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EDITORS NOTE: -- The following is confidential and is strictly for your personal information. It is designed to give frank intelligence of what is going on behind the scenes of the news and news in the making.

WASHINGTON---Senator Smoot attributes his defeat after twenty years of Senatorial service partly to the financial failures of his son. The latter lost heavily on investments in the stock market, and Smoot's personal fortune was seriously depleted by taking up his son's notes, for which Smoot held himself responsible.

On one occasion last winter Floyd Wallicker, an operative for a private detective agency, was given a bad check of \$300 signed by young Smoot to secure collection. He did so through his acquaintance with a bootlegger named Dreyfus who had served young Smoot.

During the past summer Senator Smoot came to New York and made a desperate appeal to some of his wealthy friends. He said the situation in Utah was desperate and that he was short of money for his campaign. Some money was raised.

Later of course, President Hoover, himself, went out of his way to help return the veteran chairman of the finance Committee to the Senate. En route to California he stopped at Salt Lake City to meet Heber J. Grant, head of the Mormon church. Grant was ill, and Hoover even went to his office to greet him. Grant had declared publicly for Smoot. Vice President Curtis, together with Secretaries Wilbur and Hyde, also made special pilgrimages to the Mormon state -- all to no avail.

Smoot's son has a different explanation for his father's defeat. He says that his step-mother -- Smoot's second wife, the former Mrs. Alice Taylor Sheets -- high-hatted all the wives of Mormon dignitaries in Salt Lake City.