

CLAIM WOOD HAS NO LEGAL RIGHT TO HOLD OFFICE

Quo Warranto Proceedings Begun to Oust Him as Special State's Attorney.

MOLINE MAN IS RELATOR

Claimed Appointment Was Illegal and He Has Exceeded Authority in Offering Immunity.

The right of George W. Wood of Moline to act as special state's attorney was attacked in a petition in quo warranto filed in circuit court this morning by C. E. Dietz and W. A. Hesse, attorneys for Charles C. Heald of Moline, a member of the September grand jury. The action, if sustained, might invalidate the action of the present grand jury, which has returned a large number of indictments since Mr. Wood was employed to assist in its work.

The petition is accompanied by affidavits by Mr. Heald, the relator, State's Attorney Floyd E. Thompson, Andrew Olson of Moline, and others. It declares that the special state's attorney "has unlawfully usurped and intruded into and unlawfully has held and executed, and still does unlawfully usurp, intrude into the unlawfully hold and execute without any warrant, right or lawful authority whatsoever, the office of state's attorney of said Rock Island county."

Cannot Usurp Duties.

State's Attorney Thompson, in his affidavit, refers to the appointment of Mr. Wood by Judge Olmsted January 20, last, and sets forth that his duties as acting state's attorney can not be taken from him unless for one of four reasons: If he is absent, unable to attend, ill or interested. The fact that he was in court shows that the only reason he might be supplanted, he declares, could be "if interested." At the time the petition for Wood's appointment was presented to Judge Olmsted, State's Attorney Thompson entered protest. On this point Thompson says in his affidavit:

"Affiant further says that he then and there stated in open court that the allegations of said petition to the effect that he, this affiant, as state's attorney of Rock Island county, or otherwise, was interested in certain felonies and misdemeanors, alleged to have been committed in said Rock Island county is that matter of official corruption, were and are absolutely false.

"Affiant further says that he then and there in open court challenged any member of said grand jury, or any other person to state to the court a single instance where he had refused to call witnesses which the grand jury had asked for, or a single instance of thing showing or tending to show, that he was interested in any of the matters referred to in said petition." The petition here referred to by Mr. Thompson was the one presented by the grand jury, January term of court,

Argus Election Returns

Returns of the election in Rock Island county and throughout Illinois where local option is the chief issue will be received by The Argus tonight. The Associated Press will furnish the news from outside points.

The Argus has made elaborate preparations to secure the results throughout Rock Island county at the earliest possible moment, and the information will be available to the public just as soon as it is had.

The returns will be bulletined at The Argus building as obtained. If you prefer to receive the news at your home you are invited to telephone The Argus and you will be accommodated with all the news on hand.

DRY CAMPAIGN IS CLOSED AT RINK

Continuing, Thompson says in his affidavit:

"Affiant further says that the said Robert W. Olmsted, presiding judge of said court, in passing upon said petition, said, among other things, in substance, that he, the said Robert W. Olmsted, in allowing the petition, wanted it expressly understood that he, the said Robert W. Olmsted, did not feel that this affiant was interested in the matter (meaning the matter set forth in said petition), but that, since the grand jurors expressed themselves as feeling that they should have other assistance, he, the said Robert W. Olmsted, as the presiding judge of said court, felt that he should grant their request, for a special state's attorney."

Says Immunity Is Offered.

Andrew Olson's affidavit sets forth that he was in court the day that Thompson challenged grand jurors and any others to show that he was "interested" and corroborates the declaration in Thompson's affidavit. Olson says further in his affidavit:

"Affiant further says that between the 20th day of January, A. D. 1914, and this 6th day of April, 1914, the said George W. Wood, acting and pretending to act as special state's attorney of Rock Island county, entered and filed on the said 20th day of January, 1914, has procured the giving of, and has offered, promised and held out, immunity from prosecution of certain persons against whom indictments for felonies and informations for misdemeanors, have been filed by the said Floyd E. Thompson, as the regular state's attorney of said Rock Island county, which said indictments and felonies were then and there pending and undisposed of, upon condition and in consideration of such persons agreeing to appear, and appearing before said grand jury, and giving testimony there before said grand jury relative to the matters and things for which such persons were indicted and growing out of which, said informations were filed, and without the knowledge and consent of the said Floyd E. Thompson, as the regular state's attorney, as aforesaid."

