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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 6, 1909.

A NOTABLE CASE.

After a trial extending over a whole month the United States Sugar Trust has paid to the treasury \$2,000,000 with costs amounting to about \$400,000 more, and by this agreement has settled the first stage in the action brought against it for defrauding the customs. The federal grand jury will be asked next week to indict on criminal charges the men who aided in the frauds. If the prosecution is carried on as the government now intimates a number of big men and many minor officials will go to jail.

This action is the outcome of a most elaborate system of stealing conducted over a considerable period of years by the trust officials. All raw sugar landed by the American Sugar Refining Co. is weighed at the docks by government scales. Opposite them sit checkers for the company. The weights are entered in books kept by the company and the government, but the sugar is weighed again by independent scales on whose reports southern planters are paid by the trust. It is on the statement handed in by the government weigher that the duty is paid.

A few months ago a customs inspector who had his suspicions aroused by occasional rumors conducted an investigation. The result was that he found seventeen sets of scales at the Brooklyn and New Jersey docks, undergoing continuous manipulation. In the framework at the side of the scale at which the company's checker sat, a small hole was bored, and through this a fine steel rod, held by the checker, was inserted. By means of this rod pressure was exerted on the spring of the scale. It was possible with this device to make a truck load of sugar, averaging 1000 pounds, show from ten to fifteen pounds lighter than it should be, on the bar of the scale. This might not appear very much on one truck load, but when it is noted that the government was cheated by this means, out of from twelve to twenty-five tons of every cargo the magnitude of the operation is apparent. This had been going on since 1901.

In consequence of what was discovered, charges were entered against the sugar trust. When the case came to trial it developed that the company checkers engaged in manipulating the steel rods, secretly received higher pay than other clerks of their class, and that a number of the government scales had been bribed to say nothing of the stealing after they discovered the system in operation. The books of the government weighers and those of the independent weighers were compared and by this means the amount of weight was roughly ascertained. The planters had received payment for the full amount of sugar shipped, and the government was cheated out of \$2,000,000, and the government finding some difficulty in securing complete evidence of the amount stolen, accepted this. This ends the case so far as the corporation as such is concerned, but the federal courts, as stated, will now proceed with the prosecution of all who were in any way connected with the theft.

DR. PUGSLEY'S REPLY.

Yesterday's developments in parliament came as a painful surprise to those much-raking conservatives who for some weeks have been endeavoring by insinuation to direct suspicion against Hon. Mr. Pugsley. They had no desire to have the Central Railway commission's report so fully discussed, they preferred making what they understood perfectly well were irregular efforts to have the report tabled in the hope that, falling, they might boast of what would have happened to Pugsley had their endeavors not been blocked. They believed the minister of public works to be afraid of them, and nothing was more unexpected than his action, when with the consent of his leader, he waved all privilege and invited full consideration of the report. The second surprise came in Dr. Pugsley's reply. He not only dealt in detail with the report, pointing out its glaring misrepresentations and falsehoods, but he announced the commencement of an action in equity looking to an accounting of the railway finances. This is the very last thing his opponents desire. Mr. Hazen, whose duty as attorney general was clear upon the publication of the report, has failed to perform that duty. Mr. Hazen is afraid of a judicial investigation that the truth will come out and the exposure will spoil those plans which he has been developing for the political destruction of Dr. Pugsley. And right now it would be wise for the court to issue an order for the production of evidence taken before the commission, otherwise it may share the fate of the Mayes affidavit. Yet Mr. Hazen, Mr. Powell,

Mr. Foster, Mr. Borden, Mr. Crockett, and those others who have so energetically carried on their dishonest campaign, may be asked to support their insinuations. Dr. Pugsley's course has been that of a man who has absolutely nothing to fear. He has sought the fullest investigation, he has cleared the way for a parliamentary discussion of all his relations with the Central Railway, and now he seeks an accounting in the courts. His reply to the charges made by the commission, given in commons yesterday, is not merely a complete indication of his own conduct, it is a crushing exposure of the deliberately dishonest and discreditable methods employed by his traducers. He has shown the trickery and deceit by which false impressions have been created, and has made clear to the fact that the conservative plotters have endeavored to destroy him on unfounded suspicion only and with absolutely no proof of wrongdoing.

LAZARUS TO DIVES.

You're riches vast, but stomach none, They say your appetite is gone, While I, upon the contrary, Have hunger, but no l. s. d.

You have things that I have not, The thing you lack, that I have got, So let's combine, sir, you and I, Put what we have in common by.

Without reserve, we'll both chip in, My stomach and your store of tin; My appetite, your millions cool, We'll put into the common pool;

And when the two've completely mixed Let's have the partnership so fixed We share and share alike, and thus Both be by far more prosperous.

VOICES OF NATURE.

