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TAFT SURE WINNER, SAYS WELLMAN

Probably Be Named on First Ballot.

MAY BE ROOSEVELT ERUPTION

Political Weather Forecaster Gives Figures.

HOW STATES WILL VOTE

Finds All Republican States Which Have No Favorite Sons Are for Taft—Roosevelt Sentiment Is the Only Doubtful Element.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Wiring to the Record-Herald tonight, Walter Wellman says in part:

So great is the probability of W. H. Taft's nomination for President by the Chicago convention that we are almost, if not quite, justified in regarding it as a foregone conclusion. There is a great probability that the nomination will be made on the first ballot. The one element of serious doubt as to the outcome lies in the possibility of an upheaval for President Roosevelt for a second elective term.

If Not Taft, Then Roosevelt.

Fairly full and accurate information as to the political situation in all parts of the country, secured during my recent Western tour and since returning to Washington, strengthens the belief formed two months ago that Taft is to win, but that, if Taft for any reason is not nominated, the President will be.

That there is no opposition to Taft and to the President we all know. I have made diligent inquiries as to the facts which led the opponents of the leading candidate to believe he can be beaten, and the result is not reassuring from their standpoint. Their claims do not stand scrutiny. Their generalizations are strong, but their details are weak.

For a clear understanding of the situation as it is seen today, let us look at the country geographically. We have certain well defined political areas.

First, New England, six states with 82 votes in the Republican National Convention.

Second, The states with "favorite sons," five in number, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, with 256 votes in the convention.

Third, The Southern states, almost certainly Democratic at the election, omitting Maryland and Missouri, 12 in number, with 268 votes in the convention.

Four, The remainder of the North, West and Coast states and the territories, 23 states in all, including Maryland and Missouri, with 388 votes in the convention.

Total number of states, 46; total number of votes in the convention, 992; necessary to nominate, 497.

Sure Votes for Taft.

Information of trustworthy character as to the choice of the delegates from the states in this great belt, sweeping from ocean to ocean, and beyond the two oceans, sums up as follows:

	Total Votes.	Probably for Taft.
New Jersey	24	20
Delaware	6	..
Maryland	16	16
West Virginia	14	14
Ohio	46	46
Michigan	28	24
Minnesota	22	20
North Dakota	8	8
South Dakota	8	8
Iowa	26	26
Nebraska	16	16
Missouri	36	36
Kansas	20	20
Oklahoma	14	10
Colorado	10	10
Wyoming	6	6
Utah	6	6
Montana	6	6
Nevada	6	6
California	20	16
Oregon	8	8
Washington	10	10
Idaho	6	6
Territories	26	26
Total	388	364

The well informed friends of Judge Taft believe he will get every vote from the states and territories named in the foregoing list, or 388 in all. But we shall surely be within reason if we assume that on the first ballot this great National belt of Republican, or probably or possibly Republican states, gives him 350 votes. He would still need about 150 for the nomination.

Where Taft Will Get the Rest.

It is well known that much more than one-half of the South is for Taft. In fact, he is to have nearly all of it. Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, the greater part of Georgia and Alabama, all of Tennessee and Virginia, Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas are for Taft. Kentucky is for Fairbanks. There will be many contesting delegates from the South.

We are therefore justified in assuming that on the first roll-call fully 200 of the 266 southern delegates will vote for Taft. If only one-half of them do so, a second ballot will not be needed.

With 375 votes from the great central belt and New England combined, Taft needs about 125 more to win. The distinctively Southern states have 266. The five states with favorite sons have 256. If Taft could get only one-half of the South added to the foregoing estimate, he would have enough without encroaching upon the favorite-son states or, in other words, on the first ballot.

Of the 14 votes from Connecticut he is pretty sure of ten, and may have all. Of the 32 from Massachusetts he may get 16 or 12 on the first ballot. Of the eight from New Hampshire, he already has five. Vermont usually lands "with the winner," and there are eight votes which may come to Taft. Maine and Rhode Island are now uncertain. At least the friends of Taft count upon 25 to 35 of the 88 votes from New England, and hope for many more.

Gets Some Favorite-Son Votes.

But suppose a second ballot should be necessary and always assuming that the Roosevelt earthquake, of which men talk so much, fails to erupt. In the natural order of things, the columns of votes 256 strong, held by the five favorite sons, must dissolve sooner or later. The point is that, if the opportunity should arise, all of these 256 favorite son votes cannot be delivered to any one of them. The moment the 256 votes in the favorite-son column begin to shift, the leader in the race, almost a winner, inevitably gets enough votes from one or other of the states to push him over the line. There is small probability that it will come to this.

