

SAYS WILLETT TRIED TO COVER UP LOAN

Banker Tells of Night Visit Candidate Paid Him at His Home.

BENCH SCANDAL PROBE ON

Willett Only One of Four Men Accused on Hand—How He Obtained \$20,000 Before Nomination.

Tammany's hand in Queens, minus the index finger in the person of "Curly Joe" Cassidy, Democratic leader of that county, was well represented yesterday at the opening of the public hearing of the Democratic judicial scandal in the Second Judicial District, before Justice Townsend Scudder, sitting as a committing magistrate in Part I of the Supreme Court, in Long Island City.

William Willett, Jr., candidate for the Supreme Court bench in Queens, was the only one of the quartet of alleged conspirators named in the information filed with the court, which includes Cassidy, John H. McCooey, Democratic leader of Kings, and Louis T. Walter, Jr., a Cassidy lieutenant, charged with conspiring to procure Willett's nomination by the payment of a sum of money by the candidate, who attended the proceedings.

Colonel Bacon announced at the close of the hearing yesterday that his client desired to take the witness stand and testify in his own behalf. Mr. De Ford, Assistant District Attorney of New York County, and District Attorney De Witt, of Queens, who are conducting the inquiry, made no objection, provided the candidate for the Supreme Court bench would waive the privilege of immunity in testifying.

Tell of Two \$10,000 Loans.

Several witnesses were examined yesterday, and some pertinent testimony was adduced in regard to Willett's loan of \$10,000 from the Bank of Long Island, at Jamaica, on October 6, the day of the judicial convention, and another \$10,000 loan from the First National Bank of Far Rockaway a few days prior to that.

SNOW 28 INCHES DEEP

Mr. Smith testified that Mr. Willett mentioned in a general way when he came to the witness to obtain the \$10,000 loan that he expected the nomination for justice of the Supreme Court, and that he wanted to make a "campaign contribution" before he was nominated.

In his testimony Mr. Smith told of three interviews that he had with Mr. Willett—one on the day before the judicial convention, one on the morning of the convention, October 6, and one late on the night of October 21. The first interview took place in Mr. Smith's office in this city. Referring to it the witness said:

"When Mr. Willett came to my office on October 5 he said that he might get the judicial nomination and might want some money. He mentioned \$10,000, and as the collateral he offered was satisfactory I practically agreed to make the loan right there."

"This happened in New York County," Mr. De Ford suggested.

"Yes, at my office in Manhattan," Mr. Smith replied. "Mr. Willett said that if he got the nomination he would have to sit up and be dignified, and that it wouldn't look well for him to make any campaign contributions. He would have to make any contributions before getting the nomination, he said, not afterward."

Willett came to the bank the next morning in an automobile, alone as far as the witness observed, and Mr. Smith went into the cage and got the money, \$10,000 in bills, and gave it to him, the bank president testified. The witness said he couldn't recall that Willett mentioned on that occasion just what he wanted the money for. Willett had not admonished him to keep silent in regard to the matter that he remembered, Mr. Smith said in answer to a question by Mr. De Ford.

The third conversation related to a midnight call of Willett to the bank president's house, in Freeport, on October 21. That was the night after the warrant had been served on William Berri, one of the owners of "The Standard Union," in the criminal libel action brought against Mr. Berri by Willett, in conjunction with Surrogate Ketcham and Patrick E. Callahan, nominees on the Democratic ticket in Kings for the Supreme Court bench.

Willett had come to his home earlier in the evening in an automobile alone, the witness said, and waited until he returned home.

Would Return Loan Secretly.

Willett mentioned the Berri proceedings, said the witness, "and said that he wanted to pay off the \$10,000 loan. That was on Saturday night, and he said that he would pay it back on Monday or Tuesday. He said he had not used any of the money. He said that it looked like that he had taken the money at the time, and that it would look bad if he

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Harvard-Princeton Football

Sol Metzger, the famous Pennsylvania football coach, will write an analytical story of the Harvard-Princeton game at Princeton on Saturday. Don't miss this added feature of the sporting page of

Next Sunday's Tribune

MAINE REVEALING SECRET

All Disclosures Confirm Theory of Exterior Explosion.

Havens, Nov. 2.—It is probable that the examination of the wreck of the battleship Maine will be completed by the end of this month. All revelations so far are strongly confirmatory of the findings of the Sampson board that the ship was destroyed by an exterior explosion, supplemented by a partial explosion of one or more of the forward magazines.

