

# CONSPIRACY TO BRING ON PANIC

Alfred O. Crozier of Wilmington, Del., Tells Committee He Heard Financier Predict.

DECLINED TO GIVE HIS NAME

At Conclusion of His Statement Chairman Fowler Announced Hearings On Aldrich Bill Were Closed.

Washington, April 16.—In picturesque language, at times violently denunciatory, Alfred O. Crozier of Wilmington, Del., today told the house committee on banking and currency that he had unearthed a secret scheme for a compromise on the Aldrich currency bill. He intimated plainly that the members of the currency commission and the American Bankers' association did not act fairly with the banking and currency committee in unanimously opposing the Aldrich bill yesterday.

While opposing the bill "on principle," he said, "the members of that commission objected to it because the emergency currency was to bear 6 per cent interest and are ready to support it now if the interest is reduced to 3 per cent."

"Last evening our distinguished banking friends had a conference," he said. "Today they are having another with the wicked promoters of the wicked Aldrich and Vreeland bills. What for? They are agreeing on a compromise. On what basis? Just a simple little amendment reducing the tax to 3 per cent and some other minor changes."

He declared that this conference was only held after it was stated that the hearings before the banking and currency committee had been closed.

"If this committee had not honored me with this opportunity to speak at this postscript to the public hearing," said Mr. Crozier, "and if one of the distinguished bankers who addressed you yesterday had not mistaken me last evening for one of their fraternity and unreservedly told me the whole program, the trick would have been turned quickly and suddenly. The business interests of the country might never have known that they had been sold out by their banking partners, and even this committee might not in time have become aware that the great men who appeared here against the bill openly were in fact favoring it privately."

"The Aldrich bill," Mr. Crozier declared, "is a gambling game from start to finish, brought here by gamblers and promoted by gamblers for gambling purposes."

He asserted stoutly that he knew the late financial stringency was brought on deliberately by Wall street men.

"I was told in Wall street that such a measure as the Aldrich bill would be brought before this Congress and that a panic would precede it."

Mr. Crozier said that if a commission was appointed he would furnish a list of witnesses to the counsel by whom this charge can be proved.

As an evidence of the conspiracy to bring on a panic, Mr. Crozier said a prominent financier told the president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railway that it was to be brought on before the meeting of Congress and on that information he said the railroad borrowed \$20,000,000. Urged to tell who the financier predicting a panic was, Mr. Crozier said he did not like to give his name at this time, but would give it to the counsel of any commission Congress might appoint to investigate the causes of the recent financial crisis.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Crozier's statement, Chairman Fowler announced that hearings on the Aldrich bill were closed.

After a short executive session, the committee adjourned until tomorrow at 10:30, when it is expected an adverse report on the Aldrich bill will be agreed upon.

The Vreeland bill is before the committee, and if Mr. Vreeland should desire to have hearings on that measure he probably will be given an opportunity to present any testimony he desires.

## COL. STEWART TRANSFERRED TO ST. FRANCIS BARRACKS

Washington, April 16.—The friends of Col. William F. Stewart of the coast artillery triumphed today to the extent of obtaining an order directing him to take up his residence at the abandoned St. Francis barracks, St. Augustine, Fla., for the three years or more he expects to serve on the active list, instead of spending this time at desolate Fort Grant, Ariz., where he was practically exiled last September. At his new post Col. Stewart will have no one to "command," but his surroundings will be decidedly more comfortable than the Arizona fort.

## ADOPTED BY THE CROWS.

Chief Plenty Cools Places the War Bonnet on Senator Clapp's Head.

Washington, April 16.—Senator Clapp (Dem.), chairman of the committee on Indian affairs, is now a "heap big Indian" chief of the Crow tribe. He was given a great surprise today by Chief Plenty Cools and his fellow tribesmen, who have been witnesses before the Indian committee for the past three weeks. The chief marched into the committee room at the head of the band, and through an interpreter, plienatically informed the senator that the treatment that had been accorded the Indians was highly appreciated and that an appropriate gift was due the white chief of the committee. Chief Plenty Cools then took from one of his followers a huge war bonnet, which had been the chief's insignia of rank and worn by him whenever he went into battle. He said that he was now a man of peace and that the bonnet was of less value to him on the reservation than it would be to the senator in Congress, and therefore he wanted the senator to take it.

Senator Clapp was "completely flabbergasted," according to his own description of his emotions. He took the war bonnet and thanked the chief.

Chief Plenty Cools and his band will start for their reservation home in Montana tomorrow.

