

WIFE IS NOT GUILTY OF PLOTTING MURDER

Rich Tulsa, Okla. Society Woman Freed, After Once Being Convicted.

Bartlesville, Okla., Feb. 2.—Mrs. Laura M. Reuter was found not guilty of complicity in the murder of her husband, Charles F. Reuter, by a jury in the district court here today. This was Mrs. Reuter's second trial, the first one last autumn having resulted in a conviction carrying a sentence of life imprisonment.

Mrs. Reuter was ill throughout the trial, which lasted more than a week, and heard the evidence and arguments while lying on a cot in the court room.

Mrs. Reuter, who formerly was a society woman in Tulsa, was charged with conspiring with Guy D. Mackenzie, a wealthy Tulsa contractor; Grover Ballew, Mackenzie's chauffeur; and Joseph Baker, a friend of Ballew, to murder her husband, an attorney. Reuter was shot and killed in his home in Tulsa on the night of May 5, 1912.

A week later Mackenzie, Ballew and Baker and Mrs. Reuter were arrested charged with plotting to murder Reuter. Ballew in a signed confession said that Mackenzie had paid Baker \$200 to "put Reuter out of the way" and that he (Ballew) drove the "murder car" in which Baker rode to the Reuter home, where the attorney, Mackenzie and Baker were convicted and are now in the penitentiary. Ballew was shown leniency because of evidence he gave for the state.

PACKING CONCERN FACING BIG FINE

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 2.—Indictments charging rebating on the part of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, the Pennsylvania system and the Ann Arbor Railroad company, of Michigan, and Swift & Co., meat packers, returned today to police grand jury which has been hearing evidence for several weeks from special agents of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Swift & Co. is charged with obtaining alleged rebates from the Ann Arbor road by getting carload rates on less than car shipments.

The Pennsylvania lines east of Pittsburgh are charged with rebating to the W. H. Merritt Grain company, of Chicago, by allowing switching refund to which the grain company was not entitled. The Chicago & Northwestern railroad is accused of granting rebates to David Rutter & Co., coal dealers on shipments of coal from Little, Ind., to Evanston, Ill., by means of an improper combination of rates.

Swift & Co. face a possible fine of \$1,200,000. The bill charges 60 alleged violations of the interstate commerce laws. The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis railroad, known as the Panhandle, and the Pennsylvania company are named in one joint indictment and a separate indictment in addition is returned against the Panhandle.

Swift & Co. may be liable for fines of \$20,000 each on the 60 counts. It was charged that the packing company obtained concessions from the published carload rates of the Chicago & Northwestern road and the Ann Arbor Railroad company on various shipments from Chicago to points on the Ann Arbor road. The concessions were obtained, it is said, by obtaining carload rates on less than carload shipments.

EXCAVATORS FIND TOWER OF SILOAM

Base of Destroyed Biblical Shaft Found Near Jerusalem.

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 2.—News of the finding of the foundations of the Tower of Siloam was received by Rev. J. Keller, of the Episcopal theological school from friend from Jerusalem today. This tower is mentioned in Luke XII, 4: "Those 18 upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem."

The excavators according to the message, "have discovered a long, well cut Greek inscription which speaks of the Presbyters and fathers with Simonides laying the foundation of the synagogue the baths and caravansary. These baths and the foundations of the synagogue are exposed. They have found the base of a circular building, the tower of Siloam and a conduit leading from the spring. The conduit seen by Schick in the 90's was wrongly thought to have been the oldest, is now shown to be above the spring."

REFUSE TO PROSECUTE SELF CONFESSED FORGER

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 2.—Elwood C. Williams, former councilman of Camden, N. J., who surrendered to the local police a few days ago and said he was wanted in his home city for passing three forged checks, will depart for his home probably today or tomorrow a free man.

For almost three years Williams was tramped from city to city conscience stricken and longing for a glimpse of his wife and child. Thursday he walked into police headquarters here and told the chief of detectives he could stand the mental torture no longer. He was willing to be taken back to Camden and pay the penalty for his crimes. He wanted to see his wife and baby, he said.

