

## INDIAN INQUIRY IS BEGUN TODAY

House Committee Meets to Investigate Charges of Senator Gore, Oklahoma.

### SENATOR FIRST WITNESS

CHARGES MADE BY THE BLIND SOLON ALLEGED FRAUD AND BRIBERY AND THEY CREATED A GREAT SENSATION.

(American News Service)

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 4.—Senator Gore named Jacob Hamon, a former National Republican committeeman from Oklahoma, as the man who offered him and a member of the house of representatives each \$25,000 to withdraw opposition to the scheme whereby \$3,000,000 would be paid for "attorneys fees" on a sale of Indian lands. The offer was made in Washington, May 6 last. He also implicated Vice President Sherman. Gore was the first witness before the special investigation committee which opened hearings today.

The senator's opening statement was in regard to the letter written to Senator LaFollette several months ago prior to the alleged bribery dealing in which he called attention to the Indians' land conditions in Oklahoma. He said he wrote the letter on account of his personal interest in the Indians' welfare.

**Talk With McMurray.**

He referred to a talk with McMurray several months ago when the former came to him relative to the Indian land conditions in Oklahoma which he (McMurray) thought should be taken care of by the lawyers. At that time, according to Gore, he told McMurray he was secretly opposed to spending the Indians' money for lawyers and would not sanction any legislative movement to bring it about, and that particularly he was opposed to any deal whereby the attorney fees should be ten percent for obtaining the sale of their lands.

Senator Gore stated prior to the opening of the hearing that he was ready to tell the names of the persons who offered the bribes of \$25,000 to have opposition to the scheme whereby \$3,000,000 was to be used as attorney fees.

McMurray announced through council that he would contend that the state was valid without any action by congress and that he knew nothing of any attempted bribery.

**HISTORY OF CASE.**

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 4.—The house committee, to investigate Senator Gore's charges relating to the McMurray Indian contracts met in the United States court house here today to begin the taking of testimony. The committee consists of Representative Charles H. Burke of South Dakota, chairman; John H. Stephens of Texas, Phillip P. Campbell of Kansas, Clarence B. Miller of Minnesota and Edward W. Saunders of Virginia.

Senator Gore will probably be the first witness called to the stand. Upon the nature of his testimony will depend the list of witnesses to be summoned by the committee. Among the witnesses will probably be J. F. McMurray, Roy Hammond of Lawton, Senator Curtis of Kansas, former Senators Thurston of Nebraska, and Long of Kansas, Representatives Creager and McGuire of Oklahoma, Col. Cecil A. Lyon of Texas and various officials of the Indian office and the tribes affected by the investigation.

The charges of Senator Gore alleging fraud and attempted bribery in the Oklahoma Indian land deals were made on the floor of the senate in the closing days of the last session and created a widespread sensation. The Oklahoma senator declared that an attempt at bribery had been made by J. F. McMurray, an attorney of McAlester, and well known in Washington. For many years McMurray has been connected with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian litigation and legislation. Five years ago his law firm came into prominence when their fee of \$750,000 for services rendered the Indian tribes was allowed and paid.

**The Original Contract.**

The original contract between McMurray and the Indians was made in 1908 and Col. Cecil Lyon, the republi-

can leader in Texas, was said to have been associated with McMurray and others in the deal. Only recently it developed it is said, through documents issued from the interior department, that former Senator Long of Kansas was also associated with McMurray as attorney. As a consequence of these revelations it is expected that both Col. Lyon and former Senator Long will be summoned to testify before the investigating committee as to their knowledge of the Indian land deals.

In some quarters the charge is made that politics is behind Senator Gore's expose. It is hinted that the action of Senator Gore in bringing the charges at this time is really a part of the Oklahoma democrats' program to defeat the sale of the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt lands.

The friends of Senator Gore on the other hand assert that he is perfectly sincere in his action and that he will be able to make good his charges relative to the McMurray contracts. They cite the facts that the Indian Rights association and the Catholic Indians' mission organization have both openly fought the contracts, and they cite further the fact that Senator Gore last April secured the passage of his resolution calling upon President Taft and Secretary Ballinger for all correspondence between them and J. P. McMurray; also the correspondence following the president's disapproval of the contracts two years ago. The action of Chief McCurtain of the Choctaws last July in opposing the McMurray contracts because they would not net the lawyer several million dollars, is also given as proof in Senator Gore's favor and the statement of United States Senator Owen of Oklahoma that "if the coal lands brought only \$5,000,000, McMurray could sit at home and draw his commission." It is shown also that the entire Oklahoma delegation in congress has been consistent in the fight against the McMurray contracts.

### YACHTS ON CRUISE

(American News Service)

New York, Aug. 4.—The annual cruise of the New York Yacht club began today with a run from the rendezvous at Glen Cove to Huntington, L. I., a distance of 25 miles. Tomorrow will come the first of the long squadron runs, 65 miles to New London. On Saturday the run will be to Newport, 40 miles, where the fleet will lay over until Monday. Monday will be an important day for the squadron in its run from Newport to Vineyard Haven. The Rear Commodore's cups and the Aloha cups are the chief prizes at stake for the day's racing. From Vineyard Haven to New Haven will be the run on Tuesday for the Navy Challenge cups. On the following day the Alumni association of the U. S. N. Challenge cups will be the principal incentive for the racing from New Bedford to Newport. The last two days of the cruise will be devoted to races for the Astor cups and the King's cup off Newport.

### GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

(American News Service)

Bennington, Vt., Aug. 4.—Auspicious conditions attended the opening today at the Mount Anthony Country club of the ninth annual championship tournament of the Vermont State Golf association. The play will continue over Friday and Saturday.

### ODD FELLOWS MEET

(American News Service)

Pen Mar, Pa., Aug. 4.—Thousands of members of the order of Odd Fellows from southern Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia attended their annual joint reunion here today. Addresses were delivered by Grand Master E. E. Crumer of Pittsburgh, Grand Master J. F. Green of Baltimore and other high officials and prominent members of the fraternity.

### Big Reductions in Millinery

Commencing Saturday morning, we will sell one lot of trimmed hats at 98c. worth \$2.50. One lot at \$2.00, worth \$4.50. One lot at \$3.75, worth \$6.00. All untrimmed shapes, 25c, 50c and 75c. Mrs. C. A. Brehm, 35 N. 8th.

If this concerns you, read carefully: Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Peppermint is positively guaranteed to cure all forms of rheumatism, headache, offensive breath, malaria and all diseases arising from stomach trouble.

## TRIPLE MURDER IS INVESTIGATED

Discovery of Bones of Three People on a Ranch Starts a Probe.

### A JAPANESE SUSPECTED

CRIME OCCURRED ON A CALIFORNIA RANCH AND THE SUPPOSED MURDERER HAS BEEN MISSING FOR A WEEK.

Santa Rosa, Cal., Aug. 4.—The charred bones of Enoch Kendall, Mrs. Ura Kendall, his wife and Thomas Kendall, their son, discovered in a stove grate and on an ash pile in the yard of their home on the Starbuck ranch, north of here, yesterday, has revealed a groomsman triple murder. The police today sent out a general alarm for the apprehension of a Japanese boy named Henry Yamaguchi who formerly lived on the ranch and recently had a violent quarrel with Thomas Kendall, who was manager of the ranch. The police theory is that the Japanese stabbed his victims to death and afterward burned their remains. The Kendalls had not been seen for a week and neighbors instituted an investigation. Before disappearing the Japanese boy told of his quarrel with Kendall, declaring the latter had fired a shot at him. The Kendalls and owners of the ranch, who live in Oakland, had been engaged in frequent disputes, the latter having instituted ouster proceedings against the Kendalls who were merely tenants. But the police do not place importance on the latter facts.

### NO IMPROVEMENT FOR WEST FIRST

And One of the Property Owners on the Street Makes a Loud Wail.

### BOARD ORDERS A DELAY

PROTESTING OWNER SAYS THAT IF CITY HAS NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO SUPPORT ITSELF IT SHOULD BORROW.

### MARSHAL ORDERS A DELAY

PROTESTING OWNER SAYS THAT IF CITY HAS NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO SUPPORT ITSELF IT SHOULD BORROW.

### REPORT BY CENSUS

Washington, Aug. 4.—The census report at Bloomington, Ind., is 8,838; Cincinnati 364,463, an increase of eleven per cent.

If this concerns you, read carefully: Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Peppermint is positively guaranteed to cure all forms of rheumatism, headache, offensive breath, malaria and all diseases arising from stomach trouble.

## Board of Works Plans Action To Compel Removal of Weeds

Weeds are becoming so numerous in Richmond, especially on vacant lots, that the board of works has ordered City Attorney A. M. Gardner to draw up an ordinance by which property owners may be forced to clear their lots or have the cost charged to them. Under the town and county act of the state legislature, Mr. Gardner says, the city can draw up an ordinance by which property owners may be notified through the newspaper in a general notice, that their weeds must be removed.

After notice is filed on the property owners, if they refuse to cut the weeds the expense of cutting is charged as a lien against their property on the tax sheets. Dr. T. H. Davis, health officer, was before the board this morning and said that a few years ago this was tried and to a man the tax payers refused to pay the weed bill. The city could not go into a law suit against the 500 delinquents so the city paid the bill.

Previous to this year the application of the weed ordinance, under the town and county act, has been very expensive because the number of the lots on which the weeds grew had to be recorded and the number of feet of the lot frontage. The health department had to employ an extra man to look up the number of the lots at the court house. An experienced man was necessary and to have the weeds removed it generally cost the city from \$500 to \$1,000 each summer. By the town and county act notice must be filed on each property owned sep-

arately unless a city ordinance is passed.

Dr. Davis stated the health department was too busy to attend to the weed nuisance this year. It will be impossible to get the new ordinance drawn up and ready for application before next summer, according to the city attorney. The remainder of the year, weeds will be ordered removed through the police department. This method has been in vogue for several weeks and is quite successful.

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