Thomas L. Lewis, New President of United Mineworkers of America.

STEP TO JEWISH FREEDOM

Russia to Allow Wives to Emigrate if Husbands Write Letters.

ODESSA, Feb. 15.—The Governor-General has announced that in the future the wives of Hebrews who have emigrated to America may obtain passports upon presentation of an authentic letter from their husbands inviting them to join them. This decision is welcome to the Jewish women, who up to the present time have not been permitted to emigrate without authorization from their husbands in person.

PUT SLEUTHS ON BANKERS' TRAILS

Depositors Learn About Their Habits.

HAVE CEASED TO BE TRUSTFUL

Detective Causes Account to Be Transferred.

SHADY DIRECTOR EXPELLED

Exposure of Frenzied Banking During the Panic Produces Caution. Methods and Associates of the Bankers Under Scrutiny.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Within a few weeks, in the wake of recent financial developments, detectives of New York City have found a new branch of their business developing in learning the reputation, and, as far as possible, the character of bank officers and directors. It is nothing new for a bank to want to know something about the men with whom it is doing business, but now the depositors are getting more particular and are becoming deeply interested in the men who handle their money and want to know their associates, habits of life, and general business methods.

Learned Truth, Changed Bank.

"It was about a month ago that my attention was called to this," said a member of a Lower Broadway detective agency. "A large depositor of one of the banks in this section came to me with a list of its officers and asked me to learn all I could of their habits, methods and associates, both business and social.

"In two weeks I made my report, in consequence of which he changed his account to another bank, on which I likewise reported."

It has been learned that this same sort of thing is going on in many directions and that depositors in the banks of the metropolis are more than ever interested in the personnel of the banks with which they are transacting business.

Director Forced to Resign.

Another detective told of a group of seven depositors, who had joined and retained him to report on the directors of the bank where they did business. About a week after he had reported that there was one questionable man in the directory, who was engaged in doubtful transactions, the man resigned and the bank took particular pains to give the matter the broadest publicity.

In another case a depositor who carries an average balance of $300,000 said:

Public Has Been Too Lax.

"Why shouldn't we be particular about this matter? The fact is that the general business public has been entirely too lax in this direction. We have been governed entirely too much by bank statements, capital, surplus, dividends and all that sort of stuff, when we didn't know what the men inside were really doing or what, from their characters, they were likely to do."

ARREST MORSE ON ARRIVAL

Detectives Will Take Him From the Steamer at Quarantine.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Detectives attached to the District Attorney's office were given a warrant tonight and instructed to arrest Charles W. Morse when the steamer Etruria arrived.

The Etruria is expected tomorrow morning. Two officers will go down the harbor on the United States revenue cutter and meet the steamship at Quarantine. Arrangements have been made to take Morse from the Etruria's pier directly to the home of Justice Dowling, who will fix the bail. It is understood that counsel for Morse have arranged to have a bondsman on hand when he is arranged.

From the disclosures made as a result of the writ of attachment on Charles W. Morse's property which was served on every bank and trust company in New York, as well as upon many brokers and other individuals, a schedule was prepared today. This makes public for the first time a practically completed list of Morse's securities pledged as collateral and the amount of loans he has outstanding against them.

Loans to a total amount of $2,332,500 are shown in the schedule and against them are placed not only the securities pledged with banks and individuals but all the real estate standing in Morse's name.

Included in the list, but not separately named, are loans obtained from a large number of banks, trust companies and individuals outside of New York aggregating $138,000.

LAWRENCE, Feb. 15.—An attach-

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School children will plant roses in the park blocks. Section 1, page 8.

Country Club will make Portland great livestock center. Section 4, page 10.

PROSECUTE THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC

Government to Take Action for Rebates.

LANE PREPARES BIG REPORT

Takes Exhaustive Testimony of "Special Inside Rates."

JUSTIFIED BY BUSINESS

Railroad Makes Claim That Practice Was Necessary to Secure Shipments—District Attorneys to Begin Proceedings Soon.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Prosecutions are to be instituted by the Government against the Southern Pacific Company and against certain officials of that railway organization on allegations that they paid rebates to shippers.

Information which is to be a basis for these prosecutions was obtained by Franklin K. Lane, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, last Autumn, in the course of an extensive inquiry made by him into the affairs of the Southern Pacific Company.

