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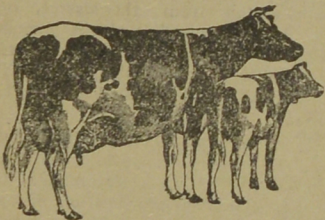
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WOOLEN MAGNATE TO BE TRIED FOR CONSPIRACY

Boston, Mass., Feb. 26—The spectacle of the leading representative of one of the largest and wealthiest corporations in this State being tried upon the same charge as the thirty representatives of labor who a short time ago were convicted of conspiracy in Indianapolis, will be presented when William M. Wood, president of the American Woollen Company, and one of the leading textile magnates of the world, together with several alleged accomplices, will be tried before a jury in the Superior Criminal Court of Suffolk County upon the charge of complicity in the alleged "planting" of dynamite during the strike of the mill hands at Lawrence, Mass., last Spring. Owing to the great wealth and prominent position of the charges against him and the other defendants the case which is to begin next week and will probably last a fortnight or more, is attracting country-wide attention, particularly in labor circles, where the outcome of the trial is awaited with intense interest.

The Commonwealth which, at the trial, will be represented by District Attorney Joseph C. Pelletier, argues and will try to prove that Wood and the other defendants conspired to place explosives in such a manner in the disturbed community as to discredit the striking mill operatives and to turn public sentiment against them. The trial which has many unusual features, promises to be highly sensational.

The arrest of John Breen, a member of the Lawrence School Board, upon the charge of having planted dynamite, was the first sensation which developed in the conspiracy case during the strike at Lawrence. Breen was found guilty and after a quick trial was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500. It was then suspected that others were concerned in the matter, but it was seven months later, long after the strike had been ended, that the grand jury found indictments against Wood and several others, including Fred E. Atteaux, a dyer, Dennis J. Collins, a Cambridge dog fancier, William H. Rice, and East Milton, quarryman. A few days before the indictments were returned, Ernest W. Pitman, head of the E. W. Pitman Company, one of the largest builders of textile mills in New England for Europe. It was rumored at the time that he had inadvertently given damaging evidence in the conspiracy case and had taken his own life for fear of becoming entangled in the case. Wood and the other defendants were arrested on August 30 of last year and released under heavy bonds.

Naturally enough the general interest is centered upon William M. Wood, the principal defendant and alleged leader of the conspiracy. His life history is unusually interesting and his rise from poverty to wealth and high position presents the elements of a remarkable romance. In the fall of 1860 Captain Henry Pease, a whaler of Edgar town, Martha's Vineyard, brought with him to that town a poor Portuguese from Fayal, one of the Azores, who had shipped as cook on the captain's vessel. The man's name was Jacintho, but he soon changed it to Wood, in honor of a man who had befriended him and had supplied him with a fisherman's outfit. William Jacintho Wood soon married and on April 5, 1861, their eldest child, William M. Wood, was born. The boy was bright and his father tried his best to give him an education. Jacintho did not thrive in the raw New England climate and after he had worked for a few years as fisherman, cooper and steward on one of the Sound boats, he died at New Bedford of tuberculosis.

William M. Wood was eleven years old when his father died and he had to quit school and go to work. For three years he worked in the office of the Wamsutta mills and displayed great ability. Then he worked for three years in the mechanical department of the mills and acquired a thorough knowledge of the milling work. His next post was that of bookkeeper in J. A. Beauregard's bank. After a few years he became assistant manager of some woollen mills in Fall River. When Dr. Frederick Ayer, the patent medicine manufacturer, was obliged to take over the Washington mill in Lawrence, because that institution could not repay certain loans, Wood was made assistant manager of that mill. He also became acquainted with Dr. Ayer's family and married the doctor's only daughter. Backed by his father-in-law's wealth

William M. Wood soon expanded his activity and with remarkable business ability succeeded in organizing the American Woollen Company upon a substantial basis and making it a well paying corporation. His salary as president of the company alone is said to be \$100,000 a year and his other interests in mills and other industrial and financial institutions are estimated to be in the millions.

OLDER LEADERS RE- TIRING FROM CONGRESS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25—Many noted leaders of the Senate and House today entered upon the final week of their congressional careers. When the Sixty-third Congress assembles in extraordinary session a few weeks hence there will be much about it strange to those who have long been familiar with the personnel of past Congresses.

In the House the most conspicuous thing will be the absence of "Uncle Joe" Cannon. It is more than forty years since Mr. Cannon was first elected a member of the House, and he has occupied a seat in that body ever since, except during the term 1891-3. He has served as a member of the House longer than any other man that has ever occupied a seat there, and his service as Speaker exceeded that of any other man except Henry Clay. But Mr. Cannon will not be the only member of the House who will be missed after March 4. Dalzell of Pennsylvania and McCall of Massachusetts, who for years have been shapers of Republican tariff policy, will be among the missing when Speaker Clark raps the Sixty-third Congress to order. The tidal wave in Illinois wrought notable changes. Among the members of the Prairie State delegation left out in the cold are George E. Foss, George W. Prunce, William A. Rodenberg and William B. McKinley, the last named widely known as the chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee.

Other well known members of the House who will be relegated to pri-

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vate life one week hence are Nicholas Longworth of Ohio, James C. Needham of California, Ebenezer Hill of Connecticut, Edgar D. Crumpacker of Indiana, George P. Lawrence and Butler A. Ames of Massachusetts, Martin W. Littleton of New York, Victor Berger of Wisconsin, who has been the lone representative of the Socialist party in Congress; William B. Wilson of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee on Labor, and Arsene Pujo of Louisiana, chairman of the "money devil," chairman of the committee on banking and currency.

In the Senate the changes will be marked by reason of the character of the men who are to retire and

of the marked contrast in some instances between them and the men who will take their places. The Republicans in the Senate have suffered very serious losses, while the Democrats have made a distinct gain in capable and energetic young men who will come over to the north end of the Capital from the House of Representatives.

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