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III

East St Louis Riot Investigation

Tuesday Oct 23- 1917

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Tuesday, October 23, 1917.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock a.m., Honorable Ben Johnson (Chairman) presiding.

Mr. Johnson. The Committee will come to order. Judge Baker, will you interrogate the witness?

STATEMENT OF ROY ALBERTSON (Continued).

Mr. Baker. Mr. Albertson, how long have you lived in East St. Louis?

Mr. Albertson. All my life, except one year which I spent in St. Louis.

Mr. Baker. How old a man are you?

Mr. Albertson. Twenty.

Mr. Baker. Are you fairly familiar with the general conditions in East St. Louis, governmental and otherwise?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, I have been in pretty close touch with them.

Mr. Baker. Do you know the police force?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And about how many police officers have they?

Mr. Albertson. At the present time they have about ninety men on the pay roll. That includes detectives and uniform men.

Mr. Baker. How many did they have on the pay roll or in active service during the months of May, June and July of this year?

Mr. Albertson. Not more than 65.

Mr. Baker. Are you to a greater or less extent personally acquainted with those policemen, or were you at that time?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Now in addition to the policemen, what other constabular department have you here in the way of peace officers?

Mr. Albertson. No other effective constabulary, except

the constables. They have never pushed themselves as police officers though. Their duties are confined to serving warrants and picking up jurors for justice of the peace cases.

Mr. Baker. How many of those have you?

Mr. Albertson. Five.

Mr. Baker. Well now, those constables have the ordinary police officer's duty, do they not?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Baker. And power, the power of arrest?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. With a warrant, and also the power of arrest when they find any one in their presence attempting to commit an offense?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Baker. And how about your sheriffs, deputy sheriffs?

Mr. Albertson. There are five or six deputy sheriffs stationed in East St. Louis. The county seat is at Belleville, and the Sheriff himself resides there. He has a chief deputy here, and the deputies here are under that chief deputy, and of course he is under the orders of the sheriff in Belleville.

Mr. Baker. Of course they are in the same category, as everybody knows, of general police power.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; they have always confined their arrests to the county, though. They claim they don't want to create any friction by making arrests in the city.

Mr. Baker. I know, but if any deputy sheriff sees a man trying to burglarize a store or commit arson or an assault and battery, or any other offense in his presence?

Mr. Albertson. He is fully commissioned to make arrests.

Mr. Baker. Certainly. There couldn't be any special distinction in this state on that, and there isn't any.

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Raker. Were those men, to your knowledge, commissioned and here in East St. Louis during the months of May, June and July of this year?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. Did you know them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. What about United States Marshals?

Mr. Albertson. We have but one deputy United States marshal here that I know of. I don't recall seeing him here during the trouble.

Mr. Raker. And you say you have five justices of the peace?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and police magistrates who gave the same powers and advertise themselves the same thing--- justices of the peace.

Mr. Raker. You know those men and did know them during the time designated?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. Are you somewhat familiar with the saloon conditions, as to the number here?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. And were at that time?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. What has been the attitude of the saloons? Has it been quite dominant here in East St. Louis?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, they have been dominant for some fifteen or twenty years---the brewery element has. In fact, the saloon vote was always referred to as being as strong as the negro vote. Anyone that could get that combination together was sure of success in landing any office he wanted.

Mr. Raker. Do you know whether or not they worked together?

Mr. Albertson. The saloon and negro vote?

Mr. Raker. Yes.

Mr. Albertson. Well, to the extent of the negro saloons of course. The negro saloons were the political centers for the negro vote.

Mr. Raker. Well, did the two combinations, the saloon combinations, work together, both white and black?

Mr. Albertson. As to that I can not say. Those were two combinations.

Mr. Raker. Have you paid any attention to the question of the different races, the colored and the white here, within the last couple of years?

Mr. Albertson. Well, in what respect?

Mr. Raker. As to their manner of getting along together in a peaceful, harmonious manner.

Mr. Albertson. Well, the white and colored have gotten along---did get along in East St. Louis, up until about two years ago. That was the time when this influx of negroes from the South started.

Mr. Raker. What has been the feeling toward them here in and about East St. Louis during the last year?

Mr. Albertson. Well, the negroes were looked upon as an important factor in the industrial life here; that there were certain kinds of work and labor in which they could work, that could not be done by white men. They were looked upon as a necessity.

Mr. Raker. Well, had their grown up any feeling against them as a race? Did there exist that feeling during November and December, 1916, and up until the last of July of this year?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; that is when it became most noticeable, last fall during the Presidential campaign. The people of East St. Louis noticed that the city was being flooded with negroes, but they never went any farther---that is, to inquire. They just accepted it that a lot of negroes were coming to East St. Louis but they didn't know what for. Well, the charge was made that they were being colonized here to be voted in the November election. Then someone discovered that they were coming here and getting lots of work. Then the labor unions became keenly interested.

Mr. Baker. Was there any truth in that statement that they were coming here and being colonized for voting?

Mr. Albertson. Not that I could ascertain.

Mr. Baker. You made as much inquiry as you could on that matter, and you found that there was nothing in it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Don't they have to live here a year before they can vote?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; but there was a time in East St. Louis when a man couldn't make the rounds of all the precincts in one day---that is, and vote at that election.

Mr. Baker. I don't get that.

Mr. Albertson. There was a time when the election boards and the election system here was so corrupt that any man could vote as often as he wanted to.

Mr. Baker. How long ago was that?

Mr. Albertson. Well, that is amongst the whites. I don't think that has been the practice for twenty-five years among them, but down in the Negro precincts it has been practiced for the last few years. That is, the charge has been made and accepted as a matter of fact, in some election precincts

in East St. Louis.

Mr. Baker. Has that created any feeling on the part of the people generally?

Mr. Albertson. There is no public sentiment or public opinion in East St. Louis; never has been. Everything has been so corrupt here and the law has been so flagrantly violated that anything that comes or goes is accepted as a matter of fact.

Mr. Baker. Well, that is a remarkable statement, Mr. Albertson.

Mr. Albertson. It is true. There are lots of followers in East St. Louis but there are no leaders.

Mr. Baker. Well, does that condition to a greater or less extent exist now?

Mr. Albertson. Well, I think the riot served its purpose to the extent of arousing what citizenship there is here to a degree of civic pride of trying to restore the city---those who live here and have to remain here.

Mr. Baker. Well,are there still any improper acts going on by the courts, the local courts and the officers, that you know of?

Mr. Albertson. Not that I know of. As a matter of fact they are very rigid. There is a little justice in the courts here now.

Mr. Baker. Which didn't exist before?

Mr. Albertson. There are no exceptions to the rule; therefore no pets or stool pigeons or anybody else is getting by the police.

Mr. Baker. You mean since the riot?

Mr. Albertson. Since the riot, yes.

Mr. Baker. But before there was nothing to it---they could get by any place?

Mr. Alberteon. You just had to be a friend of the justice or a friend of the constable or a friend of the Chief of Police, or give the chief of detectives a good cigar once in a while, or something like that, and that was all that was necessary.

Mr. Baker. Well, is there anything in the statement that the salaries of the police were so small that they, to a greater or less extent, sort of looked for something when anything was going on?

Mr. Alberteon. Certainly.

Mr. Baker. Is there any truth in that?

Mr. Alberteon. Yes, sir; but they have gotten rid of most of those fellows in the police department.

Mr. Baker. Is there any practice now prevailing among the justices that is reprehensible, that you know of?

Mr. Alberteon. Not that I know of.

Mr. Baker. Or police either?

Mr. Alberteon. No.

Mr. Baker. At the present time? I am talking now since July.

Mr. Alberteon. No, the police force now is doing police work, it seems, instead of each individual member being advised to carry his precinct. That has been the duty of each policement in East St. Louis heretofore; not to do police work but to see that his precinct went all right on election day.

Mr. Baker. Well now, how far did that go? Just to the city elections?

Mr. Alberteon. Oh no, everything. We have non-partisan

municipal tickets in the administration here, but the party line is drawn.

Mr. Baker. Just the same?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. At the present time there is what is known as a democratic administration. It is dominated by democrats, and anything in the democratic line receives their support.

Mr. Johnson. How long has there been a democratic administration here?

Mr. Albertson. Well, Mayor Mollman was elected in 1915.

Mr. Johnson. Was it republican before that time?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And the conditions of which you speak existed prior to Mayor Mollman's administration?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Then so far as republican and democrat is concerned; so far as the local administration in the city is concerned, as you have testified, it has really made no difference at all?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Baker. Now taking the whole statement as made by you this morning, as to the general conditions here in East St. Louis on the 2nd of July, 1917, no attempt or effort made to enforce the law---in fact a general disregard of it in every way---things as loose as could be---what is your view as to what really caused this riot? What led up to it? What was the real thing that led up to this riot?

Mr. Albertson. The flagrant disregard of the law.

Mr. Baker. Then it is your view that, taking the conditions as they existed on the 28th and 29th of May, with the

the general conditions that existed before that; the smoldering feeling that was still in existence during the month of June; that this absolute lawlessness and disregard of the law in all its phases culminated in this terrible riot and destruction of life and property?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And your view is that that is the main spring that caused this trouble?

Mr. Albertson. I haven't the slightest doubt of it.

Mr. Baker. Well, if this same thing---

Mr. Albertson (interposing). On July 1st it was a regular powder mine, and all it needed was the murder of Sergeant Coppedge to touch it off.

Mr. Baker. During the day of the riot you were in and about the city a good deal, as you have stated to us?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Did you observe during any of that day the police officers participating---I mean the police officers attempting to perform any function to prevent the riot?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, they tried to do their duty in the morning as best they could, but at that time I don't think there were more than five uniformed patrolmen on duty during the day to cover this whole city, an area of some 40 square miles.

Mr. Baker. Well, you must have talked during the day with various citizens here in the city of East St. Louis in your rounds while you were watching there various movements of men here of affairs in business, did you?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Well now, can you explain to the committee what was the attitude of those men, as to why they didn't

attempt to suppress this riot during that day?

Mr. Albertson. Well, as I said before, there were no leaders. The following was there but there was no man that had nerve enough to get up and say that he was going to defend the negroes. That is, not defend them by getting up and putting them behind him and standing before the mob with a gun or something like that and holding off the whites, but to get up and try to stop the whites from attaking negroes.

Mr. Baker. Now taking your statement a moment ago as to the lawlessness that existed, and that being the cause which culminated in the riot, can you explain to us why the whole fury was concentrated on the negro and they didn't turn loose on some of the white people?

Mr. Albertson. Because the negroes had killed these two policemen. That was the battle cry that day, "They got Coppedge and Wodley; we'll get them." That was very often expressed and shouted by the mob.

Mr. Baker. So it is your view that the killing of Coppedge and Wodley was sort of a culmination which gave a chance for this feeling to break forth---this lawlessness to break forth in all its various forms?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. I think that's all.

Mr. Cooper. I would like to ask a question. When you and the officers in that automobile that night turned that corner at the rate of about 15 or 20 miles an hour and stopped there in the dark, when you saw those colored people in the road---the street---armed, what was said by anybody in the automobile?

Mr. Albertson. There was nobody in the automobile said

a word except Sargeant Coppedge. Being that he had the rank, he was the superior and everyone else knew his place.

Mr. Cooper. What did he say?

Mr. Albertson. He said, "What's doing here boys?" One of the negroes shouted, "None of your damn business." The negro was sort of back in the crowd and we couldn't see him but we could hear him plain enough. "Well," says Coppedge, "we're officers; we're here to protect you as well as the whites." Some of them hollered, "We don't need any of your damned protection. Go on; get out of here; pull away from here." That's all that was said.

Mr. Cooper. Now they said they were there to protect them.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Why did the officers go up there to protect them unless the story is true that some white men had been through before that, shooting up those quarters? whom were they to protect them against? Not colored men were they?

Mr. Albertson. Well, the police department machine was going to 16th street and Bozeman Ave. Avenue, which is about ten blocks away from where we encountered this mob, and we just run into the mob accidentally.

Mr. Cooper. Why did the officer assure the colored men he would protect them? Protect them against whom?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know.

Mr. Cooper. Well, hadn't there been some attacks made that night on those negroes or on those negro quarters, the reason those officers rushed up there?

Mr. Albertson. None that I know of, except what has been

testified to about these joy riders.

Mr. Cooper. But you have heard of it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. The negroes claimed that, didn't they?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; there was a statement given out by Reverend Wallace, an alleged negro leader, but I doubted the statement, due to the fact that he said it was a Ford automobile, a black machine, and had five or six men in it and all that, and that was the same makeup and personnel of the machine we were in.

Mr. Cooper. Well, I suppose there is more than one Ford here in this city.

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Cooper. But be that as it may, weren't there reports circulated everwhere the next morning, and didn't the negroes claim that an automobile filled with---or containing---white men, had gone through their quarters and shot up their buildings?

Mr. Albertson. I didn't hear any reports that day. I got on to it on Tuesday morning following.

Mr. Cooper. Do you know who is the mayor of National City?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; I don't.

Mr. Cooper. What was his name given yesterday?

Mr. Baker. Shepherd I think.

Mr. Cooper. Do you know Mr. Shepherd?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. You don't know him at all?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. I think that's all.

Mr. Johnson. If I understand you correctly you were employed by a newspaper over in St. Louis to come over here and get all of the information possible concerning the riot and everything that led up to it? Is that correct?

Mr. Albertson. I was stationed in East St. Louis for eight months prior to the riot.

Mr. Johnson. And the principal part of the duties or work for which you were paid around about the time of the riot was to gather news, collect information for your paper?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Your testimony discloses that you were very active indeed in doing that, and that in doing it you narrowly escaped with your life when fire was opened by the negroes on that automobile when the two police officers were killed. That speaks for itself that you were making diligent effort to get correct news for your paper. I would be glad now if you would tell the Committee the extent of your efforts to ascertain whether or not the automobile referred to around here as the "joy riders" on Sunday night, who are charged with having shot into negro houses.

Mr. Albertson. Except as I say. I heard only hearsay.

Mr. Johnson. You heard the rumor?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. After hearing the rumor did you undertake to ascertain whether or not that was true?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Well now, tell what efforts you made in ascertaining that.

Mr. Albertson. Well, I was kind of crowded for time that

week, but I happened to get down in the south end on Tuesday morning---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). When did you first hear of this joy riding machine?

Mr. Albertson. If I am not mistaken it was in a rival newspaper, a morning paper, the Globe.

Mr. Johnson. On what morning?

Mr. Albertson. Tuesday morning I think.

Mr. Johnson. That was the morning after the riot?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. So one whole day intervened between the operation of the so-called "joy riding" car and the publication of its alleged activities?

Mr. Albertson. Well, I wouldn't swear to that, but I think it was on Tuesday morning the Globe had the story.

Mr. Johnson. Now tell what effort you made to ascertain whether or not there was any such car---whether or not there was any shooting into negro houses on Sunday night, prior to the ringing of the church bell and the assembling of the negroes near the church?

Mr. Albertson. I was down in the south end---that is the district in which most of the rioting occurred---that is, on Tuesday morning.

Mr. Johnson. Is that where the joy riding machine is said to have been?

Mr. Albertson. On Market Avenue, yes sir, but no one ever stated definitely just what blocks on Market Avenue. Being on Market Avenue I just undertood to inquire in that part of the street.

Mr. Johnson. Did you ask anybody? If so, whom, and what number, as to the raid of that automobile through the

negro quarters?

Mr. Albertson. Well, it was a summer morning and there were lots of women out talking about the events of the night before. Lots of soldiers were down through that district, and everyone was out looking at anything they could see. I happened to see several women talking across the fence at different places along there from Main Street to about 8th or 9th, but what I couldn't get at was the fact that there wasn't many negroes living there--that is, on that part of Market Street. They said they hadn't heard any shooting.

Mr. Johnson. The street or that part of the city where this joy riding car was said to have operated was not in the negro quarter?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; not in what you would call the real negro quarter. The negroes are scattered all over East St. Louis. They have what is known as their "black belt," where very few whites live.

Mr. Johnson. And it was not charged by anybody that this car was operating in the "black belt?"

Mr. Albertson. Yes, they said they fired into the negro homes.

Mr. Johnson. Well, are the homes into which they are charged as having fired located inthe black belt or some other part of town?

Mr. Albertson. That is what I say; it was never definitely located just where this shooting is supposed to have occurred--that is, the joy riders.

Mr. Johnson. Now you have said that you made inquiry concerning the matter on what street was it, Market Street?

Mr. Albertson. Market Avenue, yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Now why did you inquire on Market Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. It was stated it was on Market Avenue, but gave no definite blocks, 900 or 800 or 700 or the 2500 or 2600 or the 2900---any of those.

Mr. Johnson. Did you ever hear any other street designated as where this firing was done?

Mr. Albertson. I don't think so.

Mr. Johnson. You never heard but one street designated, and that was Market Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And you did inquire throughout Market Avenue and failed to find that there was---that any such car had been there or that any shots had been fired there?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Now I have been endeavoring for some minutes, without success, to get you to detail the efforts that you made for the purpose of ascertaining that.

Mr. Albertson. Well, I made no strenuous efforts. I was down there on different missions. There had been reports of different things having occurred down there the night before, and I went down there to look over the ground.

Mr. Johnson. What else was charged as having been committed in that locality the night before?

Mr. Albertson. There had been several fires. There had been several places bricked and wrecked in various ways.

Mr. Johnson. In Market Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. No, down in that neighborhood.

Mr. Johnson. I am inquiring now about Market Avenue

particularly.

Mr. Albertson. No, there was no particular damage on Market Avenue in that part of the city.

Mr. Johnson. Were there any fires on Market Avenue that night, on Sunday night?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; there were no fires anywhere on Sunday night.

Mr. Johnson. Did you hear of any brick bats being hurled around there on Market Avenue Sunday night?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Well now, what disorder did you hear of occurring on Market Avenue on Sunday night?

Mr. Albertson. Why, about the joy riders, supposed to have gone through there.

Mr. Johnson. Now that is the only disturbance that you heard of on Market Avenue on Sunday night?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and I got onto that only through seeing it in one of the papers.

Mr. Johnson. You saw it in one of the St. Louis papers?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And after having read that did you go to Market Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. For what purpose?

Mr. Albertson. I went to Market Avenue in getting to a saloon at 6th and Pickett.

Mr. Johnson. Why did you want to go to the saloon at 6th and Pickett?

Mr. Albertson. It was 6th and Tudor. That saloon had been wrecked.

Mr. Johnson. In what way?

Mr. Albertson. It had been stoned by whites I think.

Mr. Johnson. Was it a negro saloon?

Mr. Albertson. It was a negro saloon, but it might have been run by a white man.

Mr. Johnson. But patronized by negroes.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. When was that stoned and wrecked?

Mr. Albertson. The damage was done on Monday night I think.

Mr. Johnson. So then you didn't undertake to find out about the joy car until Tuesday?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; and that only incidentally. I happened to be down in the neighborhood and saw a few women within two or three blocks and I asked them.

Mr. Johnson. Did the newspaper article to which you referred say this joy riding car had operated on Market Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. I wouldn't swear as to that, but I got my information from somewhere. Somebody told of the machine being on Market Avenue. I got some kind of an inkling about Market Avenue.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know who wrote the article about the operation of the joy car?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. It was sort of a statement from this negro minister, Wallace.

Mr. Johnson. It was an interview with him that was published in the St. Louis paper?

Mr. Albertson. No, I don't know whether it was an interview or not, but the gist of it was that he was assign-

ing the immediate cause for the negro rising and arming. He said that the negroes had become excited or afraid because of the fact that some joy riders had gone through one of the streets. If I am not mistaken, Mr. Johnson, it has got Market Avenue on it.

Mr. Johnson. Now you have said something about women along Market Avenue talking about some occurrence.. What occurrence were they talking about?

Mr. Albertson. Most of them were telling of their fright and fear of the night before; how they had remained in their homes; the different shots they had heard fired, and that they saw negroes running here, there and everywhere.

Mr. Johnson. Now tell us about that. What shots did they say were fired?

Mr. Albertson. There was so much little detail to that.

Mr. Johnson. Did they mean by that that they fired from this automobile?

Mr. Albertson. No, no; this automobile is supposed to have gone through there Sunday night. I was down there on Tuesday morning and they were discussing the events of the riot which occurred on Monday night.

Mr. Johnston. The sum and substance of it then is that you don't know anything about the joy car?

Mr. Albertson. Oh no, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Have you found anybody who does know anything about it?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Have you tried to find anyone?

Mr. Albertson. Not since then.

Mr. Johnson. You never tried to find anybody that

knew anything about it before it happened---if it did happen?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Consequently, if you endeavored at all to find out, it was after it happened?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Johnson. What paper did you say the joy riding car incident was published in?

Mr. Albertson. I am certain it was in the Globe Democrat.

Mr. Cooper. How many people did you speak to about this on Market Avenue on Tuesday?

Mr. Albertson. Well, I think there were three or four women in one group.

Mr. Cooper. White women?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Who else?

Mr. Albertson. I didn't see any negroes on that street that morning. They weren't to be seen in any part of East St. Louis, extensively. Very few of them ventured out.

Mr. Cooper. You saw three or four white women. Who else?

Mr. Albertson. Well, the next place was about a half a block from there, where there was a man and two women talking, I think.

Mr. Cooper. About half a block from the first group?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Do you recall anybody else to whom you spoke on Tuesday?

Mr. Albertson. I knew none of them. I just happened to be passing along the street and stopped there and told them I was a reporter and was trying to ascertain if they had

heard any shooting prior to the Coppedge killing.

Mr. Cooper. About where was this?

Mr. Albertson. That was between Fourth Street and Tenth Street, on Market. I knew there were very few negroes living there, from Fourth to Tenth around Market. That was the reason I was trying to get at the bottom of it, because I thought Reverend Wallace was offering something that was rather fishy.

Mr. Johnson. What was it he was offering that you thought was rather fishy?

Mr. Albertson. His statement. It don't sound right to me.

Mr. Johnson. Statement about what ?

Mr. Albertson. These joy riders. He made the statement that the negroes had become incensed and were afraid and were forced into an uprising because of the fear of the shooting into their homes by joy riders.

Mr. Johnson. Did you go to see Reverend Wallace about it?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; he wasn't to be found, I don't think.

Mr. Cooper. You made your inquiries on Tuesday?

Mr. Albertson. On Tuesday, yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. You couldn't find a negro to talk to him in this city on that day could you?

Mr. Albertson. There were lots of refugees around the city hall.

Mr. Cooper. But up in the part of the city where you went to make these inquiries.

Mr. Albertson. I didn't get very far out of the down town district. I saw very few negroes.

Mr. Cooper. You said you asked incidentally only about

the joy car; and you said in reply to one question that you asked only two or three women incidentally about the joy car. That was on Tuesday. What did you mean by using the word "incidentally?"

Mr. Albertson. That I was down there on another mission. I went down to that saloon.

Mr. Cooper. And you asked incidentally about the joy car?

Mr. Albertson. And in getting on Market Avenue I recalled about the reference in the morning paper about the joy riders car.

Mr. Cooper. You spoke to this group of three or four white women. Then half a block away there was a man and a couple of women?

Mr. Albertson. If I recall right.

Mr. Cooper. To whom else did you speak?

Mr. Albertson. Well, I think---I don't think I saw more than two or three other women that I talked to, because I gave it up after I had spoken to two or three about it.

Mr. Cooper. How long is Market Street?

Mr. Albertson. Market Street starts at Main Street and runs to Tenth. I am pretty sure it continues from Tenth---it is broken so---on somewhere between Tenth and Fifteenth.

Mr. Cooper. How many blocks are there in the street?

Mr. Albertson. It runs to 3500.

Mr. Cooper. It runs from Main Street to 3500?

Mr. Albertson. From Main Street, which is about 400, to what is known as Thirty-fifth Street---3500.

Mr. Cooper. That would be something like thirty blocks.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. About thirty squares.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Do negroes live in various places along that street, here and there? Did they before the riot?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Throughout the greater portion of that distance?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; except in the place where I was. But by going there I didn't think that that one particular spot in Market Street had been the scene of the joy riders shooting; but there were some parts of Market Avenue that I wouldn't venture into on that day.

Mr. Johnson. Why?

Mr. Albertson. Because it was so thickly inhabited by negroes.

Mr. Cooper. Exactly. Now here is a street that runs from---about thirty blocks long?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Some portions of it thickly populated by negroes. You hear that some white men in an automobile had gone on Sunday morning---Sunday night, rather, or early Monday morning---through some portion of that street, shooting indiscriminately into houses occupied by negroes. On Tuesday, thirty or thirty-five or thirty-six hours after that, when the negroes have all been intimidated you say, so that none could be seen up there, you speak to two or three white women, a white man or two---possibly four or five white women---and from their stating that they didn't hear any shots you conclude that throughout the whole length of Market Avenue there was no shooting on Sunday

morning---or Monday morning?

Mr. Alberteon. That was my conclusion.

Mr. Cooper. That is your conclusion?

Mr. Alberteon. Yes, sir. I figured that someone told Reverend Wallace that, and he accepted it as a matter of fact and just passed it on, giving it some weight because of his position as a minister.

Mr. Cooper. What was Coppedge going to protect them against? What did he tell the negroes the first thing, "We will protect you"---protect them against what?

Mr. Alberteon. I don't know.

Mr. Cooper. Not against themselves. Who had been threatening them? What occasion was there for officers to ride up there and say, "We have come to protect you?"

Mr. Alberteon. I don't know.

Mr. Cooper. Protect them against what?

Mr. Alberteon. It is beyond me. I had never given that remark much serious consideration until you brought out the point.

Mr. Cooper. There is quite a point to it when you reflect that the negroes said that shortly before Coppedge went up there an automobile had ridden through and the occupants had fired into their houses. That makes rather a reasonable story of it and makes the killing of Coppedge a very sad thing.

Mr. Alberteon. Yes, but a policeman is liable to say that in any tight pinch where he could see it would do any good. That is what a policeman is for.

Mr. Cooper. But if he had come upon a lot of negroes with guns, they would protect themselves. White men wouldn't

say, "We will protect" forty or fifty or a hundred negroes armed with rifles. He wouldn't say "We will protect you," but he thought, didn't he, that they were arming themselves and were out in the street to protect themselves, and he wanted them to understand that the officers of the law would protect them; that they needn't do that sort of thing. That looks rational, doesn't it?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Cooper. That looks reasonable. It looks then as if the negroes would have had some provocation---or at least Coppedge thought they had, when he said, "We will protect you."

Mr. Albertson. I don't know. I can't look upon that in the same light you do, because I was there, and what occurred in half a minute is deeply impressed upon me.

Mr. Cooper. You rode around a corner at fifteen or twenty miles an hour---

Mr. Albertson (interposing). Into and out of it in a minute.

Mr. Cooper. In the dark, and you were confronted by a lot of armed negroes. The officer said, "We will protect you," and then came the killing. Of course that is vividly impressed upon your recollection.

Mr. Albertson. But I can remember his words. I am not mistaken about those.

Mr. Cooper. That is what he said, "We will protect you?"

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; we're here to protect you as well as the whites."

Mr. Cooper. "We're here to protect you."

Mr. Albertson. But we weren't going there, where we

encountered them.

Mr. Cooper. Why did he say, "We're here to protect you?

Mr. Albertson. Because he was there. He was there and couldn't get out of it. He was a pretty shrewd officer and he knew what he was up against. He offered them any kind of taffy or anything else in order to get out of there.

Mr. Cooper. Then you didn't go beyond what street? You didn't go farther than Tenth?

Mr. Albertson. No, I didn't get a block beyond that park down there. That ends at Sixth. I think I got to about Seventh.

Mr. Cooper. So there are twenty-four blocks of Market street that you didn't visit at all or make any inquiry on?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. Those blocks that I failed to or neglected---

Mr. Cooper (interposing). Twenty-four blocks is two miles or more, isn't it?

Mr. Albertson. About.

Mr. Cooper. These women in their houses asleep, presumably, after midnight on Monday morning, might not have heard a pistol shot a mile and a half or two miles away.

Mr. Albertson. No, they might have heard the same thing that I read.

Mr. Cooper. If it happened two miles away, or a mile away, and they were in bed asleep, presumably, after midnight?

Mr. Albertson. No.

Mr. Cooper. That's all.

Mr. Johnson. In the stillness of night a gunshot

can be heard very easily a mile away can it not?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. That shooting of Coppedge occurred at Tenth and Bond, and I heard a man who lived at Eleventh Street and Gaty Avenue, which is more than half a mile away, say that he heard it.

Mr. Johnson. When the officers went up towards the negro church in the automobile---I am referring now to the time when Coppedge and his companion were killed---he addressed the negroes not in an irritating way but in a pacific way, by assuring them that he was there to protect them.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Is it not reasonable for the officer to have taken it for granted that they were not out as an aggressive body themselves to do violence, but were out for their own protection? That was more a specific suggestion for him to make to them than another would have been was it not?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And you conclude from what you saw and heard that his addressing them as he did was for the purpose of pacifying them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and in order for us to get out of there alive if we could.

Mr. Johnson. And the haste in which he ordered the chauffeur to drive on showed that he recognized them as a lawless band?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. As a marauding band and not simply as being out in self defense? Was that the idea that you formed from his address to them and from his manner there?

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Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. And then from everything else that I have heard too.

Mr. Johnson. Did you see anybody or get any intimation upon that mission where these officers were killed, that anybody was assaulting the negroes or about to assault them?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; I had no information as to that.

Mr. Johnson. Did any negro in all that crowd say that they were there in self defense or that anybody was assaulting them?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. There were very few words.

Mr. Johnson. But those who did speak said that they didn't want any protection, and undertook to drive the officers away, and in driving them away killed them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. So that if a theory is advanced that the officers went there with the preconceived notion that they needed protection, that is an error isn't it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. They were no more looking for those negroes at the spot where we encountered them, or we no more knew what we were going into than---well, I don't know what.

Mr. Johnson. And except for them, all that section of the town was quiet.

Mr. Albertson. Except down to the spot where we were headed for; down to Sixteenth Street and Bowman Ave. Avenue, where the church is located.

Mr. Johnson. What was going on down there?

Mr. Albertson. As I have learned and heard it said---and hear negroes say it yet---the conspiracy existed and the negroes knew when that church bell rang that they were to

gather at the church, and when that church bell did ring at the appointed hour, 12 oclock, the negroes rushed there pell mell, all armed to the teeth.

Mr. Johnson. And there was nobody on the street except negroes?

Mr. Albertson. They surely had some prearrangement long before the joy riders ever went through there shooting up---if the joy riders did go through there as they say. That must have been hatched long before there was any display of firearms on the part of the whites.

Mr. Johnson. well, I thought that you had reached the conclusion, and had so stated, that there was nobody on the street up in that locality that night except the negroes, and just when I thought that you had thoroughly committed yourself to that statement you said "except" down at this last named corner near the church which you named. Now was there anybody down there except the negroes?

Mr. Albertson. well, there are two or three white families in that neighborhood I think.

Mr. Johnson. Was there anybody out on the street except negroes?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know. I wasn't down there.

Mr. Johnson. well, the negro church being the central point, the point of rendezvous for the negroes in great numbers and arms, would not have been the point where a small band of white men would have gone, would it?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. That is against reason isn't it?

MR. Albertson. Certainly. None of us in the machine knew what we were going into.

Mr. Johnson. Well, I am endeavoring to get every version of it that I can.

Mr. Foster. Let me ask you this question: When you arrived at the corner where the negroes were gathered together, and Sergeant Coppedge spoke to them, did they recognize him, or do you know?

Mr. Albertson. As an officer?

Mr. Foster. As a police officer.

Mr. Albertson. He and his partner were in civilian clothing. They were both seated on that side of the machine on which the negroes were standing, but before there was any attempt to fire any shots---that is, on the part of the negroes---the officers flashed their stars, and to back them up there were two uniformed patrolmen in full uniform in the back seat.

Mr. Foster. Was the top down or up?

Mr. Albertson. The top was up.

Mr. Foster. How much light was there? You said there was an arc light fifty feet away. How much light did that afford where you were?

Mr. Albertson. You might say in reference to that arc light that there was no arc light where we were. The street is so chopped up there that it was almost totally dark.

Mr. Foster. You said there was an arc light fifty feet away?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, around the corner.

Mr. Foster. Now could you recognize these colored people?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. I mean could you outline them, see their faces?

Mr. Albertson. No, except as the headlight flashed around the corner. You could see the flash of steel and the negroes white teeth, and they were just rushing like wild men, trying to keep formation. They were in a hurry to get somewhere.

Mr. Foster. Did Sergeant Coppedge tell these people who he was?

Mr. Albertson. No, he didn't mention his name. He said, "We're officers."

Mr. Foster. He told them they were police officers?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and turned back his coat and showed his police badge.

Mr. Foster. And told them they were there to protect them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Now how far is this church from where you met these people?

Mr. Albertson. A good half a mile.

Mr. Foster. Half a mile?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. How long after the church bell rang was it that you got out there---after you got the information?

Mr. Albertson. We left the station at 12:15. That would put us at 10th and Pond Avenue no later than 12:15. We had gotten that call about 12 o'clock. That leads right back to the hour itself, 12 midnight.

Mr. Foster. Now at 12 o'clock you got word that the bell was ringing down there, the church bell, and at 12:15

you met these people half a mile from the church. Is that correct?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Then in fifteen minutes from the time the bell rang, if they gathered there, it would mean that they gathered with their fire arms and marched half a mile, if they weren't at the church?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know.

Mr. Foster. Well, wouldn't that be true?

Mr. Albertson. There's so much hearsay, I could weigh you down with that, and in the end it wouldn't amount to anything; but down in that neighborhood where we encountered these negroes, the negroes living down there were supposed to have been in a certain combination, an alleged conspiracy, and they could easily mobilize in that neighborhood.

Mr. Foster. At 12:15 you were at this point, which is half a mile from the church?

Mr. Albertson. Well, if you know that territory out there it was---

Mr. Foster (interposing). I am taking your word for it. You say you were there about 12:15. Now if that church bell rang at 12 o'clock, or about that time---

Mr. Albertson (interposing). Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. (continuing) ---and these colored people went half a mile from the church---

Mr. Albertson (interposing). I said about half a mile.

Mr. Foster. Then if those people were in their houses, not knowing that there was any trouble---that is, that they were going to gather together and march up town---they must have gotten out of their homes and gotten started in

pretty short order, didn't they? Is it your theory from what examination you have made of that, and your experience that night, that these colored people were there in their houses waiting for some signal to gather, and that this church bell was that signal?

Mr. Albertson. I undoubtedly believe that they had some prearrangement. They undoubtedly knew what that signal meant. That church bell rang, and just like a lot of fire horses running out of their stalls they all headed for the church---according to this man that telephoned to police headquarters.

Mr. Baker. What was his name?

Mr. Albertson. Reedy.

Mr. Baker. He telephoned that they had gathered at the church?

Mr. Albertson. He says, "They're coming from all directions. They've all got guns and everything. I don't know what they mean, but you get down here quick and you can probably break them up without any trouble.

Mr. Foster. But they were on their way then?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. So that in a very short time they were ready and started on their march and got as far as the corner there where they met the police officers and did the shooting. Did you ever hear any story in your rounds that there was to be trouble on the 4th of July? I think that was spoken of here.

Mr. Albertson. Well, about the only one that I heard say anything definitely about that died of fright the day after the riot. That was the night porter at police head-

quarters. His name was Ed Wilson.

Mr. Foster. Was he a white man or a colored man?

Mr. Albertson. He was a colored man.

Mr. Foster. And he is dead.

Mr. Albertson. He lived in the same block in which Coppedge was killed, and he happened to be off that night.

Mr. Foster. Did you ever investigate that matter?

Mr. Albertson. I couldn't, because he died.

Mr. Foster. I know, but I thought maybe after he told you, you then investigated.

Mr. Albertson. No, I didn't pay much attention to it. That was Friday evening preceding the outbreak. He was standing in front of the station that evening, and he came up to me and spoke about something else first, and then he says, "Do you look for any trouble on the Fourth?" I says, "What do you mean?" He says, "I think we're going to have a little trouble." I says, "What are you getting at, Ed?" He says, "I don't know but I think we're going to have a little shooting." I says, "We always have a little shooting on the Fourth." He says, "Those niggers are coming out." I says, "No, I think they got enough of the first riot."

Mr. Foster. That was all you heard?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. So you didn't investigate it farther to ascertain whether there was any truth in it?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. Of course I believed it after what did occur had happened.

Mr. Foster. Do you know whether or not many of these homes, or most of them, were burned in this neighborhood where the church is located?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. There are very few whites living down there, and the remarkable feature of the riot was that the whites, considering the great numbers in the mob, were afraid to venture into what are the real neighborhoods occupied by negroes. That was practically untouched---the black belt. I don't believe there was a home fired down there, in drawing the district lines. I don't think there was one house touched.

Mr. Foster. You never went over there to see whether any of those houses had been shot into, did you? You haven't seen it since the riot, to see whether any of those houses have been shot into?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. You never looked that up?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. Judge Baker asked you about the different peace officers and about the United States Marshall. Is this the home of the United States Marshall?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; the district headquarters are in Danville. Mr. Stout, I think, resides there.

Mr. Foster. So he would have no occasion to be here?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. There was no term of court.

Mr. Foster. He is not a peace officer anyhow, is he?

Mr. Albertson. Not that I know of.

Mr. Baker. Now this bell ringer, or the man that reported the bell ringing, James Reedy.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Is Reedy still alive?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; I think he is, but his brother testified in the circuit court last week, and I

think he said that they had moved from 16th and Bosmenieu out to Washington Park. That is another section of the city.

Mr. Baker. What I wanted to get was how far was Reedy's place, where he telephoned that night, from where you folks met the negroes.

Mr. Albertson. About eight or nine blocks.

Mr. Baker. Which way was Reedy, do you know? Had the negroes passed Reedy's place?

Mr. Albertson. Well, taking it out Bond Avenue, it would be five blocks that way and about five south off of Bond on 16th.

Mr. Baker. How far was Reedy's place from where you met the negroes?

Mr. Albertson. It is almost half a mile.

Mr. Baker. Well, had the negroes passed his place?

Mr. Albertson. No, that wasn't the point. He had called and said they were gathering there. We were going there to find out why they were gathering, and in going there we had run into that organized body. That is the mystery, where did the organized body come from?

Mr. Baker. But how did Reedy know they were coming when they were five blocks down the other way from him?

Mr. Albertson. Well, as I understood, he didn't know anything about this body, wherever it came from. That was just negroes gathering at 16th and Bosmenieu.

Mr. Baker. But that church was pretty nearly a mile from Reedy.

Mr. Albertson. This place where we encountered this body of negroes has always been a negro neighborhood.

Mr. Baker. This was 10th and Bond where this occurred?

Mr. Albertson. Yes.

Mr. Baker. And from there to the negro church was almost a mile?

Mr. Albertson. No, just about half a mile, if it is that.

Mr. Baker. And from where Reedy telephoned and where you met the negroes coming, and they were coming towards---they were meeting you, in other words?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. would be four or five blocks? That's right isn't it?

Mr. Albertson. It would be more than that; eight or nine blocks.

Mr. Baker. Well now, when Reedy was eight or nine blocks away from these negroes, when he telephoned, how can you conceive that he knew what these negroes were doing? If you have heard or know anything about it I wish you would tell us.

Mr. Albertson. I have never been able to figure out myself. The question is, were the negroes that we encountered the same negroes that gathered at the church; or were they another body that had been mobilized down here on Bond Avenue and were going to that church?

Mr. Johnson. were they traveling towards the church?

Mr. Albertson. No, they were coming in the opposite direction. I later learned that they were going to the approach to the Free Bridge with the intention of shooting two or three white men who were employed at a gas filling station there, who had beaten up a negro earlier in the evening. This negro, it seems, was innocent of the charge that they accused him of.

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Mr. Johnson. What became of this band of armed negroes after these officers were shot and killed?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know. I never looked back. They kept firing for the entire distance of the block, and I decided I would rather be hit in the back than in the face.

Mr. Johnson. Did they continue to fire as you ran away in the automobile?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; they kept up volley after volley---just shooting at will. To show you the extent that some of them were armed---not saying that I saw any of them armed extensively in that mob---but the night preceding I was in the patrol wagon and went down to a call at 11th and Baker.

Mr. Johnson. What did you go down there for?

Mr. Albertson. Why, some nigger and his wife were having trouble. They sent the patrol wagon down there with a couple of policemen, and I just went down there with them, and when we were coming back there were two white men standing in the arc light and two negroes standing there near them, and as the patrol turned the corner and right into the negroes---two negroes---they started to ease away, and these two white men hollered, "Get those negroes; they're going to kill us." One of the patrolmen hopped off of the machine and grabbed one of the negroes and the chauffeur grabbed the other. The one that the chauffeur grabbed had two revolvers on him and 63 cartridges. They asked him what he was doing, and he said he was just out for a walk and had his "protection" along with him.

Mr. Johnson. Was the other negro armed?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; he had an automatic on him. That was the way the negroes were promenading around the South end for weeks and months prior to the riot.

Mr. Johnson. Did he have on any other jewelry besides the automatic? Did he have any extra cartridges?

Mr. Albertson. Well, they always carry a razor or a knife.

Mr. Johnson. Did this negro that was carrying the automatic have on any jewelry of that sort, a razor or a knife?

Mr. Albertson. I think he had a good knife.

Mr. Johnson. One had an automatic and a knife, and what did the other have?

Mr. Albertson. He had two revolvers and more than a box of cartridges, 50 to a box, and he had the two revolvers loaded all around. I think the records at police headquarters will show that. I remember he had 63 cartridges in all.

Mr. Johnson. Do you remember the size of those revolvers; what caliber they were?

Mr. Albertson. Well, they were the same caliber, because no doubt they were intended to use the same bullets.

Mr. Johnson. were they large caliber or small caliber--- or do you know?

Mr. Albertson. I think it was 38.

Mr. Cooper. What time of night was this?

Mr. Albertson. With reference to these two negroes?

Mr. Cooper Yes.

Mr. Albertson. That was around 11:30.

Mr. Cooper What day was it?

Mr. Albertson. On Saturday night preceding the riot.

Mr. Cooper. That was the last day of June.

Mr. Baker Now you went down with this automobile. What direction would you be going when you left the City Hall and just before you met the negroes? Would you be going east?

Mr Albertson. Yes.

Mr. Raker. Down Bond Avenue?

Mr. Albertson. Yes.

Mr. Raker. And between 10th and 11th street---that would be before you turned?

Mr. Albertson. Yes.

Mr. Baker. And then there is a break from Bond Avenue to 11th street. Is that right.

Mr. Albertson. A break?

Mr. Raker. Yes. In other words, Bond Avenue doesn't continue right on down does it?

Mr. Albertson. The break occurs between 10th and 11th, yes. The street chops off at 10th and runs fifty feet west, or south.

Mr. Baker You turn off of Bond Avenue and turn south fifty feet to 11th street?

Mr. Albertson. Well, if you are going east on Bond Avenue, when you get to 10th street you would have to turn on 10th and go on about fifty feet to get to the continuation of Bond.

Mr. Baker. Well, while you were riding on Bond you saw nothing?

Mr. Albertson. No. We went south on 10th street. There are no houses on 10th street from Broadway to Bond Avenue---or to within a block of Bond Avenue.

Mr. Baker. What I am trying to get definitely in my mind, you turned from 10th street to Bond, or from Bond to 10th?

Mr. Albertson. We turned from 10th into Bond.

Mr. Baker. You were riding on 10th street?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And the only light there was an arc light fifty feet behind where you turned?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. No lights ahead?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir. There was at 11th street, but that is too far away to give much light at 10th, where we turned.

Mr. Baker. And where were the negroes? On what street?

Mr. Albertson. They were on Bond Avenue, coming west.

Mr. Baker. And as you swung around the corner, simply the lights from your car showed the negroes?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Now one looking at the machine couldn't see who was in it, could they?

Mr. Albertson. I don't think so.

Mr. Baker. Well now, from your observation---I just want you to reflect a moment---from your observation, a machine swinging around like that, with the light that was there, it would be a practical impossibility to distinguish who was in the machine?

Mr. Albertson. I don't think they could have distinguished them, except---

Mr. Baker (interposing). Their faces would be practically dark?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and the Ford top is mighty low.

Mr. Baker. It was a dark night, was it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. The moon was not shining?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know as to that.

Mr. Baker. It was dark, so far as you remember?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and the lights on the machine were very poor, as they are on all Fords.

Mr. Foster. But you did stop and talk to them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, we came to a dead stop.

Mr. Johnson. And the negroes were told by the officers that they were officers and that their mission was to protect them if they needed protection, and in consequence need not take the law into their own hands; and the negroes understood it by replying that they didn't want any protection? That is correct isn't it?

Mr Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And as evidence of the fact that they did not want any protection they opened fire on the police and killed two of them?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Now after you got back to the police station and reported to the police station and reported to the police that two officers had been killed by this mob of negroes, did any of the rest of the police, or anybody else, go to where the band of negroes was for the purpose of either assaulting them or arresting those who had killed the policemen?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know as to that. I was out in the hospital for about an hour after the shooting occurred.

Mr. Johnson. Then you didn't go immediately back to the police station?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; I didn't go back there until about 1:30. That was about an hour and a quarter after the killing of the officers.

Mr. Johnson. Well, couldn't you tell, or didn't you hear at the station, whether anybody had gone to arrest them or not?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; I was more concerned in the killing itself and the manner in which it occurred. I was in great haste to get the story into my paper.

Mr. Johnson. Well, have you heard since whether or not the police did go back to this assemblage of negroes?

Mr. Albertson. No, because the negroes are said to have disbanded right away after firing into the machine.

Mr. Baker. Now you were coming on 10th street and turned into Bond Avenue at the rate of 15 or 20 miles an hour?

Mr. Albertson. I would say about 15 or 20.

Mr. Baker. At approximately what point did you stop from 10th, relative to turning into Bond?

Mr. Albertson. About 35 or 40 feet I guess from 10th street. A Ford has an unusually quick stop---slam on the brake and you've got your machine stopped.

Mr. Baker. Well, you came to practically a quick stop.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. You were facing the negroes now, in the dark?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. They were fronting the machine?

Mr. Albertson. Well, we swung around---we took the

far side of the street, and in doing so would have run into them if the chauffeur hadn't applied the brakes, and the negroes, most of them, to avoid being struck, eased up on the sidewalk and in that way swarmed around to the right side of the machine.

Mr. Baker. Which side of the machine were you on; on the side the negroes were on, or on the opposite side?

Mr. Albertson. No, sir; I was on the opposite side.

Mr. Baker. Now it was practically impossible to distinguish those men in that machine by anybody in front, wasn't it---or on the side?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly. I couldn't have pointed out anyone in the machine at that spot.

Mr. Baker. Now the machine came to a stop, and what was the first thing said?

Mr. Albertson. Coppedge says, "What's doing here, boys?" or "What's doing here?"---something to that effect, but he said it in a very affectionate way, because he realized the situation no doubt.

Mr. Baker. And someone hollered, "None of your damned business?"

Mr. Albertson. Yes, and he says, "Well, we're officers; we're here to protect all of you, the whites as well as the negroes---the negroes as well as the whites;" and another one hollered, "We don't need any of your damned protection. Move on; get out of here."

Mr. Baker. Then what was done?

Mr. Albertson. The chauffeur started up the machine. The engine was running yet.

Mr. Baker. Well, how long did it take from the time

~~time~~ the machine stopped until you started? I will change that question. How long was it between the time that the machine came to a stop until you started again?

Mr. Alberteon. I don't think more than half a minute. We were right into it and right out.

Mr. Baker. In other words, you were driving at the rate of 15 to 20 miles an hour and the chauffeur applied the brakes, and then just about as quick as he could throw on the power again, off you went?

Mr. Alberteon. Well, half a minute was a million years there. He stopped the machine and they were swarming around, and Coppedge says, "What's doing, boys?" someone hollered, "None of your damned business." He says, "Well, we're officers, here to protect you as well as the whites"---something to that effect. Then someone hollered "We don't need any of your damned protection. Drive on." Then he turned and gave the order. He could have said all that in half a minute. There was no time lost in parley there.

Mr. Baker. It was just on and off again.

Mr. Alberteon. That's correct.

Mr. Baker. Now, as a matter of fact, if marauders had gone through those negro quarters and had shot into the houses and terrorized those people, the way you people drove in in front of those negroes that night, irrespective of whether they were armed or not---and in the dark, without being able to see who was in the machine---isn't it reasonable to suppose they thought there was another gang of marauders coming there to kill them as well as destroy their property? Isn't it reasonable?

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Mr. Albertson. It is, but the policemen showed their stars.

Mr. Baker. Well now, how could a policeman show his star to a man in the dark, and the machine stopping and off again in half a minute? What could they see about a star in the dark?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know.

Mr. Johnson. It wasn't too dark for the negroes to hear what the officers said tothem was it?

Mr. Albertson. Sir?

Mr. Johnson. It wasn't too dark for the negroes to hear what the officers said to them, was it?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly not.

Mr. Baker. Well, it was impracticalbe for them to see the stars, was it?

Mr. Albertson. I don't know. I wasn't on that side, but I could see across the car and could see the two officers make the move.

Mr. Baker. But from your observation now, as a good clean, reasonable man, here is a man coming to you in the dark, even though the other man is facing a Ford machine, it would be an impracticability, if he threw his coat back like that, to see the star in the dark wouldn't it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Now what I am trying to get at is this, to have you give us information. Wouldn't it be the most natural thing on earth that if men did intend to go down there to molest those people again, they would say "We're officers of the law, and we're down here to protect you?" Let's treat both sides fair in this matter---and I know

you want to---isn't it now?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Baker. So it is just one of those unfortunate things---the negroes on one side were terrorized---that is a fact isn't it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. And they went to the extent that they were carrying guns and razors and everything else; and on the other side you have told us that law and order had been abandoned in this city.

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Baker. So it was a question who could meet the other one first. Is that about it?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. I figured the actual shooting itself was a matter of psychology. The negro is always referred to as "monkey see, monkey do" (laughter). One shot was fired and then came the volley. One shot started them all.

Mr. Cooper. What did you think about the white soldiers, five or six or seven, shooting a couple of negroes running out from a building, a burning building? Was that psychology? Was that "monkey does"---monkey whatever you call it? One fired a shot and the other five did the same thing? (Laughter). What is the difference between ruffians whether they are white or black? Is there any?

Mr. Albertson. I don't think so.

Mr. Cooper. That's all.

Mr. Johnson. How far away from the automobile was the man who fired ---the negro who fired the first shot at the officers?

Mr. Albertson. I don't really know, because I was down on the running board then, on the opposite side, and was just peering up enough to see one or two negroes heads.

Mr. Johnson. Well, give us your best judgment as to how far away the negroes were from the car when the first shots were fired.

Mr. Albertson. I don't think more than five or ten feet---ten feet at the most, because the machine was just pulling away and there was such a great number of negroes collected there that it couldn't have gone much farther than that.

Mr. Johnson. They were not more than five or ten feet from the car when they fired into the car and killed these officers?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And even if they couldn't see that the officers in the car were in uniform, they were told by the officers that they were officers?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir; and that they were there to protect them.

Mr. Johnson. And notwithstanding that, they opened fire on the car and killed two of the police men.

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. I just want to ask one or two other questions. I understand---which of course everybody admits to be true---that the officer Coppedge was a very fine man and a gentleman and very popular in this community. His death is greatly to be deplored, but in examining into the facts in this case we want, if possible, to put ourselves in the place not alone of officer Coppedge in that Ford car, in

civilian costume; with the top of the car up, and as you said very low; with no lights in the street, and the only light the lights of the machine---which prevented people in front of it from seeing who were in the machine---the night being so dark that you yourself here under oath have testified that you couldn't have recognized anybody in the machine---now take all those facts and these men armed on the street at that time of night; let us suppose that before that there had been an automobile down through there with white men in it and these men firing into the negro quarters---or into some negro houses---what would those negroes think? Wouldn't they think, "Is this another automobile around in the dark?" And they unable to see who was in it at that time of night---running 15 or 20 miles an hour---what would they think? What would you think if your house had been fired into?

Mr. Albertson. In that instance I would hold the same opinion.

Mr. Cooper. The same as the negroes did. That is, you would think that possibly this was another crowd coming down to shoot them up. Is that so?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir. You could figure out several things. Coppedge had killed two or three negroes in the discharge of his duty while he was in the police department, and when I got to thinking it over I figured that some of the negroes there recognized his voice, if they didn't recognize his face, and just decided to get him there.

Mr. Foster. Would you still think they were ruffians down there if they told you they were officers and were there to protect you, even though you could not see who they were?

Mr. Albertson. Well, I think I would take notice of

their word if they said they were officers.

Mr. Johnson. And if they were within five feet of them, don't you think that they could have seen the uniform of those officers?

Mr. Albertson. I remember one negro coming up and putting his hand on the top support right where Coppedge was.

Mr. Johnson. Before the shooting?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, and he intended no doubt to speak or say something, and when Coppedge says, "What's doing here, boys," one of them behind this negro hollered, "None of your damned business," so he stepped back. That was the last I saw of him but I couldn't make him out in the dark. I could just see his form there.

Mr. Johnson. In supposing the case that an automobile had gone through the negro district firing into the houses, and using that as a basis for the conduct of the negroes when they met the automobile, their action might have been, to some extent at least, justified in presuming that the automobile was the same automobile that had done the firing. Now if, on the other hand, we suppose the case that they were bound for the Free Bridge to attack some white man there, then their attack upnn that automobile would have been in furtherance of their lawless intention, would it not?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And both of these rumors you have heard; one rumor that they were out there because an automobile had gone though the street firing shots, and the other rumor was that they were bound for the Free Bridge to assault

some white man? You heard both of these rumors?

Mr. Albertson. Yes, I heard both of those.

Mr. Johnson. Now if both of these rumors were well founded, then it is impossible for you to determine upon which mission they were bent is it not?

Mr. Albertson. Certainly.

Mr. Johnson. Well, you may be excused. Call Mr. Childress.

STATEMENT OF L. W. CHILDRESS,

OF ST. LOUIS, MO., PRES. COLUMBIA TRANSFER CO.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson. Please give the stenographer your full name, place of residence and occupation.

Mr. Childress. L. W. Childress, St. Louis, Missouri, President of the Columbia Transfer Company.

Mr. Johnson. Mr. Childress, if you have either knowledge or information concerning the interruption or interference with interstate commerce, particularly bewteen the states of Missouri and Illinois, at any time during the year 1917, please relate it.

Mr. Childress. Well, business at East St. Louis was practically at a standstill during the week of the riot. None of the roads were receiving any out-bound business.

Mr. Johnson. You are speaking now of the July riot?

Mr. Childress. Yes, sir. None of the roads were receiving any out-bound merchandise, and some of them were not delivering any in-bound merchandise. Others were, but not up to normal capacity.

Mr. Johnson. Now if you know, either of your own knowledge or by hearsay, the cause of that condition, please

tell the Committee that.

Mr. Childress. The cause of it was the railroads were unable to get labor with which to handle the freight. They depended on negro labor for the handling of freight through the freight houses.

Mr. Johnson. And why were they not able to get negro labor?

Mr. Childres. It seems the niggers were afraid to appear on the streets in East St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson. It might be best for me to explain to you that this Committee will make written report to Congress, and with that report will go your testimony. You are correct in presuming that the Committee knows something about it, but this will be put in shape for those who may read it and who know nothing about it. Therefore do not take for granted that the knowledge which the Committee has of the situation is sufficient, but go ahead and set out the conditions for the benefit of those who may read this report, and not for us who are here.

Mr. Childress. Well, my recollection is that the riot occurred on Monday night, and none of the roads had any labor---and if any a small percentage of their normal force---at work during the remainder of that week. They begun receiving outbound freight on Monday following the riot, but in a number of instances---I can not detail the instances---embargoes were placed. The hours of closing the freight houses were changed, and some of the roads, I believe, brought labor from St. Louis under armed guards. Some of them brought them over in cars; some of them brought them over on the ferry boats,

and the labor was met at the levee by armed guards and conducted into the freight houses at which they were employed.

Mr. Johnson. Who were those guards, soldiers or police?

Mr. Childress. I think they were employees of the railroads. Either that or private detectives.

Mr. Johnson. And the freight was not being handled because of the mob of July second?

Mr. Childress. That is correct.

Mr. Johnson. On which day a number of negroes were killed here.

Mr. Childress. Well, it was probably three or four weeks before the railroads had a normal force at work and could take care of the business they customarily did under normal conditions. And even now they are closing an hour earlier than they formerly did.

Mr. Johnson. Where were you on the day of the riot?

Mr. Childress. I was at St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson. You didn't come over here?

Mr. Childress. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And you don't know the happenings of that day?

Mr. Childress. No, sir; I don't.

Mr. Baker. What were the companies affected by this, do you know?

Mr. Childress. Well, all of the teaming companies were affected. There are three transfer companies which handle probably 80 per cent of the less than car load business between St. Louis and East St. Louis. Those companies are

the St. Louis Transfer Company and the Fidelty Transfer Company.

Mr. Johnson. So practically the entire movement of business between St. Louis and East St. Louis---interstate business---was interrupted and delayed?

Mr. Childress. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Well, is this hour that they quit earlier now, is that added on to the morning hour?

Mr. Childress. No, sir. They chopped off an hour, and the explanation was that it was in order to get the labor away from the freight houses early, and get them to the bridge or the street cars or on the ferry boats before the white labor was dismissed from its employment---just keeping the whites and negroes separated in getting to their respective homes.

Mr. Baker. How is that now? The negroes quit anhour earlier than the white men?

Mr. Childress. Practically all of the labor at the freight depots except the clerks are negroes. The idea was to get them off the streets before the white men at the other places of employment were dismissed for the day, so that the negroes and the white laboring elements would not come in contact with each other. That was the theory of the earlier closing. Whether it has done that or not is a matter of speculation.

Mr. Baker. Are you somewhat familiar with the conditions here in East St. Louis---the business conditions?

Mr. Childress. You mean political conditions or business conditions?

Mr. Baker. No, I am speaking of business now.

Mr. Childress. No, we don't do any business in East St. Louis except to and from the railroad depots. Our teams don't get up into the business section of the town at all.

Mr. Baker. In other words, you are simply doing an interstate business.

Mr. Childress. We are simply doing an interstate business between St. Louis and East St. Louis.

Mr. Baker. Of course your interstate business doesn't consist entirely of shipments from St. Louis to East St. Louis that stop here?

Mr. Childress. No, none of them stop here. They are simply brought over here for transportation by the railroads.

Mr. Baker. That is a continuous trip is it? For instance, you take a bill of goods over in St. Louis, and they are billed for some point in Ohio. That one bill answers until they arrive at their destination?

Mr. Childress. No, the railroads rebill it at East St. Louis. We bill it to them and they use our ticket for rebilling purposes.

Mr. Baker. Well, it is the same price isn't it? You don't charge that on the rate do you?

Mr. Childress. No, the service that we perform is paid for by the railroad out of their rate.

Mr. Baker. What I was getting at is, if a man paid for his bill of goods of, say, 1000 pounds from East St. Louis to some point in Ohio, he would pay you and get your receipt for it?

Mr. Childress. Exactly, and he would exchange our receipt for a bill of lading at the railroad office.

Mr. Baker. And his goods would be delivered at the

particular point in Ohio, Pennsylvania or any other eastern point.

Mr. Childress. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. The direct and immediate cause of this interference with interstate commerce was the riot on July second?

Mr. Childress. Unquestionably.

Mr. Johnson. And the negroes were terrorized to the extent that they abandoned their work?

Mr. Childress. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And fled over to St. Louis?

Mr. Childress. Well, a great many came over there. I don't know whether East St. Louis was depopulated of its negro element or not, but a great many of them came to St. Louis. As a matter of fact there were about 2500 of them taken care of at the Municipal Loding House for several days.

Mr. Johnson. The Committee will take a recess until 1:30.

(Whereupon, at 12 o'clock noon the Committee recessed until 1:30 p.m. this day).

AFTER RECESS.

The Committee reassembled at 1:30 o'clock p.m., pursuant to recess.

Mr. Johnson. Mr. Boylan, will you take the stand please?

STATEMENT OF ROBERT J. BOYLAN,
717 North 25th Street, East St. Louis, Ill.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson. Mr. Boylan, please state your name, your residence and occupation.

Mr. Boylan. Robert J. Boylan, 717 North 25th Street,

East St. Louis; representative of the Globe Democrat in East St. Louis---reporter.

Mr. Johnson. I presume, Mr. Boylan, that you heard the statement made here today to the effect that the Globe Democrat contained an article telling about the "joy riding" automobile from which some shots were fired into negro houses?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Did you write that article?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know who did?

Mr. Boylan. I do not. I think I know who did, but I can't state positively.

Mr. Johnson. Whom do you think wrote it?

Mr. Boylan. I think it was J. Hixon Kinsella, who is now in an officers training camp at Fort Sheridan.

Mr. Cooper. Was he a reporter?

Mr. Boylan. He was a reporter for the Globe. He was one of the men sent over here to help me during the riot. I called up Mr. Stokes, another man who was over here, and he said he didn't write it, so I think that puts it up to Kinsella.

Mr. Johnson. Have you any records or anything that will refresh your memory and show you who wrote it?

Mr. Boylan. I had a few days ago some copies of the riot papers in the office. I find they are missing. I have, however, in the last twenty minutes telephoned over to the office and asked them if they had copies of the July 2nd, 3rd and 4th papers. They said they had. I told them to lay them aside for me, so they will be available

as soon as I can go over to St. Louis and get them.

Mr. Johnson. Mr. Boylan, if you can give us any information concerning the riot, particularly the one of July 2nd, we would be glad to have it. Were you here on that day?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes.

Mr. Johnson. Tell us, please, what you saw.

Mr. Boylan. Well, I was wondering where to begin on this thing.

Mr. Johnson. well, tell us something about the conduct of the soldiery on that day.

Mr. Boylan. It was very bad.

Mr. Johnson. Now tell us in what way it was bad.

Mr. Boylan. The first time I saw the soldiers---you see the morning of July 2nd, we worked very late that night and I went home and came back here, arriving about 9:30.

Mr. Johnson. When?

Mr. Boylan. The morning of July 2nd. I saw soldiers at the bank corner over there---Collinsville and Missouri Avenue. These soldiers were standing around, apparently without any adequate knowledge of why they were here, and I can give you a little hearsay---I can tell you a man that you may call, that is Paul Schlafly of the Union Trust and Savings Bank. I understand that Mr. Schlafly, about the time that I came along there---or a little earlier---

Mr. Cooper (interposing). About what time was that?

Mr. Boylan. 9:30 when I came by---probably about 9 o'clock. The company from Shelbyville was the first to arrive.

Mr. Johnson. What state?

Mr. Boylan. Illinois. It has been stated to you by

other witnesses that the company from Effingham was the first in. My information is that the company from Shelbyville was the first by about 35 minutes. I understand that Mr. Schlafly went out and said to the soldiers---the first ones he saw---"I'm very glad to see you," and the soldier said, "Yes, I think I ought to be able to get a few of these niggers before night." Now I am just simply giving you the name of this man.

Mr. Johnson. Did you hear the name of that soldier?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know whether Mr. Schlafly appeared before the military inquiry?

Mr. Boylan. I don't think he did.

Mr. Johnson. Did you recite this incident to them?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I think I did, although I wouldn't state positively, because my understanding is the military inquiry was based upon what you knew. It wasn't as broad as this inquiry, which allows you to state what you have heard. So I rather doubt whether I did detail that thing to the military inquiry.

Mr. Johnson. Did you go so far as to tell them about Mr. Schlafly? Did you tell them that he had knowledge?

Mr. Boylan. I don't think so. I have no way of telling you definitely whether I did or not. For the reasons stated, I don't suppose I went outside of my personal knowledge. I was up and down Collinsville Avenue that day. I went up to the stock yards district soon after I came down to my office and saw the rioting everywhere. A young man and a boy jumped on the car I was on and wanted to know if there was "any niggers" there.

Mr. Johnson. Did you know either of them?

Mr. Boylan. No. They jumped off and I said to the conductor, "Why do you allow that?" He says, "What can I do?" I says,"You're as much a policeman as anybody, as much as a police officer in the State of Illinois." According to our state law the conductor of a street car has police powers on his car to make arrests. Well, he said he wasn't going to get mixed up in it. We went on up to St. Clair Avenue, and the crowds were running like boys chasing rabbits. I went down towards the packing house district, walking, and the first open villation that I saw---well, they were chasing a negro back into the yard and I didn't follow them. I went down there and there were some women dressed in silk stockings and kimonos, with last night's paint still unwashed on their cheeks, chasing negro women.

Mr. Johnson. Evidently prostitutes?

Mr. Boylan. I suppose so. That was the impression I got. They were chasing a nigger woman that had a little boy by the hand. She dragged the little boy as she ran, and finally the little boy couldn't keep up, and she grabbed him in her arms and ran into a shanty. These women stood about and threw chunks of coal at the shanty. ~~and~~ They went ~~off~~ down the right of way of the railroad track there and picked up coal.

I came back down town, and as I was going down Collinsville Avenue toward the Southern Illinois National Bank there was a negro lying in the street.

Mr. Johnson. If you stated what became of the negro woman with the little boy I didn't catch it.

Mr. Boylan. She took refuge in a shanty. When I left there the women were throwing chunks of coal at the shanty. None of them I think hit the shanty.

Mr. Johnson. Was the pursuit abandoned there?

Mr. Boylan. I didn't want to see the result.

Mr. Johnson. But you did not see any violence done there?

Mr. Boylan. No. The nigger I saw on Collinsville Avenue was below Division Avenue, between Division and Broadway, pretty nearly opposite the street car company's office, which is No. 10, I think, Collinsville, Avenue. He was lying in the street, and an ambulance man---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). Was he dead?

Mr. Boylan. No, he had been shot and had been beaten. He was lying there and evidently had been there for some minutes, because the ambulance drove up---ran by him. As I was going down there, there was some rioters ran by me and pushed the soldier aside---there was a soldier walking right ahead of me, and they just pushed him aside. He didn't resent it at all, and they went on down where this negro was being loaded into the ambulance. The nigger was unconscious. I don't know whether he was dying or not, but one of the rioters ran up and struck him in the face while the man was putting him in the ambulance.

Mr. Johnson. What did he strike him with?

Mr. Boylan. With his fist.

Mr. Johnson. Did you know the man who struck him?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir. I went over to St. Louis because there was a notice issued that the street cars would stop running at 6 o'clock. So I got up what copy I could, as much as I could write of the situation, and took it

over and came back. 1 left it at the west end of the bridge for an office bo·· to come down and get it. When 1 went over, the fires had started along Cahokia Creek in some nigger shacks. When 1 came back a little after 6 the riot was in full swing on Broadway, 1 was there when they dragged a negro from 4th street, 1 think, just off from Broadway---or the corner of 4th and Broadway. They came dragging a negro down the street there.

Mr. Johnson.. Dragging him by his clothes or by what?

Mr. Boylan. By a rope around his neck.

Mr. Johnson. Was he walking?

Mr. Boylan. Oh no, he was prostrate.

Mr. Johnson. He was prostrate on the ground and they were dragging him?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. And there was a negro hanging from a telegraph pole just below Broadway on 4th, and several bodies of negroes were lying around in the gutter.

Mr. Johnson. Did you know anybody who was dragging this negro?

Mr. Boylan. 1 did not, no sir; and some army officer or soldiers jumped in there and stopped this performance of dragging the negro and loosened the end of the rope, and the negro was assisted over to the steps of Bader's Drug Store.

Mr. Johnson. Did he get up after that?

Mr. Boylan. No, not when 1 saw him. 1 last saw him there and he was sitting on the steps of Bader's Drug Store with his head down. 1 thought the negro would recover but 1 understand that he died afterwards.

Mr. Johnson. Was he shot?

Mr. Boylan. Yes. Now the talk of riot in East St. Louis was general before May 28th. I have over in my office a copy of the local paper here, the East St. Louis Journal, of Thursday, May 24th, which has as the leading article in the paper---big two-column headlines---"Whites and Negroes Stage Race Riot." It goes on to detail some trouble that had occurred the previous evening---that would be Wednesday, the 23rd---how the negroes in the south end and the negroes in the north end had been in personal conflict. It detailed the arrests that were made, and so forth, and attributed the trouble to recent immigration.

Mr. Johnson. Immigration of negroes?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. I had occasion to go into that question of immigration a year ago at this time---or a little earlier perhaps. It was charged that the republican party was importing a large number of negroes into East St. Louis for the purpose of voting them. We have here six negro detectives, all of them above the average in intelligence, and three or four of them are exceptionally bright fellows and good officers. I asked them at their leisure to look into this matter and let me know. I wanted the facts in the case. They reported back to me in two or three days that there was no influx of negroes except that which could be attributed to natural causes of supply and demand of labor. The bringing of negroes into St. Clair County, Illinois, would be like importing democrats into Arkansas. The county is 1400 republican anyway. Illinois normally is largely republican, so the theory that they were brought in here to colonize them didn't appear to have any truth in it.

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A little over a year ago the Aluminum people had a little strike that lasted, I think, two days. The men wanted eight hours and they were given eight hours, and I think some increase in wages, but I am not sure about that. Their working conditions are the best in America; so said by social experts who are investigating this thing. They had a tremenduous big commissary there where they sold their employees food for their families, and so forth, at cost prices. They organized a mutual benefit association among the employees, which had the sanction---or tacit sanction---of the management. They made no effort to interfere with it. Along in April this Mutual Benefit Association decided they wanted to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor. They wanted to be recognized, and that was what caused the strike in April.

Mr. Johnson. The demand of recognition of the Union?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. They had no union; They had a Mutual Benefit Association which was not affiliated with anything, but the idea seemed to be that they wanted to put it in a position so as to be a part of the big union labor machine, which the Company did not approve of. Then when these men walked out---I think the Aluminum employed 2100 men, and probably 1400 walked out---something like that. Then the Aluminum Company began bringing in negroes, and then the strikers appealed for public sympathy by saying, "Our jobs have been given to the niggers. The niggers have got our jobs." That led up to---they had several meetings. The Aluminum Company refused to recognize them; refused to admit there was any strike,

and juet went to work filling their places.

Mr. Johnson. Was there a strike in any one of the packing companies in 1917?

Mr. Boylan. Not that 1 know of.

Mr. Johnson. well, you would have known it, wouldn't you?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Then you can say there was none?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. The Aluminum people held several paradee. They came down town, 1 suppose 700 to 1000 strong---the Aluminum Ore employees---and finally they held meetings at frequent intervals, generally in the City Hall auditorium. They had Moyer here.

Mr. Johnson. Who is he?

Mr. Boylan. He is the labor leader, 1 think of the miners organization in the West---Moyer, Heywood, Petty-bone, Harry Orchard---all those people. Harry Orchard is now in the penitentiary in Idaho for killing the Governor of Idaho.

well, Mr. Moyer was here, and Ex-Congreeeman Patrick Gill of St. Louis. They tried to act as conciliators.

Mr. Johnson. Gill is the glass blower isn't he?

Mr. Boylan. 1 don't think so. 1 am not certain. He is a union labor man, but just what branch 1 don't know. He was in Congress. He defeated Catlin, Ephraim Catlin. He won a contest from him. They were over here and made efforts to settle this thing, but the Aluminum Company said there was nothing to settle. They said there was nothing to settle and that their employment bureau ~~employment bu-~~ reau employed such men at the gate as they could get or

needed, without any regard whatever to where they worked before or whether they had any union affiliations or didn't have.

Mr. Johnson. Strictly open shop.

Mr. Boylan. Strictly open shop, yes. The last meeting that I know of of the Aluminum workers---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). Did Moyer or anybody else address these people on that occasion?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. Moyer made a speech in the City Hall auditorium one time---the date I don't know, but it was late in June, I think.

Mr. Johnson. Of this year?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Did you hear his speech?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Was it inflammatory?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; it was conciliatory. I think Mr. Gill made a speech at the same time, and one or two other labor men. There was nothing inflammatory about them.

Mr. Johnson. What was the character of Mr. Gill's speech?

Mr Boylan. It was conciliatory, very hopeful---hoped they would be able to get together and settle everything up. Both of them counseled moderation and insisted upon absence of violence upon the part of the strikers. The Aluminum Ore people wanted to talk with the Mayor and City Council. I think they intended to have representatives of each branch of union labor in East St. Louis attend, and I don't think it was intended that there should be

over eighty people there. They made the arrangement to meet with the City Council on Monday night, which is Council meeting night. They were going to meet them before they went into session.

Mr. Johnson. Do you remember what day in June this was, that Moyer and Gill spoke?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I can get the date for you.

Mr. Johnson. To refresh your memory, do you remember whether it was on the 14th of June or not?

Mr. Boylan. I wouldn't be able to tellif you mentioned the date. In some way there was a misunderstanding. They thought it would be a mass meeting of the Aluminum Ore strikers, so instead of being a committee there to meet the Mayor and the City Council, there was a crowd of 1000 or 1200 people, men and women, so instead of meeting in the council chamber they went on up stairs where there was plenty of room, and it was at that meeting that speeches were made by Alexander Flannigan and by Jerry J. Kane and others. I didn't hear Mr. Flannigan's speech, but I heard a part of Mr. Kane's speech.

Mr. Johnson. What was the character of that.

Mr. Boylan. It was inflammatory.

Mr. Johnson. In what way and to what extent?

Mr. Boylan. Well, he told them that the street car company here had imported a lot of negroes; he referred to different packing plants that had imported them, and the general tone of his speech was not inclined to preserve law and order, but rather to excite the hatred of his auditors against these companies.

Mr. Johnson. The negroes included? You say against

the companies.

Mr. Boylan. Against industries that were hiring negroes.

Mr. Johnson. Did his speech tend also to arouse race prejudice against the negroes?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; that is the way I took it. I didn't hear all of it. He got to the point where he said that the labbring men need not expect any fair treatment from the metropolitan papers of St. Louis; that they were all controlled by the big industries and that nobody would give them a fair show; that anything the laboring man had to say would never be printed, while that which the big industries had to say would be prominently displayed, or something to that effect. Well, there was a nice convenient door to go down the back stairs, and I left at that time. I didn't care to hear any more of that kind of a speech.

Mr. Johnson. You had no instructions except to just report the truth, did you?

Mr. Boylan. Oh no, the Globe Democrat is too big for that. The City Council went down into the council chamber and began a session which lasted, I think---I went down ten or fifteen minutes ahead of them---they came down and opened a session which lasted less than ten minutes. Then a tremenduous cry went up from the street---a mob cry---and I don't bhink the Council ever adjourned. They just left in a hurry to see what was going on. They found 1000 people on Main Street in front of the City Hall, in front of the Police Station---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). They hadn't heard these

epeeches had they?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, they had heard theee epeeches, and had come down etairs and gone out to hunt themeelvee a nigger.

Mr. Johneon. How many people were in thie hall during theee epeeches?

Mr. Boylan. 1 ehould think 1200.

Mr. Johneon. 1 was juet undertaking to aecertain the capacity of the hall.

Mr. Boylan. The capacity of the hall ie more than that. There might have 1200 or 1500---a big crowd. We ran down from the council chamber and found that they had tried to get a nigger over at the corner, by the Illinoie State Bank. The nigger had been taken away from them and taken to the police etation.

Mr. Johneon. Who took him away from them?

Mr. Boylan. A policeman brought him over to the police etation. Mayor Mollman etood on the front eteps of the police etation---the eituation was very critical. We etood there, Mr. Jimmereon, myeelf and one or two otherе etood behind the Mayor. The police were buey. We etood behind the Mayor to do what we could to prevent any concerted rueh to get into the etation. The negro was in there. The Mayor aeked the people to go home and behave themeelvee and leave it to the police; that they would do the beet they could; that there wouldn't be any diaorder if they could prevent it.

Mr. Johneon. Was he doing that perfunctorily, or was he evidently eincere?

Mr. Boylan. Abeolutely eincere. He was talking the

best he could to an open air crowd. He started talking to 700 people, and I think in five minutes he had 1500. They just came running from all directions. He then talked with some of us around there about the prospect of trouble the next day, and I know he asked me what I thought about it. I told him I thought there would be trouble, and I assisted the Mayor in working the long distance telephone to Chicago and Springfield.

Mr. Johnson. What time of night was that?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I think that was, well, say 10 o'clock.

Mr. Johnson. On Sunday night?

Mr. Boylan. No, that was Monday night, the night the council met. I put in some calls. The best evidence of that would be the long distance records of the Bell and Kinloch Telephone Companies, which may be obtained by asking, showing just what calls went in from my 'phone and just what calls went in from the Mayor's 'phone. I don't know as it will show the calls on my 'phone, because I put in the calls on my 'phone, to come back on the Mayor's 'phone. I called General Barry at Chicago; I called the headquarters of the Central District, and I think I called Mr. Sutton, Governor Lowden's secretary---that is my personal recollection of it---to have the answer come back on the Mayor's 'phone. I was doing that to help him out.

Mr. Johnson. What was the substance of your call?

Mr. Boylan. Simply that a state of riot existed in East St. Louis and that the Mayor wished to speak to them on that subject; to have Mr. Sutton; to have Adjutant General Dickson; to have Governor Lowden; to have General

Thomas Barry, or to have the Central District Headquarters---whoever might answer the 'phone---answer on the other 'phone.

Mr. Johnson. The object was to get the soldiers here?

Mr. Boylan. To get the soldiers here, yes, and they came. They were here the next morning. I don't think they were here much before noon. I have forgotten about that.

Mr. Johnson. What was the date of that now, that you are speaking of?

Mr. Boylan. That would be---the riot formed on the 28th, and the soldiers arrived on the 29th.

Mr. Johnson. Of May?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. They were here for three or four weeks under command of Colonel Clayton. They took one company, Captain Smith's company, up to the National Stock Yards and quartered them in the National Hotel. The other companies were for the most part quarterd in the City Hall auditorium and City Hall Park, and they did police duty---very efficient police duty I thought. They were here from the 28th of May---well, fully three weeks before the last of them left.

At the time of the July 2nd business I was in the station playing cards with Coppedge when the call came in.

Mr. Johnson. When the call came in to answer the assembling of the negroes in response to the ringing of the church bell? Is that the one you mean?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. Coppedge and Wodley, his walking partner---Coppedge was a detective sergeant and Wodley was a detective. They came in regularly right on

the minute at midnight, unless they were detained somewhere: we used to sit around there until 1:30 and all went home on the same car, the owl car. Coppedge and I were in the habit of playing rum. He came in that night and we started to playing rum. He came in at 12 o'clock, and we had just finished the second game when the call came.

Mr. Johnson. Who answered the call; did he or did you?

Mr. Boylan. No, the call came in the telephone room, which adjoins the room we were sitting in. The call came and was reported to the night chief, and the night chief says, "Get out there and see what's going on." I followed Coppedge out to the machine but there were six people in it, so I didn't go---for which I am very thankful.

They drove away, and Alberteon, the Republic man, it seems to me that---they left at ten minutes past 12, and I am quite sure that in less than fifteen minutes after that time we had a call back from Alberteon, telephoning from a fire engine house that Coppedge was dead and Wodley was dying.

Mr. Johnson. Had you heard the shots?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Johnson. What was the distance away?

Mr. Boylan. The distance would be ten or fifteen blocks---three-quarters of a mile or more.

Mr. Johnson. You were in the house?

Mr. Boylan. I was inside, yes, when we got the call---got the information. Then they began calling in the policemen, all they could get hold of, by telephone. The general impression around the station at the start was---after the first information of this killing---that the negroes

might come on down to the station. That was my impression, that they were headed for somewhere and probably for the station. We had the same information fifteen minutes after the shooting that you have heard here from Mr. Alberteon. The story was the same, that a mob of perhaps 150 negroes, armed with everything in the way of portable firearms, was coming. Well, we all stuck pretty close to the station till the policemen came in, and instead of being chased out to look for this mob they were hanging around the station to protect the station.

The Mayor came down---and my remembrance of the time the Mayor arrived doesn't agree with other witnesses. They say he got there at 1:30. I think Alberteon got there earlier than he thinks he did, because I met the Mayor out in front of the Police station, between there and the Fire Department, and he says, "Looks awful bad don't it?" I says, "Yes." He says, "Do you think we're going to have trouble?" I says, "Yes, but you had better talk to Roy."

Mr. Johnson. Who is "Roy"?

Mr. Boylan. Roy Alberteon. I says, "Alberteon was in the machine and got first-hand information, and he can tell you better than I can, but it looks bad to me." Roy says to the Mayor, "As quick as these morning papers get on the streets in East St. Louis you're going to have trouble. As quick as people find Coppedge has been killed and Wodley dying and two other policemen shot, there's going to be trouble around here. You had better get the troops"---or something to that effect. I says, "All right, Mr. Mayor, come on over to my office where

you can be quiet, and we'll work the telephones." "Well," he says, "I might as well go to my own office." Which was true. There was nobody in the City Hall at that time, and at that time I gave the Mayor some information, and I think made some calls for him. For instance, I told him if he failed to get Governor Lowden, to ask for Sutton---that's his secretary---and I gave him, I think, the name of General Barry, which he had for the moment forgotten. And I think I gave him the number to call up Major Kavanaugh, who was in command of the federalized troops. He had a lot of troops here, very efficient troops, but they couldn't do anything but protect Government property, according to his interpretation of his orders, and unless these troops were put into action by the federal authorities, headed by General Barry in Chicago, he could do nothing. He had Major Kavanaugh on the 'phone, and I remember the request was made to General Barry to talk direct with Major Kavanaugh in giving those orders--- that is, providing they could get hold of General Barry--- and there is another instance in which your best evidence is the long distance records of the telephone company. They will show what was done and when it was done. I suppose they keep an accurate record---began talking at 12:03, for instance, and stopped at 12:07. That is the basis of their charges.

The troops were in town the next morning. I saw them at 9:30. They must have been in about 9 o'clock, because they had detrained and were walking the streets when I came down at 9:30. Colonel Tripp was here. Colonel Tripp had arrived about that time.

Mr. Johnson. Tell us about Colonel Tripp's management of the soldiers on that day.

Mr. Boylan. I wouldn't designate Colonel Tripp's connection with the soldiers by using the term "management."

Mr. Johnson. Then if "mis-management" suits it better, tell us about that.

Mr. Boylan. Yes. Colonel Tripp was not in uniform. He wore an ordinary business suit and was one of the most lady-like officers I ever saw (laughter). He was a perfect gentleman, so far as he talked with me, but the soldiers had to be told, they had to be pointed out, just as Colonel Tripp did. I saw him daily when he was here, several times a day, and I never saw him with any insignia of his rank. He wore a dark gray business suit.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know or surmise any reason for his being so clad?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know that he ever had a uniform, unless he wore one at the Governor's reception, possibly. He might have a full dress uniform. He was a man whose specialty was clerical work. I think he was detailed as quartermaster, which is very largely a clerical job you know---unless they are building barracks or cantonments or something of that sort. I have it from the---this is not personal information---but the scene up there in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms indicates the position of Colonel Tripp. Mayor Mollman told me the morning of the 2nd, he says, "I'm going to have to have them declare martial law." I don't think the Mayor liked the idea very much but he saw the necessity of it. To make the thing formal he wrote out a letter to Colonel Tripp---

let me see---yes, to Colonel Tripp.

Mr. Johnson. Colonel Tripp was then here in town?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir---asking him to take charge of the situation and have martial law declared. They went up into the Chamber of Commerce---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). Who did?

Mr. Boylan. 50 or 60 business men, Mayor Mollman, Colonel Tripp and others. The press was excluded. I have it from excellent authority that the scene up there was that they got Governor Lowden on the telephone, and Colonel Tripp said to him that he had the situation well in hand. They Mayor says, "Just a minute, let me talk to the Governor." He talked to the Governor and told him the situation was not in hand and that he wanted martial law declared.

Mr. Johnson. What time of day was that?

Mr. Boylan. That, I should think, was between 10 and 11. Then Colonel took the 'phone again and says, "Its all right; the situation is well in hand.

Mr. Johnson. He didn't say in whose hand did he?

Mr. Boylan. No. My information is that the Mayor again took the 'phone and repeated what he had said before. They each had two innings at the 'phone, Colonel Tripp telling the Governor the situation was well in hand, and Mayor Mollman telling him he wanted martial law declared.

Colonel Clayton, who handled the May riot here for three weeks, was not in a position to do anything.

Mr. Johnson. Why?

Mr. Boylan. He was second in command to Colonel Tripp.

Colonel Tripp seemed to have the moral suasion idea of handling the thing.

Mr. Johnson. In the meantime the killing was going on?

Mr. Boylan. I testified before the board of military inquiry the same as I have testified here. They asked me when the turn took place toward law and order. I told them when Colonel Clayton took some soldiers down on Broadway and rounded up 198 of the rioters and marched them in a hollow square formation up to the Police Station and put them in the bull ring down stairs. I think he had 200 and something, probably. A few got away when they got to the Station, but at any rate they booked 198 of them.

Mr. Johnson. Where was Colonel Tripp at the time?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know where the Colonel was. I know Lieutenant Colonel Clayton brought that bunch in. He marched them in, and they came in too. He brought in 198 of them and that broke the backbone of the riot. After that it was guerrilla warfare.

Mr. Johnson. What time did he put those in?

Mr. Boylan. I'm sorry that I can't tell you definitely, but it seems to me about half past 7 or 8 would be about the time.

Mr. Johnson. On the night of the 2nd?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir while the fire was going on. There were fires everywhere,; fires in the south end; fires straight south of this building, within a block and a half, and fires over in this direction (east). That was the turning point of the riot. Our troubles were practically over then. Of course it continued for several

days afterwards.

Mr. Johnson. Before we go farther, what did you call that military board of inquiry?

Mr. Boylan. That is the proper name for it.

Mr. Johnson. Did that board impress you with a real anxious earnestness to get into the conduct of Colonel Tripp?

Mr. Boylan. No, I don't think that I had occasion to say much about Colonel Tripp. I told what Colonel Clayton did, but I don't recall that I told what Colonel Tripp didn't do.

Mr. Johnson. Did they give you an opportunity for it, or was it for lack of opportunity?

Mr. Boylan. No, I was only before that board a very few minutes.

Mr. Johnson. Was your stay cut short by your restlessness to get out, or by their apparent unwillingness to have you stay longer?

Mr. Boylan. I don't think either one. They asked me a few questions and I answered them, and they said, "That's all," and I walked away.

Mr. Johnson. Did they quiz you about whether or not soldiers shot down negroes on that day or not?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. They didn't ask any questions about that?

Mr. Boylan. No. I told them about an instance of the mob running by me and pushing a soldier aside, going down to where the latest excitement was. The mob would run one way and back, and then back the other way, and just back and forth.

Mr. Johnson. Surging back and forth?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. They didn't go into the question while you were on the witness stant as to whether or not the soldiers had participated in mob violence?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir. Now I don't know that there is anything more that I could add.

Mr. Cooper. You say that on the day of the 2nd you saw a negro hung, or being hanged?

Mr. Boylan. I saw him after he was hung, hanging from the cross arm of a telegraph pole, or telephone pole.

Mr. Cooper. What time of the day was that?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I think about 7 o'clock.

Mr. Cooper. In the morning?

Mr. Boylan. No, in the evening.

Mr. Cooper. Well, how long before that was it that on the same street you saw this negro beaten till he was unconscious, lying in the street?

Mr. Boylan That is at the same time.

Mr. Cooper. Well, that is the one they were dragging with the rope around his neck?

Mr. Boylan. The one hanging to the telegraph pole?

Mr. Cooper. No, the other one on the ground.

Mr. Boylan. yes.

Mr. Cooper. That is the one they were dragging with the rope around his neck?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. He was unconscious on the ground. They shot him, did they, too, afterwards?

Mr. Boylan. Well, there was blood---it looked like a wound on his head. I don't know whether he was shot or not.

Mr. Cooper. You heard afterwards that he died?

Mr. Boylan. Yes. That is the same negro Mr. Anderson referred to on the stand, but the negro was not unconscious, because he sat on the steps of the drug store and was conscious. I know I thought I would go up and ask him his name, but the negro seemed to be suffering so intensely that I didn't bother him. I thought I would get the name somewhere else.

Mr. Cooper. He showed he was in great pain?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Cooper. Whereabouts, on what street and near what cross street was the body of the negro hanging to the telegraph pole?

Mr. Boylan. At the corner of 4th and Broadway; probably 60 feet south of that corner on 4th street. On the east side of the street is an alley---well, might be 100 feet south---there is an alley, and at the corner of that alley there is a telegraph pole over on that side (east), and he was hanging there.

Mr. Cooper. The body was already hanging when you got there?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. In reply to a question of the Chairman you said that in your judgment the soldiers did not do their duty---at least some of them did not---they did far from it. What did you see any of them do or attempt to do which indicated that they were not here to put down or did not want to put down the riot?

Mr. Boylan. Well, there was a general laxity. I guess I was a severe critic of the militia, because I put in

seven years in the 7th and 8th Cavalry, U. S. Army. My idea of a soldier is a fellow who goes right ahead and attends to his business, and I haven't got a tremenduous lot of patience with a militia man that stands around and don't know exactly what he is going to do next.

Mr. Cooper. While this killing was going on did you see a militiaman near enough to be seen---

Mr. Boylan (interposing). I didn't see any killing.

Mr. Cooper (continuing) ---while this killing was going on?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, there were plenty of soldiers standing around there, but they weren't doing anything.

Mr. Cooper. They weren't trying to disperse the rioters or save the victims of the assaults?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; not until---until Lieutenant Colonel Clayton took personal command. He arrested some man---personally arrested some man on Broadway.

Mr. Cooper. Colonel Clayton assumed control at the very height of the riot didn't he? About that time?

Mr. Boylan. He didn't assume control at all. That was not it, Mr. Cooper. He was detailed to go down to Broadway and restore order. He was never in control. Colonel Tripp was always over him. He was simply executing an order given to him by Colonel Tripp.

Mr. Cooper. It was the most difficult and exciting period in the riot, was it not?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; that was the turning point.

Mr. Cooper. That was the turning point. And he had how many soldiers?

Mr. Boylan. I think he must have had about 200.

Mr. Cooper. He took 200 soldiers and rounded up 198 rioters?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. And marched them to the Station and broke the back bone of the riot?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. I should judge he had 200 for the formation he had.

Mr. Cooper. In your judgment, could Colonel Tripp have done that earlier in the day and prevented some of this mobbing and killing?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I don't think Colonel Tripp could have done anything.

Mr. Johnson. If he had had sufficient backbone he could have done it, couldn't he?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes.

Mr. Cooper. That is what I mean. He had the opportunity to do it?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Cooper. Do you think Colonel Clayton could have done it earlier in the day if he had had the authority?

Mr. Boylan. If Colonel Tripp had had the good judgment to go over to the Jefferson Hotel and taken dinner with somebody, and left Colonel Clayton in command, there would have been no riot.

Mr. Cooper. Colonel Tripp was not in uniform?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. He was dressed in a gray business suit?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. And he telephoned to the Governor that he had the situation well in hand when he didn't have it

in hand at all.

Mr. Boylan. That is hearsay information, Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Cooper. But if he did telephone that to the Governor at that time, in your judgment it was not in accordance with the facts?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. At no time during that day did Colonel Tripp have anything in control, did he, so far as suppression of that riot is concerned.

Mr. Boylan. Nothing but his temper. He was always affable.

Mr. Cooper. You said a little while ago that he was a very "lady-like" officer. You mean very polite?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Inoffensive.

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. What became of that 189 men that were put in this hollow square and taken over to the police headquarters?

Mr. Boylan. 198. They were kept there---they were put in there, well, say half past 7 or 8, I think I testified. They were put in there and they weren't booked for two or three hours. In fact, they weren't booked till after midnight, on account of the rush around the station. Then they were held there until the next afternoon about 2 or 3 o'clock, when they were taken out and charges preferred against them by the military authorities principally. I think Colonel Clayton had charge of that. They charged them with rioting, conspiracy. They also had some in there that they charged with arson, and a good

many of them were allowed to give bond and did give bond and were taken before Justice Clark and Justice Eggmann across the street. It was Justice Eggmann's week, but on account of the rush they divided it up.

Mr. Baker. What do you mean by "Justice Eggmann's week?"

Mr. Boylan. They have a system here of assigning the Police Court business to the Justices in rotation. For instance, Justice Eggman will take it this week, and he is supposed to be on duty during the evening, as a matter of convenience to the public and to the Police. Next week perhaps Justice Kane will have it, and during that particular week the Police Court cases will go to that particular man, next week to the next man, and so on. It is merely a matter of convenience for the Justices and the Police.

Mr. Baker. Now what became of those people?

Mr. Boylan. A great many of them were released on bond and a record was made of their names, addresses and so forth, on the Police blotter. A few of them were held, and I think of those few that were held, most of them have been sent to the county jail at Belleville. The best evidence on that, however, is the Police Court record.

Mr. Baker. Yes, we will get into that later. I just wanted the general idea of what became of them. That is the first that has come up in the inquiry yet as to this little bevvy taken down there.

Mr. Boylan. They were kept in the bull ring, very much crowded, and didn't have anything to eat until the afternoon of the next day, when somebody ordered a lot of

sandwiches and coffee for them.

Mr. Baker. Of course the record is there, but I want to ask you this: were these men all booked by their true names, as near as you could understand?

Mr. Boylan. Well, they are booked by the names they gave.

Mr. Baker. Did they book them all?

Mr. Boylan. I think so.

Mr. Baker. They started with more than 198 but some broke loose?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I think some broke loose when they were jammed up in the door of the Police Station, getting in there. I think some of them side-stepped. I know there was a janitor of a building across the street there; I saw him being marched in there, and later in the evening I saw him walking around. I didn't ask him how he escaped. And the father of Detective Frank Wodley was brought in, but somebody thought that possibly he had an excuse for being excited, and his boy was dying up at the hospital.

Mr. Johnson. His son had just been wounded?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. He was brought in in the square but they let him go. I didn't see him but I knew that he was in there.

Mr. Baker. Well, there are two left out. Was anybody else left out that wasn't booked?

Mr. Boylan. Not that I know of, but I suspect that in that jam probably ten or twelve got out. At any rate they had 198.

Mr. Baker. This 198 now, complaints were filed against them; or did that booking just mean taking their

names and putting them on the book?

Mr. Boylan. Just putting their names on the book. They were then taken over before these Justices, and I think complaints were filed there. Some of them were turned loose afterwards.

Mr. Baker. Well, I want to get now, how many complaints were filed, do you know?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know.

Mr. Baker. Nor how many were turned loose you don't know?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Baker. They were charged with rioting, arson, and other offenses?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, and all that sort of thing.

Mr. Baker. Well, how many of those men were convicted---of this 198?

Mr. Boylan. That I couldn't answer. I think that some of those names you will find on the Police book over there are the names of people who were afterwards indicted. Whether they have been tried yet or not I don't know. But that is easily obtainable---the correct evidence---from the books.

Mr. Baker. Well, are some of them still at large; turned loose and never apprehended?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I think quite a number of them convinced the authorities that they were merely sightseers who had been attracted by the crowd and run in there and were caught by the jam.

Mr. Baker. Well, I know, but when was the trial

had? Was there any trial had?

Mr. Boylan. I think some were released without being tried at all. Others were tried in the Justice Court after the riot.

Mr. Baker. But how many you are not able to give us now?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Baker. Who were the bondsmen for these men? were there a general set of bondsmen over there?

Mr. Boylan. No, I think their friends. You see, around in front of the Police Station during the morning of the 3rd, from early morning until afternoon there were 50 to 100 people around there, talking down through the bars of the bull pen to their friends, and pretty nearly everybody in there had sent word to somebody to come and furnish bond for them. For that reason there was a big crowd around there in the afternoon and bondsmen were furnished.

Mr. Baker. Well, how could they tell who was in this bunch as rioters or spectators if no trial was had as to that? How could the Justice determine that fact?

Mr. Boylan. I think that the soldiers made identification of certain people, saying "This man was engaged in the riot." You see there were other people brought in. This 198 didn't compose all of the people in the bull pen that night. They brought others in; just how many I don't know, and they arrested a good many people and put them back in the cells.

Mr. Baker. Well, I was trying to get, and have them separated, this crowd that was caught in this hollow

equare and moved over to Police headquartere. How many were there of that crowd, do you know?

Mr. Boylan. 198.

Mr. Baker. That is what I am figuring on. I am just holding myself now to the 198. What were they doing when the officer threw the equare around them?

Mr. Boylan. They were jamming in Broadway. There was rioting going on there, and the officers in clearing the street just threw this hollow square around them and marched them away.

Mr. Baker. Was that close to one of the scenes where some of the negroes had been killed?

Mr. Boylan. That was the storm center, 4th and Broadway. There was a negro hanging there and negroes lying in the gutter. This negro had been dragged with the rope, and there were other riotous scenes around there. Colonel Clayton went to the storm center and simply threw his men---deployed his men around the hollow square and marched them away.

Mr. Baker. Now were there any public trials or public hearings by the Justices---either of these Justices---of any of these 198?

Mr. Boylan. I think so.

Mr. Baker. Do you know how many?

Mr. Boylan. I do not. I couldn't tell you that. I think that the Justices must have held those people over---bound them over---that went to Belleville, and they probably took some other official action in regard to others, but what that was I don't know.

Mr. Cooper. May I ask right there, do you know whether any of them waved examination and were bound over?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I don't know.

Mr. Cooper. They could do that and that would obviate the taking of testimony. Any one of them could wave examination that wished to.

Mr. Baker. But there is no 198 over in Belleville is there?

Mr. Boylan. No, they have had 60 or 70 of those fellows over there.

Mr. Baker. Of this 198?

Mr. Boylan. Some of them. I think Lafayette Parker, nigger supervisor, was in that bunch, but I am not certain about that. It doesn't look plausible that a negro would be in that white bunch that was brought in. That doesn't look right, but it seems to me his name appeared in that list.

Mr. Baker. were there any boys among this crowd?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, a lot of them.

Mr. Baker. Young fellows, home boys here, living in East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Baker. What became of them?

Mr. Boylan. They were held with the rest of them. What disposition was made of them in Justice Court, I don't recall.

Mr. Baker. I mean they were held, of course, and whether they were put out on bonds or simply turned loose you don't know?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know.

Mr. Baker. Were there any women in this bunch?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Baker. Were they any particular class of men

with blue shirts on, do you remember?

Mr. Boylan. No. It looked like, I should think, of the 198 probably 150 of them---half of them at any rate---were idle spectators. They might have caught me; I was around there. I was in and out of that mob at all times, running around, sometimes in a machine and sometimes on foot. I was looking for information, and I suppose a good many other fellows the same way, but they wanted it for personal use and I wanted it for the paper.

Mr. Cooper. Were any white women ever arrested?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Bound over for trial?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. Two of them were fined $50 a piece, and one of them was released on account of evidence that she had given for the state.

Mr. Cooper. One of them was fined?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; two of them were fined.

Mr. Cooper. In what court?

Mr. Boylan. In the Circuit Court at Belleville.

Mr. Cooper. Fined $50?

Mr. Boylan. $50, yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. For what?

Mr. Boylan. For conspiracy and rioting. They were all charged with that.

Mr. Cooper. Are they the two, do you know, that assaulted the negro woman with her husband and daughter and son, who were taken from the street car here?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know as to the details of that. They lived in that neighborhood.

Mr. Cooper. Do you know whether the two women who

it was testified here assaulted that negress as she lay on the street, and injured her severely, have ever been arrested?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know that sir.

Mr. Baker. Of course, by applying to the Police Court Records or the Justice Court records we can get the names of all of these and what became of them.

Mr. Boylan. Yes, you can bring the book here. That will show you exactly the time of arrest, who was arrested, and the disposition of the case.

Mr. Baker. Well, was there a charge preferred against all of these?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, there must be a charge, unless they are marked "hold." They have a system here of marking people "hold", when they are not ready to prefer a charge.

Mr. Baker. Well, were any of these marked "hold?"

Mr. Boylan. I don't remember that.

Mr. Baker. What is the difference in emolument to the office if you mark a man "hold", or if you charge him?

Mr. Boylan. No difference whatever. Sometimes it is doubtful as to what the charge should be. They can mark them "Hold" and hold them for twenty hours without any charge.

Mr. Baker. But they can charge just the same, even if you mark them "Hold."

Mr. Boylan. No, simply in the column marked "Charge", they mark "Hold", which is an abbreviation for "Hold for the Chief." Then sometimes in twenty hours they will make a charge against that man. They might want to charge him with larceny and don't know whether it was grand or petit.

Mr. Baker. Well, if they charge him, what is the fee that the Justice gets, if you know?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know.

Mr. Baker. There is a fee?

Mr. Boylan. There is a fee of $1.85 which the Justice gets for hearing a case.

Mr. Baker. I know, but the preliminary. What I can't get at quite yet is, if these men were all charged, how they could get out without a public hearing and trial? You see what I am getting at. In other words, I can't see how the Justice could just look out over an audience there of 198 prisoners and say, "We will turn you loose, and you loose, and you loose, because you're all right," without having a public trial and without testimony to be had before the Justice. Do you know how that was done?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I don't. You have the names of the two Justices, Justice Eggmann and Justice Clark. You have their names, and they can explain exactly how that was done, and the Police Court book will show the disposition of every case.

Mr. Baker. I guess that is about as far as we can go with him on that, Mr. Chairman. I am quite interested in it because I would like to get the real reason why these men were all turned loose.

The meeting that was scheduled that afternoon by the Chamber of Commerce, I understand from you, you were not permitted to attend?

Mr. Boylan. The morning meeting.

Mr. Baker. How early in the morning was it held?

Mr. Boylan. I think the meeting was called for 11---

10:30 or 11---maybe 10.

Mr. Baker. You didn't attend it?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Baker. Did you discuss it with any of the men that did attend it, afterwards?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I discussed it with several.

Mr. Baker. What was determined at that meeting should be done, as you got it from those you discussed it with, in the way of quelling the riot?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I don't know that I could tell you whether there was any unanimous feeling or not. There was some difference of opinion about whether the town should be placed under martial law or not. I know an attorney explained to me that the Mayor didn't appreciate what he was asking for when he asked for martial law, because when he got it, it would nullify his police force.

Mr. Baker. well, what difference would it have made if it had nullified the police force?

Mr. Boylan. Iwasn't going into that, but I was just showing the difference of opinion as to whether martial law was desirable or undesirable. The Mayor unquestionably wanted martial law- Colonel Tripp didn't want it, and I think there was some difference of opinion in the committee. At any rate the committee wanted some strenuous action taken to prevent this rioting going ahead unstemmed, unchecked.

Mr. Johnson. Martial law would have imposed strenuous action perhaps on Colonel Tripp, would it not?

Mr. Boylan. Martial law, as I understand it, suspends all forms of city government and places the entire responsibility in the hands of the military.

Mr. Johnson. And Colonel Tripp was in charge of that.

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Are you acquainted with the various police officers of the city?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. Having been in there that night when Sergeant Coppedge left and when the news came back that he was killed, of course you observed what was going on until you left early that morning?

Mr. Boylan. Well, you mean around the station, as to the disposition of the policemen?

Mr. Baker. Yes.

Mr. Boylan. It was a minor detail with me at that time. I was after the high lights of the thing; what they were going to do tommorow, and handling the story of what had been done that night.

Mr. Baker. Was there any determination then made by the Police Department as to what they would do the coming day?

Mr. Boylan. Not that I know, except that they called everybody in. They called men that were on duty, and I am quite sure they telephoned for men not on duty and told them to come on down to the station.

Mr. Baker. Can you explain to the Committee why, if they called these men all in, those on duty and not on duty, and had a consultation there that night---the night of July 1st---why there doesn't appear yet any testimony before this Committee that any of the policemen arrested anybody on the day of the 2nd, the day of the riot? Just how does that happen? How can that be accounted for?

Mr. Boylan. Well, my remembrance of the situation was that they kept the police pretty well around the station. They kept them there I know the night when they came in.

Mr. Baker. What did they keep them around the station there in the day time for? There wasn't anybody around there, was there?

Mr. Boylan. I was speaking of the night before. In the morning when I came down there I don't remember--- I wasn't paying much attention to what was going on around the station. That was a minor detail. I wasn't paying any particular attention with a view to writing a review of the thing afterwards, or testifying. I was looking after things happening from minute to minute.

Mr. Baker. This was happening from minute to minute. Now you were there, as you have told us, and these officers gathered that morning, early in the morning?

Mr. Boylan Yes, but it was past 1 or 2 o'clock, and there were not many of them.

Mr. Baker. Well, there were some of them anyway.

Mr. Boylan. I think there were only 14 men for night duty at that time.

Mr. Baker. Now there isn't any evidence, so far as has been presented yet, that these men did a thing the next day. Can you account for that?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I can't, unless they felt that they were up against insurmountable odds; that there was no chance. That is only a theory on my part.

Mr. Baker. That's all.

Mr. Johnson. During 1917, or prior thereto, were there any foreigners deported from this place?

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Mr. Boylan.

Mr. Johnson. Tell us about that.

Mr. Boylan. I can tell you in a general way and refer you to the absolute information. Two saloon keepers were deported.

Mr. Johnson. When was that?

Mr. Boylan. Sometime during the early part of 1917. That was in May, probably. Two saloon keepers were deported, and I think in each case they were charged with violation of the excise laws and of being directly or indirectly connected with white slave traffic---that is, that they owned the places.

Mr. Johnson. Well, that was not strictly a deportation, was it?

Mr. Boylan. They deported them, yes.

Mr. Johnson. In the strict sense of the word?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; that is my understanding. Now the information may be obtained from Mr. Dunn, the immigration agent of St. Louis, who includes this city in his district.

Mr. Baker. Who were they?

Mr. Boylan. I couldn't tell you their names. They were foreigners, Armenians or Turks---some of those southern European countries.

Mr. Johnson. What were they charged with?

Mr. Boylan. They were charged, I think, with having some indirect knowledge of the white slave traffic---possibly direct.

Mr. Johnson. And violating internal revenue laws?

Mr. Boylan. Excise laws, yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. For what, selling whiskey without a license---something of that sort?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, selling whiskey without a license---possibly not conducting a saloon properly.

Mr. Johnson. The United States laws do not have anything to do with conducting a saloon properly or improperly.

Mr. Boylan. It came up in this way, to show you the connection between a properly and improperly conducted saloon: These men, I think, applied for their papers---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). What kind of papers?

Mr. Boylan. Citizenship papers, and it was then found that they had not been observing the laws of the country in regard to running saloons.

Mr. Johnson. It was a question of general character?

Mr. Boylan. A question of general character, yes, and it was introduced that they had been running saloons on Sunday, and the state law says you shall not. You see, up to the 1st of last January saloons here were open on Sunday. That was charged against these foreigners, and that and other things I think were the case of their being deported.

Mr. Johnson. And they were not deported or taken away from here because of their connection with any conspiracy or riot? I mean conspiracy relative to the riot of which we are now talking.

Mr. Boylan. No, that was before that.

Mr. Johnson. They had nothing to do with that?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Johnson. Nothing to do with the race question?

Mr. Boylan. No, those people are perfectly content

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to run their coffee houses and saloons and restaurants, and get the money. They are not interested in anything else.

Mr. Johnson. I believe you have already said that there was no strike among the packing houses at any time in 1917?

Mr. Boylan. Nothing that I ever heard of.

Mr. Johnson. And that 4,500 men or any other number went out on strike in 1917?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Johnson. From the packing houses.

Mr. Boylan. No, we hear from time to time of some little gang at the packing house being dissatisfied, and so forth, but I wouldn't call that a strike. There was no general strike in 1917, like this was in 1916.

Mr. Johnson. What time in 1916 was there a general strike?

Mr. Boylan. I should think it was in August, but I wouldn't be positive. It was along in the late summer.

Mr. Johnson. From what employment did they strike at that time?

Mr. Boylan. I think it was general.

Mr. Johnson. At all the packing houses?

Mr. Boylan. I think so, yes. They formed a union---the packing houses have always been open shop---they formed a union and wanted recognition of their union. That is my remembrance of it.

Mr. Johnson. How long did that strike last?

Mr. Boylan. Two or three days.

Mr. Johnson. And they all went back to work again?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. On the 2nd of July did you see a group of miners, or any at all, aiding the mob with picks?

Mr. Boylan. I was told about that a dozen times. I even went so far as to call up Collinsville and these other mining towns, and they said there was absolutely nothing to it. They told me another story that the Brooklyn negroes were marching down here to avenge the wrongs of their race. I called up the Brooklyn City Hall, and they said, "God forbid; we'll stay at home, and are glad to be here." I think that was the sentiment of those fellows and the sentiment of the miners.

Mr. Johnson. Did you see any men in the mob armed with meat cleavers or pick axes?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Johnson. If there had been, you would have seen them?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I would have noticed them.

Mr. Johnson. You are reasonably certain you would?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Can you say whether or not there were any bankers participating in the riot?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; that borders on the ridiculous.

Mr. Johnson. You know the bankers of the town?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And if they had been in that conspicuous place on that day, you would have seen and recognized them?

Mr. Boylan. Yes. I heard an inquiry the other day, were there any bankers' sons in the riot? There is only one banker in town that has a son.

Mr. Johnson. And you did not see that son participating in the riot?

Mr. Boylan. No.

Mr. Foster. These men that were deported, were deported for engaging in the white slave traffic, were they?

Mr. Boylan. That is my remembrance.

Mr. Foster. And not for any other reason?

Mr. Boylan. Well, as I said before, the question of their moral character came up when they applied for their second papers, I think it was, and it was then asked of them---Mr. Dunnor his agents frequently ask a saloon man if he observed the law, and he would say, "Oh yes, certainly." "Do you keep your saloon open on Sunday?" "Yes." "Don't you know that is against the law?" And then very often he would refuse them papers.

Mr. Foster. Well, they didn't deport them for keeping their saloons open on Sunday did they?

Mr. Boylan. No, they didn't deport them for that, but they refused or declined to give them their papers on that account.

Mr. Foster. Is that an unusual thing here, to find particular fault with a man because he had his saloon open on Sunday?

Mr. Boylan. Well, there was a dead line drawn the 1st of January.

Mr. Foster. That is since the 1st of January?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, on the 1st of January the dead line was drawn on Sunday saloons. Since then the Sunday closing law has been very strictly enforced.

Mr. Foster. And before that they were not?

Mr. Boylan. No, but ten years ago they drew a dead line on keeping saloons open after midnight, and that was well enforced for the last ten years. There were very few violations.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know to what country these two men were deported?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir, Mr. Johnson, I can't determine in my own mind whether there is a difference between an Armenian or a Turk and some of those other people from that same part of the country? Most of the business men here---of those foreigners---are Armenians.

Mr. Johnson. Were they sent out of the United States?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, that is my recollection. However, Mr. Dunn, in the Federal Building in St. Louis, can give you definite information as to their names and why they were sent away.

Mr. Foster. These are the men who had a saloon on Kansas Avenue in East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. That was the neighborhood. That was the district occupied by Armenians, Turks and some other races.

Mr. Cooper. Just what did you mean by "deportation?" They were refused a license and their places of business were closed; were they escourted to the borders of the state by federal officials or state officials and forced to go beyond the confines of the state? Were they strictly and in a legal sense deported?

Mr. Boylan. That is my understanding, Mr. Cooper, that they were escourted by a United States marshall to, we will say, Ellis Island or some similar place, and there

kept until they could be sent back to their native country.

Mr. Cooper. It was by the immigration officials?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. The immigration officials in St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. The name of the gentleman who has charge of the office is Dunn. I think a deputy had charge of this matter.

Mr. Raker. You were around the streets on July 2nd a great deal?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. Did you see any discrimination of the kind or class of people that were around on the streets, and in and about where the negroes were being killed and the violence was being done?

Mr. Boylan. I don't quite get the connection with the word "discrimination."

Mr. Raker. Well, were there any particular kind or class of people doing the work?

Mr. Boylan. They were people I didn't know. I have been before half a dozen boards of inquiry, including a secret inquest held by the coroner, and I have told every one of them the same as I tell you gentlemen, that I didn't recognize a man in the mob.

Mr. Raker. I know, but here comes the question again right back to that: you were unable to recognize these people in the mob?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. Were they indiscriminate with everybody.

Mr. Boylan. You mean did they attack everybody?

Mr. Raker. No, were all classes of people in and about where they were doing the work?

Mr. Boylan. No, there was the sightseeing element that gathered in there, you know--curiosity seekers. Some of them were very respectable people. The people who were doing the work---there were a comparatively small number of people doing the assaulting. They were people that you might regard as the floaters, saloon bums, hangers-on around these saloons.

Mr. Baker. How could these sightseers and respectable people---that is used in the best of faith---be around watching this scene and not be able to come in and identify the man who was doing the work?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I didn't know those people. You can empty all the bums out of the Broadway saloons, where they used to sell whiskey a nickel a shot before the war tax went on it---you could empty all of them out on the street and line them up in front of me and tell me to go down the line and pick out a man that I knew, I wouldn't be able to recognize a single one, unless there happened to be some man there that had been arrested so many times that I would remember having seen him around the Station.

Mr. Foster. How much did you say they sell whiskey for, a nickel a shot?

Mr. Boylan. Before the cruel war tax went on they sold whiskey down there for a nickel a drink.

Mr. Foster. So when the war tax went on they were able to get a good deal less of that kind of liquor?

Mr. Boylan. Yes. On that account it is probably just as well they didn't keep us out of war. That class of saloons around Broadway, you know, just emptied their patrons out on the street. In fact, the saloons were closed most of the day.

Mr. Baker. Wasn't it very dangerous for sightseers to be around and watching this rioting going on?

Mr. Boylan. I thought so. I was out in an automobile when they were shooting around into the machine, and I was very much relieved when the man driving the machine concluded it was time to go on.

Mr. Baker. Here is a little statement I am just going to read to you. I am reading from a paper here an article marked: "The massacre of East St. Louis. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People." On page 19 they use this language:

"The mob was seemingly well arranged to do their desperate work."

Did that appear to be in evidence as you saw it that day?

Mr. Boylan. No, they had no concerted action. They ran this way and they ran that way. Somebody would say, "There's a nigger," and away they would go like boys running after a rabbit.

Mr. Baker. To that extent it seemed to be pretty well organized, didn't it?

Mr. Boylan. My idea of an organized mob would be one that marched right through to a definite point.

Mr. Baker. Well, I know, but you have got to know where your game is at the other end, if you are hunting rabbits---to get him. Now if they were seeking to mob these negroes they must know where the negro was before they could march to him. I am trying to get from you if, from what you saw, you thought this thing was prearranged so that whenever they did see a negro they would run him down?

Mr. Boylan. There didn't seem to be any necessity of prearrangement. That seemed to be the common thought. Everybody had the same idea: See a nigger, hit him. If a nigger came along on the street cars, they stopped the cars and took him off and everybody joined in in beating the nigger up.

Mr. Baker. Then follows this sentence, which I am reading from the paper I refer to:

"I recognized some of the wealthy people's sons and some of the bank officials in the mob."

Mr. Baker. Was anything like that going on?

Mr. Boylan. I don't think it is possible. As far as wealthy citizens' sons are concerned, it is quite probable or possible that some young men down there joined in as curiosity seekers---spectators. I can understand how a man might be out there to protect his property---property along Broadway. If the man had a son, the son naturally might feel that he ought to be there and see what is happening to his father's property. That might be true. You couldn't blame the property owner, though, for jumping in there and looking after his interests, or his son for doing the same.

Mr. Baker. Then your view is that this statement is not founded on fact?

Mr. Boylan. It is entirely biased and prejudiced.

Mr. Baker. And not founded on fact?

Mr. Boylan. Not founded on fact. I doubt very much whether the person who wrote it was ever within 200 miles of here at the time of the riot.

Mr. Baker. This appears to be a sworn affidavit---that

feature of it.

Mr. Foster. I want to inquire a little more about the character of these refreshment parlors in existence in East St. Louis. They had these places where they bought drinks for 5 cents, I understand?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir. They are all gone now.

Mr. Foster. They were "barrel houses" were they?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Foster. Then they had places here that were known as---commonly known as 'monkey cages." Do you know anything about that?

Mr. Boylan. The Monkey Cage was originally a cabaret house. There was only one Monkey Cage. That was run by a man who is dead now. In that place he had music and cabaret stuff long before it ever hit St. Louis.

Mr. Foster. That was one of the worst there was here, wasn't it?

Mr. Boylan. It depended entirely on how you stood in with the proprietor. If the proprietor knew you, you were as safe there as you were in church.

Mr. Foster. Those were the lowest down character of saloons there were here?

Mr. Boylan. No, the Monkey Cage wasn't that character. They would rob you down there in a nice artistic way, but they didn't do any rough stuff there. These saloons that I refer to, where they sell whiskey at 5 cents a drink, they cater very largely to the negro trade. They were scattered right along Broadway.

Mr. Foster. Where they sold the stuff out of barrels?

Mr. Boylan. There were a number of those owned by some of our most prominent citizens. They got big rent for them. They sold big beers and nickel whiskeys. My impression of the rioters is that if you had gone through there Saturday afternoon you would have found in the back rooms of those barrel houses the men who formed a large portion of the mob on Monday afternoon. The reason they weren't in the barrel houses on Monday afternoon was that the saloons were closed about noon. I think they started sending out the order to close the saloons about noon, and it took them till about 1 o'clock, or perhaps 2 o'clock, to get them all closed.

Mr. Foster. So there was a great crowd of hangers-on around these places all the time?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Men apparently that didn't do anything--weren't engaged in anything?

Mr. Boylan. Not while they had money.

Mr. Foster. They would get some money and then go there and spend it?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Was that sort of a rendezvous for thieves, thugs and all those people who happened to temporarily visit East St. Louis on the way from one state to another?

Mr. Boylan. Well, it was a rendezvous for men that were looking for that kind of whiskey. I wouldn't say that they were thieves and thugs, because a real good thief would have money enough to go somewhere else.

Mr. Foster. I know, but I was speaking of those who travel from one place to another, who would hunt out that kind of places.

Mr. Boylan. Yes, they hunt out those places. We had too many of those in town.

Mr. Foster. That is what I meant. I meant those who were of that character, who travel from place to place, and who would seek out, when they came to East St. Louis, places of that sort.

Mr. Foster. That's all.

Mr. Raker. Right in that line, is it your intention to convey to the Committee that these loafers, bums and thugs, as you call them---

Mr. Boylan (interposing). I didn't call them that.

Mr. Raker. What would you call them?

Mr. Boylan. I said I didn't think they were thieves, because a good thief would patronize a better place.

Mr. Raker. How would you characterize them?

Mr. Boylan. I would call them "floaters."

Mr. Raker. All right. Now these floaters that were in and around these beer saloons and other saloons, were fairly numerous, were they?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. They were at that time?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; there were probably ten saloons of that character within two blocks of 4th and Broadway. That was the storm center.

Mr. Raker. That was the great storm center.

Mr. Boylan. Those ten saloons ought to be able to contribute 100 people, men that didn't want to work themselves, yes,

but are opposed to negroes working.

Mr. Baker. There were no robberies committed outside of the burning and alleged taking of the property of the negroes? There were no robberies committed here on the main streets of the town that day, except one or two places there they broke in to get guns?

Mr. Boylan. That's all I heard of. They broke into pawn shops.

Mr. Baker. Has there been any complaint since that men were robbed on the streets here that day?

Mr. Boylan. I never heard of it.

Mr. Baker. Now the saloons having closed about 2 o'clock, you think the great onrush of loafers came from the saloons?

Mr. Boylan. They came from those saloons.

Mr. Baker. And participated in the mob?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; that's my idea.

Mr. Baker. Now can you tell us what earthly reason, purpose or excuse or object these fellows could have for going out and killing these poor, inoffensive negroes?