Thompson Explains Part.

Explaining his part in the case, State's Attorney Thompson today issued the following statement:

"Where a citizen, as relator, presents his petition to the state's attorney for signature, the only discretion possessed by such officer is to determine whether the petition is in proper form and the accompanying affidavit shows a prima facie case; and, if the petition and affidavit are sufficient, the state's attorney may be compelled, by mandamus, to sign and present the petition. This has been clearly decided by the supreme court of Illinois in the People vs. State's Attorney John J. Healy. When this petition was presented to me it became my official duty by statute to sign it and permit it to be filed, regardless of my personal feeling in the matter. While I have denied and still do deny the right of the court to appoint Mr. Wood special state's attorney under the showing made, as I said at the time of the appointment, I shall not interfere and have not interfered with any action or investigation he may or has seen fit to undertake."

JOHN KOEPKE IS SUFFOCATED IN A FIRE IN HIS HOME

Flames of Mysterious Origin Start in Kitchen and Gas Fills His Bedroom.

FIREMEN FIND HIS BODY

Position Indicates He Had Risen and Was Trying to Dress When He Was Overcome.

John Koepke, 64 years of age, residing at 2714 Eighth avenue, was smothered to death last night in a fire which partially destroyed his home. Koepke was alone in the house at the time and had the firemen not been prompt the body might have been cremated.

The blaze was first noticed by Detlef Kickbusch, 2706 Eighth avenue, who saw smoke issuing from the kitchen window, and the alarm was sent in at 11:35. Neighbors told the firemen when they arrived that Koepke and his wife were both in the burning structure. Three of the firemen instantly instituted a search for them.

Entrance was gained into the bedroom by smashing in a window, and the searchers failed to locate them there. By this time the smoke was so dense they were forced to leave for a few minutes. Then the search was resumed, being directed to the bedroom. Charles Miller was the first fireman to enter. While groping around in the smoke he stumbled over the body of Mr. Koepke.

A physician was called, but by the time he arrived the unconscious form had been removed to the police station. A second physician was called, and although there was no sign of life, worked over the body with a pulmotor for an hour or more. Their efforts were without avail.

Account for the Wife.

In the meantime Mrs. John Engeland, 2423 Fifth and a half avenue, and Mrs. John Haalk, 2529 Fifth and a half avenue, daughters-in-law of Mr. Koepke, arrived on the scene and informed the firemen that Mrs. Koepke was staying at the former's house that night, so all fears concerning her safety were quieted.

How the fire started will probably always remain a mystery. A theory is advanced that it was caused by the explosion of a kerosene lamp on the kitchen table, as it was at this point the blaze started. The damage from the flames was confined almost entirely to the kitchen. The table on which the lamp stood was consumed and a hole in the floor about three feet square burned. The flames had also crept through the partition up into the roof. It appears that Koepke was in bed when the fire started and in attempting to arise and dress was overcome by the smoke and fell to the floor. The body was lying in a cramped position and partly dressed when discovered. The firemen are of the opinion that the fire had burned possibly half an hour before it was discovered.

Native of Germany.

John Koepke was born near Kiel, Germany, Sept. 8, 1848. He grew to manhood there. He was united in marriage to Mrs. Wilhelmina Ohms in 1878, and the couple came to this country in 1892, settling in Rock Island, where he had lived since. For over 20 years Mr. Koepke had been employed at the Rock Island Lumber company. Herman, the only son of the couple, was killed two years ago in a railway accident.

Five children survive by Mrs. Koepke's first marriage. They are a son, Carl Ohms of Milan, and four daughters, Mrs. Henry Timm, Mrs. John Haalk, Mrs. John Engeland of Rock Island and Mrs. Olof Johanson of Milan.

BILLS INSTALLED BY LOCAL LODGE

Rock Island lodge No. 980, R. P. O. Elks, installed officers in a meeting last evening at the hall. Over 150 members attended the ceremonies, and Grand Exalted Ruler Sam Ryerson, Grand Esquire Arthur Huesing, Grand Esteemed Leading Knight J. W. Hender, Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight L. C. Lamphere and Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight Harry Cozad acted as the installing officers.

After the business session a social hour and banquet was observed. The committee in charge of the delegation to the state convention at Peoria, May 27, 28 and 29, reported that 150 members have expressed a desire to attend.

