at the prison last night, was reported in a worse condition tonight. P. D. Williams, convict, who was shot while trying to escape, was worse tonight than this afternoon. His fever was higher and his throat, penetrated by a bullet, was bothering him. He will not be out of danger for several days.

Williams' injuries were due principally to a steel bullet striking an iron bar or plate, and fracturing splinters entered his body. He also was wounded in two places by rifle bullets. He was one of the leaders in the attempted break.

The men involved in the break were: P. D. Williams, 23, committed from Chelan county for burglary, five to 15 years, ex-convict from San Quentin; Thomas O. Young, 29, Pierce county grand larceny, one to 15 years, ex-convict from San Quentin; Frank Holmes, 26, King county, robbery, 10 to 20 years, ex-convict from San Quentin; George J. Williams, 23, King county, robbery, 10 to 20 years; W. T. Coles, King county, assault in first degree, 10 to 20 years; Arthur Woods, 22, King county, habitual criminal, 10 years to life. With the exception of Williams, who is in the hospital, the men were locked in the dungeon.

FOR-HIRE AUTOS TARGET

Drivers Reported to Be Taking Up Too Much Parking Space.

A proposed ordinance to regulate the number of automobiles occupying stands issued to for-hire drivers by the city in the business section of the city will be presented to the council next week, and a public meeting will be held before the council next Thursday afternoon, it was announced yesterday by the city council.

MOTOR BUS HEARING SET

Council May Grant Portland-Linnton Line Franchise.

A special hearing on the question of granting a franchise for an automobile bus line from Portland to Linnton will be held by the city council next Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Commissioner Mann announced yesterday.

CARUSO HAS PLEURISY

Physicians Declare Condition of Singer to Be Serious.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Enrico Caruso, tenor, who has been seriously ill in his apartment here for more than a week, has developed suppurative pleurisy, attending physicians said tonight.

ECONOMY CRUSADE BEGUN

(Continued From First Page.)

was due principally to the \$10,000,000 increase in the pay of city letter carriers, the \$26,000,000 increase allowed the railroads for mail transportation and the \$12,500,000 increase in pay of clerks and employes.

Have Faith in Portland

The status of Honest Endeavor, of Honest Enterprises and of Honest Men is never changed by the exposure of that which is crooked.

There is a city full of honest men and honest enterprises in Portland worthy of your confidence.

All business is based upon Credit and Credit is based upon Faith.

Have Faith in Portland, in Portland's Honest Business Men and in Portland's Honest Manufacturing Enterprises.

Show your Faith by investing your funds in legitimate home enterprises which build up Portland and benefit all in this community. We have been urging this for several weeks past in our advertising campaign offering the stock of the Portland Vegetable Oil Mills Company direct from company to investor.

Do not chase the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

There are just as good opportunities for investment to be had in Portland as anywhere in the United States or Canada.

The continuance and further development of the vegetable oil industry in Portland is one of these good opportunities.

Write direct to our office for full information regarding this particular industry and company.

Advertisement for Portland Vegetable Oil Mills Co. featuring Bellans Indigestion 25 Cents. Includes phone number 821 and address 805-6-7 Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon.