

OLIVER'S MEMORY BAD IN STANTON HEARING

Detective Forgets Facts He Left Out of His Application to Join Force.

CROKER TESTIFIES REGARDING GIBNEY

First of Several in Curran Hearing Attacking Former Fireman's Character.

The Curran committee of Aldermen investigating conditions in the Police Department devoted its energies yesterday to finding out why John P. Stanton, a lieutenant, had been dismissed on a charge of an attempt at extortion only a few days after he testified in the committee that R. H. Waldo, Police Commissioner, had appointed men of unfit character and with criminal records.

The day's proceedings yesterday virtually amounted to a retrial of Stanton. The committee heard a greater number of witnesses than had testified at any of its hearings.

Richard Oliver, the detective who charged Stanton with extortion, was the last witness to be heard yesterday. Under the sometimes bitter cross-examination of Emory R. Buckner, counsel to the committee, Oliver's memory lapsed.

Although he said he could recall every detail of the alleged attempt at extortion, which occurred on the night of the fire at the Fire Department, Oliver could remember practically nothing of what happened in Commissioner Waldo's office three weeks ago, when he made his affidavit against Stanton.

In Oliver's application for appointment to the force he failed to state that he had been employed for more than eleven months as chauffeur for the Majestic Sight-Seeing Company. He also neglected to say he had been arrested and convicted for speeding.

Oliver testified he had paid the traveling and living expenses of Thomas J. Gibney, a member of the Fire Department, while the latter was here to testify against Stanton, out of his own pocket, depending on getting the money back "some time" from the Police Department. He said Commissioner Waldo and Inspector Schmittberger had not authorized the expense.

"I did not think he'd stoop so low as to take his expenses from me," Oliver said of Gibney, who lives at Milton, N. Y., and spent three days in this city. Chief Inspector Schmittberger was the first witness to testify against Stanton. He said Gibney was simply let out of Commissioner Waldo's orders to the letter, and had sent Oliver, instead of a disinterested detective, to Milton to find Gibney and bring him back here because of this Waldo's instructions. He contradicted Oliver's statements under oath at Stanton's trial.

Buckner repeatedly asked him if he could remember "verbatim" the statements made by Oliver in his two first visits to the Chief Inspector's office. Schmittberger said he could, but fenced for an hour about repeating these statements "verbatim" because he was asking what "verbatim" meant.

"I did not assume any responsibility in the Stanton case at all," Schmittberger finally testified. He acted at all times under Commissioner Waldo's direct orders.

When he was asked if he had inquired into the characters of Stanton and Gibney, in particular, before preferring charges against Stanton, the inspector said:

"It would have been improper to inquire into the reputations of these three men declared improper. It would have been a violation of my orders to have done so."

Edward F. Croker, former Fire Chief, was called to the stand next to testify to Gibney's character and reputation.

Alderman Smith objected to this line of testimony, on the ground that as Gibney was never a member of the Police Department, and as the committee was concerned to examine conditions in that department, the testimony was incompetent and immaterial.

"No, Gibney was never a member of the police force; he only broke one," Buckner replied. "He was a member of the Fire Department."

George H. Witter, a fire captain, the next witness, swore that the townsman Gibney well and that his character and reputation were "pretty bum."

Richard W. Meade, president of the New York Transportation Company, testified Oliver had been a striking chauffeur against the company, and had been the cause of most of the turbulence and riots. Meade said he had written Commissioner Bingham many letters testing against the appointment of Oliver to the police force.

Then, in order, former Police Commissioner Bingham, former Fire Chief, former Deputy Commissioner Bert Hanson, Gherardi Davis and Clement J. Driscoll, and John J. Walsh, Third Deputy Commissioner, all testified in New York city until 1871, honesty and splendid reputation" of Stanton.

Edward Hoos Falls Dead as Wife Waves Goodbye. SPRING VALLEY, N. Y., Oct. 22.—Edward Hoos, who served two terms as Mayor of Jersey City, died from heart disease in front of his summer home here to-day. He was 62 years old.

SAYS FOOD WE GIVE CHILDREN WOULD KILL PIGS AND POULTRY

Expert Alfred McCann Warns Consumers at Domestic Science Exposition—Englishwoman Can't Tell Americans Anything About Oysters.

