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READ!

The Weekly Independent.

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BOMBS FROM THE CLOUDS

A DYNAMITE BALLOON PREPARED FOR CUBAN REBELS.

SCIENCE TO AID THEM.

A Connecticut Inventor Ready to Send an Aerial Instrument of Destruction to the Insurgents—An American Held Prisoner at Santiago Saved From Being Shot by Consul Hyatt.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 5.—Samuel Andrews, a machinist of this city, claims to have perfected a war balloon which he has sold to a syndicate of New York Cubans for use in aid of the Cuban insurgents. It has been tested in the fields and is said to work perfectly.

Instead of the ordinary car fixed with an armored box from which a number of bombs can be suspended the bombs are ignited and released by automatic machinery in the box and after all are discharged, the box explodes, destroying the balloon. Andrews claims to have a device by which he can control the direction of the balloon.

New York, Sept. 5.—Advices from Santiago de Cuba are that Dr. Donald Dodge, alias Frank M. Boyle, who says he is a correspondent of a New York paper and who sailed from Nassau by the Ward line steamer Niagara, was arrested by the Spaniards upon his arrival in Santiago de Cuba and confined, charged with being an emissary of the Cuban junta rebel camp. Despite the Spanish military governor's expressed purpose to have Dodge court martialed and shot as a spy, Consul Hyatt, after several long interviews with the civil governor, succeeded in having the case transferred to the ordinary courts.

INDIANAPOLIS FLOODED.

Heavy Fall of Rain Inundates Basements and Does Much General Damage.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 5.—As the result of a fierce rain storm which set in at 8 o'clock last night and continued until 7 this morning, the city was flooded and thousands of dollars' worth of property destroyed, besides the inconvenience of suspended street car transportation and telephone communication.

In the neighborhood of Pine and Washington streets a lake of water appeared, and no less than a dozen families had to be rescued by the police.

At daylight lightning started a fire in the telephone exchange building and the entire system was burned out, resulting in extensive loss. The rainfall amounted to six and seven-tenths inches.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—A severe storm of wind, rain and lightning prevailed throughout the northern portion of Illinois and Wisconsin last night. Much damage was done and telegraph and telephone communication was seriously interrupted.

Reports from many of the towns in Illinois north of Bloomington state that the storm was one of the most furious known in years. At some points it reached the proportions of a hurricane.

Fort Scott Wide Open.

FORT SCOTT, Kan., Sept. 5.—The city council of this city by a vote of 7 to 2, with one absentee, decided to repeal all ordinances prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the city. This action was taken to render ineffective the efforts of the police commissioners to enforce the prohibitory law. It is believed the county authorities whose duty it is to prosecute violators will not interfere with open saloons and that the sale of liquor will be resumed in Fort Scott.

Illinois Treasury Empty.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Sept. 5.—The Illinois state treasury is now practically empty. This state of affairs has been anticipated for several months. The state will be unable to pay out any cash until the taxes begin to come in next April. In the meantime the state institutions and all private persons holding auditor's warrants will be obliged to get them discounted, or wait seven or eight months for their money.

No Quarter for Formosan Rebels.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 5.—The Novos Vrenya's correspondent at Vladivostok writes that the Formosa insurgents are conducting a successful warfare against the Japanese, in which women share equally with the men, a determined resistance. Though the army is decimated by sickness, the Japanese will grant no quarter and spare neither women nor children.

May Be Lynched.

CLAYTON, Mo., Sept. 5.—John Wesley, the negro who brutally assaulted Mrs. Marrison last Friday and had been pursued by citizens determined to lynch him, was captured this morning by the deputy sheriff and posse and lodged in the county jail here. An attempt to lynch him may be made to-night unless he be taken to St. Louis.

BOLD OUTLAWS IN OMAHA.

Twelve Bandits Hold Up a Carriage Filled With Passengers and Rob Them.

