

SECRET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1905. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR.

SENATOR PLATT GIVES SNAP AWAY.

Equitable Life Gave \$10,000 a
Year to Republican State
Campaign Fund.

N. Y. LIFE AND MUTUAL ALSO.

In Return, Senator Was Expected
To Influence Legislation When
Hostile Measures Came Up.

John A. Nichols Before Committee—
Told How Certain Man Was Made
Friendly to the Equitable.

New York, Nov. 21.—United States
Senator Thomas C. Platt testified as a
witness before the insurance investigat-
ing committee today.

Senator Platt said that the Equitable
society contributed \$10,000 a year to the
Republican state campaign fund. Sen-
ator Platt said the contributions were
in cash and were sent by messenger to
his office and he turned them over to the
state committee. They were uncol-
lected, he said.

Senator Platt said that \$10,000 was
frequently paid as an annual contribu-
tion to the state campaign fund, but
that it was not a regular thing and
that he could not remember the years
in which it was paid.

The New York Life Insurance com-
pany, also contributed, but not nearly
so much. No other insurance com-
panies contributed so far as he knew.
Senator Platt said he was expected in
return for the contributions to influence
legislation when any measures were
hostile to the insurance companies. He
added that he does not know Andrew
Hamilton or anything about Hamilton's
activity before the legislature. He
knew nothing about Andrew C. Fields,
who represented the Mutual Life In-
surance company at Albany.

Senator Platt said also that he had
received frequent contributions of \$10-
\$20 each from the Mutual Life In-
surance company.

NICHOLS ON STAND.

New York, Nov. 21.—John A. Nichols,
a lawyer and insurance commissioner
of the port of New York from 1880 to
1890, was called to the stand by Sen-
ator Platt. He was asked to tell the
committee what he knew about the
contributions of the Equitable and
other insurance companies to the
Republican state campaign fund. Sen-
ator Platt said he was sure that Sen-
ator Nichols would be able to tell the
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Republican state campaign fund.

BUYING FRIENDSHIP.

One of the matters entrusted to him
was that of W. S. Manning of Albany.
Witness said that Manning, who had
been an attorney, was employed by cer-
tain people to bring charges against
the Equitable that the reserve was
not so large as it ought to be. Man-
ning was paid \$500. Other pay-
ments were made to a man named
Kerr, a correspondent of a New York
paper, now dead. Kerr was paid cer-
tain sums for two or three years, and
the sums were paid by the Equitable.
The vouchers signed by Mr. Nichols
were produced. A payment of
\$5,000 July 1, 1895, witness could not
remember. Mr. Manning, he said,
he said he thought it was to enable
him to pay somebody else.

Buchers dated October, 1888, for
\$7,174 and July 1, 1890 for \$1,000. Man-
ning was also unable to explain, but
thought he could remember later when
he had refreshed his memory. The let-
ters of the witness, dated December, 1896, relative to
a friend who gets around at this time of
the year" was read to the witness and
he said it referred to Mr. Manning. He
wrote to Senator Devereux before the
senator was on the finance committee
of the Equitable society and that he
expected the senator to turn the letter
over to the executive officers. The let-
ter of Dec. 4, 1902, relative to "our
rascally friend from up the river,"
witness also said referred to Mr.
Manning. Mr. Manning, he said,
wanted to know whether the arrange-
ment of yearly payments by the Equi-
table society was to be continued. Wit-
ness said Manning sent him this ar-
rangement under his (Nichols) per-
mission. Mr. Nichols said he induced
Manning to give up his business as an
attorney because Manning had been an-
tagonistic.

MEMORY A LITTLE BAD.

Witness thought Mr. Manning was
connected with the investigation of in-
surance companies in 1877, but he did
not know in what capacity. He did
not recall that Manning threatened to
publish results of the investigation
that had been made public. Manning,
according to Mr. Hughes, claimed that
he had information of that investigation
which, if published, would seriously af-
fect the Equitable society, and Mr.
Hughes asked Mr. Nichols if that was
not the reason this money was paid to
Manning. Witness said he had no
recollection of this point.