"If our pigs and poultry were fed on some denatured food products we give our children to eat and eat ourselves they would all die," said Alfred McCann in his address on Missing Links at the Domestic Science Exposition in the Seventy-first Regiment Armory yesterday morning.

McCann ridiculed and attacked the "half crazy methods" of denaturing our national food supplies, and said we can no longer buy a bag of corn, or a bushel of wheat, or a pound of barley, or a sack of rice as nature gives them.

"Our love for pale, aesthetic coloring makes slag of the natural product; we demand the anemic, chalklike pallor of white bread, and to gratify the majority of consumers who are utterly ignorant of the nature and value of foods our food has to be denatured," he said.

"All the nutriment is extracted from our corn, all the life out of our wheat and nothing left but starch and a small percentage of gluten, and all this to suit the artificial taste standard for aristocratic whiteness."

Mrs. Lillie Haxworth Wallace of London, the famous food and cooking expert, also addressed the congress of women delegates at the Pure Food Show yesterday.

The subject of her talk was "When Oysters are in Season," according to the printed program.

Laughter among the Minerva Club members and their guests at oyster criticism from an English food expert must have been rare, for she merely gave a few British recipes for cooking the shellfish, and gave directions for the concoction of a cream sauce.

Mrs. Howard McNair, president of the Minerva Club, wore a tailored suit of black chiffon velvet, with deep yoke and half sleeves of white Russian lace.

She was assisted in receiving the hundreds of guests by Mrs. Katherine Martin, vice president of the club.

At the evening session the first speaker before the congress was Dr. W. S. J. Kirk, who told "the story of a bottle of milk" and illustrated it with stereopticon views.

Mrs. Christian Frederic talked on "The New Housekeeping," and Dr. H. H. Hart, director of the Russell Sage Foundation, told of milk production and distribution.

To-day Dr. John L. Elliott, Benjamin Marsh, Dr. Josephine Baker and Winnifred Holt will be among the speakers.

BRIDGEPORT, Oct. 24.—The police to-night completed a careful examination of the photographs and translations of the many letters found in the trunk of Mrs. Joseph Buonomo of Chicago, who was shot to death last Tuesday night by five men, among whom was her husband. Two of the five, "Big Andrew" Capone, alias Campello, of New Haven, and James Ricco, alias "Hartford Jimmy" Lewis, are still at large.

George H. Arnold, Chief of Detectives, has evolved the theory, based upon the contents of these letters and telegraphic information received from Chicago, that the Buonomo woman was the victim of a gang especially detailed to kill her because she had caused the conviction of a number of Italians engaged in the "white slave" traffic.

Captain Arnold made public to-night the contents of only one of the letters. It was the one which lured Mrs. Buonomo to Bridgeport, and is believed to have been written by a woman. No name was signed to it, but the police have a very definite idea as to who its author is. The letter reads as follows:

"Dear Jennie—I received your postal card, and I am very glad to know that you are in good health. Also I assure you of myself and all of mine.

"If you would come here everything is fair. My house is at your disposal. You will come or not and I will so regulate my plans. I embrace you. My best regards to all my friends. I send you many kisses until you come here. Give my love to the boys and girls. At the address given in the letter it was discovered that a Helen White, alias Rose White, alias Rose Roselle, has been missing since October 7, on which day the Buonomo woman pawned a number of small articles of jewelry in Chicago, presumably to supply the money for her trip to Bridgeport.

Federal Authorities Aroused. United States Marshal Special Agents, with the assistance of several special agents of the Department of Justice, in a rooming house in Bridgeport, to-day arrested the dead woman's relation to the five men by whom she was slain. The fact that Mrs. Buonomo was a Government informant aroused the feelings of the Federal authorities, who are bent on catching and punishing all those implicated in her murder.

Joseph Buonomo, in his cell in Police headquarters, to-day repeated his confession of last night. He persists that he alone fired the shots which killed his wife. But William B. Cogswell, medical examiner, has discovered that she died of a bullet wound in the head, entered the woman's head, and the two revolvers found by the police, one in Buonomo's pocket and the other on the roadside near the spot where the murderer's woman's body was found, are of the same type. Buonomo says he did not reload his pistol until long after the shooting. The presence of six bullet wounds demonstrates, therefore, that at least two men did the shooting.