Mr. Boylan. No, I don't know as I can give you any reason. My theory is that they regarded it as the open season for negroes, and it gave them a chance to go in and kill and maim.

Mr. Baker. But here are men without any property, without any homes, without anything on earth to make them stay here, to care for East St.Louis any more than they do for Mill Pitas out in California; how could those men feel so much interested in East St. Louis, when they couldn't even get a free beer to go out an assassinate

the negroes and kill them on the streets in open, broad day light, amongst all these respectable people in East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. My only idea of that thing is that these men were lawless; that they were a low order of humanity. They were lawless and they saw this mob going along and joined in with it. They had no incentive, no uplifting idea of preserving law and order. That wasn't in their line; that wasn't the life they led.

Mr. Baker. Have you got any more of that class of people around East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. There are some of them around here.

Mr. Raker. Are they many or few yet?

Mr. Boylan. Comparatively few to what they were. The Chief of Police issued a bulletin---the new Chief of Police---headed "WARNING", in large type, "Notice to all stew bums and saloon loafers to go out and get themselves a job." If they didn't want to work for themselves, they could work for the county on the rock pile. That seems to have had a very salutary effect on them. We have very few applicants at the police station now for shelter at night. We have had as many as 100 to 150 a night.

Mr. Raker. What has been the attitude of the saloon keeper himself, of these places you refer to---I mean the man who conducts the saloon---what has been his attitude in regard to the race question?

Mr. Boylan. Well, a good many of these saloons serve negroes. This 5-cent stuff they serve to negroes. The negro stood up to the bar the same as the white man.

Mr. Raker. Then if that is the fact, they wouldn't be very much opposed to causing the negroes any trouble would they?

Mr. Boylan. The saloon men themselves?

Mr. Raker. Yes.

Mr. Boylan. No, I should think they would figure it would remove custom if they deported the negro.

Mr. Raker. Then it would be your opinion that the saloon proprietor as a proprietor, and those that are working for him, so as to keep their business going and make more money---it wouldn't be their attitude to incite or cause or participate in riots for the purpose of getting rid of the negroes?

Mr. Boylan. Oh no; I think they all closed up and went home. Some of them staid around to protect their property.

Mr. Raker. That being the case, where on earth could these floaters get the theory that it is popular in East St. Louis---or was during that time---to mob and lynch these negroes?

Mr. Boylan. Well, to show you the mob spirit, this had been going on even before May 28th. As I told you, the local paper here published a story of "Whites and Blacks Stage Race Riot." That was four or five days before the 28th of May. That feeling had been going on here---had been on for weeks. There had been a good many negro hold-up men caught. One very bad one had been caught and sent to the penitentiary.

Mr. Cooper. Now how many of these "barrel houses" were there here?

Mr. Boylan. I think about six of them.

Mr. Cooper. What do you mean by "barrel house?"

Mr. Boylan. Well, I don't think that the term is very clear, Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Cooper. Was it where they sell whiskey out of a barrel---draw it right out?

Mr. Boylan. No, that is theoretical. They don't sell it out of a barrel, but the barrels are sitting around the place. They draw the whiskey off into bottles, decanters or something of the sort, and sell it over the bar.

Mr. Cooper. You say those barrel houses were the rendezvous for what?

Mr. Boylan. The rendezvous for men who wouldn't work while they had enough to buy drinks with.

Mr. Cooper. Now, how many of those places were there that were called "monkey cages?"

Mr. Boylan. There was only one Monkey Cage. That was an individual place.

Mr. Cooper. Where was that?

Mr. Boylan. That was on South Main Street.

Mr. Cooper. Well, what class of people rendezvoued there?

Mr. Boylan. I have seen people there in evening dress from St. Louis. I have seen thieves, safe blowers and pickpockets. I have seen some very elegant people come over there in their automobiles after a midnight supper and take in the Monkey Cage for an hour or two, as they go "slumming" in New York.

Mr. Cooper. Where was this located?

Mr. Boylan. I should think about 18 or 20 South Main Street.

Mr. Cooper. How long had it been there?

Mr. Boylan. The Monkey Cage ran for three or four years.

Mr. Cooper. It was notorious all through this community, was it not?

Mr. Boylan. It was known in New York.

Mr. Cooper. You said, I believe, that some prominent citizens, or wealthy citizens---prominent citizens---owned these buildings because they got big rent for them?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Cooper. were there "prominent citizens" who owned these buildings, among the society people of East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. Yes---well, they are eminently respectable people, people of education. I don't know that they class themselves as society people.

Mr. Cooper. They moved in what is called the "upper class" or "upper circles?"

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Sort of a 400 of East St. Louis---they were in that class?

Mr. Boylan. No, I have never seen any effort to establish a 400 here, or any other social segregation.

Mr. Cooper. But they were among the prominent citizens of East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. They were among the prominent citizens.

Mr. Cooper. Was there anything about them that justified there prominence, except their money?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, there were some very good people among them.

Mr. Cooper. Well, are people who rent houses for barrel house purposes, the rendezvous of thieves, because they get big rent; were the people who owned a place like the Turkey Cage---Monkey Cage I should say---I will apologize to a decent turkey for mentioning it in such a connection (laughter)---was the person who rented that Monkey Cage for three or four years, a rendezvous for thieves and pickpockets---and prostitutes also, was it?

Mr. Boylan. No, there was no house of prostitution there, not in the Monkey Cage. It was frequented by women who belonged in such houses.

Mr. Cooper. Well then, a rendezvous for thieves, pickpockets---

Mr. Boylan (interposing) Society people.

Mr. Cooper (continuing) ---society people and prostitutes---was a man who could do that sort of thing because he got big rent, recognized as one of the prominent citizens of this community and eminently respectable?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I think they absolved their consciences by doing business through the agent. They left it all to the agent, and the agent became the Angora.

Mr. Cooper. I should think, before they could absolve their conscience they would have to have a conscience. What did they do to furnish attractive places where laboring men, single men or even married men and their families might go to enjoy themselves in this town?

Mr. Boylan. Nothing but the theatres. They have no civic meeting place.

Mr. Cooper. No civic meeting places at all?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. So a young man employed in one of these great factories, not having friends or acquaintances here, no members of his family; coming down town very naturally drifted around to those places, didn't he?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. There was a great deal of money made out at National City?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. A great many millions of dollars---hundreds of thousand or millions of dollars taken away from National City---that is, the profit of the business---wasn't there?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; but the money that created National City wasn't raised in East St. Louis. It was put in here by the people who took the money away.

Mr. Cooper. But the men who did most of the work lived in East St. Louis?

Mr. Boylan. Yes.

Mr. Cooper. Working men; and the only place they had to live was in East St. Louis. Had there ever developed in this town, among the people of money and social standing---so-called---anything like public spirit?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, there has been some evidence of public spirit.

Mr. Cooper. How recently?

Mr. Boylan. Particularly of late. This patriotic work has been well represented in East St. Louis. You can be accused of anything rather than of being unpatriotic. They have school gardens and Red Cross work

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going on very nicely. We have no social settlement work.

Mr. Cooper. That does a great deal of good, I suppose, to ameliorate social conditions in this city?

Mr. Boylan. No, sir; I don't know that it does.

Mr. Cooper. Before this war began, had there ever developed here anything like what in other municipalities is called "public spirit?"

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes.

Mr. Cooper. Civic pride?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, there is a certain amount of civic pride and public spirit, illustrated principally in our park system in the making.

Mr. Cooper. Anything else?

Mr. Boylan. That's about all I could suggest. We have no social settlement work. We haven't experimented, as Milwaukee has and some other places, with municipal dance halls or public entertainment of that kind. There has been nothing of that sort going on here. There are too many people in East St. Louis who make their money here and live elsewhere.

Mr. Cooper. East St. Louis really was a city of working men, very largely, employed not at large wages, on the average.

Mr. Boylan. Not large wages?

Mr. Cooper. Yes.

Mr. Boylan. I think the wages are very high.

Mr. Cooper. Yesterday one of the packers testified that the men employed there, common laborers, were out of work three or four months in the year, in the spring; and that they got now only 27 1/2 cents an hour, and

that they used to get but 17 cents.

Mr. Boylan. Well, that is a very low class of labor. The Aluminum Ore Company---I can't quote accurately the figures, but it seems to me that they pay pick and shovel men something over $3 a day.

Mr. Cooper. Do they work all the year?

Mr. Boylan. I don't know as to that. I think so. I don't know of any closed season for them.

Mr. Cooper. Did they work all the year prior to the outbreak of the European War?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, I never heard of their closing. It is the biggest plant of its kind in the world, you know.

Mr. Cooper. Prior to the outbreak of the European war it was customary---so Mr. Eaton said---to close the packing plant---at least their packing plant---to certain workmen three or four months in the year, in the spring, which would leave them only eight or nine months of work. You don't know about that?

Mr. Boylan. No, I don't. I never knew that the packing houses had any closed season.

Mr. Cooper. He didn't say "closed season;" but he said prior to the war, each spring there was a falling off of the business, and that left some of them to work only eight or nine months a year.

Mr. Baker. Due to a shortage of cattle in the spring.

Mr. Cooper. Yes. They just reduced the force. They didn't close the plant but reduced the force, throwing some men out of work three or four months each year.

You say the Monkey Cage is now closed?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, the Monkey Cage has been closed four or five years.

Mr. Cooper. And the barrel houses are closed?

Mr. Boylan. Well, the barrel houses are still there, but the tax on whiskey has made them---they have lost their usefulness to that class of people that used to patronize them.

Mr. Cooper. Do you think, Mr. Boylan, that there are now in this city any places--- or any place---that might properly be characterized as a rendezvous for thieves?

Mr. Boylan. No, I don't. You see this is the hardest town, Mr. Cooper, the hardest town in America to police. They can come right across the river from St. Louis, and when a man has held up someone and taken his watch and pocket book, in whatever direction he turns he is facing a railway to get out of town on. He can't make a mistake. The town is gridironed with railroads, and every outbound train must stop at the crossing somewhere. There is a belt line around here, and north and south roads, east and west roads, and where they intersect a man can run in any direction, hop the blind baggage of a train and get out. And my experience of ten or twelve years around the police station as a reporter is that comparatively little of the crime committeed in East St. Louis is committed by residents---that is, the big crimes. They are "drop-ins"; people that come over from St. Louis. They come over here and loaf around in the day time; locate what they want and how to get at it---they may spend

several days doing that. Then they go ahead and rob a store or a dwelling, or hold up a man, and get back across the river, and leave the East St. Louis police to look for them.

We have, of course, our home grown variety of thieves around here, but they are the dwarf variety. They don't amount to much---amateurs. A good many of them have tried to breed a few pickpockets here, but they could get their hand into the flour barrel. They are failures.

Mr. Cooper. Do you think that a larger police force, and paid a salary that would enable a man to live and support his family as a man ought to live and be able to support his family in a rich community would have done away with some of this thievery?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, the force was inadequate. The town's finances have been in very bad shape for a good many years.

Mr. Cooper. Let me ask you this question, Mr. Boylan. $70 a month I believe the patrolmen got?

Mr. Boylan. That was the lowest. That was the probationary wage.

Mr. Cooper. How much did a man get when he finally became a policeman?

Mr. Boylan. $80 I think.

Mr. Cooper. That is $960 a year.

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. He has to be out in all sorts of weather; he is supposed to be a man courageous enough to attempt the arrest of any criminal, however desperate---and many of them are very desperate, as you know. Do you not think that a man with the qualifications to make a first

class policeman, strong in physique, with courage, good character, a lover of justice, absolutely fearless in the discharge of his duty, ought to receive more than $80 a month?

Mr. Boylan. Oh yes, it is purely accidental if you get competent policemen to work for that money.

Mr. Cooper. Exactly. So then they pay a salary here which makes it a pure accident if you get a man in this city competent to discharge the very duties attendant on the position in this city.

Mr. Boylan. They pay more than that now.

Mr. Cooper. How much do they pay?

Mr. Boylan. It runs up to, I think, $100. I don't know just what the figures are. The Mayor can tell you.

Mr. Cooper. How long have they been getting $70 and $80 a month?

Mr. Boylan. Ever since I have been here, ten or twelve years.

Mr. Cooper. It is only since the riot they have made this increase?

Mr. Boylan. Since the riot they have increased the force and increased the pay.

Mr. Cooper. So then this city, with all of this variety of interests, with all these barrel houses and these other rendezvous for thieves, etc., went on here year after year, paying only such salaries as you have testified a moment ago, which would enable them to secure a good, first class officer only by accident. That's so isn't it?

Mr. Boylan. well, some men will work on the police

force for the sake of being an officer, for less than they would work for an industry.

Mr. Cooper. How did they make up---take a bad policeman making only $70 or $80 a month, how did he make up for what he needed in these times of high prices?

Mr. Boylan. Well, I don't know of any specific cases of graft of policemen. They are accused, of course, of doing all sorts of things, but they have never come under my personal observation. If they were around trying to shake anybody down for money or anything of that sort I think they got along the best way they could.

Mr. Cooper. How long have they been paying $100 a month, or approximately that?

Mr. Boylan. They have paid them that since the police force was reorganized, which I think was in August.

Mr. Cooper. Of this year?

Mr. Boylan. Yes, sir; about three weeks after the riot.

Mr. Johnson. Is Mr. Roach in the room? Mr. Roach, you will be sworn.

John DRoach
fols

STATEMENT OF JOHN D. ROACH,
SUPERVISOR, AMERICAN STEEL FOUNDRY,
EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Foster. Mr. Roach, will you please state your name?

Mr. Roath. John D. Roach.

Mr. Foster. Where do you live?

Mr. Roach. At 615 North 24th Street.

Mr. Foster. In this city?

Mr. Roach. In this city.

Mr. Foster. State your employment; what you are doing.

Mr. Roach. I am supervisor of the American Steel Foundry.

Mr. Foster. What was your occupation in the last two years?

Mr. Roach. In the last two years previous to the first of this year I was in charge of the finishing department of the American Steel Foundry.

Mr. Foster. What other employment have you had?

Mr. Roach. I was employment agent for the Company from 1912 to 1915.

Mr. Foster. Employment for the Company from what time?

Mr. Roach. From 1912 to 1915.

Mr. Foster. What were your duties there, Mr. Roach?

Mr. Roach. To hire the men needed in the service of the Company.

Mr. Foster. Of all kinds?

Mr. Roach. Of all kinds.

Mr. Foster. You put them through an examination when they came to you for employment?

Mr. Roach. Merely asking them their name, where they lived, what their mother's maiden name was. That was merely as a matter of identification for pay day---how old they are

and if their family---if they had any---what it consisted of. We took their signature for the purpose of making comparison on pay day.

Mr. Foster. Did you note whether they were black or white?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir; we designated that on their employment slip.

Mr. Foster. That was noted on the slip?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Do you know in the last year, say beginning the first of October, 1915, of any increase in the number of colored people coming to the city of East St. Louis?

Mr. Roach. I have noticed it; yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Did they apply to you for employment?

Mr. Roach. Some did.

Mr. Foster. More than usual?

Mr. Roach. It appeared to be that way.

Mr. Foster. Your office was located where?

Mr. Roach. At 2039 East Broadway.

Mr. Foster. Whereabouts is that from here?

Mr. Roach. That is about two blocks south and about fifteen blocks east.

Mr. Foster. Do you know anything about excursions coming into East St. Louis with colored people from the South?

Mr. Roach. No. I have heard that there was a train load had come through the Relay Depot here. I had heard of it around at that time---or probably it might have been later on.

Mr. Foster. You heard of it?

Mr. Roach. It was around---I think around election time here. It appears to me I heard it around that time.

Mr. Foster. That was last fall?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. In 1916?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. And there were more of them applied to your place for work at that time than had previously done so?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir. I will say that because I had noticed a number of strange faces, and being quite familiar with the men of this city I noticed the strange faces, and it appeared to me there was quite an influx at that time.

Mr. Foster. Did you employ more negroes along at that time than you had xxx at any other time?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. You haven't since that?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. How many do you employ down there in the works?

Mr. Roach. About 1400 men.

Mr. Foster. And how many colored people?

Mr. Roach. About 28 per cent.

Mr. Foster. And there is no more than that now---no more than there was before?

Mr. Roach. No, it runs now about 25 per cent.

Mr. Foster. That is no greater than it was in 1916, about October, 1916?

Mr. Roach. No, sir. We were operating on a 4-furnace basis in October and the latter part of the year for this reason: We were turning out some high explosive shell orders, and the orders terminated about February or January of this year.

Mr. Foster. Now from along about the time---say from

January, 1917, has your work been interrupted down there for any reason?

Mr. Roach. Well, owing to the "order ingots", as we call them---shells---that order expired around January.

Mr. Foster. So you have had no order for shells or any other war material since then?

Mr. Roach. Not since that time, and owing to that order expiring, you know, we had to reduce our force. Retrenchment was necessary on account of reducing from a 3-furnace to a 2-furnace basis.

Mr. Foster. And you have still laid off that many men?

Mr. Roach. No, we have increased our force but we have gone back to a 3-furnace basis now. At first, after this riot, of course we couldn't get anybody---our force, part of them, had left---some of our good efficient help.

Mr. Foster. How many of them left at that time?

Mr. Roach. Well, I would say we lost about 175 men at that time.

Mr. Foster. Men that quit?

Mr. Roach. No, the riot---that is, the colored men. We lost about 175 of them, and by reason of them not being in the plant, naturally it affected other departments, and other departments retranched accordingly you see. That is, we were down to a 2-furnace basis. That practically means 400 men, and we lost 175 colored men, and the various other departments that were affected by our production being reduced, they naturally weren't working.

Mr. Foster. What kind of labor does the colored man perform at your place?

Mr. Roach. Well, in the foundry department they perform what we call "ramming." That is, they ram up the molds.

Mr. Foster. Now I am getting at more particularly, Mr. Roach, whether that is skilled or unskilled labor.

Mr. Roach. It in unskilled.

Mr. Foster. I don't know those terms.

Mr. Roach. It is unskilled. We may make one of those men in two months time an efficient man.

Mr. Foster. So that along about the time, the 28th of May on up until some time in July, was when you lost these men and had to curtail your out put?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Was any interstate commerce from your plant interfered with along about that time---that is, your shipments from this state to any other state?

Mr. Roach. Well, only after the last riots. You see our production was reduced to something in the neighborhood of 1650 tons, whereas in the month of March we turned out 7500 tons. You can naturally see what effect it had on us.

Mr. Foster. Well, were you inconvenienced on account of not being able to fill your contracts?

Mr. Roach. Well, our shipments naturally made on promises---we promised delivery at certain times, and if we can't fulfill it, that is what we term a "setback."

Mr. Foster. Well, because you couldn't ship or because you couldn't manufacture---or both?

Mr. Roach. Well, we had no product on hand, and if we couldn't manufacture we couldn't ship. Our promises were delayed.

Mr. Foster. Well, were you able to ship all you manufactured promptly?

Mr. Roach. No, we had nothing on hand to ship.

Mr. Foster. I understand, but if you had it on hand--- what you did have, were you interfered with in shipping that out?

Mr. Roach. The only thing then that would interfere would be shortage of cars.

Mr. Foster. But no other way?

Mr. Roach. No other way.

Mr. Cooper. Mr. Roach, you say you are the employment man?

Mr. Roach. No, I was up till the first of January, 1915.

Mr. Cooper. For how long a time preceding that?

Mr. Roach. Three years.

Mr. Cooper. How recently did you know of any employer, either individual or corporation or partnership, in this city or in National City, having agents in the South or elsewhere to induce laborers to come to East St. Louis?

Mr. Roach. Well, I know nothing about that. I have heard that. I left here New Years day and went to Philadelphia. My visit there was occasioned by our Mr. F. C. Hickey, who had been assistant works manager at the East St. Louis plant. He was sent over there to assume charge of the American Steel Foundry plant at Philadelphia---at Thurlowe Station---and I went over there to assist him in the organization of his force. They were trying to increase the output. By reason of the fact that we had several battleship orders, such as stern posts and turret tracks, we had to increase the output to fulfill Government orders, and he called for me to come over and assist him in the employment department in securing efficient men, such as specialized pattern makers and molders. I staid with him until about

the latter part of January there and then I came back. Then I went over again in the middle of March and staid until the 4th of June. I returned to East St. Louis the 4th day of June.

Mr. Cooper. Well, you say you had heard of agents?

Mr. Roach. I heard that was the report that agents----

Mr. Cooper (interposing). When did you hear that report?

Mr. Roach. When I returned from Philadelphia, about the 4th of June.

Mr. Cooper. About the 4th of June you heard that there had been agents where?

Mr. Roach. I have heard that the report was that agents had been in the South sending men to East St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper. Laboring men?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Colored men?

Mr. Roach. Well, more so---colored men. That is the way the report came.

Mr. Cooper. And where did you hear that report, here in this city?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir; out at the American Steel Foundry.

Mr. Cooper. Who did you hear make that statement?

Mr. Roach. Well, here is what I got. When I returned from Philadelphia our supply agent was talking to me one day, and he says, "Mr. Roach, I'm glad you're back. I've had an awful time trying to convince the people of East St. Louis that you weren't in the South. The report is around through the various parts of East St. Louis that you were in the South looking up colored men and laboring men to send to East St. Louis." And I had never been south of

East St. Louis to secure labor for our plant. I have always found a sufficient number of men in East St. Louis, because it has always been my aim to furnish employment to men in our own city first.

Mr. Cooper. Now did you ever hear of any agents being in the South to get colored labor to come here?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Of any other company?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Or any other corporation?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Or any partnership?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. This suggestion about yourself is the only one?

Mr. Roach. That is the only one I have heard. I have heard it promiscuously said. Mr. Fox at the Aluminum ~~Ore~~ Ore Works probably had some representatives down in the South, or Mr. Conway from Armour's, or some of these packing house plants---rumors were running wild, and you could almost hear anything on the streets.

Mr. Cooper. Whom did you hear say that these packers or Mr. Fox of the Aluminum Company, or the Aluminum Company itself was doing that?

Mr. Roach. Well, that was just words passed around, you know, here and there, and I never paid much attention to it. That is, I didn't take time, because I considered the source in each case.

Mr. Cooper. It was a matter of general comment, was it, here?

Mr. Roach. Just a matter of general comment.

Mr. Cooper. About how many negroes do you think have come into this city within the last year or year and a half?

Mr. Roach. Well, I haven't the slightest idea of the number of negroes employed at the various plants and how their force has been increased. I merely paid particular attention to our own force.

Mr. Cooper. Do you know that the grand jury, which made a somewhat elaborate investigation here, in its report which was made public says that the number approximately is 8,000 negroes that have been brought in? Do you know whether that is substantially correct or not; or is it your best judgment that it is correct?

Mr. Roach. Well, that appears to be sort of a broad assertion, 8,000. It would appear to me---while of course East St. Louis has recently grown and various plants have entered here, and of course the working force has been made necessary through the Chamber of Commerce securing additional plants here, Naturally the force would be increased and it is necessary to go out and get them, but I don't know to what extent that has been.

Mr. Cooper. How general did you hear the rumor circulated---or the report?--circulated that agencies or agents had been in the southern states to induce labor to come here?

Mr. Roach. Well, it was quite current in the streets for a few days after the riot here, the last riot of July.

Mr. Cooper. Well, you heard of it before the riot too?

Mr. Roach. Yes, I heard it when I returned from the East.

Mr. Cooper. Did you hear it in January when you returned from the East?

Mr. Roach. No.

Mr. Cooper. Well, they had been coming in by the hundreds and hundreds before that.

Mr. Roach. Yes, as I say, I had noticed myself, around the latter part of the year, in October and November, that strange faces were in the city, because I was quite familiar myself with the working force of East St. Louis, and I could generally cite a strange man when he entered the town.

Mr. Cooper. And the strange faces were becoming so ~~number~~ numerous that it attracted your attention?

Mr. Roach. Yes.

Mr. Cooper. Even last fall.

Mr. Roach. Even last fall.

Mr. Cooper. And they were colored faces?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. And coming north, and the fact that you saw so many strange colored faces apparently just coming north at the approach of winter must have excited your curiosity didn't it?