THE NAMES OF PIERSON, BROOKER, BOL-
DERSON AND NUMEROUS OTHERS ON VOUCH-
ERS ON WHICH PAYMENTS WERE MADE, WIT-
NESS SAID, WERE THESE NAMES USED TO
PROTECT MANNING AND KEEP HIS NAME OUT
OF THE MATTER. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD
WITNESS WAS EMPLOYED BY THE MUTUAL
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY IN LOOKING UP
THE NAMES OF THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
STATE CAMPAIGN FUND. WITNESS SAID
THAT HE HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF THE
NAMES OF THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
STATE CAMPAIGN FUND.

DO YOU KNOW WHETHER BY VIRTUE OF

dealing with the Mutual. Witness said

he received \$1,000 annually.
For a time he received \$1,000 also
from the New York Life, but they dis-
continued it about 1899.

Witness said Manning wanted
to follow up the New York Life, but he
could not do so without the use of addi-
tional money.

Nichols said he does not know where
Manning is now. He could not recall
that he had had any business with any
of the three insurance companies other
than in the Manning matter.

THOMAS COMANS CALLED.

Thomas Comans, who said he looked
after real estate and city complaints for
the Equitable society, was next
called. He was formerly president of
the board of aldermen and acting mayor
upon Mayor Hoffman's election to the
governorship.

He has held office since 1877. He en-
tered the employment in 1882. He looked
after matters that were referred to
him. Mr. Hughes asked if he was the
intermediary between the city depart-
ments and the Equitable society and
the witness replied:

"Whenever they required anything."
Mr. Comans said he is a member of
Tammany hall. He said he looked
after getting the tax assessments of
the officers of the Equitable society re-
duced. Among these he said, were
Henry B. Hyde, James H. Hyde and
George E. Farabee. He had never re-
ceived money for political purposes nor
any contributions to Tammany hall.

At this point Senator Thomas C.
Platt intervened and Mr. Comans was
temporarily excused.

SENATOR PLATT ENTERS.

Senator Platt's entrance created a
stir in the room. He walked
slowly to the arm of Robert C. Mor-
ris, his counsel, and leaned heavily on
a cane. He took the witness chair and
during the testimony he was constantly
addressing the committee, but stopped
upon Chairman Armstrong's explanation
that counsel are not heard formally by
the committee.

Senator Platt had been carried up the
stairs of the city hall to the door of the
committee room in a chair. When he
was seated and sworn, Mr. Morris said
that the senator would answer all ques-
tions freely and frankly.

EQUITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

In reply to questions by Mr. Hughes,
Senator Platt said that he had received
contributions more particularly from
the Equitable Life Assurance society for
the state campaign fund and during
a period of at least the last 10 years.
The contributions were of \$10,000 each.
He could not tell when they were
made, but they continued every year
for some time. He received no money
from the Equitable for the local cam-
paigns nor for the expenses of any can-
didates to the legislature. The money
was divided among the candidates.
Senator Platt said he was not sure of
the exact amount, but he was sure of
the fact that the money was sent
over to his office by a messenger and
he immediately turned them over to
the chairman, secretary or treasurer
of the state committee. They were all
cash contributions, all came by messenger
and all came voluntarily. Senator
Platt said he could not remember
whether he made a request for the
contributions at the very beginning or
that they were a fixed sum of \$10,000
a year.

MUTUAL CONTRIBUTED.

Senator Platt said he occasionally re-
ceived contributions of \$10,000 each from
the Mutual Life Insurance company, but
he could not tell on what year nor how
often. These contributions did not come
annually, but at different times within
the last 10 years. He could not tell
when they were made, but they con-
tinued every year for some time. He
received no money from the Mutual for
the local campaigns nor for the expenses
of any candidates to the legislature. The
money was divided among the candi-
dates. Senator Platt said he was not
sure of the exact amount, but he was
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DEALT WITH MCCALL.

While testifying about the gifts of
the Mutual Life, the senator once re-
plied that he understood that he was
talking about the New York Life In-
surance company. He was asked if he
had dealt with President John A.
McCall. Asked directly whether Mr.
McCall gave him any money, the sen-
ator replied:

"I cannot say positively whether he
did or not. I cannot remember."