Medical Examiner Cogswell has found that two entirely different kinds of bullets were used. One was of the .38-caliber kind, while the other, from Buonomo's cartridge box, was of a pointed variety. Both Frank Pelligrano and James Matteo, arrested Tuesday night, deny they fired any of the shots and have withstood all of Captain Arnold's efforts to get them to break their silence.

The autopsy performed by Cogswell and Dr. Charles H. Sprague of this city has shown that any one of the six wounds in the woman's body was sufficient to cause almost instant death. From this the police argue that, in view of the fatal nature of the first shot, the rapidly used cartridge box was fired, and the fact that all the bullets entered in practically the same way, the woman must have been held up while she was being shot at. Otherwise it would be impossible for her to have had her body had struck the ground. In that event their course through the head and body would have been different in most of all the same.

Mrs. Buonomo's body was brought from Stratford, where the autopsy was performed, to the Morgue this afternoon. Coroner Phelan will hold his inquest to-morrow morning in the Fairfield county Court House. It is expected that many of the letters tending to show that the woman was an active agent of the Federal authorities will be made public at that time. The three prisoners are to be arraigned on Saturday morning.

Special Matinee of Play Burlesquing N. Y. Critics. A special matinee performance of "Fanny's First Play," in which three prominent New York critics will be burlesqued, will be given in William Collier's Grand Theatre. Since it happens that three types of critics like those of London at whom Shaw pokes fun exist in this city, the speeches in the comedy will be reasonably appropriate.

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DISCREDIT STORY OF WOMAN'S MURDERER

Bridgeport Police Think Mrs. Buonomo Was Shot by Gang.

BLAME "WHITE SLAVE" MEN FOR KILLING

Victim Said to Have Been a Secret Agent of Federal Authorities.

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YEGGS LOOT SAFES, FLEE IN MOTORCAR

Stamps Stolen from Perth Amboy Post Office Abandoned in Newark.

NEWARK, Oct. 24.—An automobile containing four men, who are believed to have taken part in the looting of two safes in the Perth Amboy post office last night, was wrecked early to-day in front of the First Precinct police station. The men escaped, but in the abandoned car the police found a small mail sack containing between \$500 and \$800 worth of postage stamps which had been stolen from the Perth Amboy post office.

It was just at 5 o'clock that the automobile with its four occupants turned out of Walnut street into Broad street and headed for Court street. A policeman who had been stationed at Broad and Court streets to warn drivers of the presence of a live electric wire which had fallen in the street ran out to warn the chauffeur of the danger. Mistaking the action of the policeman for a move to stop the car, the driver headed it directly at him, compelling the policeman to jump to the sidewalk to prevent being run over.

The action was so suspicious the patrolman blew his whistle, attracting the attention of another patrolman a block away. The latter ran into the street and also came near being run down. The car was swerved to the left, going at a speed of about sixty miles an hour, and skidded on the wet pavement. The front wheels crashed against the plaza of a parkway in Court street and one of the rims broke. At Plane street, the spokes gave way and the car came to a stop. The occupants were half thrown and half leaped to the street.

When the police reached the place there was no one there. The stamps from the Perth Amboy post office were found in the car the police there were notified. They had not heard of the robbery, but William Pfeiffer, the postmaster, began an investigation and found the safes had been cracked. Nitro-glycerine evidently had been used. Besides the stamps, the burglars took \$90 in cash.

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NEGROES TO BUY SEATS IN NEW HARLEM THEATRE

Management Admits It Will Have Blacks in \$200,000 Playhouse.

Orchestra seats for the opening night performance in the Lafayette Theatre, Harlem's new amusement structure, at 131st street and Seventh avenue, will be sold to negroes. It was learned last night that the \$200,000 building will be the first theatre in the city where the policy of the management will be to encourage a mixed audience. The opening will take place November 2.

The men most largely interested in the Lafayette Amusement Company are white, but most of them have made fortunes by dealing with negroes. Benjamin Nibur and Martin Nibur, brothers, own large blocks of stock in the concern. They are largely interested in liquor stores in the heart of the Harlem negro section.

Another man behind the Lafayette Theatre enterprise is Henry Martinson, in partnership with the Niburs, he runs two liquor stores on opposite corners of 134th street and Seventh avenue.

