

By D. M. AMSBERRY.

BROKEN BOW, NEBRASKA

Brief Telegrams

The salary of the president of the American Base Ball league is \$10,000.

Robert Catteron of New York recently purchased the far-famed granite mountain of Texas.

In Paris a youth attempted kill his father in order that as a widow's son he might escape conscription.

Coins are classified, according to their state of preservation, as "proof," "uncirculated," "fine," "good," "fair," and "poor."

John Sharp Williams, the new democratic leader in the national house of representatives, rarely, if ever, loses his temper.

According to the census taken by the prefecture of the Seine there are at present in Paris 41,350 Italians, 42,000 Belgians, and 32,500 Germans.

Arthur Chamberlain of Birmingham, England, a nephew of Joseph Chamberlain, has been touring Canada, partly on business and partly on pleasure.

Plans are being made to erect a monument to the philosopher Kant in Berlin, to be unveiled on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his death in 1904.

The queen of Holland has just appointed an Englishman, Rev. Kiropp Lake of Lincoln college, Oxford, a theological professor at the famous Dutch university of Leyden.

F. N. R. Martinez, the musical and art critic of the New York World, died after a month's illness, resulting from paralysis. Mr. Martinez was born in San Francisco in 1849.

Consul Louis Kaiser writes from Mazatlan, Mexico, June 16, 1903, that that port has been declared open by President Diaz. All restrictions on traffic have now been removed.

President Roosevelt sent Miss Sarah C. Provost, the principal of the Cove Neck school at Oyster Bay, a check sufficiently large to give every pupil a handsome Christmas present.

Resolutions have been adopted by the chamber of commerce of Pensacola, Fla., urging representatives of Florida in congress to vote for the ratification of the Panama treaty.

Orders have been received at San Francisco from Washington by local transport officials to get the troop ships Sherman and Newport in readiness for service immediately.

The pope has issued of his own accord a note on the subject of sacred music in churches, recommending the Gregorian chant. The note will be published in the Osservatore Romano.

William P. Frye of Maine boasts of being the only great-grandfather of the United States senate, a girl baby having arrived at the home of his grandson, William Frye White, in Washington.

Premier Sedden of New Zealand is being criticized for unloading his relatives on the government. It is said that he and eight of his relatives are drawing an average of \$25,000 each in salary.

The congregation of the propaganda has received information that Archbishop Chappelle will visit Rome in the near future for the purpose of obtaining a definite settlement of church questions in Cuba and Porto Rico.

The striking union miners arrested at Telluride, Colo., some time ago, charged with vagrancy, are said to have been all released and ordered to go to work or leave town. They have not as yet complied with the order.

Announcement was made of the appointment of C. M. Waters as superintendent of the division of salaries and allowances of the postoffice department, to succeed George W. Beavers, to take effect January 1 next. Mr. Waters is now acting superintendent of the division.

Bishop Thomas Bowman of East Orange, N. J., the oldest living Methodist bishop, who has just passed his 56th birthday, has just made public a story in which he tells how he warned President Lincoln that he was in danger of being assassinated by John Wilkes Booth five days before the tragedy occurred.

The Harmony club of Seattle, composed of 314 of the most prominent Jews in that city, has sent messages of appeal to President Roosevelt, the members of the Washington delegation in congress and William R. Hearst of New York, asking aid and intercession in behalf of the Jews who are in danger of massacre in Kishineff.

Prof. Giovanni Livì, director of the state archives of Bologna, which town is the principal center of Dante's fame, has found a parchment dated 1323, on which are two pen sketches representing Dante crowned in Bologna. This discovery will prove of great interest to those who are searching for an authentic portrait of the poet.

Sir John See, the premier of New South Wales, has added a new phrase to the political vocabulary. Urged to bring pressure to bear upon the commonwealth government in a certain cause, he replied with a worried and irritated air that he might just as well "sneeze against thunder."

In leaving his residuary estate to his sons only, Mr. A. Holmes, a Bingley (England) brewer, said he did so not because his sons were dearer to him than his daughters, but because he considered that men have a harder struggle in life.

564 PERSONS LOSE THEIR LIVES IN BURNING OF CHICAGO THEATER

FIRE STARTS ON STAGE AND BURNS FROM PIT TO DOME

With a Whirlwind of Flame Enveloping Floor and Galleries, Holiday Crowd of Pleasure Seekers Fight Way to Exits—Awful Scenes of Horror as Scores Leap to Street or Fall from Escapes—Exits Closed and Doomed Victims Pinned in Blazing Prison.

We must go back to the convulsions of nature for a more dreadful story of swift death than occurred at the Iroquois Theater at Chicago in the matinee hour of Dec. 30. The statistics show 560 humans dead, and scores injured. There have been greater horrors by flood, by volcanoes, by the uprising of nature's forces, but if there was ever a more appalling chapter traced to man's hand history fails to tell it save in the records of battle alone. Of fire horrors, as they are commonly known, certainly nothing like it ever occurred in this country or any other.