"It has been suggested to me that
you had something to do with the dis-
position of funds for the Harrison cam-
paign, the raising of a fund of \$10,000.
Do you recall that?" asked Mr. Hughes.
"No, any fund?"

"No, my memory could not tell me
whether it was the Harrison campaign
or not."

"You are clear in your mind that
you never had any contributions made
to you for the purpose of a national
campaign?"

MORAL ISSUE INVOLVED.

"Yes, sir; they never were given to
me for a national campaign, although I
have sometimes been asked very solemnly
about it. I thought it would be a
good thing for them to subscribe be-
cause of the bearing of the national
campaign on a state campaign."

"And with whom have you had such
conversations. I mean connected with
insurance companies of course?"

"I am not sure as to whom I talked,"
said Platt.

The senator said he did not think he
had talked with President McCurdy
about that matter, but he may have
talked with President McCurdy, though
he did not remember. Senator Platt
said he did not know of campaign con-
tributions from any other insurance
companies doing business in this state.

DON'T KNOW HAMILTON.

Mr. Platt said that he did not know
anything about Andrew Hamilton, the
insurance company had paid large sums for
legal expenses or did he know anything about
his work at Albany. He knew A. C.
Fields, who had had charge of the house
maintained by the Mutual Life In-
surance company at Albany, but he did not
know anything about services at Albany or
about any money paid by insurance
companies to Fields.

"So far as you know, senator, what
have the insurance companies done in
regard to shipping legislation or pre-
venting legislation in this state?" asked
Mr. Hughes.

"I don't know anything they have
done. I never inquired into that, nor
have they sought my influence at any
reference to it," said Mr. Platt.

"Do you know what disposition has
been made of the contributions by the
insurance companies?"

"I do not know anything about it,
sir. I turned these contributions over
to the state committee, and then my
connection with them ceased."

"Do you know whether by virtue of

such contributions any allotments of

money were made for the purpose of

helping the campaign of candidates for

the legislature?"

"There was not that I know of."

"Inquiries have been made from time
to time here with regard to the in-
surance companies, what influence had
the insurance companies in regard to
the appointment of the superintendent
of insurance, so far as you know?"

"I do not think they had any in-
fluence, so far as I know."

WAS NEVER ASKED TO INTER-
VENE.

"Have you ever been asked, senator
on behalf of any of the insurance com-
panies to intervene in their favor, by
reason of such contributions?"

"Never in the world."

"In connection with matters of leg-
islation of the insurance department?"

"Never in the world."

"At all in connection with matters of
legislation?"

"They have never asked me in the
world."

"And you have never done anything
of the kind?"

"I have not."

H. H. ROGERS MAY BE CALLED.

New York, Nov. 21.—Facts are coming
to light in the investigation of the Mu-
tual Life Insurance company, which it is
said may make it necessary to put
H. H. Rogers, of the Standard Oil com-
pany upon the witness stand before the
Armstrong committee before long. Mr.
Rogers is chairman of the agency com-
mittee of the Mutual Life's trustees
and is prospectively involved in the
issue raised by the Mutual's own in-
vestigating committee, whether the
contracts made with M. H. Raymond
& Company were executed properly or
whether actions might lie against some
one for the recovery of the sums im-
properly paid under these agreements.

Senator Thomas C. Platt was expected
to be the first witness before the com-
mittee today. Mr. Morris said that he
was sure that the senator would answer
all questions freely and frankly. The
senator said he was not sure of the
exact amount, but he was sure of the
fact that the money was sent over to
his office by a messenger and he im-
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contributions, all came by messenger
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contributions at the very beginning or
that they were a fixed sum of \$10,000
a year.

ESTIMATES ARE \$193,000,000.

Expenses Reduced Where They Can
Be—Extension of Pneumatic Tubes
Is Contemplated.

Washington, Nov. 21.—Postmaster-
General Cortelyou recently completed
and forwarded to the secretary of the
treasury the estimates for the post-
office department for the fiscal year
ending June 30, 1907. They show a re-
duction of expenses wherever it is be-
lieved it will not impair the service,
but provision for development of pos-
tial facilities to meet the growing needs
of all sections of the country.

