

OMAHA BURNING GOES ON TRIAL

Poisoner of Wife Enters Guilty Plea

Admits Slaying Wife When Arraigned in District Court; Mrs. Northey Maintains Innuence. Court Names Attorneys

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Broken Bow, Neb., Dec. 8.—Frank Bruner, 47, confessed slayer, and Mrs. Ardeata Northey, 47, for love of whom he says he killed his wife, were arraigned in district court this afternoon.

Bruner, the haunted look gone from his eyes, faced the judge and entered a plea of guilty.

Mrs. Northey, still somewhat defiant, still protesting her innocence, pleaded no guilty.

Neither of the prisoners were able, by their own statements, to retain attorneys. H. M. Sullivan was appointed by the court to defend Bruner, and A. H. Schnell and H. L. Wilson were appointed to defend Mrs. Northey.

Bruner was calm as he faced Judge Hosteler. He entered the courtroom in company with a deputy sheriff and sat down at one side of the enclosure before the judge's bench.

Anthracite Coal Tax Law Upheld

Washington, Dec. 8.—The Pennsylvania anthracite coal tax law was upheld today by the United States supreme court, which upheld decisions by lower court.

Validity of the law was attacked by the Cranberry Coal company, Alliance Coal company, Lehigh Coal and Navigation company and the Philadelphia & Reading Iron and Coal company.

More than \$3,000,000 in coal taxes were assessed against the coal companies by the state.

Continuation of the capitol fund tax to raise \$2,500,000 in addition to the \$5,000,000 already appropriated, which the commission declares necessary to complete the state house.

Authority for commission to contract for furnishings of new capitol. Giving either the commission, the board of educational lands and buildings or the governor power to contract for lighting the state house.

After considerable argument over whether the municipal lighting plant in Lincoln or one of the privately owned plants should be given the contract for lighting the state house the commission decided today that it did not have authority to award such a contract.

Authority to award light contract. This decision is based on the fact that the lighting is entirely in the hands of the state government which uses the building and the commission, authorized to merely supervise its erection, is powerless to award such a contract.

Jury Picked in Illinois Poison Case

Elsie Sweetin and Lawrence Hight Begin Their Battle for Life on Charge of Slaying Mates. Jurors Are Stolid Men

Mt. Vernon, Ill., Dec. 8.—Lawrence Hight and Elsie Sweetin were united today—not in the bonds of love they sought to fashion from the shrouds of their mates, but in their mutual battle against the hangman's noose.

The unfrocked minister who poisoned his wife and the woman who killed her husband toward the same converging end sat at the defendants' table in the little courtroom.

The unfrocked minister who poisoned his wife and the woman who killed her husband toward the same converging end sat at the defendants' table in the little courtroom.

They are men who, it seems, would be little impressed with the subtle psychological arguments or would condone a slaying because it was motivated, as the defense may seek to prove, by a mad infatuation that never stopped at death.

While ministering to his spiritual wants this minister, according to his own statement, placed poison in the food, small doses at first, to make the illness seem a lingering malady, and then, tired of the delay of death, a final big dose, "enough to kill 10 men."

A few weeks later Mrs. Hight, mother of the minister's children, was taken ill. She too lingered awhile, the disease baffling the physicians of Ina. Then she died, also of poison, which the minister has admitted placing in her food.

Widow of First Nebraska Homesteader Divides "Entry No. 1" Among Her Seven Children

Beatrice, Dec. 8.—With all the vast "public domain" to choose from, decades ago, a man named Daniel Freeman chose a "squat" on a fertile tract six miles from Beatrice.

When the first homesteader law was passed, he shot in his application for this piece of land. He won it, and received the first homestead grant ever issued. It was called "entry No. 1."

He farmed it continuously until his death several years ago. Since then his widow, Agnes, has managed it and his three sons have done the work.

Last week his widow divided the tract for the first time. She deeded it to the three sons and four daughters, giving each 80 acres. The children are: Leclair Freeman, Mrs. Eliza Carre, James H. Freeman, Arzene Quackenbush, George Frank Freeman, Lelia Josephine Freeman and Samuel Freeman.

These three facts stood out today from the latest returns from the double elections Sunday. Because of the voting for both the reichstag and the Prussian diet, the returns were received slowly.

The results as indicated thus far were: Social democrats, 126; German nationalists, 125; German people, 49; nationalists, 66; Democrats, 39; Bavarian people, 19; Hitlerites, 13; communists, 44; others, 26.

Despite the collapse of radical elements, there was every indication today that there will be essential changes in the dominant political constellations, because the German nationalists and the German people parties also were winning seats at the expense of the Hitlerites while the social democrats and the democrats were strengthened by desertions from the communists.

Mortimer Says Forbes Stole Wife

Witness in Bribery Case Testifies He "Helped" Vets Bureau Head Out of His Apartment. Used This to Coerce Him

Chicago, Dec. 8.—The bitter personal feeling of Elias H. Mortimer, chief government witness in the Veterans bureau conspiracy trial against Col. Charles E. Forbes, one of the defendants, came out frequently in the defense cross-examination of Mortimer today.