Sections of the bottom and sides of the forward part have been found to be lifted up and reversed by a tremendous exterior force, inconsistent with the theory that this condition was due solely to magazine explosions.

The forward section for seventy feet from the bow is lying on its starboard side and twisted sharp apart. Exploration in this section has been completed for forty feet, leaving only thirty feet to the extremity of the bow, which it is expected will be reached in two weeks. Removal of the four forward boilers has been delayed, owing to insufficient strength of the derricks. When they are removed it will give an opportunity for exploration of the mud-embedded section occupied by the magazines. The building of a wooden bulkhead amidships was begun to-day, and there is no doubt that the after half of the ship can be floated out.

BLACK MOTOR BOAT BUSY

Long Island Sound Towns Again Hunt Elusive Burglars.

The police of the towns along Long Island Sound are again looking for the elusive black motor boat that is believed to be manned by a crew of burglars who robbed a number of houses in New Rochelle and other places along the Sound last summer.

The boat paid a visit to New Rochelle last night, and the house of Mrs. Amanda O. Hanson, No. 164 Locust avenue, was robbed. The burglars entered the house by forcing a side window and got away with \$500 in money and other articles valued at about \$500.

Mrs. Hanson, who keeps a boathouse at Hudson Park, on Echo Bay, went to the boathouse at 5 o'clock and did not return home until 7. While there she saw two men in oilskins, with their pockets bulging, carrying suitcases along the gangway beside the boathouse, board a black motor boat at her float and speed out toward the open Sound.

Indiana Has Heaviest Fall Recorded at This Season.

South Bend, Ind., Nov. 2.—The valley of the St. Joseph River, from this city north to St. Joseph, Mich., a distance of forty miles, early this morning experienced a severe snowstorm. The fall in some places amounted to twenty-eight inches.

This section never had a heavier snow at this season. In this city the fall was eighteen inches. Until nearly noon today not a car was moved. The interurban lines leading to Indianapolis were open, but traffic on roads north and west was suspended.

The snowfall was heaviest at New Carlisle, this county. There a mark of twenty-eight inches was recorded. At St. Joseph, twenty-four inches fell.

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 2.—The entire Panhandle section of Texas is covered with six inches of snow, the heaviest this early in the season in several years. The snow belt extends far into Western Oklahoma, with freezing temperature reported all over north and central portions of the state, including the cotton belt.

Albany, Nov. 2.—Albany experienced the first snow squall of the season to-day. The flakes melted as soon as they fell.

Rochester, Nov. 2.—This section of Western New York felt the first touch of winter to-day. Snow, driven by a brisk west wind, fell to the depth of over an inch.

Syracuse, Nov. 2.—The ground was white here to-day with the first snowstorm of the winter.

Watertown, Nov. 2.—About two inches of snow fell in Watertown early to-day. The weather cleared toward noon, and the snow melted rapidly.

FEMALE JURY FREES EDITOR

Defendant Had Fought Equal Suffrage, but Now He's a Booster.

Los Angeles, Nov. 2.—A. A. King, editor of "Watts News," who fought equal suffrage during the campaign preceding the recent election which enfranchised women, was acquitted to-day by the first jury composed exclusively of women in this state of a charge of printing an indecent story in his paper. Judge Cassidy and Sheriff Hamill are enthusiastic over the working of the jury. It took the women just thirty minutes to reach a verdict.

"I've been converted," said King after the verdict was read. "I fought suffrage, but now I'm a booster."

MORE GLOOM IN NICARAGUA

Minister of Finance Reports National Treasury Is Empty.

Managua, Nicaragua, Nov. 2.—Pedro Rafael Cauda, the newly appointed Finance Minister, reports that the Nicaraguan treasury is empty.

WORKED OVERTIME: NOW IDLE.

Girard, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Five hundred puddlers in the plant of the A. M. Byers Company are on strike and eight hundred puddlers are idle because one of the puddlers was compelled to "pull" a charge in his furnace which the mill committee claimed he put in after the time limit.

THE BATTLESHIP CONNECTICUT LEADING THE FLEET TO SEA. The Presidential yacht Mayflower at the right.



WOMAN HOLDS UP THIEF WITH TRAY OF DIAMONDS

Jeweller's Wife Gets Drop on Armed Robber When Husband Is Caught Off Guard.

MEN FIRST EXCHANGE SHOTS

Young Daughter of Merchant Runs to Police Station and Brings Aid—Prisoner Says Wanted to Help Mother.