The estimates for the postal ser-
vice, including the field office ser-
vice, aggregate \$193,000,000, an increase
over last year's appropriation of about
\$27,000,000. This increase represents
the normal growth of the service based
on the fact that the estimate carries
in regard to the most careful and con-
servative estimates. Each succeeding year
shows a large increase in the business
of the department. The principal items
in the increase are the rural delivery
service, railway mail service, compensa-
tion to postmasters and their clerks
and the compensation of letter car-
riers.

For the maintenance of rural de-
livery service and its proper exten-
sion \$29,000,000 will be required.
This is an increase of \$3,000,000 over
the appropriation for the current year,
which in turn is over \$5,000,000 more
than that of last year so that the pre-
sent estimate is \$1,400,000 less than
the increase of the present over the pre-
ceding year.

The deficit for the fiscal year ending
June 30, 1905, was \$12,250,000.

This amount, the difference between
the expenditures and the revenues of
the department, it is officially an-
nounced, "may be used to represent
the actual cost of the postal service
to the people. If recent calculations
are as accurate as they have been fre-
quently in the past they afford good
reason for believing that the deficit for
the year ending June 30, 1906, will
be considerably less. It is an interest-
ing fact that the total revenue for the
fiscal year 1905 exceeded the total ex-
penditures for the fiscal year 1904 by
nearly \$500,000."

SALOON HELD UP.

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 21.—Two masked
men held up and robbed of \$20 the
Maple Leaf saloon at Van Asselt, seven
miles from this city at 10:30 last night.
There were five men in the place at the
time. This is the fourth time the
Maple Leaf has been held up in two
years, one of the times a jockey named
Smith killed one of the robbers. The
man never being identified. Another
time De Smit, an Austrian, was killed
by three robbers.

SCHLACK'S PARTY IS
AGAIN IN SALT LAKE.

Charles H. Schlack, vice president,
and A. S. Hughes, general traffic man-
ager of the Denver & Rio Grande, to-
gether with several representatives of
Bingham mining industries, arrived in
Salt Lake early this morning on a spe-
cial train from Denver.

The fact that the officials spent near-
ly a week here some 10 days ago and
have returned so early is creating some
comment locally. While there is noth-
ing official forthcoming at this time it
is believed that the object of the present
trip is to line up a new ore schedule,
straighten out the Copper Belt road
and generally get things ready for the
opening of the line from Bingham to
the new smelters at Garfield. In addi-
tion the new depot site, options on
property on the west side, already out-
lined, and the contemplated ward im-
provements are also matters that will
be considered.

BIGOTRY GETS A GOOD SCORING.

Connecticut Universalist Minister
Supposes Case of Savior
As a Delegate.

HE WOULDN'T BE ADMITTED.

Interchurch Conference Would Say
to Him "You Are a Good Man But
You Are Not a Christian."

Chicago, Nov. 21.—A dispatch to the
Tribune from Stamford, Conn., says:
"If Christ had come to Stamford, and
had been elected a delegate to the in-
terchurch conference at New York,
would he be admitted?"

The answer given by the Rev. A. En-
geline Bartlett, pastor of the Universalist
church here last night, caused a
great deal of comment.

"It is not probable that a movement
which ought to mean as much as an
interchurch conference would be over-
looked by Christ," said Mr. Bartlett.
"It may be that his superior intellect,
his spotless character, his unselfish
service for humanity would elect him to
the conference."

"If the wise and conscientious men
among the delegates insisted Christ's
case might come up for a hearing and
the senator's deposition might be taken
at his office."

"We are sorry to say that you can-
not be admitted. You are not a Chris-
tian. You are a good man—you have
lost his life in endeavoring to explore
the land in distress, but you are not an
evangelist, you are not a Christian."

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

New York, Nov. 20.—The interchurch
conference on federation today changed
the wording of the phrase, "Jesus
Christ, Our Lord and Savior," in the
preamble of the constitution of the
federation council to read "Jesus Christ,
Our Divine Lord and Savior."

Prof. H. H. Rogers, of the Standard Oil
company, was elected a delegate to the
interchurch conference at New York.
The delegates concerned themselves
chiefly with discussions of the pros-
pective practical benefits of the confer-
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