Last night the police were informed from Camden that Williams had committed the forgeries to which he confessed but that there was no charge against him as the persons on whom he passed the checks were his friends and declined to prosecute him.

BREMNER MUCH BETTER.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 31.—The condition of Representative Robert G. Bremner, of New Jersey, who is undergoing radium treatment here, was reported today as improved.

BANDITS SACK TOWN.

Shanghai, Jan. 31.—Advices received today that bandits on Thursday sacked and burned the town of Luan-chow, province of Ngan-Hwei, murdered Father Leitch, a French Jesuit missionary, and captured two Jesuit priests, Father Allan and Tallie, who are being held for ransom.

JUDGE MOSEMAN DIES.

St. Joseph, Mo., Jan. 31.—Charles A. Mosman, 70 years old, of the circuit court here and for many years an attorney for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, died at his home here today, aged 72 years.

BUSINESS MEN WILL TACKLE BIG PROBLEMS

U. S. Chamber of Commerce Meeting to Reflect Response to the Plans of Wilson.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The response of much of the business force of the nation to President Wilson's recent message on corporate and trust control will be heard, it is believed, in the discussions at the meetings of the chamber of commerce of the United States here February 11 to 13. The program made public today indicates that the most important feature will be the special trust division to which an entire day, possibly longer, will be given. Prominent speakers will be heard on the subject.

What should be the functions of a federal interstate trade commission? What are the rights and privileges of private parties and is the trust form industrially efficient. These are among the important phases of the trust issue which are on the program for discussion. The question as to what constitutes unreasonable restraint of trade, as to whether holding companies and interlocking directorates should be prohibited and as to how the Sherman law requires definition will also be discussed. Secretary Wilson, of the department of labor, will speak on the relation of his department to industries and commerce, and Charles A. Prouty, of the Interstate Commerce commission, on the physical valuation of railroads, which work he is now in charge of. Methods of commercial organizations, the maintenance of reasonable prices and the development of foreign trade will be other topics considered.

ROCK ISLAND LINE WILL REORGANIZE

New York, Feb. 2.—Complete reorganization of the system of railroads originally known as the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific lines, including the abolition of its two holding companies known as the Rock Island company of New Jersey and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad company of Iowa, is likely to be announced in the near future. Lawyers representing the system are at work on the details which will probably be submitted for ratification to the Interstate Commerce commission. Rock Island stocks were weak on the exchange today.

These plans are carried over which will leave only one company where there now exist and the management and operation of the system will be under control of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad company, an Illinois corporation.

It has been known for some time that the leading interests in these lines contemplated the abolition of the holding companies in conformity with the wishes of the administration at Washington. In abolishing them it will be necessary to provide for other issues of securities in place of the 4 per cent collateral bonds of the Iowa corporation and the stocks issued by the New Jersey corporation.

It is thought possible in financial circles that the move might necessitate formal application for receivership, in which event the receivers or trustees would take charge of the railway companies for the collateral bond holders.

DUBUQUE LINING UP FOR RAILROAD SHOPS

Dubuque, Ia., Feb. 2.—Announcement was made on the return home from Chicago of a committee of prominent Dubuque business men, headed by Secretary W. M. Kretschmer of the Industrial Corporation, that the Milwaukee railroad shops will remain in Dubuque and that they will be enlarged from time to time. These assurances were given by President A. J. Earling of the Milwaukee road, when the Dubuquers entered into consultation over the rumors that the shops were to be removed from this city. That St. Louis City has been attempting to secure the shops is an established fact and it is known that several committees of business men have not only visited here to look over the shops, but have called upon President Earling as well. It is understood they offered a large tract of land and a bonus to the Milwaukee company, but that the latter is not seeking either free land or bonuses.

