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CONFESSES TO PERJURY

FALSE TESTIMONY GIVEN BY
JUDGE TANNER.

Tells All in Court—An Indictment
Has Been Found Against
Williamson.

Portland, Feb. 11.—The climax in the land fraud cases was reached today when Judge Albert H. Tanner, law partner of United States Senator Mitchell, indicted February 8 for the crime of perjury in regard to the agreement of co-partnership between himself and Senator Mitchell, went to the witness stand and entered a plea of guilty. The scene was a dramatic one, impressive and sorrowful. Judge Tanner entered the court room haggard and worn and bowed as if by weight of years. With him was his son, Albert H., Jr., to shield whom the plea was about to be made. Following both came Henry C. Robertson, private secretary of Senator Mitchell. At the time Tanner gave his testimony, January 31 last, the government had possession of evidence which varied from that given by Tanner, and linking it together District Attorney Heney made such a showing that not only Judge Tanner, but his son was indicted by the grand jury.

Tanner for several days afterward maintained his position, but finally when he ascertained the nature of the testimony which Mitchell's secretary, Harry C. Robertson, intended to give and in order to save his son from prosecution, Tanner yielded and went to the witness stand.

After Tanner was sworn Heney handed him a contract which he had sworn to before the grand jury was the original document and was asked when the document was written. "December last," Tanner replied. Tanner was asked if the document were to be used in defense of Mitchell. Tanner, in reply, said: "I will tell you the circumstances and you can draw your own conclusions. When Senator Mitchell was out here he looked over the old contract and there was a clause in it he thought ought to be changed and told me to fix it. I then drew up in writing here, changing the particular clause he thought dangerous and we signed it. At the time that was done I said to him: 'Now Robertson is the only man on earth, except you and I, that knows to the contrary anything about this agreement and Robertson will have to corroborate this thing. Of course, it may get us into trouble.' He said he would see what he could do with Robertson, or something of that kind, and the agreement was left with me in that shape. The new agreement was signed in December of last year and contained a clause, not included in the original, which provided that all money received in payment for services rendered before the government departments should go to Tanner. In all other respects the last agreement was identical with the original." Tanner then went on to explain the division of fees, Mitchell's share usually being sent to him in the shape of a deposit tag, showing the amount.

Judge Tanner stated the firm did a large business with Frederick R. Kribs, a timberland dealer in this city, who paid the firm of Mitchell & Tanner various sums of money for expediting the cases in the land department of the government. Mitchell was indicted for

having received money in compensation of alleged services performed in behalf of Kribs in the general land department at Washington.

Harry C. Robertson, private secretary to Mitchell, was placed on the witness stand and interrogated regarding his connection with the agreements in force between Mitchell and his partner, Tanner. Robertson stated he had had a conversation with Mitchell in Washington February 3, just before Robertson's departure for this city to appear as a witness before the federal grand jury. Robertson stated that Mitchell told him Tanner had appeared before the grand jury and testified to the original agreement which provided all fees earned before the departments at Washington should belong to Judge Tanner and the fees earned before the Supreme Court of the United States belonged to Mitchell. Robertson then continued: "I knew it was not a genuine agreement and I was fairly amazed and looked at him, I suppose, for a minute before he spoke again. He told me he had had a conversation with Tanner when here in December and they had come to the conclusion that any means was justifiable to beat the assault being made on them." Mitchell allowed Robertson to infer that the new agreement had been drawn up and signed by Tanner and himself.

Tanner's son, Albert H., Jr., testified that during Mitchell's visit in Portland last December, he prepared on a typewriter a new agreement between his father and Mitchell, as confessed to by his father.

Judge Tanner made the following statement to a representative of the Associated Press: "No one knows the torture I have endured since January 31, when I made the statement before the grand jury concerning the date of the co-partnership agreement between Mitchell and myself. The last straw came, however, when I learned the federal grand jury was preparing to indict my son, who had written the agreement between Mitchell and myself, on the typewriter, for perjury, and when I learned that agents of the government were in possession of facts proving the document was not signed March 5, 1901, as had been sworn to, but that it had been prepared and signed last December." "Judge, do you expect to testify against Mitchell?" was asked. "Yes. I expect to be called as a witness in the case against Senator Mitchell and I will tell the whole truth regarding the business of the firm with out regard to consequences."

Following close upon the sensational testimony of Senator Mitchell's law partner, Judge Tanner, and Harry C. Robertson, Mitchell's private secretary, today, came the announcement that the federal grand jury had returned an indictment against Congressman Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner, Williamson's partner in the sheep business, and Marion R. Biggs, United States Land Commissioner, Prineville. The indictment alleges that on June 30, 1902, the accused persons conspired to obtain 100 persons to file applications for public lands in Crook county and swear the land was for their own use, when according to the indictment, they were for the benefit of the firm of Gesner & Williamson, who desired the lands for sheep grazing.

Among the papers brought by Mitchell's secretary, Harry C. Robertson, from Washington, is one from Mitchell to Judge Albert H. Tanner, dealing with the partnership agreements. The

(Concluded on page four.)

DISTRICT CONVENTION

DELEGATES TO GRAND LODGE
ARE ELECTED.

Fourth Biennial Session of W. O.
W. For 10th District a Profit-
able Meeting.

The fourth biennial meeting for the tenth district of the Pacific jurisdiction, Women of Woodcraft, which closed in this city yesterday was a very successful and profitable meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect four delegates to represent this district at the grand lodge meeting which will be held in Los Angeles.

