

EX-DIRECTOR OF VET. BUREAU INDICTED

CHAS. FORBES IS INDICTED FOR BRIBERY

Ex-Director of U. S. Veteran Bureau and J. W. Thompson of Chicago Charged With Conspiracy to Defraud Government—Four Weeks' Jury Probe Concluded.

CHICAGO, Feb. 29.—Charles Forbes, former director of the United States veterans' bureau, and John W. Thompson of Chicago and St. Louis, were indicted today by the federal grand jury which has spent four weeks investigating the administration of Forbes.

Forbes and Thompson were jointly indicted in two true bills charging conspiracy to commit bribery and offenses against the United States government in connection with the construction of veterans' hospitals. A separate indictment against each man, also was returned, one charging Forbes with accepting a bribe and the other charging Thompson with giving a bribe.

The two individual indictments merely dealt with bribery. In the case of the joint indictments \$10,000 bail for each defendant was fixed.

Congressman Involved.
The joint two indictments were of two kinds, the first charging conspiracy to commit bribery and offenses against the government, and the second conspiracy to defraud the United States government. Both indictments were based on details involving the construction of veterans' bureau hospitals. Charges that government funds were used for speculation by a government official and that certain sums of money were paid to certain members of congress were contained in the special grand jury report.

The indictment against Forbes, charging acceptance of a bribe, declares that the former veterans' bureau director "unlawfully and feloniously accepted from John W. Thompson, James W. Black, now deceased, and Elias H. Mortimer \$5000 bail against the peace and dignity of the United States."

The indictment against Thompson for giving a bribe, in addition to naming the \$5000 alleged to have been given Forbes outlines payment of "hotel bills and traveling expenses," for the former director.

This indictment also charges that Charles F. Cramer, former general counsel for the veterans' bureau, now dead, accepted a bribe from Thompson to pay him "as pretended attorney's fees \$100,000," with the intention on the part of Forbes and Cramer to divert contracts to his company.

CHICAGO, Feb. 29.—Indictments in the grand jury investigation of the administration of the veterans' bureau under its former director, Charles R. Forbes, were returned this afternoon before Federal Judge Carpenter.

It was rumored that there were four indictments containing many counts but until ball arrangements and other details could be arranged, the indictments were withheld from publicity.

—This Is Prune Week—

\$250,000 Fire in Detroit.

DETROIT, Feb. 29.—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the four story brick warehouse of the Commercial Milling company today with a loss estimated by a company official at \$250,000. Thirty thousand barrels of rye, corn and barley flour were destroyed.

"NEARER MY GOD TO THEE" FAVORITE RADIO TUNE FOR THE "SMOKE EATER"

ZION, Ill., Feb. 29.—"Nearer My God to Thee," is the favorite song of the "Smoke Eaters," who fight the nation's fires, according to advices received at the radio broadcasting station of Wilbur Glenn Voliva, overseer at Zion.

Voliva's fifty piece band last night broadcast the number, dedicated to the firemen, after requests that it be played had been received from fire fighters in Chillicothe, Ohio; Racine, Wis., and McDonald, Pa. Before the rendering of the number, a letter ex-

Youth in Suicide Pact Loses Nerve, So Pal Shoots Him

POTTSTOWN, Pa., Feb. 29.—Authorities investigating the death of Thomas Shenton and James Warmkessel, night students at Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, whose bodies with bullet holes through the chests were found yesterday in the local Y. M. C. A. expressed the belief today that the young men had entered into a suicide pact and that Warmkessel lost his nerve at the last minute and was shot by Shenton, who then took his own life.

DAUGHERTY IS CHARGED WITH SHIELDING PALS

Senator Heflin Claims Atty. Genl. Told Subordinates to Lay Off Case Against G. O. P. National Committeeman—Probe to Be Ordered.

CHICAGO, Feb. 29.—Attorney General Harry M. Daugherty has retained George E. Chamberlain, former United States senator from Oregon, and Paul Howland, Cleveland attorney, to represent his interests in the senate oil investigation. Announcement of his employment of counsel was made by Mr. Daugherty in a telegram to Senator Frank B. Willis of Ohio, sent from here before the attorney general left last night for Miami, Fla., to join his wife, who is ill there.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Senator Heflin, democrat, Alabama, told the senate today he could submit a letter by Attorney General Daugherty instructing a district attorney in the west not to prosecute a certain republican national committeeman. He said the letter contained the sentence: "He is our man."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Attorney General Daugherty today became the center of one of the bitterest senate debates in recent years.