(Secretary Holmes, of the Commercial club, in commenting on the above dispatch, said the Milwaukee officials have expressed their doubts about the proposition of building shops in St. Louis. He said St. Louis City has never offered a bonus or a tract of land, nor has the Milwaukee company. The only thing the Dubuquers have done is to offer those in St. Louis City, and the local workers have never had any desire to see the eastern shops removed here.)

VOTE ON IMMIGRATION BILL SET FOR TODAY

Washington, Feb. 2.—Debate on the Burnett immigration bill which began in the House yesterday, probably will close with a final vote late today. The Pacific members are expected to make vigorous effort to write into the bill a provision for the exclusion of Japanese and other Asiatics.

Mr. Burnett has told the House the bill was aimed at those aliens who have "no God, no law, no master," and that it would head off a substantial percentage of immigrants from southern Italy, Turkey, Greece, Poland, and elsewhere. Representative Sabath, of Illinois, opposing the measure, declared that if it had been law when he came to America he would have been barred out as he had only \$25 and could read but little.

SMALLPOX AT TAMPIOCO.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Smallpox at Tampico already has caused the death of one American. Rear Admiral Fletcher reported today 64 cases and two Americans among the sick. The hospital ship Solace is there. The admiral has ordered that no one be permitted to land from the American ships. Rail and telegraph communications have been cut.

WAR ON HOG CHOLERA PROVES SUCCESSFUL

Washington, Jan. 30.—Gratifying results marked the efforts of the department of agriculture during the past year to combat hog cholera in Indiana, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska by means of anti-hog cholera serum and farm quarantines. In a statement today it asserted that the hogs actually sick when treated the department's inspectors lost but 25 per cent. Of well hogs in diseased herds less than 1 per cent died after inoculation with serum.

TRAIN IS DERAILED AND 15 PERSONS HURT

Passengers Forced to Leave Berths in Night Clothes During Bitter Storm.

Joliet, Ill., Feb. 2.—Fifteen persons were injured, some of them so seriously that they may die, when Chicago & Alton passenger train No. 7 bound for Chicago to St. Louis, was wrecked between here and Lockport, early today, supposedly by a broken rail. Nine cars left the track and three were overturned, one car being badly shattered. Relief trains were sent to the scene of the wreck from Bloomington and Joliet and the injured were brought to this city. Most of those injured were in the sleeping cars. They were forced to leave in their night clothes and seek shelter in nearby farm houses.

Ten physicians were rushed to the wreck from this city in automobiles through a blinding snow storm. There they found the passengers standing in their scanty clothing and wrapped in blankets hastily snatched from berths.

SAYS GOVERNMENT SHOULD PURCHASE WIRE FACILITIES

Washington, Feb. 2.—Postmaster General Burleson today submitted to the Senate the recommendations of the departmental committee appointed by him to investigate the practicability of government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines. The report declared that "the only way to afford to the people the complete and modern postal facilities that the constitution makes it the duty of the government to provide" is by carrying out these suggestions.

"One—that congress declare a government monopoly over all telephone and telegraph and radio communication and such other means for the transmission of intelligence as may hereafter develop.

"Two—that congress acquire by purchase at appraised value the commercial telephone network except the farmer lines.

"Three—that congress authorize the postmaster general to issue, in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, revocable licenses for the operation, by private individuals, associations, companies and corporations, of the telephone service and such parts of the telegraph service as may not be acquired by the government."

The recommendations are signed by Daniel C. Roper, first assistant postmaster general, Merritt O. Chance, chief clerk, postoffice department, and John K. Egan, superintendent of the division of salaries and allowances composing the committee. They were accompanied by statistical information collected after one of the most exhaustive investigations undertaken by the postoffice department.

The report states that the United States alone of the leading nations has left to private enterprise the ownership and operation of the telegraph and telephone facilities and that practically all of the economists who have treated the subject are agreed that telegraph and telephone facilities should be controlled by the government. It declared further that Theodore N. Vall, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph company, by his statement of the telephone business must be under common control and "sufficiently strong to constitute practically one system intercommunicating, interdependent, universal" has himself pointed out that the most efficient telephone service can be obtained only under a condition of monopoly.