The business here was cleared up in very short order, the ladies getting right down to business and doing the work in one day. The 10th district which was represented here comprises a very large territory, covering all of Eastern Oregon and also taking in Golden-dale and Centerville, Wash.

The ladies were so well pleased with Heppner that they voted to again meet here with the next district convention which will occur in two years.

Following are the delegates to the grand lodge.

Mrs. Richard Neville, of Heppner; Mrs. Geo. Hanse, of Golden-dale, Wash.; Mrs. Hicks, of Wasco; Mrs. Foster, of Athena.

TAXES DUE FEB. 15.

If Paid Before March 15 Rebate
3 Per Cent.

During the coming week the tax roll will be placed in the hands of the sheriff, and all those paying their taxes between that time and March 15 will receive a rebate of 3 per cent.

In view of the fact that taxpaying will soon commence, the tax law and the manner in which it has operated during the past year is a matter of interest.

1. If you pay taxes on or before March 15 you will be allowed a rebate of 3 per cent.

2. If you pay your taxes between March 15 and up to and including the first Monday in April, there will not be any rebate allowed and neither will there be any penalty or interest added.

3. If your taxes are not paid on or before the first Monday of April, they will become delinquent, when there will be added a penalty of 10 per cent and the tax will also draw interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum in addition to the penalty.

4. If you pay one-half of your taxes on or before the first Monday in April, then the remaining half may run up to and including the first Monday in October, following, but if the last half of tax due is not paid by the first Monday in October, it becomes delinquent, and there will be added to such balance a penalty of 10 per cent, and in addition, such balance will bear interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum from the first Monday in April until paid.

5. On all personal property taxes, if one-half is not paid on or

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before the first Monday of April, the law compels the sheriff to levy upon and collect the same after May 1, hence to prevent a levy upon personal property after May 1 it will be necessary for one-half to be paid as above stated.

6. The law compels the sheriff to sell all lands on which taxes have not been paid, and that such sale shall not be held later than March 1 of the year in which the tax levy was made.

7. The property will be sold to the person bidding the lowest rate of interest, and certificates will be issued therefor, and deeds given to such property sold, unless redeemed within three years from the date of such sale.

RECORD FOR CRIMES.

Man Of Terrible Record Will Be
Brought to Answer.

Chicago, Feb. 9.—Johann Hoch, indicted for bigamy, suspected of murder and a man of many aliases, arrived in Chicago tonight, and for several hours after reaching here was interrogated by the police with little result. The train bearing Hoch and Officer Loftus, who had him in custody, was due in Chicago at 5:25, but it was 7 o'clock before it arrived. A large crowd had gathered, but none of the wives was among the number.

Hoch had evidently expected a number of his wives to meet him at the station and he was plainly disappointed that they did not come.

"Where are these 14 wives you talk about so much," he asked of Mr. Loftus. "I guess you have been joking me about that part of the business; otherwise there could not be 14, for I never had that many. There seems a lot of women who seem to think that I am the only man in the world who could carry them and get away with some of their money."

When Hoch and Loftus alighted from the train the detail of six policemen who had been sent to the station to meet them was able to control the crowd only with great difficulty. The people pushed and shoved in an exciting manner, as they strove to get a look at him. When he was recognized, a number of people jeered and booed him.

The police hurried Hoch through the station, and on the sidewalk outside had another crowd to deal with. They quickly hustled Hoch into a patrol wagon and started for the East Chicago avenue police station. Outside of the

station a third crowd surged and it was larger than the others. It was found necessary to call officers from the inside of the station before the walk could be cleared sufficiently to allow the prisoner to be taken into the station.

HOCH'S ALLEGED CRIMES.

Murder by poison, eight cases.
Bigamy, 22 charges.
Embezzlement, 33 cases.
Abduction, one charge.
Confidence game, 39 cases.
Obtaining money under false pretenses, 39 cases.
Larceny as bailee, two cases.
Forgery, two cases.
Perjury, 27 cases.
Practicing medicine illegally.
Hypnotism as an aid to all the other crimes.

Big Land Deal.

Omaha, Feb. 13.—As an outcome of the fight to keep Utah and Idaho sheepmen out of Wyoming, a deal has just been closed in this city by which 2,000,000 acres of land in Western Wyoming will pass into the hands of Utah sheep raisers.

The deal is in the form of a lease from the Union Pacific to the Utah Grazing association, which owns large flocks of sheep in Wyoming and Utah. John C. Mackay, county commissioner, and E. H. Callister, revenue collector at Salt Lake, signed the lease on behalf of the association.

The lease is one of the largest drawn up for some time. It involves alternate sections of government lands. The tract lies in what is known as the Red Desert between Leroy and the Green river, the grazing lands being among the best that the West affords. It will furnish winter grazing for 300,000 head of sheep owned by several parties, each of whom possesses a summer and fall range of his own. Under the laws of Wyoming that the tract can be kept free from transient grazers without being fenced.

It will also save the members of the association from overcrowding as they can regulate the number of sheep that the range will accommodate.

In a dispatch from Salmon, Idaho, William Peyton Mason, president of the road, is quoted as saying that work will be commenced on the California, Idaho & Montana railroad, between Butte and Boise, within 90 days, and the section between these points will be completed within two years.

Frost burst a steam pipe in the Lewiston electric light plant, putting the city in darkness for two consecutive nights.