PERSONAL POINTS

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Cable have returned from several weeks' visit at Atlantic City.

Misses Nellie and Claire Pinkney, 721 Seventeenth street, have gone to Sioux City, Iowa, called there by the illness of their father.

P. R. Preston, assistant advertising manager of the Rock Island Plover company, departed this morning for Council Bluffs to attend the funeral of E. C. Shepard, held there this afternoon.

New York—Venezuelan exiles who have been operating in Curacao and Trinidad for several months have abandoned their revolutionary projects for the time being on account of lack of capital, according to General F. L. Alcántara, one of the revolutionary chiefs now here.

DRY CAMPAIGN IS CLOSED AT RINK

Dr. McCrory of Pittsburgh and F. J. Bayliss of Jacksonville Speakers.

BOTH ATTACK THE SALOON

Former Deplores That Women Must Help in Fight, Saying "Men Ought to Do It Alone."

The dry forces closed their campaign for a saloonless city last night with two addresses to a large audience at the rink by Dr. J. T. McCrory of Pittsburgh and Frederick J. Bayliss, the "cowboy preacher" of Jacksonville, Ill. As a forerunner to the speeches, a band enlivened the occasion, parading from the main business section of the city to the rink.

The women were urged to exercise their franchise by Dr. McCrory, who nevertheless deplored the fact that the women had to help to do the job. "We men ought to do it alone," he said. His argument was in effect that the saloon was antagonistic to health, to the industrial interests and to the maternal instinct. He censured the man whose health was gone at 50 because of drink, and said industrial trades were handicapped today because many employees were addicted to liquor.

"An employer does not discharge a drunken employe because of lack of sentiment, but because he does not want a handicapped man in his employ," said Dr. McCrory.

Once Mercer County Pastor.

Dr. McCrory 31 years ago was pastor of a small church at Norwood, Mercer county. For 27 years, however, he has been in pastoral work in Pittsburgh. He told of the closing of the Pittsburgh saloons on Sunday. "When the city recovered \$40,000 in fines in one year against the saloon keepers for Sunday selling, it taught them to obey Sunday laws," he said. He urged that the people of Rock Island strike the death blow today. "People should not be moved to vote through hysteria, but by facts," closed the speaker.

Jacksonville, Ill., dry for six consecutive years, was never more prosperous in its history, Mr. Bayliss said. Two hundred new houses have been built since the saloons were voted out. Bank deposits have increased. Three policemen were taken from the force when the dry forces claimed the city. Mr. Bayliss spoke for national prohibition and predicted the doom of the saloon through national legislation.

RETURNS SUSTAIN PREVIOUS CLAIMS

Assistant Head Clerk McNamara of Woodmen Predicts Camp Complexion.

"Returns from county camp meetings throughout the jurisdiction has been received at the head clerk's office. They are complete from the central and larger states of the jurisdiction, but not entirely complete from the outlying and smaller states. The returns have been tabulated and they show beyond shadow of a doubt that the friends of the administration are in the majority. I see no reason at this time to modify or change in any way the predictions I made, just following the meetings of the local camps in the month of February. At that time, I stated that the insurgents would not have to exceed one hundred votes in the head camp. The returns from county camps fully justify the reiteration of this statement. Prior to the county camp meetings, the insurgents claimed 21 states. They have shrunk their claims now to four states, and there will be a further shrinkage when they get at the actual facts."

The above statement was made by Assistant Head Clerk McNamara at the head clerk's office of the Modern Woodmen of America this morning. Mr. McNamara declined to go into detail, but it is known that the situation in Illinois is doubtful. Illinois has about 70 votes in the head camp, and though the insurgents should carry this state and one or two additional states, even large ones, Mr. McNamara's prediction would still probably be close on the final result in the head camp.

Knicker—They seem a well mated pair. Bocker—Oh, yes, botanically. She is a society bud, and he is a blooming idiot.—Town Topics.

Better Buy This Week

Your Spring Wearing Apparel

AT

Sextons

The Busy Corner

FINAL APPEAL IS MADE BY MEEKER

Declares Local Optionists Seek to Interfere With Personal Liberty.

ATTACKS DRY ARGUMENTS

Says if Laws Are Not Enforced Liquor Dealer Is Not to Blame—It Is Up to Officials.