The report continues: "The private monopoly has no incentive to extend its facilities to unprofitable territory, but the government must serve all the people. This universal service is accomplished by the equalization of rates. In fixing rates, the policy of this government is to superimpose no charge for taxation, but only to see to it that the service, as a whole, is self-supporting. The private monopoly on the other hand must make a profit and, in providing for this, tends to increase its rates to the highest price that will not be so greatly resisted by the owners of business, impairing the aggregate profit."

Easier to Buy Now.
"It is obvious that the longer the acquisition by the government of these facilities is deferred, the greater will be the cost. Moreover, it is economic waste to permit private enterprise to build up vast properties that must be finally taken over by the government in resuming its constitutional monopoly at a cost out of all proportion to the value of the parts of such properties that may be utilized to advantage in the postal system."

So far as the public generally is concerned, the entire telegraph service is owned and operated by two telegraph companies. Telegraph facilities have not been extended to the small towns and villages along with the government postal facilities, and the cost of the service been reduced in the inverse proportion that would seem warranted by the increasing volume of business transacted. Neither has the volume of business in this country, in proportion to the facilities, increased as great as in countries where this facility is owned and operated governmentally.

Duty of Government.
"It is needless to enter into the manifold advantages and benefits that would accrue to the people from a universal telephone service. As it has done with the mails, it is the duty of the government to make this facility available to all of its citizens without discrimination."

"According to the best available data the capitalization of long distance and toll lines represent \$200,000,000 and the equipment of the entire commercial network approximately \$600,000,000. The cost to the government would be less than the appraised value, since it would be undesirable for the government to purchase the real estate held by the companies. Exchanges could be leased until accommodations could be provided in the postoffices and stations."

The report was sent to the Senate in response to a resolution introduced by Senator Norris.

THREE FIREMEN HURT IN PIANO FACTORY FIRE

New York, Jan. 31.—Three firemen were hurt, one seriously, in a fire which destroyed the Walters Piano factory at 235 East Sixty-third street, early today. The firemen were on the second floor when a varnish vat beneath them exploded, throwing them to the floor. The flames reached a public school building adjoining the factory, but were checked before much damage occurred. The property loss is estimated at about \$300,000.

NO HEED PAID TO WARNING SHRIEKS OF LINER MONROE

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 2.—Testimony of officers of both ships some of it taken while the Nantucket was bringing in the survivors, is being kept secret today. It still is in the form of stenographer's notes and will make 50 or 60 typewritten pages.

No official statement could be obtained today, but it is said, that witnesses testified Captain Johnson stopped the Monroe's engines when he heard the Nantucket's answering siren signal, and the lost ship was practically standing still when the Nantucket rammed her amidships and broke her in two.

The witnesses testified, it is said that the Nantucket continued to steam toward the Monroe after the latter had blown two whistles three times.

Nantucket Never Halted.
It is said that the testimony shows that Captain Berry, the second officer and the quartermaster of the Nantucket were in the pilot house of their ship when the two vessels came together and that the lookout on the Monroe saw the lights in the masts of the Nantucket about two minutes before the crash. The Monroe met light fogs intermittently after passing out of the cape and had stopped frequently while the whistles were blown. The Monroe was equipped with an automatic time whistle and that was blown at intervals of one minute.

When the heavy fog wrapped the vessel near headquarters lightship, the Monroe, it is said, stopped and after blowing her fog horn every minute, gave two blasts, to which the Nantucket plowed her way into the Monroe's starboard just amidships at an angle of about 45 degrees.

The Nantucket then backed away. The Monroe began to list and in 10 minutes had sunk.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 31.—With the final tragic summary written showing that 41 lives were lost and 99 saved as a result of yesterday's disaster at sea in-terested here today centered in ascertaining the causes that led up to the accident. The version of the officers of the steamer Nantucket, which crashed yesterday morning, crashed into and sank the liner Monroe of the Old Dominion Steamship company, and of survivors have been told. It now remains for the federal government to officially determine the cause and other facts connected with the disaster.

