FIND HIDING PLACE

WITNESSES WANTED IN SHOOT GANG CANNOT BE LOCATED.

Prosecution Compelled to Rest, and Defense Will Open January 10—Lively Time by Opposing Counsel.

WASHINGTON.—The Senator Reed Smoot investigation has reached that period where counsel for the protestants have concluded the examination of all persons who could be reached by the subpoenas issued by the senate commission. Attorney Taylor announced that he was ready to rest his case, except for the introduction of documentary evidence and possibly the examination later of some persons on whom it has been impossible to get service. The case of the respondent will be opened January 10, to which date the hearings have been adjourned.

Just before adjournment of the committee opposing counsel engaged in controversy over the admissibility of certain reference works as evidence of the doctrine of the Mormon faith. No agreement could be reached, and after heated arguments Mr. Taylor recalled Apostle Penrose to identify certain reference books. In a number of instances Mr. Penrose denied that the works had been accepted by the church as authoritative publications and said many of the matters contained in the documents were subject to dispute.

Delay Cause For Anxiety

ST. PETERSBURG.—The delay in the issuance of the imperial manifesto outlining reforms has led to the wildest rumors, according to which Emperor Nicholas has turned back on the idea of making any concessions, the immediate downfall of Interior Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky is imminent and the nomination of Lieutenant General Kielgs, governor may be looked for.

These reports, according to the Associated press information, are entirely without foundation. It is beyond question that the measures shortly to be announced will be unsatisfactory to the extremists and to many liberals, who will be content with nothing less than a complete revolution of the government. The proposition for a constitution and the convocation of a national assembly, the emperor after careful consultation with his minister and other advisors has rejected as impracticable and impassible under the existing conditions, but what is termed a definite program of rational measures has been determined upon and shortly will be announced. At the same time, in order to put a stop to the ferment into which the country has been thrown by the present agitation, the announcement will be made in such a fashion as to leave the people under no illusions regarding the government's position.

Patterson Ordeal Ended

NEW YORK.—After a day of torment, facing the merciless cross questioning of Prosecutor Rand, Nan Patterson, the former show girl, went to her cell in the Tombs tired but happy. For several hours she sat under the galling crossfire of the assistant district attorney, who probed the event of her life from the day she met Caesar Young, for the killing of whom she is being tried, till the moment of his tragic death. No detail was so trivial as to escape the attention of the state's attorney, but with scarcely an exception the accused actress proved a marvel of self control.

Only once did Mr. Rand confuse her greatly.

In going over the conversation between her and Young at the Gravesend track Miss Patterson testified that Young gave as a reason for sailing to Europe the fact that he was afraid Mrs. Young might harm him or the prisoner. Miss Patterson finally admitted that she recalled only an incident which happened in San Francisco. At times she parried the sharp questions of her inquisitor, but when he pinned her down to a definite question, her answer was frankness itself.

Seek to Cancel Insurance

ST. LOUIS.—Attorney F. A. Schofield of Hannibal, Mo. appointed to take depositions in the suit of a New York life insurance company to cancel the $200,000 policy held by the late James L. Blair of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company began the taking of testimony at the federal building. The cancellation of the policy is asked on the grounds that Blair concealed the fact that he was uninsurable at the time he took out the policy in 1903.

PILE OF BAD DEEDS

PECULATIONS OF LATE JAMES L. BLAIR BROUGHT OUT.

PAPER PROVEN FORGERIES

WITNESS GIVES SENSATIONAL EVIDENCE AT ST. LOUIS.

Helps Case of Insurance Company Which Wants Policies Cancelled—Whereabouts of Mr. Chauncey Missing.

ST. LOUIS.—At the hearing of the testimony in the suit before Special Master F. A. Schofield of Hannibal, Mo., appointed by the United States circuit court to take testimony in the action brought by the Mutual Insurance company of New York to annul James Blair's $200,000 insurance policy, Edward S. Robert gave sensational evidence.

Mr. Robert told of the conversations held between Blair and himself, when he discovered that Blair had forged deeds belonging to the Blow estate, of which Robert became co-agent in 1899. After Mr. Robert became associated with Blair's management of the state they went together to a safety deposit box in which the Blow estate securities were held to check them over.

There says he found deeds of trust purporting to have been made by John Dwight for $20,000 and Michael O'Laughlin for $12,000 for loans on certain properties. Among other deeds of trust alleged to be given were those of John T. Williamson the and Victor audet.

