

THE LEDGER.

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LABORI AND JOUAUST CLASH OVER MERCIER

General Upheld In His Refusal
to Answer Counsel.

A HOT COLLOQUY ENSUES

Colonel Maurel, Who Was President
of the First Dreyfus Court martial,
Goes on the Stand and Is Lashed
With Pointed Questions.

RENNES, France, Aug. 24.—When the fourth session of the third week of the second trial by court-martial of Captain Alfred Dreyfus, charged with treason, opened at the Lycée here at 6:40 a.m. today, Colonel Jouraust, president of the court-martial, ordered that the evidence given by M. Penot, a friend of the late Colonel Sandher, chief of the intelligence department, be read by the clerk. It was to the effect that Colonel Sandher said the Dreyfus family offered him 150,000 francs on condition he would clear Dreyfus.

Maitre Demange, for the defense, disposed of this allegation by reading the actual note on the subject written by Sandher, thereby proving that the colonel's remarks had been distorted, Dreyfus' brothers having only said: "We are convinced of the innocence of our brother and will spend our entire fortune to discover the truth."

The testimony of the first witness of the day, M. Lemoine, a former official of the government, was also in favor of Dreyfus, as it was in direct contradiction of M. De Brel, who deposed in regard to the alleged intimacy of Dreyfus with the General, although the house of M. Edison, a mutual friend of the two witness, Colonel Maurel, who was president of the Dreyfus court-martial in 1894. Complete silence fell upon the court as the infantry sergeant, who was acting usher, conducted Maurel to the witness box.

The colonel was attired in a black frock coat and wore the red ribbon of the Legion of Honor at his buttonhole. His hair is gray and he has a rugged, iron gray mustache. His face showed anxiety.

Leashed With Questions.

As M. Labori lashed him with pointed questions to General Mercier with reference to the communication of the secret dossier for the court-martial and his attitude in 1894 and an interesting scene ensued. The general refused to reply to all the questions and the wretched passages at arms between counsel and Colonel Jouraust, who upheld General Mercier, while the dialogue between the general and M. Labori became acrimonious. Counsel became very heated and showed it in his voice and gestures. The general, however, troubled his mind, seldom departed from the callous demeanor characteristic of him.

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The lawyer made a strong point on the part of Esterhazy played. Mercier said he did not know Esterhazy and only saw him once at the Zola trial.

"That is very interesting," exclaimed M. Labori, "but surely General Mercier was present at the Esterhazy trial?"

Mercier Pleads Ignorance.

The general replied that he was not there and that he knew nothing about the evidence in the Esterhazy prosecution.

"What!" cried M. Labori, "General Mercier is the chief accuser of Dreyfus, did not even follow the proceedings in the Esterhazy case?"

A loud murmur of surprise and indignation came from the audience, but Colonel Jouraust immediately suppressed it.

Counsel then brought General Mercier to his assertion that 35,000,000 francs had been spent by the defenders of Dreyfus and asked the general to say how he knew this, who spent it and other awkward questions which the general was unable to answer.

A question as to how the borderers acted at the office of the general staff, its date, etc., was then introduced, which led to a strange scene for a court of law.

General Mercier and the general staff, its date, etc., was then introduced, which led to a strange scene for a court of law.

After hearing General Mercier and General Chanoin on the subject Colonel Jouraust declared that the court would rule the dispatch out of evidence.

The examination of General Mercier having concluded, Colonel Jouraust asked Dreyfus if he had anything to say, and the prisoner, in a faltering voice, replied to General Mercier's statement that he (Dreyfus) could have obtained the information about the artillery, promised in the bourseau, while staying at Bourges, where military trials were being held. Dreyfus entered into an explanation as to how he spent his time, showing that he did not inform himself about the trials of the new gun brake.

General Risboung recounted what Captain Labori Renault said about Dreyfus and this brought the latter to his feet with a thrilling declaration. He pointed out that the captain shook him by the hand when he returned to the prison, which is at variance with what General Risboung recounted.

"Moreover," cried Dreyfus, "when a frightful charge has been hanging over a man's head for five years people ought not to talk of convictions, but should bring proofs. Otherwise I cease to understand the matter."

Sensation in Court.

The indignant protest caused a sensation in court. Continuing, Dreyfus proceeded to totally deny the story that he made a confession to Captain Labori Renault. A number of other witnesses were heard, including M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire's friend Muller, who was responsible for the story that he found a marginal note on the subject of the arrest of Dreyfus on a newspaper in Emperor William's bedroom at Pottsdam. He testified to this effect.