A list of victims and rescued showed that of the 41 persons whose lives were lost, 19 were passengers and 22 were members of the crew. Of the 99 persons saved, 33 were passengers and 66 were members of the crew.

Some of the survivors, worn out by exposure and hardship, spent restless nights or lay on hospital cots, while others were on the way to their homes today. The Nantucket, which lay in her berth at Norfolk in badly battered condition, was a solemn reminder of yesterday's sea tragedy. She was viewed by hundreds of the curious.

TELLS STORY OF STRUGGLE IN SEA TO SAVE HIS WIFE
New York, Feb. 2.—Six survivors of the disaster to the steamer Monroe reached here from Norfolk. Among them was Thomas Harrington, of Connecticut, who accompanying the body of his wife, who died after being taken aboard the rescue ship Nantucket.

Harrington was the passenger who swam in the cold water supporting his wife by holding her in his teeth. His father and brother were here.

"Tell them what happened," said the father. "We all want to know and it will get it off your mind."

Then in a monotone the young man told his story.

Harrington and his wife had a state-room on the side the Monroe was rammed. "When the shock came," he said, "we got up and dressed and wasted time that might have saved the poor girl's life. By the time we reached the saloon the ship was kneeling so that the side wall was the floor. There was a lurch," continued Harrington, "and Margaret was thrown 20 feet and lodged under the bench built along the sides of the cabin. I slid and scrambled after her. When I took hold of her she screamed and pointed to her poor right arm. It was broken and hanging limp.

"Don't touch me!" she screamed. "For God's sake let me die!"

"I told her she would have to come and she would feel better about it later. Oh, God! She was right, but I did not know it. I got her loose. Then the ship sagged back again and there was a rush of water that washed us out to the deck. I managed to get off our outer clothes. Then we let go and the ship went away from under us."

Harrington told how he tried to swim holding his wife by the broken arm, but this pained her so that finally he twisted her long hair into a rope close to her head and taking it in his teeth he fastened it to his back, keeping the woman's head on his chest.

One life boat passed within 10 feet, he said, and ignored their calls for help. After nearly two hours another boat came. "I held Margaret up to them," continued Harrington, "and a sailor said 'Let her go, she is dead.' "She is not dead," I said to him, "and you take her aboard if you don't want her to hell with murder on your soul." So they took her in. And she opened her eyes and smiled at me.

"When they got me aboard the ship they put her in one stateroom and left her and put me in another. I believe that if a doctor had been with her right away with stimulants she might be alive now. But they were all mixed up and when I found what she was lying all alone, she was dead."

YOUNG WIRELESS OPERATOR HERO OF MONROE DISASTER

New York, Feb. 2.—Ferdinand Kuehn, chief wireless operator on board the liner Monroe who took off his own life preserver and strapped it around a woman just as the steamer Monroe started to sink early yesterday, lived with his parents in the Bronx, Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kuehn, and his 12-year-old sister, Victoria. The father is a furrier.

From Mrs. Kuehn it was learned that Ferdinand was only 20 years old. He became interested in electro-mechanics when a pupil in high school in the Bronx. As a school boy he had learned the principles of wireless telegraphy sufficiently to rig up an apparatus of his own at his home.

It was with this home made apparatus that he learned telegraphy.

AGED COUPLE, ONCE RICH, DIES IN HOVEL

Springfield, Mo., Jan. 31.—Reduced to poverty through business reverses, Jesse M. Kelly, 83 years old, once one of the wealthiest men in Springfield, died in a hovel on the outskirts of the city today. As a school boy he had learned several days ago that his husband was sinking gradually, she refused all nourishment and prayed that they might die together.

INDIAN SWAMI SAYS RICH MAN WAS SANE

Element of Mysticism Enters Fight on Will of the Late Frank P. Holyoke.