Mr. Robert then detailed the particulars of the meeting at the office of James L. Blair in September, 1903 in which Blair's transactions with the property of his employers was first made public, and told of Blair's subsequent resignation as trustee when requested.

Asked what brought up the subject of the charges against Blair, the witness said:

"The discussion of affairs of the two estates, the one closed and the other just closing."

Mr. Robert said he remembered that in the pile of bad deeds he had placed the John Dwyer and Michael O'Laughlin deeds, also of trust made out to the names of John T. Williamson and Victor Daudet.

"I gave the bad ones to Mr. Blair," Robert said, "after he paid us for them"

"How much did he pay you?" Judge McKeighan asked

"About $63,000, I think, "Mr. Robert replied. "He paid us not only for the amounts represented by the deeds, but for the checks and possibly other forms of indebtedness

I do not remember all the details The amount was calculated by a Mr May, whom we hired from Jones Caesar & Co, accountants, to go over the books"

Reserves to Fill Vacancies.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The mobilization announced of the reserves in seven military districts of Russia affects a portion of about half of the military districts. While some of the reserve men called to the colors will be used to complete the strength of the regiments going to the front, by far the greater portion will be formed into reserve units to replace troops which have already gone to the far east. This year the conscripts number about 500,000 men being about double the number usually called to the colors. The number of young men annually liable to military service is over 800,000. The new mobilization will entail additional relief measures for the families of reserve men, which probably will be met by increasing the credits of the zemstvos for this purpose.

While declining to give details the admiralty admits that Russian advices from Port Arthur, sent by General Stoessel, substantially confirmed the Japanese advices of the partial wrecking of the Russian ship in the harbor, and the censor has been instructed to permit the publication of the dispatches. It is claimed that several of the largest ships and a number of torpedo boat destroyers are still seaworthy, but they are not being considered as a factor in the coming fight between Admiral Togo's ships and the Russian second Pacific squadron.

Columbus Fireman Injured.

COLUMBUS, O.—Fire on High street destroyed $225,000 worth of property in the business district, and in an explosion during the fire two men were injured. The flames started in the Mithoff building in the rear of the First National bank. The second, third and fourth floors were occupied as flats and fifteen families resided there. While the firemen were at work on the second floor there was an explosion of gas.

LONDON SCENTS SCANDAL

RUSSIA ACCUSED OF TRYING TO BRIBE FISHERMEN.

Members of Trawler Fleet Said to Have Given Testimony That Japanese Torpedo Boats Were With Them.

LONDON.—The publication in St. Petersburg of the statement that the Hull fishermen have voluntarily disclosed that foreign torpedo boats were among the trawlers on Dogger Bank when the latter were fired upon by ships of the Russian Baltic squadron is probably coming more than a repetition of similar statements emanating from Hull and appearing in London papers the last few days. These are circumstantial and it would certainly appear to be true that some men of the Gamecock fleet have made statements before the Russian consul. The name of any one of these has been revealed. He is the boatswain of the trawler Ava and he said that he was induced to make the statement while he was intoxicated. He admits he received a certain amount of money, but now says the statement he made is untrue. The tenor of his statement or of any others has not been revealed. All published reports from Hull say positively that these statements were secured by two agents of the Russian government, but the Russian embassy in London repeats to-day to the Associated press, made on December 21, saying that there is absolutely no truth in the statement in any way or any one delegated by Russia has been endeavoring to secure statements from the Gamecock fishermen, in support of Russia's position before the Paris commission. It was pointed out, however, that although Russia had offered a reward for information the Russian government was not responsible for the course pursued by any person desiring to secure reward. It was positively stated that the embassy has no knowledge and no information tending to support the report of the St. Petersburg paper alluded to

The sensational press of England in city charges the Russian government with using underhand means, by bribery and intoxicants, to secure false statements from men of the Gamecock fishing fleet. The Russian consul at Hull said the boatswain of the Ava was brought to his office, but that he sent him to the commissioner of oaths, where, the consul says, the boatswain swore he saw a Japanese torpedo boat with the trawlers. The consul says he knows other trawlers who are ready to make similar statements, but that they are afraid of the consequences. The consul indignantly denies that he has made an attempt to induce fishermen to make statements. He says that when informed of the nature of the statement the boatswain of the Ava intended to make it his duty to his government to render every assistance.