"Hold-up" man with a revolver was "held up" by the wife of a Jersey City jeweller, similarly armed, yesterday after the jeweller and the desperado had exchanged shots. The merchant's daughter, who is only twelve years old, summoned the police, who took the thief into custody.

Harry Sigmund was in his jewelry store, at No. 252 Central avenue, yesterday, when a young man of medium height and build, with a broad brim slouch hat partly drawn over his brow, entered the place and asked to see some diamond rings. There was nothing in the stranger's action to excite suspicion, and the jeweller lifted out a tray and, placing it on the showcase, stooped to take out another, when he heard the command "Hands up!" Looking up he saw the man was covering him with a revolver.

Since the "hold-up" men have been making a specialty of robbing jewelry dealers Sigmund has laid in a stock of revolvers, placing them at convenient hidden points, easily accessible. Instead of throwing up his hands he grabbed one of the pistols and shouted, "Your hands up!"

The robber fired one shot and the ball went wild, lodging in the wall. Sigmund also fired, and his shot was so close that the bullet went through the robber's hat. He was about to fire again, but Mrs. Bertha Sigmund just then appeared at the door of the rear room with a revolver in her hand. She supplemented her husband's command with an order for "hands up," and the intruder promptly obeyed.

While husband and wife kept their weapons leveled at the thief, Mr. Sigmund instructed her daughter, Helen, to call a policeman. The child ran to the 6th Precinct police station, a block distant, and Captain Cummings and Patrolmen Philip Miller and John Reilly hastened to the store and arrested the man. The prisoner says he is Charles Meyer, a chemist, of No. 1623 Broadway, Brooklyn. He said it was his first attempt at crime and he was made desperate because he was out of work and had an old mother to support.

THORNLESS BLACKBERRY

Luther Burbank Obtains It After Working Ten Years.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The thornless blackberry has arrived. This afternoon, while Luther Burbank was showing a party of Australian boys about his gardens, at Santa Rosa, he said: "Now I will show you something about which nothing has been said as yet. It is the thornless blackberry. It has not been distributed yet, and possibly will not be for some time. You see, I have to be careful about stating anything until it is a reality."

Mr. Burbank broke some branches from the bush and they were carefully examined by the visitors. No thorns were visible, the surface of the branches being as smooth as silk. The fruit is said to be of fine flavor and quality.

Mr. Burbank told the boys he had worked ten years on the blackberry bush endeavoring to remove its thorns.

MOUNTED POLICEMAN HURT

Found Unconscious in Street, with Horse Some Distance Away.

William Galbraith, a mounted policeman, attached to the Tremont station, was found last night lying unconscious in the street at Walton avenue and Mount Hope Place, The Bronx, by G. G. Borstgarn, of Hunt's Point avenue, who was passing in his automobile. Policeman Meyer, of the Tremont station, called an ambulance from Fordham Hospital, and the injured policeman was taken to that institution.

As Galbraith was unconscious when found and had not recovered consciousness when taken to the hospital, it is not known in what manner he fell from his horse. The horse was found at Mount Hope Place and Anthony avenue, a short distance from the place where Galbraith was found. A scalp wound was the only injury in evidence when he was taken to the hospital.



President Taft, Secretary Meyer and Lieutenant Commander Palmer, at the Mayflower's gangway before the official visits. (Photograph by Victoria News Company.)

FRUITS OF MURPHYISM

Platform Pledges and Promises Violated in Lust for Jobs.

USED CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM

Despite Declarations Before Election, Governor Asked State Commission to Resign.

VI. Platform pledges and the solemn pre-election promises of candidates meant nothing to the Murphy state administration in comparison with its lust for places on the public payroll. If ever a political party and its Governor were pledged to a strict observance of the letter and spirit of the civil service laws Murphy's Democracy and Murphy's Governor were so pledged. The Murphy administration to date has been a long continued raid on the state treasury and a shameless violation, with the help of Governor Dix, of the spirit of the civil service laws.

The Democratic state platform adopted by Murphy's convention at Rochester was direct and explicit in its support of civil service reform. It said: "We believe that for the promotion of greater efficiency in the public service the merit system should be extended wherever it is found practical and protection given to civil service employes from unjust dismissal. Knowledge of Murphy's itch for jobs prevented many persons interested

in civil service reform from feeling entirely satisfied with Murphy's platform pledge, so before election a series of questions was put to Mr. Dix, designed to show his attitude on this issue. He authorized these answers, as direct and explicit as the pledge in the party platform.