Los Angeles, Feb. 2.—A suggestion of India's mysticism entered the half million dollar will contest of Frank P. Holyoke, a wealthy lumber dealer of Bangor, Me., when a swarthy, diamond bedecked "swami" wearing a turban blazing with gems and carrying a "magic wand" was called as a witness in the superior court in behalf of Sydney A. Holyoke, a son, who is endeavoring to break the last testament of his father. The bulk of the Holyoke estate was bequeathed to Holyoke's twin nieces, Majorie and Madeline Holyoke. While two sons were cut off with \$100 each, the older Holyoke's unsoundness of mind and alleged undue influence are the basis of the contest.

The "swami," who said he was a Brahman, of the high priest caste of the Hindus, was called before the death of Holyoke, in October, 1911, to administer psychic healing, he testified. He brought into court much of the paraphernalia of his art—the wand, Buddhist symbols and brilliant stones supposed to exercise some talismanic powers over humans. Sparkling stones shimmered on a gown he wore over a tan frock suit. His name was recorded as Majji Rajji.

The "swami" said his method of treatment was to lay a towel on his patient's body and then breathe through it. He declared that he believed Holyoke perfectly sane, as he obeyed instructions to concentrate his thoughts. Holyoke could not have done this had he been of unsound mind, he said.

OBJECTS TO FLAKE GIRL BEING PLACED IN SCHOOL

Geneva, Ill., Feb. 2.—Fearing an outbreak of the inmates of the state training school for girls here because of the arrival of Julia Flake, the girl who it is alleged, plotted with her young stepfather, to kill her mother, Supt. Carrie S. O'Connor today appealed to the state board of administration.

Mrs. O'Connor said the purpose of the Geneva school is not to care for girls accused of crime to which Julia Flake is said to have confessed and believes her presence here will have a demoralizing effect upon the others.

Julia Flake, 17 years old, was committed to the Geneva school today. She is registered under an assumed name, is isolated in a hospital and none of the other inmates know of her identity.

"We have many girls here who, I am afraid, would get Julia Flake as a heroine," Mrs. O'Connor said. "They would idolize her and I fear for the result. This is a training school and not a penal institution and I hope she will be removed at once."

WATCHES BY BODY OF DEAD SISTER FOR DAYS

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 2.—Miss Mary Warren, it was revealed today, has been dead for days and her sister, Miss Nanette Warren, is believed to be hopelessly insane here as a result, it is thought, of a determination to starve rather than let it be known that they were in ways. Miss Nanette had been watching her sister's body and would see no one. Mrs. L. L. Woods, the woman at whose house the two lived, broke into the room with the assistance of the police. Mary, it was found, had been dead for some time and Nanette's mind was in such a condition that she could not tell the circumstances. The women came here from Toledo, Ohio, 21 months ago and each was around 50 years old.

HEAVY SNOW FALL TIES UP CHICAGO

Chicago, Feb. 2.—Chicago was buried under a 12 inch mantle of snow when business attempted to start up this morning and snow was still falling unabated all noon. Although the figures given for the fall for the night as one foot, drifts were six feet deep and all local transportation was crippled as was telegraph and telephone service.

The United States weather bureau predicted that the snow fall would continue throughout today and probably tonight without extreme cold. The temperature has remained above freezing and there has been less suffering than might have been expected from the first big snowfall of the winter. It has furnished temporary work for an army of unemployed men waiting for the opening of the ice harvest, delayed by the mild winter.

The body of a well dressed man, who supposedly died from heart disease in the storm, was found in a downtown drift today.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—A snow storm over Illinois, Indiana and Ohio today caused much delay to railroad traffic, and telegraph and telephone service was badly hampered.

In this city all street railroads brought out snow sweepers early but much difficulty was experienced in keeping lines open in the outlying districts. In the lake region of Indiana and Ohio the snow turned to sleet and many wires were prostrated by the heavy weight.

By eight o'clock more than eight inches of snow, the heaviest of the winter had been recorded in this city and the storm continued unabated. Hundreds of the city's unemployed were given work clearing the tracks of railroad street car lines and streets in the downtown section.