One explanation of the matter emanates from Paris where it is stated that two reporters of the Petit Parisient visited Hull in order to interview men of the Gamecock fleet and secure information concerning the Dogger bank affair. As none of the newspaper representatives assume to identify the agents as Russians, but describe them as foreigners employed by the Russian government, this is the most probable explanation which, however, may possibly have a sequel in the testimony before the international tribunal at Paris.

Jury is Tied Up

NEW YORK.—Nan Patterson, former show girl, sent an anxious evening in the criminal court building awaiting the result of the deliberation of the twelve men who should after noon were sent to a jury room to decide whether she should be branded as the woman who fired the shot that killed Caesar Young, or liberated to join her family.

She had expected a speedy verdict and had even packed her belongings and left them in a cell which has been her home for several months but evening came and the jury went to dinner, and returned to its deliberations with no sign of what the verdict would be.

The suspense of the early days of the trial, when Prosecutor Rand put witness after witness on the stand to complete a chain of circumstantial evidence against her, returned although outwardly Miss Patterson seemed to maintain the same quiet demeanor that has characterized her from the beginning.

Most of Saloons Illegal.

PIERRE, S. D.—Judge Haney of the supreme court handed down a decision in an appeal from the Kingsbury court in which the point at issue was the right of a town board to grant liquor licenses where there had been no affirmative vote at the last preceding election. The decision of the lower court that an affirmative vote was required every year was affirmed by the supreme court.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Saunders county farmers south of Fremont have organized a rural telephone company.

The residence of Conrad Bruer at Tekamah was entered the other night and some chinaware, worth $60, stolen.

District court for Johnson county will convene on January 10. The docket is a large one and several important cases are to be heard.

The news has been received at Plattsmouth of the burning of the residence of George Wills and the cremation of his two little children.

J. H. Parson station agent at the union depot at Fremont has resigned his position and will remove to Omaha where he has accepted the position of assistant city ticket agent for the Union Pacific.

Charles Field, foreman for the Pence Bros. contractors on the new Gillespie depot at Crete was found hanging by the neck to a rafter in the building. He was dead when cut down. It is thought he committed suicide in a fit of despondency.

The water company at Nebraska City has been compelled to extend its suction pipe 1,900 feet out into the river and across a sandbar, owing to the decline of the river. A large island has formed in front of the pumping station.

For a number of years the Salvation Army has given a Christmas dinner to the poor of Fremont. This year as they no longer have a station here, the ladies societies of the different churches have taken in the matter and will serve an elaborate dinner to those who are not able to procure one for themselves.

M. D. Hatch of Lincoln has invented a device which will husk corn directly from the stalks, taking two rows at a time and missing none, even if the stalks are flat on the ground. The device will husk twenty acres a day. A stock company is to be formed and the device will be manufactured and placed upon the market.

At the meeting at Lincoln of the state board of education rapid progress was reported on the Kearney normal school and new chapel at Peru. The sum of $1,694.64 was allowed for work already done on the Kearney building. A number of estimates for work and fixtures were allowed. The fifth estimate for the Peru chapel, to the amount of $6,546.30, was allowed. Previous amounts totaled $14,671.95.

County Attorney George Wertz of Hitchcock county has filed complaint against John Sprecher, editor of the Schoolcraft Free Lance, charging him with malicious slander. The charges were filed in the county court at Columbus and a warrant was issued at once. Mr. Wertz is expected to file a complaint in each county where the paper has a circulation.

The "Mt" street car, which the city of Columbus seeks to open on a street which has previously been vacated and sold to the Union Pacific railroad, will be heard before the United States court of appeals this week at St. Louis. City Attorney W. M. Cornelius, Judge I. J. Sullivan and Israel Gilery represent the city. At a former trial in Omaha the railroad company was given judgment.

Lex Wilmerer, who is in charge of a hidden resort that is reported established across the river, killed seventy-two large rattlesnakes in one day, last week by spearing them through the ice. The rattles weighed between twenty and thirty pounds each. They congregated in the shallows near the shore and were catching many bass and carp. He cut a small hole in the ice above the turtles and spear'd them with a rod and then cut the ice around them and killed them.

Some good reports are coming from the wheat fields around Columbus. Joe Mlesk, who lives on what is called the "island," between the north and south channels of the Loup river in Polk county, just finished husking a fifty acre field from which he gathered 3,715 bushels, or almost seventy bushels per acre. He can market the corn at 30 cents, which would return him almost $30 per acre for the crop. This land was selling on the market a few years ago at $18 per acre and could not now be bought for much less than $60.