Mr. Roach. Well, from what I could learn they were induced to come by some of their friends or brothers or relatives of some sort, on account of better wages being paid here.

Mr. Cooper. Who induced their friends or brothers or somebody else to write to them, or to induce them to come?

Mr. Roach. I don't know, unless it was the better wages being paid up here than they were paying in the South. That was the answer some of them made to me. I asked some of our own men what caused them to come north, and they said, "Well, better wages," they heard.

Mr. Cooper. You inquired from some of these colored

people?

Mr. Roach. I inquired from some of our own employes.

Mr. Cooper. Well, were some of these who came north in the last year the men of whom you inquired?

Mr. Roach. Well, we had employed some of them, yes.

Mr. Cooper. About how many of these new men have you employed?

Mr. Roach. Well, I don't know. Off and on in the course of a month's time we probably hire twenty-five or thirty.

Mr. Cooper. Inside of a month's time. How much inside of a year's time?

Mr. Roach. Well, figuratively speaking, about 360 a year. Some months more and some less, but ~~thxxxgx~~ the general average would be, say, about forty a month---say, 480 or 500 a year.

Mr. Cooper. Was the larger proportion of these colored people those who came here within the last year and a half or the last year?

Mr. Roach. No---well, I wouldn't say that. I would figure about 25 per cent of them.

Mr. Cooper. Well, you employed how many altogether?

Mr. Roach. Altogether we have 1400 men.

Mr. Cooper. But about how many colored people did you employ this last year?

Mr. Roach. About 480 to 500 in a year's time. You understand, Mr. Cooper, some of those men they have a habit of coming to work today and making a draw three days after, and quitting two days after they make the draw, and then return in about ten days after. We have some men who have quit and returned four or five times during the course of

a month---the same identical fellow.

Mr. Cooper. Have you ever known five or six or seven or eight thousand colored people to come to this town in a year and a half or two years in any other year and a half or two years except this last one?

Mr. Roach. No, we noticed it more so in the last year than we ever did.

Mr. Cooper. Do you know of any other northern city of approximately the size of East St. Louis that has seen all the way from six to eight thousand negroes come in in a year and a half?

Mr. Roach. No, I know of no other city of the size of East St. Louis in the United States that had occasion for an influx of that kind. We are rapidly growing here in East St. Louis, and that naturally calls for working men.

Mr. Cooper. Didn't it strike you as rather strange that negroes should come north at the approach of winter, unless they had had a pretty definite promise of employment if they would come?

Mr. Roach. It did strike me as rather strange. Other than that I was informed by some of them that on account of the higher wages being paid up here than there is in the South---they claim that was their reason for coming up here.

Mr. Cooper. That is all.

Mr. Baker. How many men did you have employed, white men, in 1915?

Mr. Roach. Well, in 1915---I don't just remember now. I guess about 66 or 68 per cent of our total force; and our force in 1915 I think would run around 1200 or 1300. I

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really don't remember off-hand.

Mr. Baker. Well, in 1916 how many white men had you employed?

Mr. Roach. About the same, about 70 per cent.

Mr. Baker. Well, give us the number of men altogether.

Mr. Roach. Well, that would be about 900 men.

Mr. Baker. Altogether?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker. How many whites?

Mr. Roach. About 900 white men.

Mr. Baker. I asked you altogether how many men you had employed in 1916.

Mr. Roach. I couldn't say that off-hand---give you an accurate figure.

Mr. Baker. Approximately.

Mr. Roach. I would say about 1200.

Mr. Baker. How many men have you employed in 1917, on an average, all classes?

Mr. Roach. 1400, just about. My force fluctuates between 1300 and 1400.

Mr. Baker. How many more white men did you employ in 1916 than you did in 1915?

Mr. Roach. Well now, I can't just say off-hand. I would say as a rough guess about 100 more.

Mr. Baker. And about 100 more in 1917 than in 1916?

Mr. Roach. Yes.

Mr. Baker. How many of them did you have altogether employed in 1914?

Mr. Roach. In 1914? Well, really---1914 and 1915 would run about the same, to the best of my judgment off-hand.

Mr. Raker. How many more colored people did you employ in 1916 than in 1915---that is, the percentage?

Mr. Roach. well, 1 wouldn't say there is over fifty more.

Mr. Raker. And in 1917 over 1915, of colored people?

Mr. Roach. well, 1 believe there would be 100 more.

Mr. Raker. well, was the general information scattered broadcast as to the conditions of wages here in St. Louis?

Mr. Roach. That is just from what 1 can learn.

Mr. Raker. Both to white and black?

Mr. Roach. Both to white and black.

Mr. Raker. That things were attractive as to hours and as to conditions surrounding the ~~working~~ laboring man, as well as to wages?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. And a great many people came?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. This last year, from five to eight or nine thousand negroes within the last year?

Mr. Roach. 1 don't know. That is what the gentleman before mentined.

Mr. Raker. What have you heard?

Mr. Roach. 1 have heard quite a number. 1 say 1 have noticed myself there was quite an influx. 1 had noticed strange faces. 1 really don't know the amount of men that came in here---were sent in or came.

Mr. Raker. Well, did the same proportion of white men come here as negroes?

Mr. Roach. Well now, 1 don't think so.

Mr. Raker. There hasn't been much of an extra increase over the ordinary influx of labor into East St. Louis, of

white men, within the last two years?

Mr. Roach. I believe I am right in saying there hasn't.

Mr. Raker. So really, this great influx has been the colored people.

Mr. Roach. It appeared to be that way.

Mr. Raker. Isn't it kind of strange with all this increase of colored labor that none of your firms have increased your percentage in the employment of colored people at all in these factories? Doesn't it seem a little strange?

Mr. Roach. Well, we have. I say we have increased about 100.

Mr. Raker. I say the percentage. Your percentage is even lower than it was in 1916 and 1915, according to your figures. You will find on your figures you have got a less per cent in 1917 of colored people than you had in 1915.

Mr. Roach. The force was lower in 1915.

Mr. Raker. But that don't make any difference on the percentage. Isn't it strange that Armour & Company, Morris & Company, and the American Steel Foundries Company, with all of these immigrations here of the negro people,--- estimated at from five to ten thousand---that you employ a less percentage of colored people than you do white people?

Mr. Roach. Take at our plant there, we had quite a number of men who had been living here for a number of years. They were making good wages and had good jobs and they were settled. We didn't have much occasion to hire new men here and there. We didn't increase our force, as I say, with strangers no more than over 100.

Mr. Raker. Well then, if as a matter of fact that five thousand to ten thousand negro people, working men---not men and women---came here, you people have employed a very small percentage of them?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. What are the rest doing?

Mr. Roach. The other industries you mean, in town?

Mr. Raker. Well, the other people. What are the negro people doing?

Mr. Roach. Well, our regular force is with us, increasing our production.

Mr. Raker. I understand, but what were the negro people doing that weren't employed? Now according to your statement you have only employed about fifty more; and according to all the testimony---the Armour & Company people, the Morris & Company people---they only employed a small percentage of more of negroes. They have only accounted for about two or three hundred negroes more in these great institutions. What do the rest come here for?

Mr. Roach. Well, really, I don't know. I know nothing about it.

Mr. Raker. If the inducements were so good now as you say they were, and it was sent out over the country, why didn't they give the men employment when they came?

Mr. Roach. We had no employment for them. We have our regular force working, and we can't hire them just because they enter the town. We only hire them when we need them. There could be 400 out there at our plant looking for employment tomorrow, and we wouldn't employ them because we scale our force according to our production; and the real fact of the matter is this: we wouldn't hire them if there was

a thoueand of them out there, becauee we couldn't uee them. We had no uee for them. Our departmente were well filled. From the color etandpoint we ecale our forces accordingly and naturally hold the departments down.

Mr. Raker. Then I understand that in East St. Louis the more men there are to employ, the more abundant the labor, the higher you raiee the wagee?

Mr. Roach. Well, no, that is not the case.

Mr. Raker. Well, let'e go back and eee now. You eay there ie labor here in plenty, all the time, at the gatee?

Mr. Roach. I don't eay that.

Mr. Raker. Well, ien't there?

Mr. Roach. I eay if there were fifty men there at the gate tomorrow we wouldn't hire them unleee we needed them.

Mr. Raker. But has there been plenty of men at the gatee all thie laet year, or during thie year?

Mr. Roach. No, eir.

Mr. Raker. Then there has been a ecarcity of men at your plant?

Mr. Roach. In certain linee there has been, yee.

Mr. Raker. well, generally epeaking, has there been a ecarcity of men at your gates for employment; or has there been an excees?

Mr. Roach. No, generally there has been a ecarcity--- generally epeaking.

Mr. Raker. What would you eay as to the etatement of the Armour & Company people, and the Morrie & Company people that there are always men at the gatee every morning looking for employment?

Mr. Roach. Well, I don't know. I believe they run traine from St. Louie over there. I believe they run pas-

eenger tlains from St. Louis every morning---two or three trains from St. Louis; ten or twelve coaches. They run them from St. Louis over to the stock yards, and we have never---all we hired was just a few men in the immediate vicinity of the plant. Our working force is a regular force, steady, and don't lose much time.

Mr. Raker. Then as far as your business is concerned, notwithstanding the claim that there has been a large number of colored people come in within the last nine months---I will put the question differently---six months before the July riots, that there hasn't been an excess of labor at your plant?

Mr. Roach. No.

Mr. Raker. Or in the market, so far as you are concerned?

Mr. Roach. Not so far as we are concerned.

Mr. Raker. How do you do when you get short? Do you send out around town for labor?

Mr. Roach. No, we advertise in the papers. Some methods of that kind we pursue. Occasionally I drop around myself, and if we need a pattern maker I put an ad. in the paper. If we need a molder I put an ad. in the paper. If I know one that is dissatisfied with his job some place, I will write him a letter and tell him that if he desires to make a change, call on us; we might be able to give him just what he wants---something like that you know.

Mr. Raker. Well, six months before July second had you been putting these advertisements in the paper?

Mr. Roach. Yes, off and on we ~~xxx~~ do.

Mr. Raker. What papers?

Mr. Roach. Oh, various St. Louis papers, and East St.

Louis papers.

Mr. Raker. And in any northern papers?

Mr. Roach. Well, no. Occasionally we put an ad. in the Cincinnati papers for pattern makers, because Cincinnati is a great pattern making town. There are a great many pattern makers in Cincinnati, and we sometimes put an ad. in the paper over there. Then we use the St. Louis Globe Democrat and the Republic, and the Post-Dispatch and the Star---all the St. Louis papers.

Mr. Raker. Your advertising is for help, seeking men of that kind---general help I mean too?

Mr. Roach. No, not general help. We get that just through calling up somebody, some employment agent, like the American Steel Foundry in Granite City, asking if they have got too many , to tell some of the boys to come on down this way, we can hire them; or some of the Commonwealth people. Or we will telephone down to the Malleable, if they have got more than they want we can furnish them work out there at the plant. In that way we cooperate you know.

Mr. Raker. Then when you find a surplus of labor standing at the gate in the morning for employment, your man comes out and says: "Boys, we have as many as we want now, but over at ~~them~~ Granite City and this other city and that city they want men. You have better go over there?"

Mr. Roach. Well, we don't send them away very often, because we don't have the occasion very often.

Mr. Raker. Do you ever do that down at your place of business? You say the rest do. I want to know if your company does.

Mr. Roach. Yes, we have done it. We have assisted

them in every way we thought possible to get a job.

Mr. Raker. Now do you segregate the places of work of your people over there, colored and white?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Raker. Are they segregated as to wash rooms and shower baths?

Mr. Roach. Yes, they are segregated there.

Mr. Raker. You have two?

Mr. Roach. We have the lower floor for the colored and the upper floor for the whites.

Mr. Raker. Do you have any other conveniences for your working men?

Mr. Roach. Well, they have hot and cold water there. Every man has his individual locker where he can change his clothes in the morning and dress up in the evening and go right direct from his work to the theater if he so feels.

Mr. Raker. Anything else?

Mr. Roach. Well, the conveniences generally throughout the plant as they are at all plants. Safety appliances are applied for the protection of the men in every available way possible. We notify them the minute they enter the plant to be careful. We give them all the information we can regarding the plant, the department that they are to be hired in and such as that, in order to avoid accidents and look after the safety of the men.

Mr. Raker. Where is this foundry located?

Mr. Roach. At 2000 Broadway, right east and about two blocks south.

Mr. Raker. Now on Broadway is where a good deal of this rioting occurred?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir; but I understand the rioting was down in this neighborhood around Fourth Street and Fifth Street.

Mr. Raker. It didn't get to your place?

Mr. Roach. No, sir; not within fifteen blocks.

Mr. Raker. Your place is 2039, and this is Fifth?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Raker. You weren't down in East St. Louis that day at all?

Mr. Roach. I was in East St. Louis in July.

Mr. Raker. On the 2nd?

Mr. Roach. On the 2nd of July.

Mr. Raker. Did you see that rioting?

Mr. Roach. No, sir; I went right from the plant home, and I staid there with my children.

Mr. Raker. From morning until evening?

Mr. Roach. No, from the evening. I was at the plant during the day.

Mr. Raker. And you didn't come down town in the evening at all?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Raker. Did you hear about it?

Mr. Roach. I heard there was some trouble down down, and I could see from my home there was some fire; and I had heard over the 'phone that there was a fire started about 6 o'clock in the rear of the International Harvester Company down here. I had heard that about 6 o'clock. Then later on I heard the riot was general down town.

Mr. Raker. Do you folks assist each other in getting labor here?

Mr. Roach. I have always made it a point to assist

every man I thought needed employment.

Mr. Baker. No, you have stated that before, but I mean the other companies. Do you work in conjunction?

Mr. Roach. We do.

Mr. Baker. To see that there is an ample supply of labor on hand?

Mr. Roach. Yes, we cooperate in that respect.

Mr. Baker. How do you do that?

Mr. Roach. Well, they have an employment office at the various plants, and we will talk to them and tell them that we have got more men than we can use, and ask them if they need any men, and send them out there, and tell the men, "You can go the Malleable Iron Works; you can go to the Zelnicker Supply," or somebody in the immediate vicinity, "and you go over and look for a job; we understand they are short."

Mr. Baker. When you get short how do you arrange that? It takes a little expense to accomplish the publication and so forth; you all put up your proportion do you?

Mr. Roach. No, no; if we are advertising for men we pay our own bills.

Mr. Baker. Each one pays his own bills?

Mr. Roach. Each one pays his own bills.

Mr. Baker. About how much do you think your bill amounted to last year?

Mr. Roach. For advertising?

Mr. Baker. Yes.

Mr. Roach. Well, really I couldn't say.

Mr. Baker. Five or six thousand dollars?

Mr. Roach. No, it wouldn't average $35 or $40 a month.

Mr. Baker. Well, are the others about as extensive,

the other large concerns, about as extensive as you are in advertising for help?

Mr. Roach. Well, really, I couldn't say.

Mr. Raker. Well, don't you send out a sort of combined advertisement, so as to show generally the advisability of men coming where there are good conditions?

Mr. Roach. No, we have never taken any part in that.

Mr. Raker. Well, who does take part in that?

Mr. Roach. I don't know, sir.

Mr. Cooper. What do you pay your unskilled labor per month?

Mr. Roach. Well, they average from $2.50 to $8.00 a day.

Mr. Cooper. Well, but unskilled labor?

Mr. Roach. That is what we call unskilled labor.

Mr. Cooper. $8.00 a day for unskilled labor?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir; we have some men running up to $8.00 a day, unskilled men, in the metal department. We have some fellows in the yard loading iron. They get paid so much per heat. What we call "per heat" is, you have maybe four cars, little charging cars---pans they call them--- about 4-foot pans. One car may consist of limestone, another one ferromanganese, 80 per cent; another one ferro-silicon, 50 per cent; another one pig iron, miscellaneous scrap. All that composition is made to go into the furnace, you see, loaded in these charging pans. They get so much a heat for that, these men do. On a piece work basis and by loading so many heats a day they make up as high as $8.00 a day, some of them. There are only about twelve men performing that class of work.

Mr. Cooper. Well, how many days in succession do

they do that?

Mr. Roach. Every day.

Mr. Cooper. At $8.00 a day?

Mr. Roach. Well, there are some of them run as high as $5, $6, $7, $8.

Mr. Cooper. How many days in the year do they do that?

Mr. Roach. Well, they work every day, with the exception of Sundays, Christmas, New Years, Fourth of July and Labor Day.

Mr. Cooper. And Thanksgiving?

Mr. Roach. Well, Thanksgiving, yes, that's right.

Mr. Cooper. Well, $8 a day for common labor, unskilled labor.

Mr. Roach. These are big husky foreigners, and they say it takes a man with a strong back and a weak mind. That is the way they term themselves. They are big powerful men that can pick up this iron and lay it in the charging pans.

Mr. Cooper. Now what is the range of pay of your skilled labor?

Mr. Roach. Well, our molders get $4.86 a day for nine hours. That is their scale. They sign up with the Company each year.

Mr. Cooper. If they worked ten hours, that would be less than $6.

Mr. Roach. They get time and a half for the additional hours. That would make them over $5 a day.

Mr. Cooper. So some of the unskilled laborers in your establishment earn more money by considerable than the skilled labor.

Mr. Roach. Well, there are only about twelve men that are making that, in that unskilled labor. Now we have other

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unskilled men. They have old men around the yard with brooms, sweeping up and picking up little chips here and there; keeping the yard in a nice clean condition. Those old men are around 55, 60 and 70 years of age. They get $2.50 for ten hours, 25 cents an hour. Then we have unskilled men such as rammers in the foundry. They run about $3.75 a day.

Mr. Cooper. For ten hours?

Mr. Roach. Well, they work till they get through. They get through in eight hours time. Sometimes they get through in seven hours. Their day's work is set. So many of a certain kind of work a day constitutes a day's work and when they get that through they are done, regardless of the whistle time.

Mr. Cooper. How many hours do these $8 unskilled laborers work?

Mr. Roach. Well, they run eight, nine, ten hours. It depends on the weather. For instance a day like today, out in the snow those men wouldn't work quite as hard as they would if they had fair weather to work in.

Mr. Cooper. What does an unskilled laborer do, whom you say is especially fitted because of his muscles and not because of his mind?

Mr. Roach. Well, some of our unskilled men perform various kinds of work. As I say, in the foundry they ram up the molds.

Mr. Cooper. But the $8 men, the twelve of them?

Mr. Roach. They are what we call stockers. They stock up the various commodities that enter the furnace to be melted into steel. They load that from the piles in the yard into the charging pans. Then the engine takes

those charging pans on the little trucks and shoves them up hill to the furnace platform.

Mr. Cooper. These $8 unskilled men are simply strong in muscle and can lift this stuff?

Mr. Roach. That's all of it.

Mr. Cooper. Couldn't you do that by machinery for a good deal less money?

Mr. Roach. No, we couldn't, because we have tried it. We have tried with a magnet. A magnet will lift ferro-silicon but it will not touch manganese and it will not lift limestone. Some of our materials must be thrown in with the shovel; some by hand.

Mr. Cooper. The reason that I asked so particularly about this, it is a most extraordinary statement---unskilled labor in this country getting $8 a day.

Mr. Roach. Well, they are working piece work, as I say, and they get so much a heat.

Mr. Cooper. But piece work---you say some of them work ten hours a day?

Mr. Roach. Well, they are putting up their heats. For instance, if the heat isn't finished by 4 o'clock they will work till 5---till they get that heat up preparatory to going to the furnace, to charge, maybe an hour later. That heat must be ready to charge in the furnace at the time the furnace in faced.

Mr. Cooper. Is the heat intense where they take this?

Mr. Roach. When the heat is poured, of course it is then about seven hours away from the stocker. He merely loads it into the pans and the engine shoves that up. We have a big charging machine on the platform that takes

those pans and sets them in the furnace and turns them over to dump its contents into the furnace.

Mr. Cooper. What temperature do these $8 men work in, part of the time?

Mr. Roach. Well, in the summer time if it is 100 in the shade, they are working. In the winter time if it is 10 below zero, they are working. Inclement weather has nothing to do with the men. They work on pretty steady.

Mr. Cooper. Well, are they part of the men that go stripped and go up to the furnace doors in the intense heat?

Mr. Roach. No, sir; those are the melters.

Mr. Cooper. What do those get a day?

Mr. Roach. Well, the first helper runs around $6 or $7 $6.50.

Mr. Cooper. How many hours a day does he stay up there in that heat?

Mr. Roach. Twelve hours. He works about six hours out of the twelve. That is, he is on and off. He puts his heat in and then he has to overlook the other furnaces---just watch the heats while they are boiling---bringing up the bath as we term it---bringing up the boil.

Mr. Cooper. You say you have men working in your establishment twelve hours a day?

Mr. Roach. They are on duty twelve hours. They relieve each other night shift and day shift. They work about, I suppose, six or seven hours a day. The rest of the time they are sitting down, just watching their heat.

Mr. Cooper. But they are kept awake and kept in yours employ twelve hours a day?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. You said six or seven hours. That would be fourteen. Which is it?

Mr. Roach. During the time they are on duty they are really not working. I infer that you are asking me if that is hazardous work all during the twelve hours.

Mr. Cooper. No, you misunderstand me. I simply wanted to know about how long these men are obliged to keep awake and be in your employ, in your establishment, each day.

Mr. Roach. They are from 7 till 7 on the furnace platform.

Mr. Cooper. That is twelve hours.

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. Where do they live?

Mr. Roach. Well, they live here in East St. Louis.

Mr. Cooper. How far is it to your plant?

Mr. Roach. From where?

Mr. Cooper. From where they live.

Mr. Roach. Well, really I couldn't say. Some live in the vicinity of the plant; some live a mile away from the plant; some three-quarters; some half a mile.

Mr. Cooper. Now a man that works twelve hours a day and goes home---goes to his home a mile distant, as you say some of them do---and washes up and gets his supper and goes to bed---it will be along towards 9 o'clock and after, won't it? Then if he has to get up in the morning to go the same distance and get over to your plant at 7 o'clock, he has got to get out about half past 4 or 4.

Mr. Roach. Yes, he has got to get up quite early. If he is going to be there at 7 o'clock he has got to get up anyhow at half past 5, unless he lives right close, when

he can get up at 6.

Mr. Cooper. Well, that doesn't give him very much chance with his wife and children, if he is blessed with them, does it?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Cooper. That is what you would call a pretty hard life, isn't it?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir. That is not the Company's ruling; the men agree themselves to do that. They were talking about making three shifts, but the men themselves decided not to take three shifts, but to work twelve hours.

Mr. Cooper. How many days in the year do these twelve hour men work?

Mr. Roach. Taking out fifty-two sundays, five holidays, that would be fifty-seven---about 308 days in the year.

Mr. Cooper. Have you no ten-hour law in this state?

Mr. Roach. Have we a ten-hour law?

Mr. Cooper. Yes.

Mr. Roach. you mean in the plant?

Mr. Copper. No, is there a law by statute?

Mr. Roach. No, my knowledge of the statute is the sixteen-hour law pertaining to working men, and the eight-hour law pertaining to child labor.

Mr. Cooper. Sixteen hours?

Mr. Roach. Sixteen hours is what they term on the railroad the "Hog law." You couldn't work them over sixteen hours. That is some law, I believe, that was enacted a few years back. That is to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. Baker. The interstate commerce sixteen-hour law.

Mr. Roach. The other law is the child labor law, which

I believe is eight hours.

Mr. Cooper. Now the English Government---its officials---who have been investigating labor and labor conditions and the elements that promote labor efficiency during this war---I mean English labor---have reported that long hours like that, of steady employment, lessen the efficiency of labor and its net product below what both efficiency and net product would be with lesser hours, and more of physical vigor, vitality and enthusiasm in the work. What do you think about that?

Mr. Roach. That will be true. I agree with you perfectly there. I don't think a man feels as good after performing eight hours as he would by performing six. And vice versa---the other way. I don't believe a man is physically fit after performing twelve hours---I don't think his standard of efficiency is increased any by him working more hours. I think that by working less hours his efficiency would increase naturally. The output, the product, would increase also.

