

UNION STATION MEN ARE WITNESSES

Give Testimony for Defense
in D. C. Stephenson
Murder Trial.

(Continued From Page 1)

Meddy was given the poison case. He also described another man, but did not mention Dean's name.

Rigdon, who is a man of gigantic stature retaliated with the promise that if Kane asked him that question on the street, it wouldn't be so well for him.

Innuendos and insinuations passed by Kane at the first of the cross-examination got under the witness' skin and at times he had his feet on the railing around the witness stand, apparently ready at any moment to pounce on Kane.

Kh Querries

Kane darted in on Rigdon, by asking him about his family connections. Rigdon told him that State Representative Joshua D. Carney, of Morristown, Ind., was his wife's cousin.

Kane asked Rigdon a series of nonsensical, but irritating questions and Rigdon replied:

"I'm just human. I can't remember everything." Instead of queling Kane, the answer seemed to irk him.

"Who are you working for?"

"Clyde A. Walb," Rigdon said that Walb, who is chairman of the Republican State committee, pays him a salary.

"Whom did you work for before?"

"The Great Southern Producing & Refining Co. of Shreveport, La."

Was Registered

"Were you registered under the Indiana securities law?"

"Yes, sir. My license was number 266."

Kane asked Rigdon if he could name some of the persons to whom he sold this oil stock. Rigdon named Ora J. Davies, former State Treasurer; S. S. Parkes, Shelbyville, and Dr. D. L. Dill, Logansport.

Rigdon said he met Stephenson three years ago at the home of Edward E. Schultz, Laurel, Ind., who, with his wife, appeared as defense witnesses Saturday. Kane wanted to know why Rigdon had been down to Laurel.

"I was joining the Knights of the Ku-Klux-Klan when I met him," Rigdon said, laughing, and then looked over toward Stephenson and shook his fist at him.

"When did you begin to work politics with him?"

Last Primary

"During the last campaign, the primary."

"How often did you visit him?"

"Three or four times a week, some weeks."

"Have you ever been employed by Stephenson to do political work?"

"Not in any capacity," Rigdon's answer was drowned out in a symphony of objections from the defense and a wrangle at the State table. Judge Sparks had to hammer vigorously with his gavel.

"What were your political schemes with Stephenson?" Kane asked.

"We were trying to elect our friends," Rigdon said, after the defense's protest had been overruled.

"Who were your friends?"

"Most every one that was elected." There was a mingled murmur which finally developed into general laughter.

Judge Sparks warned the witness, "I wish you'd refrain from laughing. If you laugh these people here will laugh." Judge Sparks said, in a stern voice.

"I beg your pardon, judge," Rigdon said.

"Are you on Stephenson's payroll now?" Kane asked.

Wishes He Was

"Only that I wish I was."

"What particular thing brought you to the Legislature every day?"

"I'd say the things that brought hundreds of others. I enjoyed seeing the manipulation."

"What manipulations?"

"Your friends and my friends."

"Oh, I don't care about my friends," Kane interjected. Another wrangle between Kane and the witness followed.

Judge Sparks again was forced to wield the gavel.

Judge Deplores

"I don't want to be hard, Gentleman, because this relates to my home folks, the Republican party, but I don't want to cover anything up," Kane protested and Sparks had to inform him that he had already ruled in his favor in order to quiet the fiery attorney.

"Manipulation! Manipulation!" Kane seemed to like the word Rigdon had used. "What did you see manipulated. Answer yes or no."

Rigdon tried to argue with Kane that his question was unanswered, but it availed him nothing.

Laughs Again

"I saw bills introduced passed, and defeated," he explained, bursting into laughter.

"You think this is a joke, don't you?"

On defense objections the last remark of Kane's was stricken from the record.

"Did you every see Stephenson at the Legislature?"

"I don't remember a single occasion."

"Well, then, did you ever see any members of the Legislature in Stephenson's office?"

"Yes."

"Who?"

"Give me a roster, and I'll name it off." Everybody laughed, but it was significant of the powerful

New Safety Board President



D. Haskett, lumber dealer, will be president of the safety board in the new city administration.

New Commander of Police



Claude Johnson was named police chief in the new administration by Mayor-elect John L. Duvall today.

grasp the erstwhile political general during the Assembly.

"Did you ever talk with Foster Straitor about this case?" Straitor was one of Stephenson's secretaries.

"Only in a general way."

"How many times?"

"Oh I couldn't begin to tell you."

"He had a good deal to do with framing up this defense, didn't he?" Kane asked.