The final guns of the wets were fired last evening at the Illinois theatre, when Hon. James E. Meeker, former member of the Missouri state legislature, addressed a capacity house, half of which were women. Joseph L. Haas, president of the Municipal league, acted as chairman of the meeting and made a short address. He stated that the Municipal league would offer \$1,000 in cash to any person or persons who could prove that the league was in any manner directly connected with any illegal voting, repeating or stuffing of ballot boxes. "The local option... often ask the question, why do the saloon interests fight prohibition if as much liquor is sold in dry territory as in wet? That is not the question involved. It is a fight of law against lawlessness," declared Mr. Haas. He concluded by introducing Mr. Meeker, speaker of the evening.

"We are now at the close of one of the most aggressive and bitter campaigns in the history of the city," said Mr. Meeker. "A few scalled reformers have appointed themselves as caretakers of the city, to encroach on our personal liberty. No fair minded man will let these fanatics instruct him as to what his personal habits shall be."

Fighting for Liberty.

"We fought for liberty in '76 and we are in the midst of a similar battle today. Industrial, social, religious, educational and intellectual liberty are all included in the declaration of independence. Local option interferes with our social liberty and should be defeated. The prohibitionist says, you cannot take care of yourself, I will take care of you. The dry advocate attacks the man who sells the commodity, and not the man who over-indulges. When a hardware dealer sells a revolver and a man kills himself, do they attack the man who sells it? When a man buys poison and does away with himself, do they attack the man who sold it? No, the local optionist uses the foolish argument that you may buy liquor and keep it and drink it, but the retailer cannot sell it. There is not a man in business who is surrounded by as many laws as the retail liquor dealer. If the laws are not enforced, who is to blame? Surely not the liquor dealer. If a saloon is lawless, close it. If you vote yes you are voting out the wrong man."

WET SIGNS ON WALKS; COMPLAINT IS MADE

Some wet sympathizer was charged with a violation of Section 10 of the revised city code today in reports to the police that sidewalk signs at the east entrance of the court house and at the federal building corner had been painted.

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AUTO IS DAMAGED BY CRASH INTO A TREE

A taxicab belonging to one of the local companies ran away about 7 o'clock this morning at Third avenue, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets. The driver had stepped from the machine to close a door of the car. Evidently the gear had not been shifted correctly in stopping, because as soon as he stepped to the pavement the auto started up the street and ran headlong into a tree before he was able to stop it. One of the springs and the axle in front were badly bent in the collision. No one was in the car at the time.

L.S. McCabe & Co.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL. TEL. 1000

One sensation follows another in such rapid succession in this store, that one is fairly bewildered.

Just received nearly 1000 Women's New White Waists and Blouses all the late models, materials fine and sheer, embroidery and lace trimmed, long, short, kimono and raglan sleeves, Wednesday at 10 o'clock and again at 2 o'clock, pick as you choose for 75c and 95c.

Worth much more than double, bring your mothers and sisters, only one to a buyer, and you'll not see their like again.

The Union Stamp

—IS THE—

Peaceful, Uplifting, Educational, Economic Emblem of the Organized Shoe Workers

It aims to secure bigger, better, and happier working and living conditions for Union Shoe Workers by progressive means; never by destructive measures.

Buy Union Stamp Shoes

Boot and Shoe Workers' Union

246 Summer St., Boston, Mass.

Write for list of union shoe factories and other interesting literature, telling what we have accomplished for our fellow workers.

Affiliated with American Federation of Labor.

KEEP UP TO THE MARK

Success depends largely on the condition of your health. If you are handicapped by a poor appetite, imperfect digestion, lazy liver or clogged bowels, just try

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

CLIMAX

FRESCO

WALL PAPER CLEANER

CLIMAX CLEANER MFG CO. INC. CLEVELAND, OUSA

Climax Wall Paper Cleaner

removes dirt and germs from the wall paper and saves the expense and muss of re-papering. It makes old paper look like new.

With a piece of Climax in your hand, just wipe the wall paper or window shade with a light easy stroke and the dirt disappears as if by magic.

A 10c. can of Climax is ample to clean an average size room. Three cans for 25c. at Grocers, Drug, Hardware and Paint stores.

ELECTION RETURNS

At The

Rock Island House Cafe

Special Cabaret Features

Phone R. I. 141 for Table Reservations