Mr. Cooper. Now then if that is so, if a ten-hour man, or an eight-hour, would be more efficient and the product would be greater, you could pay the nine or ten-hour man some more wages couldn't you? And possibly by having three shifts, even though the men didn't want it, you would get as much product, because of their enthusiasm, the physical vigor among your working men, and make just as great profits, even though the men should originally insist they wanted to work twelve hours. That is so, isn't it?

Mr. Roach. Well, I believe you are right about that.

Mr. Cooper. That's all.

Mr. Foster. I would like to ask one or two questions. You stated that you contemplated at one time putting on three shifts and the men objected.

Mr. Roach. That was the question that arose between the men themselves. Some of the men brought up the question of making three shifts of eight hours apiece.

Mr. Foster. Did you discuss it with your workmen?

Mr. Roach. No, it was a matter entirely between the workmen. The Company had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Foster. Well now, there was nothing said about getting the same wages for three shifts in the twenty-four hours instead of two shifts was there?

Mr. Roach. No, that is a matter that the Company entered into at that time. The Company said, "We can't pay you the same for eight hours as we would for twelve."

Mr. Foster. Well, don't you think that twelve hours is too long for any man to work?

Mr. Roach. I do myself.

Mr. Foster. Why don't you correct it in your establishment?

Mr. Roach. That was up at that time and the men wouldn't stand for it. They wanted it themselves. In that department there aren't very many men working, to start with.

Mr. Foster. You agreed with Mr. Cooper there would be more efficiency in eight hours work.

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Why didn't you put it into operation?

Mr. Roach. The matter isn't up to me.

Mr. Foster. Why wouldn't you agree to it?

Mr. Roach. I would be glad to.

Mr. Foster. You never talked to the management about it?

Mr. Roach. No, the management had talked to the men about it, but the men decided to ~~be~~ stay by the twelve-hour shift themselves.

Mr. Foster. They proposed to pay them less wages for the eight-hour shift?

Mr. Roach. Well, naturally their hourly rate would not be increased any, and their earnings would decrease.

Mr. Foster. I will ask you if this was your judgment: The reason the men didn't take it was because they felt they couldn't afford to take a reduction in wages for an eight-hour shift, but they wouldn't have objected if they had gotten ---

Mr. Roach (interposing). Twelve hours for the eight hours work.

Mr. Foster. Yet you have kept them on a twelve-hour shift.

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Those men have to practically put in sixteen hours a day working and going from their homes to their work and back home again.

Mr. Roach. No, they live close to the plant, the majority of them. Their residence distance varies from a quarter of a ~~small~~ mile to a mile.

Mr. Foster. You agreed with Mr. Cooper that it would probably be eight or nine o'clock at night before they would get through and get to bed.

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Then he would have to get up in the morning at half-past 5 o'clock.

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. So that he was practically---he didn't see his children during day light houre did he?

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. He went home and it was dark; he got up in the morning before it was light, and he had no chance to see how his folks would look in day time, except on Sunday.

Mr. Roach. That's all.

Mr. Foster. Do you think that is a good thing?

Mr. Roach. No, sir; I don't.

Mr. Foster. I don't believe you do either.

Mr. Roach. No, sir.

Mr. Foster. Now did you ever hear, when these negroes were coming into East St. Louis by the train load---car-load and trainload, and one train followin g another---that there was not employment here for those negroes and that they were sent on to other cities?

Mr. Roach. I couldn't understand where they were going to.

Mr. Foster. I know, but did you hear they were going any place?

Mr. Roach. No, I didn't.

Mr. Foster. You never heard that they were being shipped on to Detroit or some other point?

Mr. Roach. No, I didn't hear that they had been shipped on.

Mr. Foster. You don't know that they weren't?

Mr. Roach. No.

Mr. Foster. Yet you think there was plenty of work here for all that came?

Mr. Roach. No, I don't think there was plenty of work

here. If the statement is true that there was some eight thousand sent here, I don't know where they could have been placed.

Mr. Foster. But you think they might have been sent on because there wasn't employment here for them?

Mr. Roach. They may have been sent on. As the gentleman preceding me said, they were "floaters."

Mr. Foster. Now you knew these xxx new colored people that came in here---that is, you recognized strange faces along in the fall of 1916?

Mr. Roach. Yes, sir.

Mr. Foster. Did they look like they were prosperous colored people?

Mr. Roach. No.

Mr. Foster. Did they have straw hats on late in the fall of the year when it was cold?

Mr. Roach. Well, some of them looked like---I questioned some of them and they said they had come from the South.

Mr. Foster. Did they look cold?

Mr. Roach. Yes, they were poorly kept.

Mr. Foster. That's all.

Mr. Raker. So far the unskilled labor has received much more than skilled labor in your plant, so far as the testimony developed at the present time goes.

Mr. Roach. Yes, just that particular class of work I have mentioned, stockers. That is a class of work that is on the outside, you know.

Mr. Raker. Are there any colored men doing this kind of work?

Mr. Roach. No, they are white men.

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Mr. Raker. Picked because of their strength and agility and ability to do the work?

Mr. Roach. Because of their ability to do the work.

Mr. Raker. That's all.

Mr. Johnson. You may be excused.

Call Calvin Cotton.

STATEMENT OF CALVIN COTTON(colored),
1943 Trendley Ave., East St. Louis, Illinois.

The witness was sworn by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson. What is your name?

Mr. Cotton. Calvin Cotton.

Mr. Johnson. Where do you live?

Mr. Cotton. At 1943 Trendley Avenue, East St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson. How long have you been living there?

Mr. Cotton. I have lived there for more than a year---about fourteen months.

Mr. Johnson. How long have you been in Illinois?

Mr. Cotton. About sixteen or seventeen years.

Mr. Johnson. Where did you live prior to coming here?

Mr. Cotton. Prior to coming here I lived in Mississippi.

Mr. Johnson. What business are you engaged in here?

Mr. Cotton. Well, I have been engaged in the teaming business now, but I was in the building business for three or four years.

Mr. Johnson. It has been represented to the Committee that you saw on the night of the first of July an automobile with some white men in it that shot into some negro houses?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Tell what you may know about that.

Mr. Cotton. That was on the night of the 1st of July. I had been to service to the church on Bond Avenue---19th and Bond. That is about two blocks from where I live, and I had gone from the church after service to St. Louis. Our bishop was with us that night, had preached for us, and I was taking him to St. Louis, and on our return back---I say "our"; I mean myself and Reverend Wallace and Dr. Hunter. When we came back---

Mr. Johnson. (interposing). How were you traveling?

Mr. Cotton. In an automobile. They brought me by my house. I live just one block from Market Avenue, and---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). What time did you get back?

Mr. Cotton. I got back about ten minutes, as near as I can remember---about ten minutes before 12 o'clock, and we were standing talking---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). Where?

Mr. Cotton. At my house.

Mr. Johnson. Three of you?

Mr. Cotton. Three of us.

Mr. Johnson. Sitting in an automobile?

Mr. Cotton. I was just standing on the ground and they were in the car---Dr. Hunter and Dr. Wallace---and while we were standing there talking an automobile passed us with no lights on. One of them spoke---I don't remember which one---"Look there at that car without any lights." They were driving very slow---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). Were they going north, south, east or west?

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Mr. Cotton. They were going north.

Mr. Johnson. On what street?

Mr. Cotton. On 20th street. They turned west on Market street, and as soon as they turned west on Market street they speeded up the car and about the time they got half way of the block we heard them begin shooting. We were very close to the alley and I ran to the alley and looked down to Market as the car was going, and I could see the flash as they would fire from the revolvers, as they would shoot on either side of the car, as the car speeded hurriedly through Market street.

Mr. Johnson. Who was in the car doing the shooting?

Mr. Cotton. I don't know. It was white men in the car. I don't know who it was.

Mr. Johnson. What did they shoot at?

Mr. Cotton. Why, I don't know. They were shooting just backwards and forwards---at least the fire from the revolvers was going both ways as the car passed on.

Mr. Johnson: Do you know of anybody being wounded by that shooting?

Mr. Cotton. I don't know of anyone being wounded.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know of any damage being done?

Mr. Cotton. I remember seeing some panes broken, that seemed to have been broken by shots.

Mr. Johnson. Window panes?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. When did you see those?

Mr. Cotton. Afterwards. I don't remember---just a day or two afterwards.

Mr. Johnson. How did you happen to see them?

Mr. Cotton. Passing down the street.

Mr. Johnson. Were they vacant houses?

Mr. Cotton. Well, the houses were all vacant at that time, but at this time there was nobody-hardly, on the street. The people had left their homes and were gone out of town.

Mr. Johnson. This was on the night of the 1st of July that the shooting occurred?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. And several days after that you saw the broken window panes?

Mr. Cotton. Well, just a day or two after that.

Mr. Johnson. Well, one day after that would be on the 2nd, wouldn't it?

Mr. Cotton. On the 2nd?

Mr. Johnson. Did you see the broken panes on the 2nd of July?

Mr. Cotton. I know I didn't see them on the 2nd.

Mr. Johnson. You saw them on the 3rd?

Mr. Cotton. About the 3rd, yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Well, were those panes broken before the 1st?

Mr. Cotton. I'm sure they were not. I passed down the street every day and I never noticed them being broken before---before the 1st.

Mr. Johnson. Whole panes were broken out, were they?

Mr. Cotton. Now whole panes. I remember one of the panes having a hole through it just about like this (indicating), and splintered around.

Mr. Johnson. About how big?

Mr. Cotton. About an inch---something like that. Probably not so large. As though it would be a small ball or something gone through it.

Mr. Johnson. How many of those did you see?

Mr. Cotton. I remember two. I remember one only on Market, and one on Bond. I think, however, that the one on Bond is there yet.

Mr. Johnson. Were those the only two broken windows you saw?

Mr. Cotton. The only ones I noticed.

Mr. Johnson. Just two broken windows?

Mr. Cotton. Two broken windows.

Mr. Johnson. Were they in vacant houses?

Mr. Cotton. No, people lived in the houses.

Mr. Johnson. On the night of the 1st?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Was any rioting done on the 2nd in that neighborhood.

Mr. Cotton. On the 2nd? None in that immediate neighborhood.

Mr. Johnson. There was no shooting down around there on the 2nd?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir; not in that neighborhood.

Mr. Johnson. You heard no complaint about it? You just happened to pass along the street and saw the holes in the window panes?

Mr. Cotton. On the next day, on the 2nd, in the afternoon, after I had been down town and gone back out home I could hear the neighbors talking about the shoot-

ing in the streets that night. That was the general talk, about the people in the automobile shooting.

Mr Johnson. In whose house was the first broken pane that you saw?

Mr. Cotton. I am not acquainted with the man that lived in the house. I am not personally acquainted with the man that lived in the house, but the house was between 17th and 18th.

Mr. Johnson. You are not acquainted with the man who lived in the house where you saw the first broken pane?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. As you went down by there that morning of the third and saw that broken pane, did you stop to inquire anything about it?

Mr. Cotton. I did not.

Mr. Johnson. Did you stop to inquire about it from the occupants of the house at any other time?

Mr. Cotton. I don't know as I ever seen them any more, because they left the city.

Mr. Johnson. You don't know then when it occurred?

Mr. Cotton. I do not. I know I seen it after the 1st. I saw the pane broken, but I don't remember seeing the occupants of the house, because I didn't personally know them, and I never---I don't know that they ever came back, because most everybody moved off of the street.

Mr. Johnson. You say that broken window pane is not there now? Is the entire pane out, or has it been replaced by another glass?

Mr. Cotton. I think it has been replaced.

Mr. Johnson. Well, don't you know whether it has

or not?

Mr. Cotton. I'm not positive about it.

Mr. Johnson. Well, if you would notice a bullet hole in a pane of glass, isn't it a natural thing for you to notice the next time whether there is a new pane of glass in there?

Mr. Cotton. Well, I noticed for some time that the pane was out. The hole was in there for some time afterwards, but I haven't paid any attention for some time, because I have been busy.

Mr. Johnson. Did you ever go into the house during that time?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. You never were in the house?

Mr. Cotton. No, I don't know as I ever was in that particular house. Probably I have moved somebody in when I was in the teaming business, but just as to going into the house to see the people, I didn't know them and had no occasion to go in.

Mr. Johnson. How as to the second house where there was a broken pane, do you know the people who lived in there?

Mr. Cotton. I didn't know the people in there.

Mr. Johnson. Did you go in?

Mr. Cotton. No, I haven't been in the house. They moved out of the house and the house was vacant for a long time.

Mr. Johnson. When did they move out?

Mr. Cotton. Oh, they moved out during the week after the riot.

Mr. Johnson. And the people moved out of the first house during the week of the riot?

Mr. Cotton. Well, they moved out some time along about that time. The people all left---most of the people left and was away for about a week, and then they began to move.

Mr. Johnson. Were negroes living in both houses?

Mr. Cotton. There were colored people in both houses.

Mr. Johnson. Were there any white people living in that square?

Mr. Cotton. One or two families, yes.

Mr. Johnson. Did any white people adjoin either of these two houses?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Both of these two houses were adjoined on both sides by houses occupied by negroes?

Mr. Cotton. Well, one of them---there is no house in the block, in the immediate block, but that one. Colored people---you know the cross street---this house is in a block by itself.

Mr. Johnson. Is that the first or the second one?

Mr. Cotton. The second one.

Mr. Johnson. That is the only house in the square?

Mr. Cotton. That is the only house in the square, and on Bond Avenue there is colored people on either side.

Mr. Johnson. Well, the house where you saw the first broken window pane was on Bond Avenue?

Mr. Cotton. No, on Market.

Mr. Johnson. And there are a number of people living in that square?

Mr. Cotton. Quite a number of people living there.

Mr. Johnson. Both black and white?

Mr. Cotton. Only a couple families---only one family of white, I think, in that block.

Mr. Johnson. You three who were at the automobile were not shot at?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. You weren't disturbed in any way?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. The people in the automobile from which the shooting was done didn't say anything to you?

Mr. Cotton. They didn't say anything.

Mr. Johnson. Did you ever go into these houses to see whether or not there was a bullet hole on the opposite side from the window?

Mr. Cotton. I did not. I haven't been in the houses since the riot.

Mr. Johnson. Is anybody living in those houses now?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Colored people or white people?

Mr. Cotton. Colored.

Mr. Johnson. After that automobile from which you say the firing was done had disappeared, what did you do?

Mr. Cotton. Well, after it disappeared I stood on my porch for about, I guess, twenty minutes.

Mr. Johnson. And that would be how late?

Mr. Cotton. That would be about 12:10 or 12:15.

Mr. Johnson. Then what did you do?

Mr. Cotton. Then I heard some other shooting, more shooting farther on down the street.

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Mr. Johnson. What street?

Mr. Cotton. Well, it seemed to be in the same direction that the car went. That was about---the shooting seemed to be six or seven blocks farther down. A lot of shooting I heard there, and I sat up quite a while by myself, and then I went to bed.

Mr. Johnson. You didn't leave the house that night?

Mr. Cotton. I didn't leave my house.

Mr. Johnson. What became of the other two who were with you?

Mr. Cotton. I guess they went home. They drove the car on home. They lived about a block away.

Mr. Johnson. Did they say where they were going?

Mr. Cotton. They said, "Let's go home," as soon as the shooting, and then they rushed right on home. They lived about a block from where I did.

Mr. Johnson. In the opposite direction from where the shooting was done, or in the same direction?

Mr. Cotton. They went east, because they lived east, and the car went west. They crossed the street where the car went down, where the car had passed. Then they crossed, and the next street they lived at the corner.

Mr. Johnson. Did you hear the church bell ring?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Did you see anything of that bunch of armed colored people out that night?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. You say you got back home about ten minutes of 12?

Mr. Cotton. I got home about ten minutes of 12.

We had been standing talking about five minutes, I guess, when the car passed by.

Mr. Johnson. Then you walked in on your porch?

Mr. Cotton. After the shooting. I didn't go in until after the shooting.

Mr. Johnson. Which shooting? After the first shooting you went in on your own porch?

Mr. Cotton. Yes.

Mr. Johnson. You remained there until 10 or 15 minutes past 12?

Mr. Cotton. Something like that.

Mr. Johnson. Then you heard more shooting?

Mr. Cotton. Then I heard more shooting.

Mr. Johnson. After that you went to bed and saw nothing of the rioters that night?

Mr. Cotton. No; no farther that night.

Mr. Johnson. Did you see anything of the disorder next day?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. Cotton. Tell what you saw.

Mr. Cotton. It was in the morning about 9 o'clock, I was standing on Collinsville Avenue and Broadway, myself and Mack Hearet, a neighbor of mine, a colored man, and while we were standing talking a stout white fellow---I don't know his name but I know him when I see him---he stood pretty close to us---I didn't know that any trouble had occurred at that time. We were talking and he kept standing pretty close to us, and I didn't know what he was standing there for---just seeing maybe where we would go---he would come up and stand, and seemed to be listen-

ing to what we were talking about, so I walked over to the curbstone close to the wagon where my friend had been driving, and by that time an officer came around the corner, and this fellow stepped over to him and told him, he says---

Mr. Johnson (interposing). You mean by officer a police officer?

Mr. Cotton. A police officer; and this fellow said to him, "You had better get these"---made an oath- -"better get these negroes off the street, because we're going to kill every one we see in a minute."

Mr. Johnson. Who said that?

Mr. Cotton. This fellow.. And then he said something to the officer, and the officer held his head over this way (illustrating) and listened to him, and then threw up his head and walked off. I don't know what he said to the man, but after he said that, this friend of mine got on his wagon and drove on out Broadway east, and I walked across the street and went into the real estate office in the building there, just a few doors away, and just where I was standing about five or ten minutes afterwards I heard shooting, and I went to the window and I saw that they had shot a colored fellow down. I don't know whether that fellow did it or who did it, but they shot the fellow down just about where I was standing when this fellow told the officer they were going to kill every one they seen. After that I went on to St. Louis. After the shooting I got a car and went on to St. Louis.

Mr. Johnson. Did you come out on the street right

where this man had been shot?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir; I came out on the Main street side. I came out on the opposite side. The building was open and I went in on one side and came out on the other.

I kept on to St. Louis, and when I came back---when I was coming back and got near the bridge and went to get a car, the conductor told me not to come over.

Mr. Johnson. What time of day was that?

Mr. Cotton. That was about 12 o'clock, 12 o'clock or half past. He told me not to come over because they were killing about all the negroes they seen over here. I told him I had to come because my family was on this side, and I just had to come, and I met some colored fellows whose heads were mutilated, and they were without their hats and bloody all over, but I come on anyhow and took a chance, and I got off the car here at near Missouri Avenue, and I saw them running a colored fellow there, and I took the back street and went on around by Fourth street, and when I got to Fourth street I saw them run a colored fellow into the saloon there and were shooting at him. So I went on out Broadway---walked out Broadway and went on home.

That's all of the rioting I seen.

Mr. Johnson. You weren't molested?

Mr. Cotton. Well, there was nobody---I didn't come in contact with them. I kept out of the way.

Mr. Johnson. Did you come across a policeman on your way?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Nor a soldier?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir.

Mr. Johnson. You didn't encounter either?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir; I didn't.

Mr. Cooper. Of what did your family consist at that time?

Mr. Cotton. My wife and one small child, a grand child of mine.

Mr. Cooper. Your wife and grand child?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Cooper. How long have you lived in East St. Louis?

Mr. Cotton. Seventeen years.

Mr. Cooper. You say you are in the teaming business?

Mr. Cotton. I am in the teaming business now.

Mr. Cooper. What did you formerly do, before the riot?

Mr. Cotton. Well, I have pastored here for some years, in this city, but at this time I was in the building business. I have been building, and I was in the building business at the time of the riot.

Mr. Cooper. You don't know who any of the occupants of that car from which the firing was done were?

Mr. Cotton. I do not.

Mr. Baker. What became of this young fellow you say you saw tell the officer that they were going to kill all the negroes they could find?

Mr. Cotton. I don't know what became of him. I don't remember seeing him since the riot.

Mr. Johnson. Have you testified in the courts rela-

tive to this incident?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir; I have testified as to my being a part of the committee that waiting on the Mayor relative to the conditions prior to the riot---to this last riot.

Mr. Johnson. Tell us about that.

Mr. Cotton. Well, after the 28th of May it seemed that the condition was getting so awful bad---that is to say that the white people and colored people seemed to be getting so very bad---after the 28th of May it seemed---the spirit seemed to be growing worse and worse. The colored and whites seemed to be not getting along well together. That is to say, every night or every day they seemed to have been having some trouble, and especially down by the Free Bridge and near the Aluminum Ore plant. Then on one occasion there was a colored man, an old man, 60 years old, coming from Edwardsville, and a bunch of white fellows pulled him off the car up in the north part of town and beat the old fellow up. I learned he died after that---on Sunday night. Well we---

Mr. Baker (interposing). When was that?

Mr. Cotton. That was after May 28th.

Mr. Baker. Between the 28th of May and the main riot?

Mr. Cotton. Yes. And so there was fighting just a few days before we went to see the Mayor. One of the young men was going to church with some lady, and a bunch of fellows ran this young man and beat him. So we saw there was going to be trouble---seemed to be going into serious trouble---so a committee of us, Mack Hearst being

a part of that committee---the same man I was talking about---we decided---first of all we made up a committee and sent to Governor Lowden and asked him to use his influence towards bringing about peace down here; and it didn't get no better. We sent a second time to the Governor, and it got no better. Then we decided to go and see the Mayor again, so this committee and I come to wait on the Mayor in his office, and to explain the condition to him and how things were going, and the Mayor says he thought everything was all right. He said there had been some committees waited on him before along the same line, but so far as he had learned everything was all right. He said they had just told some people that inquired about the condition that everything was well in hand; but from what we had told him and what the other committee had told him he was satisfied it wasn't all right, and he would do the best he could to adjust matters. And he called Chief Payne and some other---two other officers---I don't remember who they were---and told them to meet him at his office at 8 o'clock that night. That was on Monday before the riot, and he said to us, "Now, gentlemen, I will assure you that things will be different. I have done all I could do; I give my instructions to the officers, but I can't be there to make the arrests when these things happen. I have done the best I could. I can't be there to make the arrests, but I give them my instructions and it seems like they are not in harmony with me." He says, "I guess the employees of these firms give me hell on one side, and you folks give me hell on one side, and the unions give me

hell on one side, but I'm satisfied myself I'm doing the best I can. I'm trying to adjust these things, and I'll call up Chief Payne and have him meet me in the office."

He did call him up and told him to meet him in the office that evening at 8 o'clock. So we left, but it seemed the same trouble kept on up until that Sunday night, and Monday and Tuesday---and Monday they had the trouble.

Mr. Johnson. Do you know the place where the officers were killed on the night of the 1st of July?

Mr. Cotton. I know where they say they were killed.

Mr. Johnson. At what place do they say they were killed?

Mr. Cotton. I think they say they were killed at 10th and Bond Avenue.

Mr. Johnson. Is that north, south, east or west of your residence?

Mr. Cotton. That is southwest.

Mr. Johnson. And that is the direction in which the automobile went from which the firing was done?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. You say your bishop was over here that night?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. Did he preach?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir.

Mr. Johnson. At what church?

Mr. Cotton. At the St. John A. M. E. Zion Church.

Mr. Johnson. Is that the church the bell of which was rung that night?

Mr. Cotton. No, sir; we have no bell.

Mr. Johnson. Where is this church located at which the bishop spoke that night?

Mr. Cotton. 19th and Bond Avenue.

Mr. Johnson. And this killing occurred at 19th and Bond Avenue?

Mr. Cotton. Yes, sir; that's where I understand.

Mr. Johnson. What was the bishop's text that night?

Mr. Cotton. I don't remember.

Mr. Johnson. Did he make any reference whatever to race troubles here?

Mr. Cotton. None whatever. In fact, he didn't know it. He didn't know there was any trouble at all.

Mr. Johnson. Did anybody else make any remarks there that night?

Mr. Cotton. None whatever.

Mr. Johnson. He was the only one that spoke.

Mr. Cotton. He was the only one.

Mr. Johnson. Very well, you may be excused. The committee stands adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

(Whereupon, at 5:40 o'clock p.m., the Committee adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m., Wednesday, October 24).