Mortimer charged that Forbes had broken up his home, and said that he "helped" Mrs. Mortimer had received the divorce for which she applied in Philadelphia a few days ago. He said he agreed not to contest it.

"I found him in my apartment with Mrs. Mortimer Labor day evening, 1922," Mortimer said, "and I helped him out and told him not to come back. I mean as he was going out, I helped him along. I didn't need any help then and I wouldn't need any now. There are still some things I want to even with Forbes."

The next day, Mortimer said, this breach, one of several similar ones earlier in the summer, was temporarily healed over, and they all went together to the wedding of Mortimer's sister-in-law in Philadelphia, September 26, 1923.

"A day or two later I saw him riding in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, with Mrs. Mortimer, with Mr. Williams' chauffeur," J. F. Williams of Philadelphia, Mrs. Mortimer's uncle, Mortimer said.

"I went over to him and asked what he meant by being with Mrs. Mortimer after I had warned him to stay away," Mortimer said. Forbes' reply was not stated.

Mortimer Says Forbes Stole Wife

Witness in Bribery Case Testifies He "Helped" Vets Bureau Head Out of His Apartment. Used This to Coerce Him

Chicago, Dec. 8.—The bitter personal feeling of Elias H. Mortimer, chief government witness in the Veterans bureau conspiracy trial against Col. Charles E. Forbes, one of the defendants, came out frequently in the defense cross-examination of Mortimer today.

Mortimer charged that Forbes had broken up his home, and said that he "helped" Mrs. Mortimer had received the divorce for which she applied in Philadelphia a few days ago. He said he agreed not to contest it.

"I found him in my apartment with Mrs. Mortimer Labor day evening, 1922," Mortimer said, "and I helped him out and told him not to come back. I mean as he was going out, I helped him along. I didn't need any help then and I wouldn't need any now. There are still some things I want to even with Forbes."

The next day, Mortimer said, this breach, one of several similar ones earlier in the summer, was temporarily healed over, and they all went together to the wedding of Mortimer's sister-in-law in Philadelphia, September 26, 1923.

"A day or two later I saw him riding in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, with Mrs. Mortimer, with Mr. Williams' chauffeur," J. F. Williams of Philadelphia, Mrs. Mortimer's uncle, Mortimer said.

"I went over to him and asked what he meant by being with Mrs. Mortimer after I had warned him to stay away," Mortimer said. Forbes' reply was not stated.

CREWS REPAIRING STORM DAMAGE

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 8.—Large forces of men are still at work in nearly every direction from Beatrice repairing telephone, telegraph, and electric lines which were leveled by the sleet storm of last week.

Reports reaching here today stated that more lines went down last night during the heavy wind and almost zero temperature which prevailed in this section of the state.

Relief From Cold Wave Promised by Bureau for Today

Thermometer Falls to Within 12 Degrees of Zero; Railroad Reports Trains on Time, However.

The weather bureau foresees some relief from low temperatures for several days today, but it probably will remain cold in Omaha for another day, according to predictions.

At 8 Monday morning the bureau thermometer showed a temperature of 12, the coldest this winter. The mercury began rising slowly after that.

Trains on Time. Railroad men and telegraph company officials said that the cold weather is affecting neither train service nor wire communication.

Jury Named in Case of Pat Carroll

Suspected Member of Little Sioux Holdup Gang Closely Guarded as He Sits in Court. Has Long Police Record

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee. Logan, Ia., Dec. 8.—Harry Raymond, alias Pat Carroll, is on trial. So opens the latest chapter in the Little Sioux bank robbery of October 20, when a party of heavily armed bandits stood off residents of the town in a gun battle while their companions blasted and looted the bank vault.

Raymond was arrested at Pacific Junction the night of October 21. He was identified later as Pat Carroll, notorious bank robber and jailbreaker of Kansas.

The jury which is to hear the evidence in the case was impaneled late this afternoon and the trial was adjourned until tomorrow morning, when the prosecution will open its case.

Prisoner Handcuffed. Raymond entered the courtroom this morning fastened to Deputy Sheriff O. A. Case with handcuffs. He was smiling, well dressed and apparently in an easy frame of mind.

The police record which was obtained from Kansas authorities after the man had been identified as Pat Carroll has led Sheriff Walt Millman to take no chances on the prisoner's escape. He is kept under constant guard and the deputy sat just behind him throughout the stay in the courtroom.

Raymond is accused of being a member of a bandit gang which terrorized southeastern Iowa for weeks last summer. The gang are accused of having robbed the Little Sioux bank after two other banks had been visited and looted. They are also accused of having gone to Soldier, Ia., after Raymond's arrest where they blasted and looted the bank vault.

WEATHER FORECAST
Fair today, with probably rising temperature.
CITY EDITION