By direction of the Interstate Commerce Commission Mr. Lane visited the Pacific Coast and for several weeks conducted his inquiries into the alleged changes of rebating which had reached the Commission. Mr. Lane's report of his investigation, including a transcript of the testimony taken by him in a formal hearing, as an Interstate Commerce Commissioner, was made public today. The report has been approved by the Commission and a transcript of the report and the evidence adduced at the hearing has been transmitted to the Department of Justice for "such prosecutions under the law as may be warranted."

Collateral with the proposed action by the Government, the Railroad Commission of California has been furnished, at its own request, with a transcript of the report and evidence, and has indicated to the Interstate Commerce Commission its purpose to prosecute alleged violations of the California law that may be shown by the report.

Voluminous Testimony Taken.

The testimony taken by Commissioner Lane was voluminous and in the course of the report references to the verbatim testimony are made as a basis for the several paragraphs of the report.

One of the particularly interesting features of the evidence was developed just at the conclusion of the formal hearing, when Mr. Lane refused to place on the witness-stand W. G. Luce, general freight agent of the Southern Pacific Company. The request that Mr. Luce give sworn testimony in the case was made by P. F. Dunne, counsel for the Southern Pacific Company. Mr. Lane declined to administer the oath to Mr. Luce because he frankly stated he did not wish to accord Mr. Luce, by administering an oath to him and taking his testimony, immunity from prosecution for violations of the law. He offered to receive a statement from Mr. Luce respecting the rebate practices of the Southern Pacific Company and enter it as a part of the record in the case, but he made it clear that this statement was not to be made under oath.

In the course of his report Mr. Lane says that his inquiry was conducted in San Francisco, October 3, 1907, and that from the evidence adduced he finds:

Findings of the Report.

The existence of an extensive system of preferential rates granted certain shippers on interstate business by the Southern Pacific Company. The record discloses a list of 106 firms, corporations and individuals who enjoy what are known as "special inside rates"—less than the rates published to the general public—on the movement of certain designated traffic between points within the state of California.

That shippers paid the full rate published in the first instance and were allowed the refund on claims which went through the auditing department under instructions from the traffic department that such special rates should apply upon interstate shipments without tariff authority.

That such refunds amounted in various months of the years 1906 and 1907 to from $30,000 to $50,000 per month.

That such refunds given to one firm amounted to the sum of $23,934 during the period from April, 1906 (the date of the San Francisco fire, when all previous records were destroyed), to September 23, 1907, and such refunds to other shippers ranged in amount from $13,690 to $22,251.

Rebates of Long Standing.

That such refunds, or discounts from the regular rates have been continuing for a long period and up to the date of the hearing in October, 1907.

That many of such state shippers to whom such refunds were allowed were large interstate shippers.

That one of the shippers admitted at the hearing that the granting of such inside rate on the stated movement influenced routing of subsequent interstate shipment of such traffic over the rails of the Southern Pacific Company.

That in one instance the general freight agent of the Southern Pacific Company provided by voucher, dated July 21, 1906, for the payment to an interstate shipper of one-half of the local rate, which such shipper had paid to another railroad for the movement from point of origin to a Southern Pacific terminal where the traffic began its journey over the Southern Pacific lines.

That there existed for years an understanding between the Southern Pacific Company and the Santa Fe Company and certain shippers of dried fruits that the traffic which moved into points of connection for transcontinental shipment should be entitled at the end of the shipping season to a refund of one-half of the local rate charged at the time of the original movement.

Justified by Business Obtained.

That the voucher books containing the so-called refunds on state shipments also contained records of refunds given upon the interstate shipments.

That some of the refunds upon interstate business were paid by the special written instructions of freight officials after the claims had been denied by the auditing department.

The justification offered by the officials and representatives of the Southern Pacific Company for these practices revealed was that in general they were made necessary to secure traffic which shippers would move otherwise were such rebates not granted.

In view of the foregoing, it is decreed that a copy of the transcript of the testimony in this matter be forwarded to the District Attorney of the United States for the several judicial districts wherein offenses against the act to regulate commerce were committed as shown by this record, and that such officials be requested to institute such prosecutions under the law as may be warranted.

Cases Already Taken Up.

It is known that by instruction of Attorney-General Bonaparte, the District Attorneys already have taken up the cases to be instituted for the purpose of beginning the formal proceedings as soon as possible. Names of the officials against whom the prosecutions will be directed are not known, and probably will not be, until indictments of the Federal grand juries have been returned. It is indicated as likely that the proceedings of the Department of Justice will be directed not only against the Southern Pacific Company and officials of that company, but also against shippers who have enjoyed, according to the allegations made, rebates from the railway company.