Q.—Are you in sympathy with the policy of maintaining the civil service as now constituted and of promoting the reasonable extension thereof? A.—I am in complete sympathy with the policy of maintaining the civil service as now constituted and of promoting the reasonable extension thereof.

Q.—Are you in favor of retaining in their present positions faithful employes of the state now in the classified service? A.—Decidedly so.

Q.—If elected Governor would it be your policy, as has been stated, to exempt from the civil service positions now under its protection and would you be disposed to appoint as civil service commissioners men in sympathy with such a purpose? A.—No such statement has been made by my consent or knowledge. If I am elected Governor the Civil Service Commission appointed by me will be in complete sympathy with the letter and spirit of the civil service law and the merit system.

The first thing Governor Dix did in his first official act was to resign the State Commission to Resign.

STOLE MENDELSSOHN RELIC

Boy Gave Silver Box to Vender for Chestnuts.

Pasquale Vulcano, fourteen years old, of No. 411 East 23d street, was arrested last night on a charge of juvenile delinquency, the complainant being John Hart, of No. 69 West 76th street, who said that on October 26, while the boy was delivering a suit that he had sent to a tailor to have pressed, he stole a silver box containing several gold studs and cuff buttons.

Taft for Greater Fleet.

Navy Needless Extravagance Unless Maintained at Highest Efficiency.

Following the review of the fleet, President Taft made the following statement:

"Those who saw the fighting fleet, which was assembled in New York Harbor to-day, could not fail to be struck with its preparedness and with its high military efficiency, and must have been proud of its personnel.

"The demonstration has had an educational value in arousing patriotism, in increasing the general knowledge of and interest in the navy, in illustrating the ability to mobilize on short notice, and in showing the skill of the officers who turned the whole fleet in the narrow river and sent it to sea at the rate of fourteen knots per hour.

"The equipment of the fleet is excellent, except as to the number of destroyers and cruisers and colliers in proportion to the whole number. We had in the fleet to-day twenty-two destroyers, and to meet the full requirements there should have been approximately one hundred destroyers, or an average of four to each battleship. It is true that there has been a marked improvement in the type of colliers and fast cruisers in our navy, but it is also true that we haven't a sufficient number.

"In addition to building great battleships, other nations are building enormous high-speed cruisers—twenty-eight knots per hour—and it is believed that our navy should be similarly equipped. Unless a navy is maintained at the highest possible state of efficiency, it is a needless extravagance.

"I am more than ever convinced of the desirability of conferring upon the commanding officer of our fleet the title of admiral, or at least of vice-admiral. At present the ranking officer is a rear admiral, and this title is not commensurate with the importance of the fleet. At the review of the German fleet at Kiel a smaller number of ships was under the command of a full admiral; two squadrons were commanded by vice-admirals, and each of four divisions was commanded by a rear admiral."

KIDNAP AN AMERICAN

Zapatistas Seize H. L. Hall After Vainly Demanding Money.

Mexico City, Nov. 2.—Unable to comply with the demands of a band of Zapatistas for money, H. L. Hall, an American, the owner of a large hotel in Cuernavaca and well known throughout the republic, yesterday was kidnaped, according to news reaching the capital to-night.

Mr. Hall was at a point near Oaxaca, in that state, when seized by the outlaws. Federal troops have been sent out to rescue him.

MANY RESCUED AT FIRE

Blaze in Brownsville Tenement House Causes Scare.

A fire in Brownsville last night furnished all sorts of excitement. Practically everybody in a twenty-four-family tenement house rushed up and down the stairs, some jumping to adjoining roofs, some leaping from the windows, others overcome by smoke, and still others—these the little children—being tossed from fireman to fireman until they reached safety.

The fire was in a candy store at No. 124 Pitkin avenue, and an explosion caused it to spread to No. 125.

Many of the inmates of the house ran upstairs, only to find the door to the roof locked. Some of these were rendered unconscious by the smoke. Others jumped from windows to the roof of the American Star Hall, next door. Firemen and policemen ran upstairs into the house, but ladders to the windows and spread ladders. No one was seriously hurt, though half a dozen persons were brought out unscathed, and one man had a lacerated hand. West, which he forsook to become a policeman here, Skirden has at last attained his ambition, not of going back to the West, but of taking charge of a large game preserve on Long Island. Skirden refuses to give the name of his employer, but the preserve is said to be located near Oakdale.

VIRGINIAN! A GAMEKEEPER

Hero of Owen Wister's Novel to Take Charge of Long Island Preserve.

