



WITNESSES EXAMINED

Grand Jury Gets Evidence in Graft Cases.

GLASS PLEADS TODAY

He Refuses to Make Public His Course of Action in Matter.

WITNESSES ARE ALSO SILENT

District Langdon Declares Day One of Most Important So Far Before Grand Jury—Mayor Schmitz Denies Specific Charge.

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 27.—Twelve witnesses were examined today by the Grand Jury in the case of the investigation of bribery and graft during the session this afternoon. Each witness as he came from the inquisitorial chamber refused to answer all questions. Each other declared he had been requested by the grand jury to keep silent or that he had no statement to make. At the conclusion of the session, District Attorney Langdon was asked for a statement. He replied "This was one of the most important days thus far before the Grand Jury, respecting which it is necessary for the officers of the prosecution to keep the strictest silence."

"I shall simply say this was one of the most satisfactory days yet." This was taken to mean that the witnesses called, or some of them, had given testimony tending to corroborate the bribery and graft evidence on which indictments have been returned against Abe Ruef, Louis Glass, Vice President of the Pacific States Telephone Company and T. V. Halsey, outside agent for the same company, A. K. Detweiler, outside agent for the Home Telephone Company, Mayor Schmitz and Chief of Police Dinan. When Henev was asked for a statement, he replied "It would be a big mistake to make one. This is one of the days when it is our business to guard against publication."

The witnesses examined today included Dr. Ferdinand Butterfield, representing interests allied with the United States Independent Telephone Co., the concern which wanted to bid, but did not, for the competitive franchise awarded to the Home Co., it is charged after approximately \$200,000 had been paid to the city officials, \$25,000 to the city of San Francisco and \$75,000 to the Earthquake Relief funds and several officials and stockholders of the Home Company.

Judge Lawler will call General Manager Glass to plead to indictments for bribery tomorrow. Glass when asked tonight what his intentions are, that is, how he expects to plead, referred the questioner to his attorney. The latter said "It would be unwise for us to make any statement now. Whether we shall plead to indictments or resist them by demurrer will become known tomorrow morning when the cases are called. This is all we are prepared to say tonight."

Mayor Schmitz today made a statement specifically denying he had profited by the administration graft to the extent of \$662,000. He declared that when given an opportunity in court he will prove his innocence.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27.—Ellisor Biggy tonight removed Ruef to 2849 Fillmore Street, Mayor Schmitz's former residence.

WEST PROSPEROUS. Has Not Ben Affected By Rich Men's Panic.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Frank Trumbull, president of the Colorado Southern system, has just returned from Chicago in an optimistic frame of mind over the continued prosperity of the West. He said:

"There are no symptoms of a down grade movement, except such as will naturally follow the curtailment of improvement by railroads, and if this does not extend too far it may prove salutary in the matter of adjusting labor conditions, money rates, etc."

"If we look at our situation in an untroubled way we can count up a number of blessings. For example, no railroad construction, no apprehension of paralysis over thousands of miles of territory by strikes of railroad employes because the railroad managers offer to settle upon certain figures or arbitration."

Mr. Trumbull said the prospects in all territories of the Colorado Southern lines were good.

PAPERS FOR BUTTE.

Newspapers Published After Suspension of Six Weeks.

BUTTE, March 27.—All differences having been adjusted between the labor unions and the publishers, the newspapers of this city will resume publication at once. Evening papers will go to print tomorrow afternoon and morning additions will appear Friday morning. The suspension lasted for six weeks.

WILL BOOM ASTORIA

New Mill Operated By Electricity Will Be Build.

MOST MODERN ON COAST

Will Have Capacity of Four Hundred Thousand Feet Daily—Dock At Point Adams Will Be Changed to Secure Sheltered Harbor.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 27.—Besides the purchase of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad by the Hill interests, reports from Astoria indicate additional impetus has been given commercial activity on the lower harbor through the fact that A. B. Hammond, president of the A. & C. has arranged with the Government officials at Washington to alter the position of the dock at the Point Adams life-saving station so he can locate his proposed new mill advantageously. The life-saving dock extends from the shore at a right angle with the stream and it is proposed to build it straight.

The new mill is to have a capacity of 400,000 feet daily, and promises to be the most modern on the Coast. Electricity will be generated for the operation of all machines, and the only steam power will be that used in the power house. Wells are to be driven 90 feet deep in order to reach fresh water for use in the boilers. The company controls practically all of the waterfront from Hammond, or West Astoria to Fort Stevens, besides all the spruce timber extending back to Seaside. Shipments will be made both by rail and water, and in securing a change in location of the life-saving station dock a sheltered harbor is possible in front of the mill site.