When the resolution for an inquiry into the department of justice was brought up for action democratic senators let loose agalags. The attorney general an attack bristling with accusations against his personal and official acts since he entered the cabinet.

Single handed, Senator Willis of Ohio, Mr. Daugherty's home state, attempted to stem the tide of criticism, while republican party leaders looked on silently. The Ohio senator conceded he had discussed the make up of the investigating committee with the attorney general but insisted there was nothing improper in his conduct.

Charges of efforts to select a "packed jury," flow back and forth across the chamber as the debate on the makeup of the committee progressed and the galleries were stirred to repeated demonstrations despite reiterated warning from the chair.

Bitter Fight Develops
WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The res-

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GARNER AND MELLON TAX PLANS LOST

Democrats and Republican Regulars Lose Out, But G. O. P. Compromise Bill By Longworth Wins—Sur Tax Rates Reduced to 37 Per Cent—Hawley in Action.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The Longworth compromise income tax schedule was approved today by the house.

It provides for a maximum surtax of 37½ per cent on incomes over \$200,000 and reduces the normal tax on small incomes from 4 per cent to 2 per cent.

Another provision previously voted into the revenue bill reduces by one-fourth all income taxes payable this year.

Enough insurgent republicans got back into line to give a majority for the Longworth plan and to throw out the Garner democratic plan they previously had helped to vote into the bill.

Whether President Coolidge will approve the compromise if it also passes the senate remains undetermined. He has not given any assurance that the Longworth plan will be acceptable.

The vote by which the Garner plan was displaced and the Longworth plan adopted was 216 to 199.

Hawley in Action.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The house today voted down an amendment to the revenue bill which would have restored the Mellon income tax rates which were eliminated with the adoption of the Garner democratic schedule.

The amendment was proposed by Representative Hawley, republican, Oregon. Organization leaders planned, after its rejection, to offer their compromise which would fix the surtax maximum at 37½ per cent.

The Mellon rates were rejected, 261 to 153. With the Mellon rates definitely in the discard, Representative Longworth, republican leader, proposed a vote on his compromise.

Democrats stood together in opposition to the Hawley amendment. They had the support of republican insurgents and a large group of organized republicans.

Republican organization leaders were confident they would have the support of enough republican insurgents to substitute the Longworth schedule for the Garner rates, which propose a surtax maximum of 44 per cent on incomes exceeding \$20,000. The Mellon surtax maximum was 25 per cent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—A one-fourth reduction in all personal income taxes payable this year was approved today by the house. A proposal to eliminate the entire section of the revenue bill carrying this provision was defeated 181 to 145.

The amendment remained in the bill by a vote of 267 to 144. Organization republicans voted to eliminate it, while republican insurgents joined with democrats in its support.

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Death Toll of the Automobile

SEATTLE, Feb. 29.—Miss Edna Gray, age about 20, of this city, was drowned and Miss Helen Abernathy, 18, also of Seattle, was slightly injured when an automobile in which they were riding with a man by the name of Hancock plunged off the Newport dock near Bellevue into Lake Washington shortly before midnight. The three extricated themselves from the car when it went down and called for help. A tugboat under command of Captain Charles Gilbert rescued Miss Abernathy who towed Miss Gray to shore. The latter was pronounced dead when the body was brought to the county morgue here.

Hancock, who was reported unhurt, swam to shore.

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Etheridge Must Answer
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 29.—John L. Etheridge was granted until Monday in federal court today to file his answer to a complaint filed in 1921 asking cancellation of his citizenship. Papers involved in the case had been in Washington up to a month and a half ago. United States Attorney Coke made no objection today to extension of time.

LIFE'LL BE JUST ONE POEM AND SONG AFTER ANOTHER FOR PEGGY AND JOHN



Peggy Wood.

Love is just one song and poem after another. Peggy Wood and John V. A. Weaver ought to be happy. They're married. Peggy is one of the best known musical comedy prima donnas and John V. A. is a poet of renown, being especially noted for his lyrics in the "American language."

FRANCIS M'ADOO SUBPOENAED BY OIL COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Subpoenas for all persons mentioned in the telegrams exchanged between Edward R. McLean, publisher of the Washington Post and his employees, were issued late today by the oil committee.