There is an ornate million-dollar theater, assured, of course, as thoroughly fireproof. Within were 2,300 women and children, and a few men—a typical, merry, holiday matinee audience. One thousand were in the galleries. There were many entrances offering the usual number of exits, all, of course, sufficient to depopulate the building in case of fire. We have all seen that often enough on the programs. There were five men in uniforms in the aisles, provided by the city government. It was a pretty, happy scene. There was a darkened

black masses of smoke, many were literally too paralyzed for movement, so that at the end and after it was all over, there was the strange, gruesome picture of a score or more dead leaning silently over the rails as if still glancing at the play.

But down at the doorway it was a wave backward of human beings fighting for the blessing of life. What heroism was shown of man for woman or of woman for children will never be known, for the tragedy was but of minutes.

There was the sweep, the crush, the weak falling and the strong mounting, the inevitable desperate instinct which accompanies the grim law of self-preservation; then the horror of flaming death behind and crushing death before; then the still outreaching flames, and, finally, a mass of piled-up humanity, a few of the living above and the dead far below.

The details of the awful happenings inside have never been exceeded in the awfulness of sudden death in agony in all the history of modern times.

From the balcony and galleries, where there was no more safety from the flame heat ascending than on the

Clayton, Vinton; Cohn, Mrs. Jacob; Corcoran, —; Cooper, C. L.; Conell, Thomas; Cooper, Helen; Coultis, R. H.; Carran, May; Crook, E. S.; Caldwell, A. R.

Dawson, Mrs.; Dittendorf, Leandora, Lincoln, Ill.; Delee, Miss N.; Dodd, Mrs. J. F., of Delaware, O.; Donaldson, H.; Donaldson, Miss A.; Delee, Miss Viola; Dyrenfurth, Ruth; Dyrenfurth, Helen; Dawson, Grace.

Eberstein, Frank B.; Eisenstead, Herman; Eldridge, Mort; Espen, Emil; Espen, Miss Rosa; Elkahn, Rose.

Fitzgibbons, Anna; Fitzgibbons, John J.; Fox, George Sydney; Flanagan, Thomas J.; Frady, Leon; Falke, Miss Ada; Foley, H.; Foltz, Helen; Folkenstein, Miss Gertrude R.; Foltz, Miss Alice; Foltz, Mrs. C. O.; Fox, Hoyt; Fox, Mrs. Emilie Hoyt; Winnetka; Foltz, Helen; Frackelborn, Miss Edith; Frackelborn, Ella; Frady, Mrs. E. C.

Gartz, Mary Dorothea; Gartz, Barbara; Gerow, Mabel; Geary, Miss

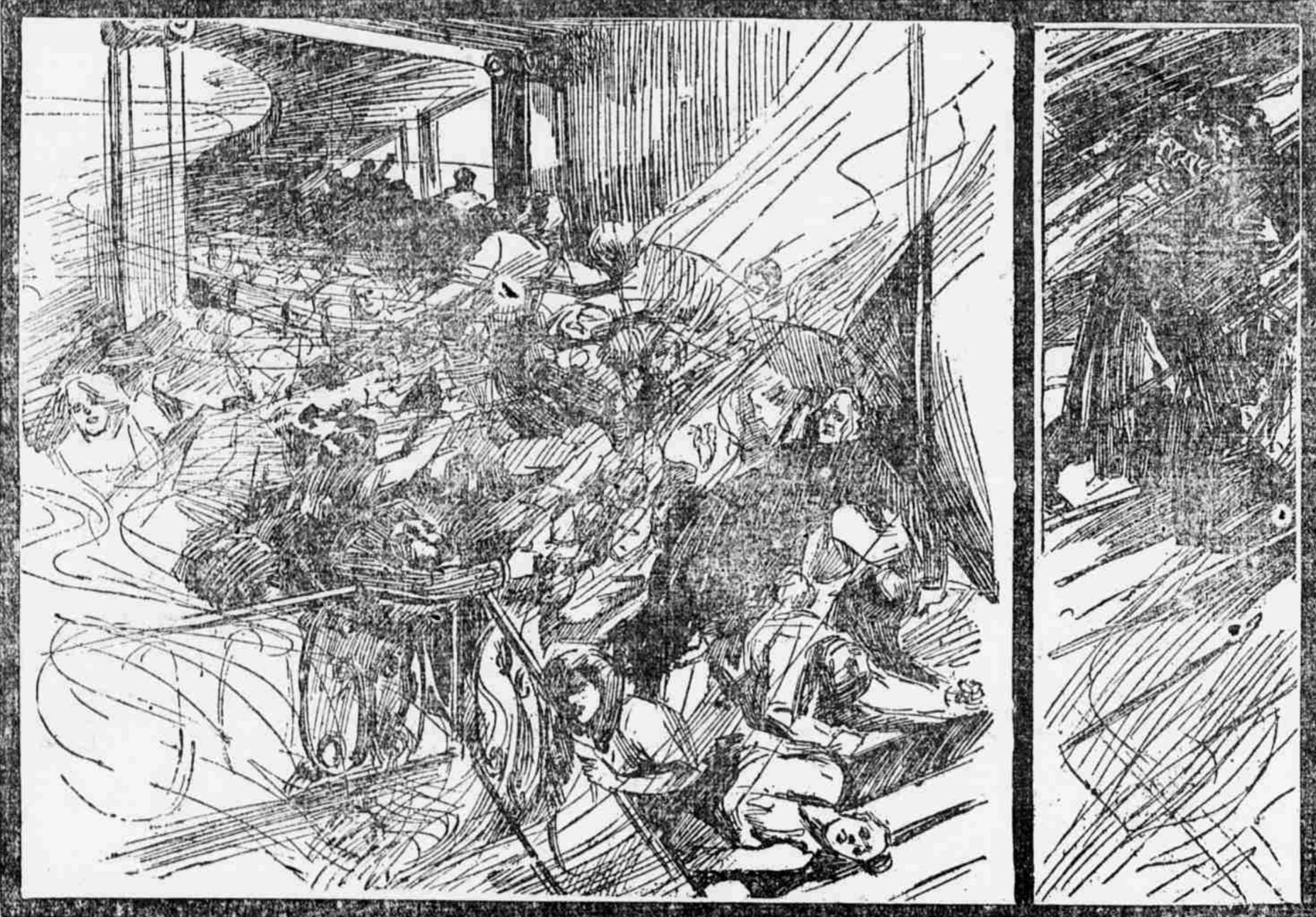
Lake, Mrs. Lena; Lake, Mrs. A.; Lang, Irene; Lang, Hortense; Lange, Miss Agnes; Linden, Ellen; Leatin, Fred W.