Nearly every attorney on Stephenson's side shouted an objection. Judge Sparks struck out the word "framing."

"Do you know Carl Losey?" Losey, former member of the State police force, is said to be a Stephenson agent.

"Yes."

"Did you ever talk with him about this case?"

"Only in a general way."

"He helped organize the defense, didn't he?" Defense attorneys objected again.

"Organize" Upheld

"There's nothing infernal in the word organize. It is to be assumed that the defense would be organized," Sparks explained in overruling this objection.

Rigdon said he didn't know.

After a series of questions concerning Stephenson's imprisonment, Rigdon disclosed that he visited Stephenson the day he was brought to the Hamilton County jail.

"Oh, you got in on the first, eh? How many more visits since?"

"I have no idea."

Re-interrogating Rigdon, concerning the time he met Madge Oberholzer, Kane made an effort to force the witness to state the exact date. Rigdon told him it was in December, a little before Christmas.

"Christmas is on the twenty-fifth, isn't it?" Judge Sparks sustained the objection to Kane's last question before the defense could utter a word.

I was introduced to her in his private office, possibly at 5:30 or 6 in the evening," Rigdon said in reply to one of Kane's questions.

Kane fired questions in such rapid succession the witness began to lag.

"Yes, let me tell you how," Rigdon cried out as Kane was heaping up more questions.

"You came up here to help this little thing through, didn't you?" Kane shouted.

Inman Angered

Inman jumped to his feet.

"Your Honor, can't this man be held at all?" Inman asked the judge, pointing to Kane.

"When was the second time you met Stephenson?" Kane asked Rigdon.

"I can't tell."

"When was the third time?"

"To be honest with you, I can't remember."

"How many times did you see Miss Oberholzer in Stephenson's office?"

"Frequently. I wouldn't say daily, but three or four times a week."

"And all this time you were just loafing—just a common hanger-on?"

The witness parted, and Kane thrust his finger toward him and cried out: "Answer it! Answer it!"

"Just phrase it to suit yourself," Rigdon shot back at Kane.

"Will you tell the jury why you

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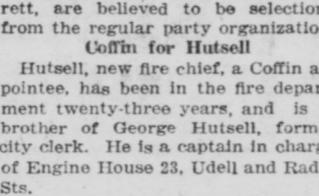
Charles J. Orbison was named counsel in the new city administration by Mayor-elect John L. Duvall today.

Republican on Safety Body



Oren Davis, said to be a leader in the Horsehead Detective Association, was named Republican member of the safety board by Mayor-elect John L. Duvall.

Reporters on Stand



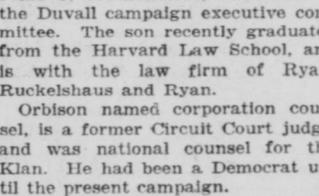
Herbert Eller, 3720 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis Star reporter, appearing as a defense witness, told Inman that at the autopsy at the Shirley Brothers Undertaking Parlor the only thing he saw was Miss Oberholzer in the way of a bruise.

It was a faint blue mark about the size of a penny under the collar bone on the left side. Inman asked Eller if he noted anything else peculiar.

Eugene J. Cadou, 40 W. Thirty-Fifth St., Indianapolis Times reporter, was the next witness.

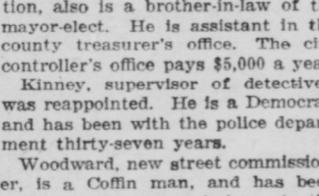
Cadou told Inman that he witnessed the autopsy of Miss Oberholzer's body and declared he did not observe any bruises or lacerations.

Reporters on Stand



John L. Duvall, Mayor-elect of Indianapolis, was named to the safety board by Mayor-elect John L. Duvall.

Witness Rebuked



Judge W. H. Sparks, presiding judge in the trial.

"This is not a justice of the peace court, and we'll not have any dog fights in here. Now you keep still," Judge Sparks added, shaking his gavel under the witness' nose when the latter was making ready to hurl another epithet at Kane.

"I'm running this court and you keep still," Judge Sparks continued, after he was assured that neither of he two was quite ready to fight.

"You're a pretty strong friend of Stephenson's. You're here to help him out, eh?"

"If my testimony will do him any good, he's welcome to it."

"What other women have you seen in Stephenson's office?"

Rigdon named two, including an Irvington woman.

Rigdon told Kane that he had seen a number of other persons in Stephenson's office, following a Klan parade a few years ago. Among them he mentioned were a Mr. Innis from Rushville, a Mr. Campbell from Kokomo and Senator Blackburn at Evansville.

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