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 5.—A band of twelve masked men held up a carriage load of people in an Omaha suburb early yesterday morning and secured several hundred dollars. It is an organized gang which has long evaded the police. There were four persons in the carriage who had been in the city enjoying themselves. When but a short distance from Benson and near a clump of trees, figures emerged from the shadows, as if rising from the earth and surrounded the carriage. Two men held the frightened horses by their bridles and nine climbed in about them in a threatening way, while the twelfth man stood outside the circle and gave commands. After the cautionary commands the inmates of the carriage were told to get out and to line up. The four men lined up, standing on their tiptoes with their hands above their heads.

One of the robbers searched each man in turn, taking everything of value, casting the plunder upon a robe that was thrown on the ground. When this was accomplished the four men were told to throw their hats on the ground with their coats and under cover of pistols were ordered into the rig and told to drive away as fast as they could.

When the men reached Benson they alarmed the neighbors, who formed a posse and started for the scene of the robbery. The hats and watches were found lying on the robe where they had been thrown. Nothing else was discovered.

DEATH IN THE CHOWDER.

Sensational Developments Arising from the Death of Mrs. Evelina Bliss.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—The funeral of Mrs. Evelina Bliss, a wealthy lady who died last Friday, was held yesterday and immediately afterwards the daughter of the dead woman, Mrs. Alice Fleming, was arrested at the Colonial hotel on a charge that she murdered her mother by poison.

The case is a mystery, and in some respects a sensational one, as the death of Mrs. Bliss gives to her daughter the income of an estate of \$300,000 left by Robert Swift Livingstone, who was the first husband of Mrs. Bliss. To Dr. Bullman, who was summoned to her bedside Friday night, Mrs. Bliss said that she had been poisoned by relatives who would be financially benefited by her death. She said that she had eaten clam chowder and a piece of apple pie. The doctor says that Mrs. Bliss' attendants failed to give her the medicines he left for her. He secured the dish in which the chowder had been, and a piece of the pie and gave them to the coroner. The coroner had an examination made of the dead woman's stomach, by Chemist W. T. Scheele, who says that he found traces of metallic poison in the stomach, and also in the dish which had contained the chowder and that it had evidently been very skillfully prepared by some one with a knowledge of poison.

ST. ANN'S BURNED.

One of the Oldest Catholic Schools in Kansas Destroyed.

PARSONS, Kan., Sept. 5.—St. Paul, fourteen miles northwest of here, was visited by the most serious fire that has occurred in this section for many years. About 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning fire broke out in the ironing room of St. Ann's academy, and in a very short time the whole structure was in flames. The students in the building barely escaped with their lives. The town is without fire protection and the flames soon spread and in less than two hours the academy and fire adjoining buildings were in ashes. The school is one of the oldest Catholic seminaries in the West, and the loss is estimated at \$100,000, with \$30,000 insurance.

MAY AROUSE FANATICISM.

Missionaries in Mexico Attack the Belief in the Guadalupe Miracles.

CITY OF MEXICO, Sept. 5.—There is some fear lest the recent circular of Protestant missionaries attacking the popular belief in the Virgin of Guadalupe may arouse the inherent fanaticism of the Indians, who will flock into the city in great numbers in October during the coronation festivities, the number estimated being from 75,000 to 100,000. Some Americans regret the action taken by the missionaries, who, however, defend their position as being already fully supported by eminent Catholic prelates of former centuries who protested against the adoration of the Virgin of Guadalupe, denouncing it as a gross imposture.

Tammany Makes a Call.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—The executive committee of Tammany hall held a meeting last night at which resolutions were adopted inviting all Democratic organizations which supported the state ticket last November to vote at the Tammany primaries on the 24th of this month. Another meeting was held by the state Democratic leaders, who decided to take part in the Democratic primaries, but also resolved, on motion of Charles Fairchild, to continue their opposition to the state machine.

Zinc Mines Resume.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Sept. 5.—Operations in the Durango zinc mines, near this city, the largest ore-producing mine in the state, have been resumed. The mines have been closed since last July, when they were shut down because of the low price of the ore. This neighborhood is rich in zinc.

DR. FRAKER BEHIND BARS.

THE INSURANCE SWINDLER DRAWS BIG CROWDS TO SEE HIM.

HE HAS MANY CALLERS.