Hark! The Mountain Peaks are calling, Calling and you, On our ears their words are falling, "Peak-a-boo!"

And the Trees their songs are singing, 'O'er the country now, And these words are gently ringing, "Bough-wow-wow!"

While the Frog in numbers noble, From his fringe snug, Serenades the Auto-mobile, "Chug-chug-chug!"

REMEMBER.

Nothing worth winning is won with ease, The goal worth reaching is sacred ground, And it can't be reached in a gentle walk, Or a burst of speed and a leap and bound.

The eagle of victory perches high, And the climbing spire has far to climb, With death and doubt in the vales below, And the star far off on the hills of time.

"IMPULSIVE INSANITY" IS EXCUSE FOR HAINS

In Answer to Hypothetical Question Expert Describes Prisoner's Fearful and Wonderful Mental Diseases.

FLUSHING, N. Y., May 5.—This was "hypothetical day" at the Hains trial. For nearly two hours the hypothetical questions, containing more than 1000 words, as pronounced by the defense, upon which three alienists are to predicate their opinions about the mental condition of the defendant, Peter C. Hains, on August 15th last, when he shot and killed William Annis, were asked by District Attorney Dewitt, many forms of insanity and their classifications, ranging from ordinary melancholia to the ravings of a hopeless lunatic, were discussed, and the jury and everyone but the witness appeared at times to be lost in the maze of psychological phenomena.

In answer to the hypothetical question which covered practically all the actions and speech of the defendant tending to show irrationality as placed in evidence, Dr. Manson declared that Captain Hains was suffering from "impulsive insanity" at the time he killed Annis. He had been the victim of manic depressive insanity, the physician said, from May 31, 1908, the day on which his wife Claudia is alleged to have confessed to him her relations with Annis, up to the time of the shooting. "Manic depressive insanity," the alienist explained, was a form of "stuporous melancholia," subject to "violent maniacal outbreaks" such as Captain Hains experienced when he shot Annis. The periods of "impulsive insanity," the witness said, lasted from the time the defendant first heard the name of Annis mentioned on the Bayside Yacht Club float, until the last of the eight bullets had been discharged from his automatic revolver into the body of his victim. Then, according to the alienist, a relieving "quiescence" of mind, from the "pent-up mental fury" followed and the defendant lapsed into a state of "mania depressive insanity." His mental condition had improved since that time, he added.

Dr. Manson was still on the witness stand under cross-examination when the court adjourned for the day. The defense has cut down its staff of alienists from five to three.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 5.—Edward Payson Weston, walking from New York to San Francisco, tonight reached Oak Grove, twenty miles east of Kansas City, and expects to be in Kansas City tomorrow.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 5.—The Council of the Empire has entrusted to a special commission a bill reducing the number of public holidays in Russia. The excess of holidays, it is stated, cost Russia \$1,000,000,000 yearly. The bill proposes that twenty-eight of the holidays be eliminated, leaving sixty-three, which would include Sundays.

BRITAIN'S CREDIT HURT BY BUDGET

Balfour Says Burdens are on Fraction of Community—Oppressive Use of Powers.

LONDON, May 5.—The debate on the budget in the House of Commons began tonight. Mr. Balfour, opposition leader, warned the government that the proposed death duties and other taxes on capital would damage not only the owners of capital, but numbers of those who were benefited by its accumulation. All the old democracies, he said, had split on the rock of throwing undue financial burdens upon a fraction of a community. He declared that what the country now suffered from was not too many rich men, but too many poor men. They would gain nothing by frightening the country, to have men of great wealth. They would not make the community less poor by reducing the number of great fortunes.

After criticizing the learning and spirit proposals, Mr. Balfour said the Government's scheme constituted a grossly oppressive use of the powers of taxation. The proposals, he declared, were not only grossly unjust, but also unjust, but only because intelligible if their end was not to save, but to temperance, not social reform, but the destruction of their own particular political foes.

SPACK TO COUNTRY'S CREDIT.

Mr. Balfour concluded by saying: "You have given a shock to the country, from which it will take a long time to recover."

Mr. John Redmond, Nationalist, contended that from the Irish viewpoint the proposals in regard to spirits and tobacco were oppressive and unjust, and the tax on whiskey would increase Ireland's excessive burdens.

Mr. Winston Churchill, president of the Board of Trade, in the course of a lively reply to Mr. Balfour, said that the Government's policy of excellent maintenance of revenue, despite trade depression, had vindicated the free trade as a means of producing the coming year, he said, would see its triumph. The debate was then adjourned.

TWO DISASTROUS FIRES IN MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS

HOLYOKE, Mass., May 5.—Fire tonight swept through the town of Holyoke, driving out fourteen families and causing a monetary loss of \$250,000.

