

NATION-WIDE STORM BREAKS IN CRAIG FREE SPEECH CASE

OIL FRAUD VICTIMS TELL PITIFUL STORY OF STOCK SWINDLES

Investor Never Had Chance for His Money—Fake Promoters, Not Satisfied With Suckers, Double-Cross Each Other in Deals.

ADITOR'S NOTE—To protect our readers from losses through fraudulent stock sales, The Indianapolis Times and NEA Service sent Roy J. Gibbons to the scenes of the oil swindles and stock operations. He is recounting in this series of articles the amazing swindles of fake oil companies that are save you from being victimized.

BY ROY J. GIBBONS

By NEA Service
F. T. WORTH, Texas, Nov. 26.—Dog eat dog!

That was the traditional maxim, polly and by-word in the game of the piratical promoter.

From start to finish the investor of small savings never had a chance for his money.

The fake oil stock promoter was out to cheat on a gigantic scale. In a measure his conduct was tolerated—perhaps helplessly—by a law which could not reach him, since he "technically evaded it."

When fake promoters were not flooding the country with propaganda in search of fresh suckers, they were at each other's throats.

Seek More Victims

Living off the fat of the land, they filled skyscrapers with their offices and hundreds of employees.

For a new list of "suckers" in possession of some other pirate, a promoter would go the limit in payment.

Janitors in promoter-tenanted buildings were continually bribed to retrieve waste-basket gleanings and bring discarded envelopes containing return addresses—sucker addresses—at prices ranging from 10 cents to \$5 an envelope.

One promoter in the course of life more than sixteen months paid a known \$5,450.76 for such lists.

Scores of cases are incorporated in the government's evidence, where crooked brokers "sold short" to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars on their promoter clients.

It was worked this way:

Most oil stock was purchased on time. At \$100 a share, if the investor had paid \$90 and a notice was sent him that the company with whom he had placed his money had struck dry wells, he laughed up his sleeve, thinking he had gotten the better of the promoter.

Broker Gets His

In reality it was the broker who snickered. He had sold the stock. And since the company was out of existence, the broker proceeded to pocket the entire \$90. This operation gives some idea of the double-crossing methods worked within the ring.

It is also another reason why Federal officials are having difficulty checking the total losses, since in the case of a "short stock swindling deal" no actual exchange or record of sale of the stock was ever made.

To rectify all the instances of broken faith and slender savings of lifetimes of labor wiped away in a single moment would fill volumes.

But I do particularly remember the tragic story of Mrs. Mary A. Phillips, 66, widow of a Civil War veteran, living at Coshocton, Ohio.

Bent and gray, her face seemed



CHARLES B. FAWKNER

The Democratic party lost one of its most faithful workers in the death Saturday of Charles B. Fawcett, 58, at 5142 College Ave. He was chairman of the State speakers' bureau. He had been superintendent of mails at the Indianapolis post office until a year ago.

'DON'T GIVE UP' ISN'T A PROVERB

Important, Though, In Quest for \$2,500 Prizes.

"Don't Give Up the Ship" isn't a proverb. It is a famous historical saying.

However, it applies to those who are in The Times Proverb Contest. If you are out to win one of the \$2,500 prizes you must keep hunting proverbs every day.

You may obtain the first fifteen proverbs pictures at any Hock drug store, Times supply station or at the office of The Times. Back copies of Times proverb pictures appearing since Nov. 15 may be obtained from the Proverb Editor at 2 cents each. In addition, you may get without cost the list of 2,000 proverbs. But all the proverbs used by the artist in drawing the pictures that appear daily on page two are not to be found in this list.

Don't quit—you may be a prize winner.

VOLUNTEERS TO ENROLL

Red Cross Enlists Free Aid of Indianapolis Women

Enrollment of women for volunteer service in the Indianapolis Red Cross is in progress today, according to Mrs. Hugh McGibney, director of volunteers.

Mrs. John Allan Dougherty, manager Washington Red Cross division, who met with local Red Cross leaders last week, was called to Springfield, Mass., Saturday because of the death of a relative.

WHY THANKFUL? ASK 'EM

Boys of Hi-Y Clubs Will Tell Ten Reasons for Gratitude.

Members of the Hi-Y Clubs of Manual, Shortridge and Technical High Schools have been asked to submit ten reasons on "What Reasons Have I for Thankfulness?" at a joint meeting at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday at the Y. M. C. A. Prof. S. B. Essig, Technical; Miles Leach of Indiana Central College and J. H. Elbers, Y. M. C. A. student secretary, will speak. Fifty boys will leave Friday noon to attend the Older Boys' Conference at Greenfield, Ind.

PROGRAM ESSENTIAL IN MODERN CHURCH'

Methodist Pastor Replies to Critics Who Accuse Him of "Running a Vaudeville Show."

By United Press
DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 26.—A good program that will compete with the theater is essential to the modern church, Rev. William Stidger, Methodist pastor, told his congregation last night.

Rev. Stidger replied to Horatio Earle, "rebel" Methodist, that last year he spent \$3,000 in advertising, but took in \$10,000 in "just the loose collections."

MOTHER SUES FOR RETURN OF BABE TAKEN BY COURT

Husband Seeks \$10,000 in Alienation-Slander Actions.

Mrs. Mildred Fleming, school teacher from Paoli, Ind., will attempt to recover her seven-months-old son from the board of children's guardians in habeas corpus proceedings before Superior Judge Lynn D. Hay, Dec. 4.

Mrs. Fleming will see her baby then for the first time since her husband of a few weeks, Clifford Fleming, a farmer living near Paoli, turned their son over to Juvenile Judge Frank J. Lahr. Fleming said he wanted to find it a good home, declaring that he was a resident of Marion County and that the baby's mother was dead, his wife charges. He gave the name of Clifford Kennedy, she alleges, and the baby was placed in a home "somewhere in Marion County," under name of Kennedy.