The court adjourned at 11:45 a.m. for the day.

ROOT A MAN OF BUSINESS.

Miles Says the War Will Be Vigorously Prosecuted.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—General Nelson A. Miles said to the Philadelphia correspondent of The Tribune:

"The new secretary of war is a man of business. As a result very different conditions already exist. The interests of the country have demanded a vigorous prosecution of the war in the Philippines; now they will have it.

"I know nothing about a change of command on the islands. My command of the army has nothing to do with administration. As major general commanding, I am responsible for the health and discipline of the army. Both are in excellent condition.

"General Otis is a fine officer. That has been demonstrated by the splendid morale of the army, its health and its efficiency in the field in the Philippines.

"The inadequate force to meet the requirements of the war has been the cause of some delay in the results which have not been achieved. Our army, notwithstanding the vast superiority of the enemy in numbers, has been victorious in every engagement. The army may be large and valiant enough to defeat an enemy quadruple its size, but it takes additional forces to hold the towns in an enemy's country and to cover lines of communication.

"Much embarrassment has been occasioned by the supplying of the enemy with food and munitions of war by their friends in Manila and Hong-Kong, not to speak of encouragement from their friends in the states. It is difficult to discriminate in the enemy's country between noncombatants and friends and foes."

GEN. BATES MAKES TERMS.

American Flag to Fly Over the Entire Jolo Archipelago.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—General Otis today cabled the war department that General Bates has returned from his conference with the Moros and confirming the Associated Press dispatches as to the results of the mission. General Otis says:

"General Bates returned. Mission successful. Agreement made with sultan and states whereby sovereignty United States over entire Jolo archipelago acknowledged; its flag to fly on land and sea. United States to occupy and control all points deemed necessary.

Introducing firearms prohibited. Sultan to assist in suppressing piracy. Agrees to deliver criminals accused of crime not committed by Moros against Moros.

"Relations between United States troops and all Moros very friendly. Two other points in archipelago will be occupied by United States troops when trade and commerce can be controlled. Moros western Mindanao friendly, ask permission to drive out insurgents. Reports by mail."

Germans Offer to Fight.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Aug. 24.—At a meeting here of 200 Germans, a committee was appointed to express to the Transvaal government the willingness of the Germans to volunteer for service in case of war, but requesting that they be enrolled in a separate corps on account of hardships endured at Fort McPherson, which he accompanied.

Salisbury Visits the Queen.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The Marquis of Salisbury spent the afternoon and evening with Queen Victoria. It is believed the grave situation of affairs in the Transvaal was partly responsible for the premier's visit to her majesty.

Troops Go to South Africa.

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Aug. 24.—The British steamer Arsenal Castle sailed from this port today with 30 officers and 470 men of various regiments bound for Cape Town.

Orders for British Reserves.

DURBAN, Natal, Aug. 24.—The men belonging to the British first class reserves residing here have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to rejoin their regiments.

Soldiers for Cape Town.

GOLCONDA, Aug. 24.—The Manchester regiment, numbering 1,000 men, has sailed for Cape Town.

WHITECAPS CRUELLY BEAT A POSTMASTER

W. C. Crum, In Charge at Peck,
Fla., Roughly Handled.

ACID POURED ON WOUNDS

Affair Brought to the Attention of the
Authorities at Washington and the
Office Will Probably Be Immediately Discontinued.

TAMPA, Fla., Aug. 24.—Editor W. C. Crum of The Florida Republican was brutally beaten by whitecaps at Peck Monday night. He is postmaster at that place and has been going out there attending to the mail at night and returning to the city in the morning. Some weeks ago he appointed Dan Morrison, a negro, his assistant, so that the office could have a man in charge all the time.

Morrison was made to give up the office by a committee of citizens, who are unknown, and Mr. Crum had to go out and attend to the office himself.

Monday night after he had completed his work he started to a house he owns a short distance away, where he sleeps when there.

He was held up on the road by a mob of masked men with guns, who made him dismount. He was tied with a rope, hand and foot, and given a brutal beating. He also sustained severe bruises about the head and shoulders from the kicks administered by the mob.

After they finished their work they cut off the buttons and one side of his face and applied carbolic acid to the deep gashes upon his naked flesh made by the whipping. The mob threatened to kill him if he ever appointed another negro assistant there. He has closed the office and his resignation has been accepted at Washington.