## LIBEL AGAINST JULIA MARLOWE WITHDRAWN

Boston, April 16.—Atty. Percy A. Brigham of this city, who filed a divorce libel in the Essex county superior court at Salem recently on behalf of Clara L. Von Hermann against Karl S. Von Hermann, in which the actress, Miss Julia Marlowe, and Mrs. Maude Thurnburn Backus of Brooklyn were named as co-respondents, has had the libel dismissed on motion before Judge Richardson in the superior court. This means that the names of Miss Marlowe and Mrs. Backus are eliminated from the case. Mr. Brigham said tonight:

"I have known Mrs. Von Hermann

for a great many years, as well as other members of the family, and for that reason was induced to prosecute the libel in her behalf. That Mrs. Von Hermann was sincerely honest in all her allegations as contained in the libel against Miss Marlowe and Mrs. Backus I am convinced, but after a closer investigation and a more careful sifting of the evidence, I feel convinced that the source of Mrs. Von Hermann's information is wholly unreliable. This does not alter my belief that Mrs. Von Hermann should be granted a divorce from her husband on other grounds which in no way involve Miss Marlowe or Mrs. Backus, and of which grounds I was in ignorance when I took the case."

## LITTLEFIELD'S RETIREMENT.

Samuel Gompers Asserts That Federation of Labor Forced It.

New York, April 16.—That the resignation of Congressman Littlefield of Maine, which was recently announced, was forced by the campaign made against him several years ago by organized labor was asserted today by

President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor. "When labor made its protest against Mr. Littlefield he said he would be elected to Congress again," said Mr. Gompers, "and he was elected again, but his prestige began to decline and now he is to leave Congress and retire to private life."

"Labor cannot afford to overlook the record of any congressman or other public official," continued Mr. Gompers. "Labor has its rights, knows them and will stand for them. It will not let itself be outwitted by any judicial decision. Labor organizations have political power. It has never been utilized as it should be."

## CHELSEA FIRE VICTIMS.

Three More Corpses Recovered, Making the Number Nine.

Boston, April 16.—Three more corpses were recovered late today from the ruins of Sunday's fire in Chelsea, making the total number now recovered nine. In addition two persons have died this week of causes incident to the fire.

The bodies recovered today were those of Mrs. Minnie I. Fenwick, wife of Dr. J. B. Fenwick, one of the leading physicians in Chelsea; Mrs. Walter Barnes of Glenridge, niece of Mrs. Fenwick, and Miss Vinnie Boyes of Chelsea, a maid in the employ of the Fenwick family.

## LA FOLLETTE ILL.

Washington, April 17.—Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, is ill at his home in California street, suffering from gall stones. He has been attended by a physician almost constantly for the past 48 hours and inflammation of the stomach has developed. His family and friends are alarmed over his condition.

After a heavy meal, take a couple of Doan's Regulents, and give your stomach, liver and bowels the help they need. Regulents bring easy, regular passages of the bowels.

## PLUMBING AND HEATING.

Sewer and water connection made. J. C. Heesch, 113 W. 2nd St.

## CALLED ON PRESIDENT

Members of Currency Committee of American Bankers' Association to Make Known Their Views.

Washington, April 16.—Members of the currency committee of the American Bankers' association, who appeared before the house committee on banking and currency yesterday in opposition to the Aldrich bill, called President Roosevelt today and made known their views to him.

The committee held a conference with Representative Vreeland today in relation to his bill to provide for an emergency currency. The commission indicated several amendments to the bill, which, they said, would make it satisfactory to them. An agreement was reached to reduce from \$10,000,000 to \$5,000,000 the aggregate amount of capital required to permit national banks to form voluntary clearing house associations to hold commercial paper to be used in addition to bonds as security for emergency currency.

The reason given by the bankers for

desiring this reduction was the necessity of having such associations cover a smaller section of the country, which they declared would result in greater facility in the scrutiny of security. The bankers also desired to reduce from 6 to 4 per cent the initial rate of interest to be charged, and it is likely that a compromise will be made on 6 per cent. An encouragement was given to their proposition to allow the assets of the banks to be accepted for one-half of the issue of emergency currency.

The chief differences between the Vreeland and the Aldrich bills are: The former permits the use of commercial paper as well as bonds for half of the emergency circulation taken out; the omission of any change in the law in reference to bank reserves and the omission of the La Follette prohibition against the loaning of money by banks to institutions, the officers or directors of which are officers or directors of the bank making the loan.

The Vreeland bill will be considered by a Republican caucus of the house probably next Tuesday evening. It is not likely that the committee on banking and currency will be called upon to consider it.

## UNLESS JEWEL'S TEMPER IMPROVES, SHE'LL BE KILLED

New York, April 17.—Cynicism of pessimism may soon be the portion of Jewel, one of the big elephants at Central park. Tom and Tip, for years pets at the Central park zoo, went that way and their bones are now whitening in the museum of natural history. They did not succeed in holding their temper and after many attempts to reform them were finally killed. Now Jewel has developed a temper that threatens her extermination. Several times lately the great elephant has attacked her keepers and several men have narrowly escaped serious injury. As it was they were badly bruised. Jewel was obtained from a circus in return for a young hippopotamus, one of the offspring of Miss Murphy, who recently presented another one to the zoo. Unless Jewel's temper improves, she will go to join Tom and Tip in the museum.

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