Some of those mentioned have not yet been identified but if they be they will be summoned.

Persons summoned include Francis H. McAdoo of New York, son of William McAdoo, Francis H. Homer, a Baltimore lawyer, and J. W. Zevely, personal counsel for Harry F. Sinclair.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—A. Mitchell Palmer, attorney general in the Wilson administration, testified before the oil committee today as to the circumstances of his retention as an attorney by Edward R. McLean, publisher of the Washington Post in the oil inquiry.

He denied that J. W. Zevely, counsel for Harry F. Sinclair is his law partner, as suggested in the McLean telegrams. He added, however, that Zevely "is an old friend of mine," and had outlined to him a couple of months ago the salient facts in the oil inquiry.

Palmer said he had not seen Falt "for years," and denied he was to look after the interests "of the man at Wardman Park," as John F. Major said in one of his telegrams to McLean at Palm Beach.

"I did not take up this matter with Senator Underwood," Palmer said when asked about a report sent to McLean that he had done so.

He also denied that he had discussed the matter with any senator except Walsh of Montana and Chairman Lenroot.

Mr. Palmer then was asked about the Southern Pacific land grant case handled while he was attorney general. He said President Wilson approved the decision of the department of justice not to appeal the case.

This matter was taken up with the president, the witness said, after Gifford Pinchot had attacked the department for its failure to act. All the officials in the department handling the case recommended against an appeal, he testified, and "Solicitor General King told me he would be ashamed to argue the case in the supreme court."

"When the announcement was made that the government wouldn't appeal that case," Senator Dill went on, "the stock of the Southern Pacific company jumped 16 per cent, didn't it?"

"I don't know," Palmer replied, "I never read stock reports."

Senator Dill suggested that the value of the lands concerned was \$421,000,000 odd and that government appeal wouldn't have cost much.

"Not much," said Palmer, "just a few thousand dollars. But we had to bring home proof as to the knowledge of the Southern Pacific company that these lands were mineral. That's my

RAISE EMBARGO ON LIVESTOCK TO CALIFORNIA

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 29.—Railroads operating in the seventeen California counties that were placed under provisional quarantine on account of an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in four other counties, were notified by state and federal authorities today that they could resume the shipment of milk and cream to outside points. This lessening of the embargo was due to a narrowing of the area of infection thru a gradual subsidence of the epidemic and the slaughtering of infected cattle, it was said.

Livestock shippers in Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and other states were notified by the federal department of agricultural economics today that they need no longer apply for permits to ship cattle for slaughter into the San Francisco bay region. Sheep were exempted from the notification. Such shipments might stop as close to the infected area, as Roosevelt, Placer county, for feed, rest and water, the notice said.

The California Dairy council warned today that social affairs in the affected area should be minimized, that there should be as little as possible visiting between farms and that vehicular traffic should be greatly limited. An auto tire could easily carry an infection to other farms, the council said.

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COOLIDGE ORDERS PROBE STAND. OIL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Special government counsel will be appointed shortly by President Coolidge to inquire into the validity of the title held by the Standard Oil company of California to sections of the naval oil reserves in that state.

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Firewater Boat Burned
HAVANA, Feb. 29.—The British auxiliary schooner Wyndolity, whose name, according to members of her crew, stood for "will you buy a drink if I tell you?" was destroyed by fire here yesterday after an explosion on board. The crew escaped.

The schooner for some time had been running in and out of Havana, clearing for various West Indies ports.

recollection after a matter of years." Senator Walsh then subjected Palmer to a rigorous cross-examination on the failure of the department of justice to appeal the Southern Pacific case. The senator declared the government had won a similar case against the railroad on the same set of laws and facts but Palmer disagreed with him.

Cow Shin Bones Sent to China for Mah Jongg Sets

GALVESTON, Texas, Feb. 29.—Three carloads of select shin bones from cows slaughtered at a Chicago packing house were exported from Galveston on the steamship Patrick Henry for Japan, where they will be re-exported to China for the manufacture of mah-jongg sets. The popularity of the game in the United States and South America is said to have caused a large demand for the bones.

ACCUSE NEWLY-WEDS, COLLEGE, OF INFANTICIDE

Daughter of Prominent Tacoma Business Man Charged With Killing Baby—Husband a Sophomore Bowdoin College.