Cobbler Is Duped

"They promised so much. And I trusted them," the old man cried.

"But now everything I owned is gone. I will be glad to die."

For stakes like this promoters fought with each other. Sued each other for such misery.

They promised rivers of oil. But they gave rivers of tears and teacups of oil.

A mountain of evidence substantiates all of this. A hundred indictments already returned confirm it. And 1,000 more yet to be voted upon place it beyond the question of a doubt.

In the petition, filed Saturday, Mrs. Fleming alleged the board has refused to return her child or to say where it is.

At the same time Fleming filed suit with Superior Judge T. J. Moll for \$10,000 damages from his mother-in-law, Mrs. Evalon Maytly, Orange County, and from Mae Rupert and Sarah Rogers, policewomen, alleging alienation of his wife's affections and slander.

He admits placing the child with the board, stating the mother-in-law was seeking to have it otherwise disposed of.

The police officers arrested him on charges of perjury and child neglect. Mrs. Maytly, his mother-in-law, persuaded his wife to go to Bedford, Ind., when the child was about to be born, in order to conceal its identity, he charges. Mrs. Maytly also told his wife, Fleming alleges, that he was "uneducated and not her social equal."

\$10,000 Damages Are Asked

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Former University Student

A petition for return of the child to Mrs. Fleming was denied in September by Judge Lahr. At the trial Mrs. Fleming testified she came to Indianapolis and sat outside the courthouse in a closed automobile while her husband took the baby away. She did not know he was taking it to a court, she said.

Fleming testified he gave her baby away with her agreement.

Mrs. Fleming, a former student at Indiana University, was teaching at a country school in Orange County, he testified, when they were married.

Employers of the Times or members of their families cannot participate in this contest.

The Indianapolis Times will deposit each drawing and correct answer with Mr. Ralph K. Smith, vice president and cashier of the Fletcher American Bank in advance of each publication.

Editorial writer Edward J. Gausepol & Co. Judge James A. Collins of the Marion County bench, and George Buck, principal of Shortridge High School.

The decision of the judges will be final in all matters related to the contest.

POSTAL OFFICIAL WRITES LETTERS ON M'CRAY DEALS

District Attorney Refuses to Comment on Possibility of Probe.

Possibility of Federal grand jury investigation of the affairs of Governor McCray was forecast by news dispatches from Ft. Wayne saying that banks of that city had received letters from J. W. Welborn, postoffice inspector, inquiring about financial transactions with the Governor.

For some time stories have been current that the next Federal grand jury, which probably will convene in January or February, would take up McCray's affairs. Welborn's letters to various Indiana banks would indicate that this investigation will be along the lines of the possibility of the mails having been used in a scheme to defraud.

One of the questions asked by Welborn in his letters was:

"Did you receive either from the Governor or from any other source, any financial statements of the Governor or his partnerships? If so, indicate the source, the method by which they were submitted, and include all and all statements."

This question was regarded as particularly significant. Homer Elliott, United States district attorney, refused to make any statement in the matter, although he admitted he knew of the Welborn letters. Welborn is out of the city and will be gone for at least a week.

The committee's statement:

"The decision of the park board to acquire land and buildings lying immediately east of the Riley Hospital site definitely assures the proper surroundings for the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for children, and is another long step toward assuring to Indianapolis and to the State the creation of one of the finest hospital units in the country. The ground which the park board decided to acquire is the connecting link in the program which will throw together in one big convalescent park the Robert W. Long, Riley and city hospitals. The Indiana University School of Medicine also is included in the site."

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BOARD COMMENDED BY RILEY HOSPITAL

Park Commissioners Praised for Land Purchase Move.

The Indianapolis park board was commended today by the State executive committee of the Riley Memorial Association, following agreement of the board to acquire two blocks of land east of Riley Hospital.

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Surviving: The husband is a

delegated to put him next to McCray on the first few ballots.

There will be another large block of delegates divided among other candidates, including Henry Ford.

The McCray delegates will not all stick by him if it is apparent he cannot win early.

This situation is made to order for producing a deadlock, unless McCray can prevent this by showing greater strength than the "big three" credit him with.

Underwood is to be given all the delegations the triumvirate can throw to him on a series of ballots intended to show whether he can beat McCray.

They will agree to give Underwood the maximum chance if he, in return, will agree to do what they want if he cannot win.

What they want of Underwood is his support, when they say the word for their compromising candidate.

The strategy mapped out at the recent war council of Murphy of New York, Taggart of Indiana and Brennan of Illinois held at French Lick, Ind., was based on these conditions:

McCray will probably go into the convention with a clear majority of the delegates, but considerably short of the two-thirds required to nominate.

Underwood Has Delegates.

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CROSSING CLAIMS VICTIM

Car Is Struck by Train: Walter Utroskey Is Killed.

By AP Wire Special
LA PORTE, Ind., Nov. 26.—After his automobile was struck by a New York Central train here, Walter Utroskey, 35, died while being taken to a hospital. A widow and three children survive.

FROM FAR AND NEAR

Former Resident Dies in Los Angeles Sunday.

Funeral services for Mrs. Walter Ronk, formerly of Indianapolis, was reported Sunday morning to have been held at SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Friars at 10 a. m. Burial in St. Joseph's cemetery.

Creditors Asks Receiver

Receivership for the Tri-State Specialty Company, 21 N. Alabama St., was asked today in Superior Court by the Ertel Machine Company, 226 N. Adelaid St., which alleges is a creditor in the amount of \$440,433.

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