When the Northern Pacific purchased the A. & C. it secured valuable water frontage at Warrenton, and rumors have been rife that in the future docks will be established there for handling cargo brought from the interior. G. W. Talbot, general manager of the A. & C. who was in Tacoma yesterday conferring with C. M. Levey, president of the Portland & Seattle, returned last night, and is at Astoria today arranging for the final transfer of the road.

CONFERENCE IS ENDED

Trainmen Believe Strike Near at Hand.

MANAGERS OPTIMISTIC

Forty-Five Thousand Men Are Ready to Walk Out At Signal.

EMPLOYERS MUST MAKE MOVE

Men Declare No More Conferences Will Be Held Except At Request of General Managers—Strike Threatened Within Next Two Days.

CHICAGO, March 27.—Forty five thousand trainmen of the Western Railroad seem nearer a strike tonight than at any time since the negotiations with the general managers for a 12 percent increase and a nine hour day were started two months ago. The conference today between the representatives of men and the railroad officials lasted for four hours but was a failure as far as bringing about a solution of the trouble was concerned. Immediately after the conference broke up the representatives of men got together to consider the advisability of calling a strike.

Just what transpired cannot be learned, but they were a unit in declaring that a peaceable solution of the controversy can only be reached by the general managers offering concessions. The union men declare there will be no more conferences unless the railroad officials request it. Another meeting of the union men's representatives is scheduled for tomorrow morning and the general belief is that a strike will be called before another forty eight hours is passed unless railroad officials request another conference to try to settle the matter without a fight.

Railroad officials are not quite so pessimistic. When the men declared a strike inevitable, Secretary Thompson of the General Managers said: "We have not given up all hope of a peaceable adjustment of difficulty. We have conceded a great deal to the men and it would seem to be but a matter of time until the union officials see this way clear to accepting the general manager's proposition."

Thompson believes that within a couple of days some sort of agreement will be reached.

WOULD CLOSE EXCHANGE.

Dealers in Stocks Would Observe Good Friday This Year.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Asserting that their clerks and office force are overworked and almost prostrated by the enormous business resulting from the recent collapse in the stock market, a majority of the members of the stock exchange voted yesterday in favor of closing the exchange on Good Friday and the day following. The matter will be acted upon finally by the board of Governors at their regular meeting today. Last year the exchange voted for a vacation at this time, but the board of governors refused to consent to it. The produce exchange will be closed on Friday.

CONSPIRACY POSSIBLE.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Lieutenant Lawrason, who was in command of Company "B" 25th Infantry on the night of the Brownsville affray

testified today that he thought it would have been impossible for the men of his company to have cleaned their guns after the firing occurred as they had no equipment for cleaning guns. All guns were inspected next morning, and Lawrason declared himself satisfied that no guns of his company had been used the night before. The witness explained that while at Fort Niobra, something became wrong with the Company B decapper and more than a thousand empty shells were shipped to Fort Brown. He did not know what had become of the box after the arrival of the company at Brownsville but there was considerable property left on the back porch of the barracks. The inference plainly shown by Senator Foraker's question was that this box was accessible to boys and others and that shells bearing the marks of Co. B's guns may have been carried into the town and scattered about the streets with the purpose of manufacturing evidence against the negro soldiers.

OUDJIA UNPREPARED.

LALALMARINA, Algeria, March 27.—The French military mission has returned here from Oudja, and with it have come all the European residents of Oudja who report that the town is quiet and that the people do not suspect the forthcoming occupation. The Moroccan garrison at Oudja is small and not likely to make resistance to the French column.

TWENTY ROUND DRAW.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26.—Dick Hyland and Cyclone Thompson went 20 rounds to a draw tonight.

ASKS CONSERVATION

Railroad President Appeals to Politicians of Illinois.

DREADS ADMINISTRATION BILL

Winchell of Rock Island Road Would Not Have State Commission Control Issuing of Stocks and Bonds of Railway Corporations.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Mar. 27.—President Winchell of the Rock Island road advised the railroad committee of the Illinois legislature to be conservative in the matter of railroad legislation. If the judgment of the legislators is influenced too much by the present outcry against the railroads, Winchell asserted measures might easily be passed which would endanger the prosperity of the country. Winchell was one of the large number of railroad officials conferring with the committee today on the subject of important measures pending in the assembly. The primary purpose of the address was to ask the committee to carefully study the situation before acting on the administration bill providing that the state Railroad and Warehouse Commission control the issuing of stocks and bonds of railway corporations.

AMBASSADOR'S WIFE ILL.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Mrs. Charlemagne Tower, wife of the American Ambassador in Berlin, who arrived here from Europe last Wednesday is ill at the Hotel Manhattan. It is understood that an operation has become necessary and that a cablegram has been sent to Berlin summoning Ambassador Tower to his wife's side.

AMBASSADOR REID IMPROVING.

LONDON, March 27.—Advises received from the Riviera are to the effect that the health of the American Ambassador, Mr. Reid, who is sojourning there, is improving, and that he will return to his post the latter part of next month.