POSTOFFICE TO BE CLOSED.

Assault Will Cause a Discontinuance
of the Service at Peck.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The assault of the whitecaps at Peck, Fla., on Postmaster W. C. Crum and his assistant there probably will result in the discontinuance of the postoffice.

A SUCCESSOR FOR DEVLIN.

Democratic Press Bureau Will Be Removed to Washington.

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—Senator Jones, chairman of the Democratic national committee, has closed the Devlin incident that disturbed the peace and harmony of the national committee at St. Louis last May, and again at Chicago in June, by ordering the removal of the press bureau to Washington and authorizing the removal of the Boers to the railroad bridge at that place.

The platform as adopted begins as follows:

"We congratulate the American people upon the results of the campaign of 1896, the establishment of a sound currency, the securing of proper protection to American industries and the election of that champion of the common people, William McKinley, to be president of the United States.

"The Republican party has been in control of the national government for little more than two years and during that time every promise made by it has been fulfilled. Business is active and remunerative, labor is employed at good and increasing wages; capital has ample field for investment and an era of unexampled prosperity has been inaugurated.

"Much of the success of the Republican party adopted in 1896 is due to the good judgment, wise counsel, administrative ability, far-reaching diplomacy and broadminded statesmanship of our patriotic president. We firmly support and fully endorse his administration and place on record the wish of the Republicans of Pennsylvania that he be nominated to fill the office of president in 1900, and to this end we recommend the election of delegates who will give his candidacy earnest and vigorous support in the next national convention."

Porto Rican Charts Wrong.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The recent official surveys along the southern coast of Porto Rico show that the coast line is much more in error than had been supposed by scientists. Information now at hand discloses the fact that from Ponce to the eastward, charted at 43 miles, the actual distance is but 43 miles, necessitating a contraction of the shore line on maps and charts to the extent of 7 miles for that stretch alone. If that proportion of error is found to hold good for the whole island, its actual area will be very greatly circumscribed by the results of the surveys.

A COUNCILMAN ATTACKED.

W. S. Thompson of Atlanta Knocked Down by H. M. Atkinson.

ATLANTA, Aug. 24.—H. M. Atkinson, a local capitalist and promoter, attacked Councilman W. S. Thompson on Alabama street last night, knocking him down by a blow with the fist. An officer separated the men before any serious damage was done and made cases again both parties for disorderly conduct.

The encounter had been expected several days. Atkinson is at the head of a company that is seeking a street railway franchise before the council. Thompson, in a bitter speech, accused him of being responsible for a published article that severely criticized the city fathers for their action in the matter.

A clash on the floor of the council was only prevented by the calling out of the police reserve and the interference of friends.

Supplies for Porto Ricans.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—The United States transports McClellan will sail for San Juan this afternoon with a relief cargo for suffering Porto Ricans. The cargo consists of 14,000 women's vests; 4,500 calico wrappers; 4,200 men's undershirts; 623 pairs of men's trousers and a varied assortment of other clothing, food, medicines and building materials. The total cash subscriptions for the relief fund now reaches \$65,340.

North Pole Hunter's Estate.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 24.—Letters of administration of the estate of John McKee Vecchio, who departed with the Peary expedition for the north pole in 1891, and who never returned, have been asked for by his brother, Harry Verhoeff, who resides in this city. His estate consists of personal property valued at \$30,000, the heirs being the petitioner and a sister, Martha Verhoeff, who resides in Louisville, Ky.

Southern Bankers Going North.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Caspar Bubert, a sculptor whose works brought him fame, and who was engaged on the Dewey arch, was found dead in his studio in this city by one of his workmen. He had suffered a stroke of apoplexy.

He finished his last great work, a statue of Admiral Semmes of the confederate navy, the commander of the cruiser Alabama at the time she was sent to Tampa, and he enjoyed assistance.

An inspector may be ordered there tomorrow, but it is quite probable that the Peck citizens will be left without a postoffice.

A OUTBREAK OF SMALLPOX.

KENNER, La., Aug. 24.—Considerable alarm prevails in a settlement known as Madisonville, in St. Charles parish, due to the inadequate attention paid to an outbreak of smallpox. There have been four or five cases developed. The local and state health officials have been informed, but no isolation of patients, fumigation or precautionary measures have been taken to safeguard the people of the community.

The outbreak was first noticed on Saturday.

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