D. J. Pitman of Plattsmouth says that during the past eight days he weighed in 28,000 bushels of corn at his elevator, and during that time 50,000 bushels more were received there.

A company, known as the Pathfinder Electric and Water Power company, headed by G. L. Shumway of Scotts Bluff county, purposes to erect an 485,000 power plant on the North Platte near the town of Gering. The plant will be used for irrigating, manufacturing and other purposes.

MEN'S HAIR FASHIONS.

Not So Various as Women's but Subject to Change.

"We hear a good deal about the various styles in which women dress their hair," said the barber, "but we don't hear much said about the styles in which men wear their hair.

"Yet men do have styles in this regard which they follow closely, though they do not change their styles so frequently as women do theirs, nor are their styles so various. They are, indeed, confined mostly to changes in the part.

"Two or three years ago, as you will remember, it was the fashion for men to part their hair in the middle, and this was the fashion very commonly followed, and by many elderly as well as by young men. There were many older men not adverse to following the fashion of the younger men to make themselves more like the younger man in appearance, and then many an older man found that by parting his hair in the middle he was enabled to cover up the bare spots that time had brought to his temples, and he took kindly to the fashion on that account.

"The parting the hair in the middle was really the prevailing fashion, and men, old and young, wearing their hair in that manner were to be met in every hand. But now a man with his hair so parted is but rarely seen; pretty much every man now parts his hair on the side, and a man, old or young, with hair parted in the middle would attract attention.

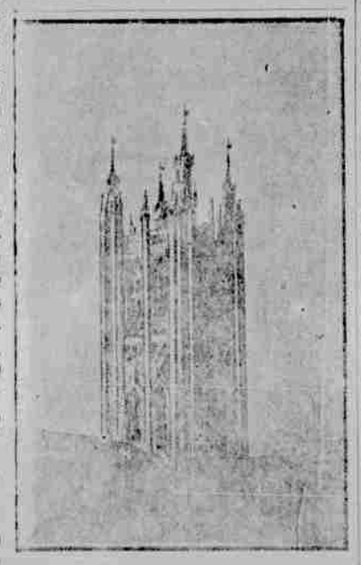
"Men have individual ways in the wearing of their hair, as, for example, some men who think long hair is becoming to them may wear their hair long, and some men with naturally curly hair may not try very hard to comb it out straight. There are men who follow their fancies as to how they shall wear their hair, just as there are some women who disregard the style and wear their hair in the manner they believe to be most becoming to them; but as to the part, the prevailing style for men now is to have that on the side.

"Women say that men look better with their hair parted on the side than in the middle, but I don't think this has anything to do with making the style, for most men consider themselves attractive anyway, and I look in due time to see the middle part become fashionable again.

"As a matter of fact, the side part, which is the natural part for men does prevail in the long run, taking a long series of years; but men like a change, and the middle part pleases their vanity, or in some cases serves a purpose, and it will no doubt come in again, to last at least for a while then change their ways of wearing their hair just as they change the styles of the shoe they wear."—New York Sun.

TO RESTORE FAMOUS TOWER.

The Archbishop of Canterbury appealed recently for funds to restore the Bell Harry Tower of Canterbury Cathedral as it is suffering from "grievous external decay." The cost of repairs will amount to no less than $50,000, which includes $5,000 for scaffolding alone, and $15,000 more will be needed for other repairs. The bell tower was finished in 1495 and is 235 feet high.



BELL HARRY TOWER OF CANTERBURY.

Mammoth Caves in France.

One of the strangest holiday resorts, and one of the most interesting, is that recently made accessible to the public at Padirac, in the Department of Lot, France. There a wonderful series of caverns, containing magnificent stalactites and a subterranean lake and river, has yielded its secrets to the adventurous explorer, and the dangers of the visit have now been ingeniously reduced, so that the average sightseer may traverse these "antres vast" with ease and safety.

For ages the caves remained absolutely unexplored, but by the enterprise of M. Martel, a barrister, they have been thoroughly examined and described, and by means of iron stairways and galleries have been rendered accessible. One vast crater-like opening is 300 feet in circumference, and when M. Martel made his first visit to the depths he had to descend on a board attached to two ropes after the manner of a swing. He went down 100 feet, and, with several companions, began an extraordinary series of discoveries. The chief of these is an underground river, which he navigated in a collapsible boat.