CHAIRMAN RESIGNS

Thaw Lunacy Commission Loses Leader.

O'BRIAN LEAVES BOARD

Attorney Mc Clure Appointed at Once to Fill the Vacancy.

THE FIRST SESSION TODAY

Inquiry of Commission Will Be Open, With Secret Executive Sessions—Inquiry Will Be Hurried To Conclusion.

NEW YORK, March 27.—After the Thaw jury was excused today until Monday, and the members of the lunacy commission named to inquire into Thaw's state of mind had been sworn in there came the sudden announcement that Judge O'Brien, chairman of the commission had resigned. O'Brien in a letter to Justice Fitzgerald stated that the condition of his health and previous business engagements precluded his serving as a member of the commission. Justice Fitzgerald then made a new order appointing David McClure, a well known attorney of this city, to fill the vacancy. McClure met with the other members of the commission this afternoon and was chosen chairman. Later he announced that the first session of the commission would be held tomorrow.

ANOTHER DALY'S THEATER.

Exact Replica of Famous Building Will Be Constructed.

NEW YORK, March 27.—There is to be another Daly's theater in New York. It is to be built on Broadway, near 42nd Street at a cost of \$500,000 by Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger, and the estate of the late Augustin Daly is to take an interest in the future of the new house, which is to be as nearly a replica of the famous building on Broadway, between 29th and 30th Streets, as skill and money can make it. Every piece of wood work, every picture, all the interior furnishings hallowed by associations with the old house will be transformed to the new. Announcement to this effect was made yesterday. The lease on the old theater expires May 1.

OFFICIALS HELD RESPONSIBLE.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The grand jury which has been making an examination into the wreck on the Harlem division of the New York Central, near Bedford Park, on the night of February 14, which resulted in the death of 24 persons, will, according to an announcement made in the criminal court last night, hand down an indictment today. Manslaughter in the second degree, it is stated will be charged.

Assistant District Attorney Smythe, at the coroner's hearing contended that some of the officials of the railroad company should be held personally responsible for the killing of the passengers.

STEEL PLANT ENLARGED.

NEW YORK, March 27.—It was announced yesterday that the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company has decided to enlarge its steel rail mill which will entail a rebuilding of the plant. When the work is completed the Tennessee

Coal & Iron Company will have a capacity of 600,000 tons of rails a year. It will be the third largest rail maker in the country.

WOULD BIND ROOSEVELT.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The committee representing the Illi. manufacturer's Association, called on the President today and invited him to address at Springfield Ill., at the earliest possible date, representatives of manufacturing and commercial interests of the middle west.

The president said he would do so if it was possible. After the conference the committees gave out a statement in which they stated that they had told the President that the railroad and financial situation was creating an apprehension and timidity that threatened the immediate curtailment of banking and business credit. Financial curtailment at the present time, they told the Pres., would threaten dangerous results to the great prosperity of the country. The committee urged the President that a great good would come if he expressed a public address, the keynote of his creative and constructive policy.

AMBASSADOR TO POST.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Horace G. Knowles, who has been appointed United States Minister to Roumania, Serbia and Bulgaria, arrived in New York yesterday from his home in Wilmington, Delaware. He will sail on La-Provence tomorrow to take charge of his new post. Mr. Knowles will reach Roumania as soon as possible, owing to the troubles there.

NO THOUGHT OF WAR

But Japanese Will Press Demands for the Open Door.

INTERESTS ARE COMMERCIAL

Japanese Foreign Minister Tells Diet That Government Will Await Adjustment of San Francisco Trouble By the United States.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27.—Mail advices from Tokyo, state that Viscount Hayashi, foreign Minister of Japan, in a speech before the Japanese diet, in answer to questions of members regarding the government's attitude concerning the refusal of the San Francisco authorities to admit Japanese to the public schools said:

"The American government which throughout has shown profound sympathy with the Japanese nation, sent us a telegraphic expression of its regret at the occurrence before our protest had reached Washington. We considered that our proper course was to stand to one side and patiently await the adjustment of affairs."

"In regard to foreign suspicions of aggressive intentions on the part of Japan, these ideas can only be attributed to great ignorance of the conditions in this country. The military and naval proposals in the budget are of a kind merely to restore and reorganize the national forces, just as every other nation is doing. On behalf not only of the government, but also of the nation, I beg to declare that Japan has no aggressive intention whatever. As far as commerce is concerned, our policy may or may not be considered aggressive. We intend to push our interests to the front. We have the right possessed by all countries to peacefully compete with other nations, but we intend to firmly adhere to the principles of equal opportunity and the open door in which we have the fullest belief."

PROFITABLE PUBLICATION.

BERLIN, March 27.—An estate worth over \$30,000,000 was left by the late Herr von Korn, owner of the Schleichsche Zeitung.