Henry Ostreicher is president of the Lafayette Amusement Company, Martin Nibur is vice president, Henry Martinson is treasurer and Benjamin Nibur secretary.

"Until yesterday the Niburs owned the content, a vaudeville and moving picture show theatre in 135th street, between Fifth and Lenox avenues. Every number on the programme of the present show has been given by negroes. It has attracted large audiences. Benjamin Nibur yesterday said the place had changed hands."

"The Lafayette is a high-class place," he said. "We've put a lot of money in there, and this sort of thing wouldn't get it back. It will be different."

"How about the audiences? Will they be white or negro number on the programme," he said.

"If the white people in the neighborhood want to come forward and support the theatre we will make it a white house," said Nibur.

"You mean that you will bar negroes?"

"No, I don't think we can do that, but we'll only have a negro number on the programme," he said.

White persons who owned property near the theatre recently have been quietly selling their holdings. They said the plan to open the theatre to negroes will cause a drop in realty values in the neighborhood.

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GIBSON IS GUILTY, SAYS CORONER'S JURY

Verdict Is Based On Testimony of Doctor Who Performed Autopsy.

Burton W. Gibson, who is in the Orange County Jail indicted for the murder of Mrs. Rosa Menschik Szabo on July 16 last, was held for the same crime by a Coroner's jury in Jersey City last night.

The jury based its finding on the testimony of Dr. Otto H. Schultze, who performed the autopsy, and by the form of their verdict, disregard the testimony of the other witnesses as to whether a crime was committed.

The hearing last night was the fourth held by Coroner Houghton. Gibson did not appear in person, but was represented by his lawyer, Jacob J. Singer of Jersey City, and his medical adviser, Dr. John J. O'Reilly of Brooklyn.

The only witness called was Fred Tilden, custodian of the Bay View Cemetery in Jersey City. He told of the burial of a Mrs. Rosalie Ritter on July 19 last and of the exhuming of the body on September 9. Coroner Houghton then read the report of Dr. Schultze, which said Mrs. Ritter had "come to her death by strangulation, caused by a blow on the upper part of the neck and the floor of the mouth."

The jury then retired to consider the evidence.

At the other hearings witnesses had described the death in Greenwood Lake in detail. John Minturn said that he saw the whole affair, and that he had had a rope or a grappling iron he would not have given the lawyer any assistance. He said the upsetting of the boat was deliberate on the part of Gibson. Other witnesses testified that the boat did not capsize, but turned over on its side.

After a half hour of deliberation the jury announced they had agreed on a verdict, which read as follows:—"We, the jury, find that Mrs. Rosalie Ritter, otherwise known as Mrs. Rosa Menschik Szabo, and Burton W. Gibson, on July 16, were in a double-end rowboat on Greenwood Lake, part of which is in New York and part in New Jersey. We find that they were thrown into the lake. And by the testimony of Dr. Schultze we find that Mrs. Szabo was strangled from strangulation. We hold Burton W. Gibson responsible for her death."

The defendant's lawyers were pleased with the finding of the jury, because it was based on the medical testimony. Dr. O'Reilly said that at the time of the trial he would be prepared to show by several physicians that Mrs. Szabo was strangled by the throat, and not by a blow on the throat.

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NOTES OF THE STAGE

The performance in the Hippodrome this afternoon will be attended by all the members of "The Passing Show of 1912" and "The Ballet of 1890" companies playing in the Winter Garden.

Every member of the Glants now in town will be on hand next Monday night in the Colonial Theatre to give a "good-bye" send-off to John J. McGraw when he makes his first attempt to make good behind the footlights.

Christy Mathewson yesterday bought two seats for himself and John F. Brush, owner of the Glants, also bought several boxes and seats.

R. F. Keith's new Palace Theatre, which will be the New York headquarters of all "big time" vaudeville in this country, is nearing completion. The new playhouse will be one of the most luxuriously appointed theatres in the world.

Lady De Bathe, known to the theatregoers of this country as "The Jersey Lily," will head the bill in Keith's Alhambra Theatre next week.

"The Point of View," by Jules Eckert Goodman, will be played in the Forty-eighth Street Theatre at the matinee to-day. W. A. Brady makes the production.

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