No Run on State Bank.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 15.—The State Savings Bank, which closed its doors last October, today resumed and a petition for a receiver, long pending in the local courts, was dismissed. F. A. Heinze has retired from the board. There was no run today and many new deposits were made.

ANDERSON GUILTY IN FIRST DEGREE

Convicted of the Murder of Harry Logan.

JURY OUT ONLY HALF AN HOUR

Highwayman Takes Verdict With Utmost Coolness.

WILL DEMAND A NEW TRIAL

Contention of Defense That Chain of Circumstantial Evidence Was Manufactured by Police, With the Aid of "Stool Pigeons."

Joseph Anderson, highwayman, was placed in the shadow of the gallows last night when a State Circuit Court jury convicted him of the murder of Harry Logan, a locomotive engineer, who was shot and killed while resisting a footpad in South Portland last November.

Guilty of murder in the first degree, was the jury's verdict, returned in little more than half an hour after retiring last night. Anderson, hardened criminal, heard the verdict without the slightest show of concern. There was a murmur of suppressed excitement in the roomful of spectators, but Anderson, the man most concerned, appeared the least affected.

Barring new and unexpected developments which may secure him a new trial, Anderson can hardly hope for anything short of death for his crime.

Killed in a Hold-up.

The murder was committed while Anderson was plying his trade of thug. He thrust a revolver in Logan's face on the Fourth Street bridge and demanded money. The victim showed fight and Anderson killed him.

After his arrest Anderson confessed to a collmate having killed Logan, as well as having been an accessory in the murder of Conductor Nevins, on the Rose City Park carline, prior to the Logan murder.

All yesterday was taken up with arguments in the case, and it was not until after 9 o'clock at night that it went to the jury.

Deputy District Attorney Adams summed up the evidence for the State. Admitting that the evidence was chiefly circumstantial, he maintained that the circumstances were so clear as to leave no room for doubt. He referred to the murderer's confession to Jacob Hilt, and said that this confession showed Anderson in the light of a menace to society such as every decent citizen would have need to fear should the man be acquitted.

W. G. Hall and E. J. Jeffries, attorneys for Anderson, spoke in behalf of their client, asserting that the State had failed to connect the prisoner with the murder. They presented Anderson in the guise of a friendless unfortunate selected by the police as a victim to fit the Logan charge. The plan was made and carried out by Detectives Tichenor and Jones, with the assistance of "stool pigeons," Jeffries said.

Following Judge Bronaugh's charge to the jury, the 12 men who were to decide Anderson's fate withdrew. Obviously they had strong convictions as to Anderson's guilt on leaving the room, for the verdict was promptly secured.

The courtroom was jammed when the jury returned its verdict. As soon as Anderson was brought up by Sheriff Stevens and Deputy Sheriff Bulger the verdict was received and read by Deputy County Clerk Lounsbury.

Anderson Is Unconcerned.

Anderson stood easily and unconcernedly until he heard guilt had been fixed on him, then he turned to talk to his lawyers, asking them to work for a new trial.

Thirty days was allowed in which to present a formal motion for another trial.

In view of his conviction, Anderson was placed in solitary confinement by Sheriff Stevens, and will be kept closely guarded, as he is known to be a dangerous man. Precautions are being taken to prevent him from committing suicide, as he is known to have said he would kill himself rather than be hanged.

Joe Anderson, Convicted of the Murder of Harry Logan.

HARRY MURPHY GIVES A FEW PICTORIAL IMPRESSIONS OF SOME OF THE NEWS HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Uncle Sam Makes Other Friends Besides the Jap.

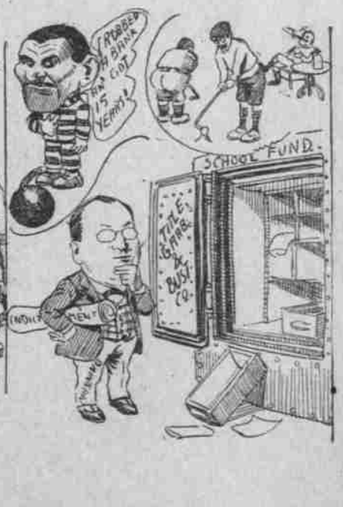
Hughes: "I Wish They Would Stay Away; They Make Me Nervous."

Sultan of Turkey: "Stop That Darned Racket!"

Henley: "Do I Hear Anybody Demanding a Trial?"

The Joke!

Traffic and Federal Court Decisions Follow Nature's Highway.



Officers of the Ross Bank Say They Cannot Be Punished for Misappropriating Public Money Because They Are Not Public Officials.