RAID ON PERSIA IS PLANNED BY EX-SHAH

Teheran, Persia, Jan. 31.—Another plan for a raid on Persia is said to have been put in progress by the former Shah Mohammed Ali Mirza, whose movements are a source of great anxiety to the government. He is reported to have been landed at Bumespeth on the Caspian sea, a short distance from the great port of Astrabad, about 300 miles northeast of Teheran.

Application is to be made shortly for another American officer to assist Maj. John N. Morrill, of Showegan, Me., in the organization of a force of military police for the government of Fars.

HUGE RADISH GRACES BRYAN'S OFFICE SOFA

Washington, Jan. 31.—Secretary Bryan received today the first of a number of mammoth radishes which friends in different parts of the country had announced would be forthcoming. This giant vegetable, which diplomatic visitors saw reposing on the sofa in Secretary Bryan's office, weighs 12 pounds and came from an admirer.

FARM POSSIBILITIES OF ALASKA PRAISED

Small Fruits, Grains and Vegetables Do Well There, Says Federal Report.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Contrary to the general impression, home grown currants, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries and cranberries are plentiful in Alaska and as determined by soil, climate and topographical conditions, farming is possible on approximately 100,000 square miles of territory. Stranger yet to those who picture Alaska as an ice-locked, frozen country is the statement, made public by the department of agriculture today that the mean annual temperature of Sitka is about "the same as that of Washington, D. C."

"Varieties of wheat, oats, rye, barley, potatoes and many other vegetables have matured every season since the department started its work at its two most northern experimental stations," says the statement.

"One of these stations is within 75 miles of the Arctic circle, the other is in the interior and there are two others situated in the southeastern and southwestern portions of the territory."

"Chicken raising is also proving feasible and it has been positively demonstrated that forage crops may be grown in the southwestern and central portions as well as vegetables." The department further asserts that "a number of farm products are shipped in that might easily be raised on the ground."

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DIGGS FACES CHARGE; YOUNG GIRL INVOLVED

San Francisco, Feb. 2.—A warrant charging an offense against a young girl was issued last night against Maury I. Diggs, former state architect, whose recent trial and conviction here under the Man act caused nation wide comment because of its political complications.

Mrs. Elizabeth Peering, a doctor's wife, swore to the complaint, alleging an offense against her daughter, Ida Peering, 17 years old.

New York, Feb. 2.—The time named and warrants also were sworn to against John Gilligan and John Doe Fisher in connection with the same affair. "Fisher" is said to be an alias.

WAR ON GANGMEN IS PRODUCING RESULTS

New York, Feb. 2.—The war on gangsters and gunmen instituted a month ago by Police Commissioner Douglas I. Mackay on orders from Mayor Mitchell, has, according to police reports for January, resulted in a decrease in the number of murders and serious shootings and a reduction in the city infested by organized bands of idle young men and boys.

Since Mayor Mitchell ordered the police to break up the East Side gangs a large number of gunmen have been arrested and many are held for trial on charges of violating the Sullivan law which prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons and from the upper East Side known as the "murder belt" the police have confiscated hundreds of pistols.

THE WHOLE WORKS.

- Albany, N. Y., Feb. 2.—Only one member—Senator Thomas H. Bussell, of Perry, N. Y.—was present in the state senate yesterday. He called himself to order, introduced several bills, made a speech, then offered a motion for adjournment, which was unanimously carried.
- Among the bills introduced were several prepared by Mayor Mitchell, of New York city, to effect changes in police regulations demanded by Colonel Goethals.

300 FLAT DWELLERS ARE ROUTED BY FIRE

Chicago, Jan. 30.—There was no loss of life in the \$300,000 fire which destroyed the New Bedford apartment building in Oakwood boulevard here last night, so far as search of the ruins disclosed today. The fire started from a boiler explosion and the 300 tenants were driven into the street.

Chicago, during 1912, paid \$3,314,054.61 in corporation taxes.