Watch a good grocery clerk at work and then watch a poor one. Then, if you can, say all men are equal.

AERIAL RAILWAY IN INDIA.

Sensational Religious Ceremony that Occurs in the Himalayas.

One of the most remarkable and sensational religious ceremonies in the whole of India takes place annually at Kalu, in the Himalayas.

From a cliff overhanging a precipitous gorge several hundred feet deep a rope is stretched, and fastened to a strong stake on the opposite side of the ravine. The rope is of great length, nearly 2,500 feet, and when it is stretched taut the upper end will be several hundred feet higher than the lower end.

Down this terrible incline the victim or performer slides, the precaution having been taken to wet the rope to prevent it from catching fire from the friction.

This descent is effected as follows: The performer sits astride on a kind of rough wooden saddle fitted with holes through which the rope is threaded, while to his legs are attached bags filled with sand to enable him to maintain an upright position during his descent and also to increase the momentum. The lower end of the rope is wound round with rugs and carpets to prevent the jheri, as the performer is called, from dashing his brains out against the pole to which the rope is fastened.

The first few hundred yards of the descent is accomplished with lightning velocity, as is indicated by the stream of smoke which follows his wake. The incline then diminishing, the pace becomes slower and slower, so that by the time he reaches the goal he is able to stop himself without danger.

The underlying motive of this curious ceremony is that if the flight is safely accomplished prosperity is assured to the crops for that year. This sentiment naturally minimizes the danger of the feat, as it is to everybody's interest that it should be safely accomplished. Indeed, a similar motive is at the bottom of certain religious festivals in Roman Catholic countries.

A well known example of this is the fete of the Scoppio at Florence, when a dove, albeit an artificial one, performs an aerial flight of a somewhat similar nature on a wire stretched from the summit of the high altar of the cathedral to an ox wagon filled with fireworks which is stationed in the front of the west door. The Himalayan ceremony can be traced back for hundreds of years, and the men who perform the feat form a small distinct caste.—Chambers' Journal.

UMBRELLA-BEARERS.

Pakoe Bowono X., the "Nail of the Universe," as he styles himself, dwells in Surakarta, on the island of Java. His "hardwareship" is the greatest of the native potentates on that unruly island, and is allowed by his Dutch conquerors to spend his enormous fortune in maintaining a court without an equal in ceremony and splendor. That is about all he can do, says a writer in the Century Magazine, for the wily Dutch also maintain a rival emperor to play against him, and refuse to allow Pakoe to leave his palace bounds without the consent of the resident governor.

Since state ceremonies are almost the only outlet for his energies, he has elaborated them to a point where they are bewildering to the novice. In nothing is this better illustrated than in the umbrella "ritual."

Surakarta is the paradise of umbrellas. They are carried proudly over the head of every official and nobleman, but must be shut at the approach of a person of higher rank. Inside the "kraton" or royal enclosure—a park of about a square mile round the palace buildings—no umbrella may be carried open except that of the emperor himself. The umbrella is the crown, the wand of office, the outward sign of rank and distinction.

There are umbrellas of gold outside and inside for the emperor; of gold outside only for the empress; with a stripe of yellow satin for the emperor's brothers; with a wider stripe of the same material for his half-brothers; of white silk with a narrow gold stripe for his brothers' sons, and so on almost to infinity. Every official, every military officer exhibits his rank in his umbrella, which is invariably held from behind by an attendant whenever he leaves his house, in sunshine or in cloudy weather.

There is an official guide book to the umbrella labyrinth of Surakarta which contains not less than three hundred various designs, in all imaginable colors and ornamentation. Every rank is entitled to a differently designed staff. In order to give due importance to all things belonging to officers of high rank, such as letters or betel-boxes or cuspidors (carried by attendants wherever their masters go), these articles are shaded by special umbrellas when their owner does not precede them.

The "Nail of the Universe" is extremely afraid of poisoning, and so has his meals prepared at the Dutch residency. Every noon his food is borne through the streets to the palace, while an attendant holds over it a gold and yellow umbrella.

Cheaper to Be in Jail.

First Crook—How's business?

Second Crook—Slow. Dere's such a lot of officials lookin' fer a rakeoff dese days a feller can't hardly afford to keep out o' jail.—Browning's Magazine.

Japan's Big Rice Crop.

Japan's rice crop for this year is estimated to exceed by 20 per cent the average annual crop.