Many of His Old Friends and Acquaintances Have a Talk With Him in the Kansas City Jail—Taken to Richmond—Lawyers All Agree That He Is Very Sure of Conviction.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 5.—Dr. George W. Fraker was brought back to Kansas City at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

James Patterson, a druggist of Excelsior Springs, was the first to grasp his hand.

"Well, Dr. Fraker, how do you do?" he said with emphasis. The doctor answered in a scarcely audible voice: "How are you, Jimmy?"

Judge A. H. Dooley of Excelsior Springs was the next to speak to him and he was recognized, too, by the doctor. Melvin L. Zener, the manager of the Hartford Life and Annuity company, which had paid \$15,000 for Fraker's "death," spoke to the doctor but was not remembered by him. E. L. Moore, manager of The Elms hotel at Excelsior Springs, Attorney D. J. Haft, J. P. Davis, president of the Kansas Mutual Life association, the company which ran him down, and United States Marshal Jo O. Shelby were among others who crowded around the doctor and spoke to him.

He was hurriedly driven to the sheriff's office. As he sat with nervous hands clutching the hat on his crossed knees, he was beset, browbeaten, volleyed with questions. Every detective and lawyer and newspaper reporter in the room took a hand at it. He answered all questions with the same air of meekness and weariness which has characterized him since his arrest. He had said often that he was tired and worn out from hiding out from the men who were hunting him. He said he was glad the thing was over. He did not appear glad, but he did look resigned.

Before Fraker was taken away a reporter talked with him.

"I notice," he said, "that a great many people seem to believe there was a conspiracy with several persons in it. Now this is not true. When I went on that fishing excursion I was preparing to take a trip to California to bring back my nephews. I had collected some outstanding debts and had \$540 in my pockets when I fell in the river. When I got out of the water half a mile below where the accident occurred, my clothing was covered with mud and I was wet to the skin. I first thought of going back to the camp, but I did not want to return to the Springs in such a plight, so I stayed in the brush all that night and the next day and caught a freight train for Kansas City the next night."

Dr. Fraker was placed in cell No. 4 on the south side, third floor, of the county jail. From the time of his arrival until late in the evening the jail was besieged with people who wished to see him. Probably 200 were admitted to see him, but very few succeeded in engaging him in conversation and fewer secured any information from him. Dr. Fraker was tired and slept fairly well last night, though after enjoying the freedom of the Northern woods so long, confinement in a close jail was most disagreeable.

About 10 o'clock Fraker induced one of the other prisoners to shave off his burnside. The amateur barber did a butcher's job before an audience that would have delighted the proprietor of a museum. When he had finished Fraker's face was bleeding, but fairly smooth, with no beard left except his mustache, which is light and thin and not very long. The presence of the crowd disgusted him and he would sit reading newspapers and pay no attention to the remarks and questions of his visitors.

Fraker was taken to Richmond, Mo., on the 5 o'clock Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul train this afternoon. Sheriff J. R. Holman of Ray county and City Marshal Byers of Richmond having come after him.

Attorneys Haft and Van Valkenburg say there is no chance that Dr. Fraker will escape conviction in the circuit court of Ray county, where he will be tried on five counts of attempting to cheat the insurance companies. The information lodged by Mr. Van Valkenburg in Ray county against Dr. Fraker, and on which the warrant for his arrest was issued, charges him with violating section 3825 of the statutes of Missouri. This statute makes it a felony, punishable with seven years in the penitentiary, for a person to attempt to obtain money from any other person by means of a cheat or fraud or false pretense, or trick of any kind.

"You will notice," said Mr. Haft, "that to violate this statute it is not necessary for a person to obtain the money by fraud, the simple attempt to obtain it is a violation of law. The statement is made in some quarters that because Fraker did not obtain any of the insurance money, and did not seek to obtain any of it, his will have left it to his relatives, he cannot be convicted under this statute. All supreme court decisions on this point hold that it is not essential that the person himself should actually receive the money. It is suffi-

cient for conviction if it be delivered in accordance with his wish, or for his advantage, or for the purpose of effecting some object of his.

Other lawyers who were asked about the possibility of conviction in Fraker's case said the statutes covering attempts to defraud were very broad and would undoubtedly cover the case of Fraker.