Philadelphia, Nov. 2.—New York is to have an opportunity to idealize Charles D. Skirden, frontiersman and policeman and hero of "The Virginian," by Owen Wister. "Thinking for years for the open life of a policeman here, Skirden has at last attained his ambition, not of going back to the West, but of taking charge of a large game preserve on Long Island. Skirden refuses to give the name of his employer, but the preserve is said to be located near Oaxdale.

GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER. Its purity has made it famous.—Adv.

FLEET, REVIEWED BY THE PRESIDENT, GOES OUT TO SEA

Guns Roar Salutes as Mr. Taft, on Yacht Mayflower, Passes Along Line of Fighters.

PRAISES OFFICERS' SKILL

Declares All Who Saw Vessels Must Have Been Struck with Their High Military Efficiency and Been Proud of Their Personnel.

DEATH DELAYS PROCESSION

Only Casualty of Visit Occurs When Man on New Jersey Falls Overboard—Battleships Turn in River Without Accident and Proceed Down the Bay at a Fifteen-Knot Clip.

DELAWARE LEADS THE FLEET.

Table showing the efficiency of the fleet at battle practices held off the Chesapeake Capes last September, with a score of 52,551. The records of the other ships in the order of their scores are: New Hampshire 43,249; South Carolina 45,191; Washington 36,949; Vermont 36,300; Louisiana 30,939; Kansas 30,818; Michigan 30,787; Connecticut 29,664; Georgia 29,236; Minnesota 24,810; Mississippi 24,723; North Dakota 22,393; Virginia 19,514; Missouri 19,357; Nebraska 17,134; North Carolina 11,280; Maine 11,091; Ohio 9,730; Idaho 9,223.

Standing bareheaded on the bridge of the Mayflower in a fifty-mile gale and a temperature of 40 degrees, President Taft yesterday afternoon reviewed the greatest war fleet America has ever gathered together, while 402 guns roared out their salute to him and thirty thousand officers and men stood with their hands to their caps. It was the climax of a day in which many cannon belched flame and smoke in his honor and one hundred vessels of America's naval force paid him tribute.

In that last review, while he stood alone at the port rail of the Mayflower's bridge, twenty-two first class fighting ships—twenty battleships and two armored cruisers—led by the flagship Connecticut and the rear brought up by the Florida, the most formidable warship in the world, passing him at a fifteen-knot gait, flags flying, crews at the salute manning the rails and bands playing "The Star-Spangled Banner." And as they cleared the Mayflower the roar of the guns broke forth, and the great war vessels disappeared in a cloud of smoke carried by the strong west wind and tinted with crimson and gold by the last rays of the sun setting behind the hills of Jersey.

Down from the upper reaches of the North River they came, where the President had left them three hours before, decked out with rainbow colors stretched over the mastsheads from stem to stern and surrounded by a busy mosquito fleet of tiny steamers that buzzed among them, carrying men and messages and gossip and orders. But now they came swiftly, silently, sternly, in single column, with only the commander's ensign, the red speed pennant and their country's flag; looming from the northern shadows into the sun-swept foreground huge and gray, leaning down upon the Mayflower, dark, retributive and majestic; and only as they passed the trim white yacht bursting for the moment into light and life with the ruffle of the bugles and the bars of the national anthem, then once more silence and then the roaring guns and the clouds of smoke and behind the river curtain the great ships speeding out to sea.

President's Tribute to Fleet.

The last of the sun was gone and the black shadows of night were settling over the river as the Florida sped by and challenged with her guns. Behind her came the destroyers, leaping out of the darkness, green as the sea, racing in pairs, lost again in the shadows.

The President replaced his hat on his head and turned regretfully from the bridge for the barge that could just make the landing place in time for him to catch his train with all streets cleared for his car. As he turned away he grasped Secretary Meyer's hand and shook it silently and hard.

"Those who saw the fighting fleet to-day could not fail to be struck with its preparedness and with its high military efficiency and must have been proud of its personnel," he said before he left the Mayflower. "This demonstration has shown the skill of the officers, who turned the whole fleet in the narrow river and sent it to sea at the rate of fifteen knots. Unless a navy is maintained at the highest possible state of efficiency it is a needless extravagance."

The review, as they put to sea, was the last act of a busy day for the great fleet. It included three simultaneous salutes by the entire fleet of twenty-one guns each and two salutes of twenty-one guns each fired by the ships separately, while each of the five admirals received a salute of thirteen guns from the Mayflower. The President passed through the line of ships twice while they lay at anchor, going north from the flagship Connecticut, where she lay off 57th street, to the northernmost vessel of the

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