PORTLAND, Maine, Feb. 29.—Nettie May MacLean of Tacoma, Wash., who came to Portland yesterday from Brunswick with her dead baby girl in her arms and visited an undertaker to have it prepared for burial, was taken back this afternoon by a deputy sheriff to the college town where her husband, Kenneth Ross MacLean, is a sophomore at Bowdoin college.

Officials planned to arraign her there this afternoon, probably on the charge of manslaughter. Her husband, whose arrest at the college came soon after she was taken into custody also was to be taken into court. County Attorney Robinson said it was likely he also would be charged with manslaughter.

It was planned to ask for a continuance next Wednesday pending the outcome of microscopic and bacteriological examinations of some of the organs of the child's body. Mr. Robinson said the examinations to be made by Frank N. Whittier of Bowdoin college would require several days and that their result would determine whether the charge of manslaughter should be changed.

Examination of the body disclosed no marks indicating violence. The report of the autopsy made by Medical Examiner John R. Hamel has been given the county attorney, but its nature probably will not be revealed until after Professor Whittier has completed his examination of the organs.

TACOMA, Feb. 29.—A. R. McLean, prominent business man and property owner here, left this morning for Portland, Maine, where his son Kenneth Ross MacLean and the latter's wife are held on charges of manslaughter in connection with the death of their baby. Mrs. Oscar Volk, mother of Mrs. Kenneth MacLean, accompanied him to Maine.

The elder MacLean said he received a telegram from his son yesterday saying the baby had suffocated. He expressed confidence that his son and daughter-in-law would be cleared of the charges against them.

Kenneth MacLean and his wife, who was Nettie Volk, were students of Stadium high school here. They eloped a year and a half ago. The MacLean family insisted that Kenneth should finish his education and he was sent to Bowdoin college in Maine where he was a member of the football team last year. His wife and baby remained in Tacoma, leaving for Maine for a visit recently.

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U. S. Consulate in Honduras Fired On; Marines Called Out

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The American consulate at Celba, Honduras, has been fired on by revolutionists and a detachment of marines from the cruiser Den- ver has been landed to act as a consulate guard.

Consul Waller reported today that fighting had been in progress in the streets for four hours and that some bullets "had" penetrated the consulate.

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M'ADOO DECLINES REED'S CHALLENGE TO DEBATE HIS OIL FEE RECORD

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 29.—Announcement that William G. McAdoo will not come to Missouri to answer charges being made by United States Senator James A. Reed, his opponent for the democratic presidential nomination, is the latest development in the campaign in this state.

Senator Reed speaking here last night, hurled a challenge to Mr. McAdoo to meet him on the platform in Missouri for a joint discussion of the oil lease disclosures.

GIRL KILLED HERSELF AS MAN ADVISED

Vallie Belasco Martin Told By Man She Loved to Kill Herself As He Would Never Marry Her—Verses Written By Lover Found Among Girl's Papers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—Disappointment in love, beside literary and theatrical failures, caused Vallie Belasco Martin, formerly of Seattle and Milwaukee, to kill herself in her mother's Riverside drive apartment yesterday, it was learned today.

Miss Martin was said to have killed herself less than an hour after she had returned home from a gay supper party with two men, one of whom was a former Red Cross captain, a married man, with whom she was declared to have been deeply in love. The girl met the captain at a hospital where she had gone to read to wounded soldiers.

He was reported to have told the girl at their last meeting, a few hours before she returned home to kill herself, that he expected his wife to divorce him but that he proposed to never again marry. The following verses written by the captain were found in Miss Martin's papers:

"Valley, dear, it's quite pathetic when a lady gets poetic and inflicts her thoughts aesthetic on an unoffending pal; and if I remember rightly, you have deviated slightly from the facts when touching lightly on our friendship—little gal."

"Now I never said my kisses should be kept for my dear Mrs. for such a world as this is, that would make life rather flat; and I never made love to you from the time that I first knew you. You don't really mean it do you, when you state that I did that?"

"In a tone that's almost chiding, you accuse me, dear, of having facts I should have been confiding in you as a family friend. And although it may be true, it was a low-down trick to do it, I confessed it in the end. The chances you've been taking are the reasons why I'm shaking one I've learned to like too well. And although it seems like hitting kind of low, old girl, I'm quitting, though I'm candidly admitting that it certainly is hell."

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