SOMETHING ABOUT GEORGE HARRY.

Although Attorney Herrick has persisted in his refusal to say whether or not it was George Harry who gave him the information that led to Fraker's arrest, Fraker says to-day that he is positive that Harry was the man.

"How about your boy at the shanty where you lived?"

"He never heard of me as Fraker and did not know anything about my history. That is impossible. His name was Fred Springstead and he couldn't possibly have known anything to tell about me. He thought my name was Schnell."

The fact that it was shortly after an exchange of letters between himself and Harry that Herrick got his first intimation of Fraker's whereabouts points to Harry. Before there could be another exchange of letters Fraker moved to Minnesota, and not long afterwards Harry disappeared. Simultaneously a store was robbed in Raton, N. M., where Harry's mistress is said to live, and simultaneously, too, Mr. Herrick's friend dropped out of sight. Harry knew the name and address of the only man in Wisconsin who knew Fraker's address. Fraker thinks Harry wrote to this man for his address and that as he knew of the previous correspondence between the two the young man gave it. If Harry committed the robbery with which he is charged there was a motive for him to keep his whereabouts secret. When he was arrested two weeks ago there was no longer any reason for him to keep himself hid, but he needed money and there was no easier way of getting it than by giving up Fraker and securing the reward previously promised, probably more money than Harry had ever before seen in his life.

Harry was one of the men who was with Fraker on the night of the alleged drowning. He was the chief witness for the Fraker heirs. He testified that he saw the doctor fall in and drown. He may be a witness against Fraker at his trial in Ray county, though his former testimony might impeach his evidence now. It has developed recently that he has been a professional thief for years and that as long ago as 1875 he was a friend of Dr. Fraker. In that year Attorney James Garner was prosecuting attorney of Ray county. The James gang was looting banks all over Western Missouri and bank officials were uneasy and in Richmond, Ray county, all suspicious strangers were arrested and held until they could give some honest excuse for being in town. Among the suspicious ones arrested in Richmond was George Harry and he was held till officers from Texas came and took him to Texas on a charge of horse stealing.

Will Go on His Bond.

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo., Sept. 5.—Fraker's friends here seem willing to stand by him. A number of the solid men of the place are willing to go his bond and bail him out. One gentleman said: "I expect to see him here in a short time actively engaged in the practice of medicine."

The doubters have all subsided and now fully admit that Fraker has been caught. So far is known here, no letters have gone from his office to William Schnell or William Quick. Interest here now centers on Fraker's young Minnesota companion. All are asking who he is.

The Executor's Check Not Honored.

LIBERTY, Mo., Sept. 5.—Two checks came to the Commercial Savings bank yesterday where the Fraker insurance money is deposited, but were not honored as the bank had been enjoined from paying out the funds. One of the checks was for \$1,000 and was given to Mrs. Cynthia Hatfield of Macon county, sister of Fraker, by Executor J. E. Lincoln. The other check was for \$100 and to George Magruder, a brother-in-law of Fraker. The checks were given several days ago before Judge Lincoln left for Colorado.

Dedicated to Education.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 5.—At 10 o'clock this morning, the beautiful grove that surrounds the buildings of the new Hill seminary, constructed with the \$500,000 gift of President J. J. Hill of the Great Northern railway, the dedicatory exercises of that institution began with pontifical high mass, celebrated by Mgr. Satolli. The services were held at an altar, suitably canopied, in the presence of over 24,000. At the conclusion of the mass the buildings were thrown open to the inspection of the multitude.

John N. Boyd Passes Away.

CHILLICOTHE, Mo., Sept. 5.—John N. Boyd, an ex-editor of note and a leading lawyer, is dead at his home here, aged 63 years. He was born in Licking county, Ohio. During the rebellion he published the Fairmount Vidette at Fairmount, Va., and to him belongs the credit of agitating that portion of the state and carrying his agitation to a successful termination. He was a delegate from West Virginia to the national convention at Baltimore that nominated Lincoln for his second term.

A man must have at some time told a woman that he is very fond of her before he becomes brave enough to scold her.