The fire started on the third floor of the Florence Donoghue marble front block, located on the corner of the intersection of a gasoline stove. The entire top of the block was in flames when the fire broke out. The fire quickly spread to the top floors of the adjoining block, belonging to Mrs. Antoinette Marcotte, causing the loss of \$100,000.

ST. LOUIS, May 5.—Asked to prescribe treatment for a case of the blues, Druggist T. Rutledge gave Mrs. Elsie Dusen a kiss. It cured the blues, but it brought on a case of high fever and resulted in a fine of \$1 and \$100 costs being levied on Rutledge.

Mrs. Dusen, according to the story told by her husband, was ailing when she went to the drug store to buy something to cure her blues. Mr. Rutledge was behind the counter. He looked over in Mrs. Dusen's sparkling blue eyes, and a daring thought came into his mind.

"Certainly, Mrs. Dusen, I can give you something to cure your case of the blues," he said, as he walked around behind the counter.

Before the astonished customer realized what was being done to her, she was in the arms of the druggist. She was kissed, and she was cured.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 5.—The Turkish foreign office affirms that Turkish troops have not occupied Urumia and the same statement is made by the Russian embassy and the headquarters of the Persian constitutional committee in Constantinople.

WANTON, N. Y., May 5.—The individual three string cantata record was broken by a comfortable margin at the Boston Music Co. today. The annual tournament of the National Duck and Candlering Congress, Chester, Me., of Lowell, rolling 885, or ten better than the record of A. Luda, of Lyan, made last year.

"WOMEN!" "Are You Nervous?"

The results of modern civilization are evidenced in an increase of nervous disorders. It could not be otherwise with the way we eat, drink, live, sleep, and keep up a continual round of excitement. The work, the worry, the excitement, all tell upon the nerves till they cry out in revolt, and will not be placated till a remedy such as

MILBURN'S HEART AND NERVE PILLS

comes along with their nerve-strengthening and energizing properties, and restore them to their normal condition.

Mrs. Wm. Levi, Markdale, Ont., writes: "I had for several years been troubled with nervousness, and, like many others, spent lots of money on medicine that did me no good. It was so bad that the least noise would make me sick, and my least word would be taken as an insult. I had seen a few testimonials of others and decided to try Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and to my great joy and surprise they completely cured me and it only took six boxes to do it. I have a neighbor, Mrs. Bickett, and I induced her to try them and they effected a cure. I can endorse their use for anyone afflicted as I was."

Price, 50 cents a box, 3 boxes for \$1.25, all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

GREAT BRITAIN NOW BUSY WITH AIRSHIP PROBLEM

The Aerial League of the British Empire has just held a most interesting meeting at the Mansion House, London.

The Lord Mayor struck a warning note in his opening speech. "At first," he said, "I was doubtful as to the value of airships, and like many other people, I could scarcely conceive that airships could be made to float which would be a menace to ourselves if they belonged to an enemy and would be a safeguard if they were our own. "But wonderful things are happening every day, and it is not safe to declare that anything is impossible. Indeed, as far as navigation of the air is concerned, it has become a reality with many wonderful records to prove it. "We want to be mistress of the sea, and we are mistress of the air at present. "England must wake up if she wishes to keep ahead of foreign nations. I am told that there is only one airship building in this country at present, and experts are gloomy regarding its success."

DISCREDITABLE POSITION.

Letters were read from Prince Louis of Battenberg, Lord Charles Bessborough, and Lord Curzon.

Lord Charles Bessborough's secretary wrote stating that Lord Charles was most heartily in sympathy with their objects.

Prince Louis of Battenberg wrote: "It is time we woke up, seeing what is being done on the Continent, the league Lord Curzon in his letter declared that the position of the country is a backward and discreditable one. To a country possessing maritime frontiers, the navigation of the air is a matter of almost vital significance."

Lord Montagu of Baulton then moved the following resolution: "That this meeting of the citizens of London held at the Mansion House regards with considerable anxiety and concern the backwardness of the practice of aerial navigation by other nations, and deprecates the backwardness of the progress shown by this country regarding this new means of communication, which is of vital importance to the commercial as well as from a national defence point of view, and pledges itself heartily to support the same."

KISS CURED THE BLUES, BUT MADE HER ANGRY

Druggist Prescribed and Applied Remedy When She Complained.

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HE INHERITED HIS ILL-HEALTH

But Dodd's Kidney Pills Cured J. Ballargeon's Rheumatism

FURTHER PROOF THAT NO CASE OF RHEUMATISM CAN BE CURED WITHOUT THE OLD RELIABLE KIDNEY REMEDY.

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FERGUSON & PAGE.

Jewelry, Etc. 41 King St.

Style and Service These two attributes distinguish all knives, forks and spoons bearing the mark.

"1847 ROGERS BROS." Style that pleases the eye—lasting service that proves true value.

Do not see, dishes, wafers, MERIDEN BRITA CO. "Silver Plate that Wears"

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