Maloney, Mrs. James D.; Martin, Harold; Martin, J.; Martin, W.; Maloney, Alice, Ottawa, Ill.; Martin, Robert; McCaughan, Helen; McClelland, Joseph; McClelland, James; McClurg, Roy; McKenna, Bernard; McKenna, Bernard; Muir, Annie, Peoria, Ill.; McMillan, Mabel; Meade, Lillian; Merriell, Mrs.; Merrien, Mildred; Meses, Espie; Muir, F. A.; Morehouse, P.; Moore, H. P.; Mendel, Mrs. M.; Middleton, Catherine; McKenna, Morton, Edmund W.

Newby, —; Norton, Edith; Norton, Edward W.; Nuir, —.

O'Donnell, Mrs. Patrick P.; Olinger, Mrs. Bessie; Olson, Mrs. Oscar; Owen, William Murray; Oxman, Miss Florence.

Page, Harold; Page, Charles T.; Patton, Lillian; Peterson, Fornetta; Poults, R. H.; Phacker, Walter; Pott-



Death Trap at Main Balcony Exit.

stage, there were a dozen singing maidens and a popular comedian singing a popular air, entitled "In the Pale Moonlight."

Now what happened? A fuse or two blew from the calcium light that made the pale moon. The spark struck the ginger-bread scenery; the scenery blazed to the stage.

An Urn of Fire in Five Minutes. And then! Well, then in five minutes this costly playhouse became a red urn of fire and a great, heart-breaking cry, such a cry as splits the stone of a Caesar's heart, arose in that building.

It was the cry of the man or woman, clinging to a storm-swept raft, who sees the others go down before him.

The scene was something that no human pen can tell. A circle of flame swept from the stage around the balcony and galleries, driven into a whirlwind by six great automatic ventilators and the open doors.

It moved faster than the calcium of the pale moonlight and as fierce as a blazing meteor.

There was a wild, mad, raging, trampling rush for life. It is not easy to fancy what one would do in such a scene, but all seemingly acted together. Men and women fought like unleashed hounds for the first exit; little children were crushed in the arms of their mothers; clothes and jewels were torn from the owners, bonnettes and purses were tossed on the floors.

Battle for Life in Balconies. This was the first scene. On the main floor the panic was quite as fierce as elsewhere, but escape was easier. It was in the balconies that the battle for life was hardest, and there, indeed, was scarcely a chance for escape. The galleries were, within no time at all, heaped with a helpless, struggling, insane mass of people. As the flaming circle crept higher and higher, choking the audience with

floor below, people hurled themselves downward in their terror. All, or nearly all, of those in the rear met a fearful death. Firemen, the fire practically extinguished, found they were but pouring water on heaps of human beings.

LIST OF THE DEAD.

A. Adanek, Mrs. John; Austrian, Walter D.

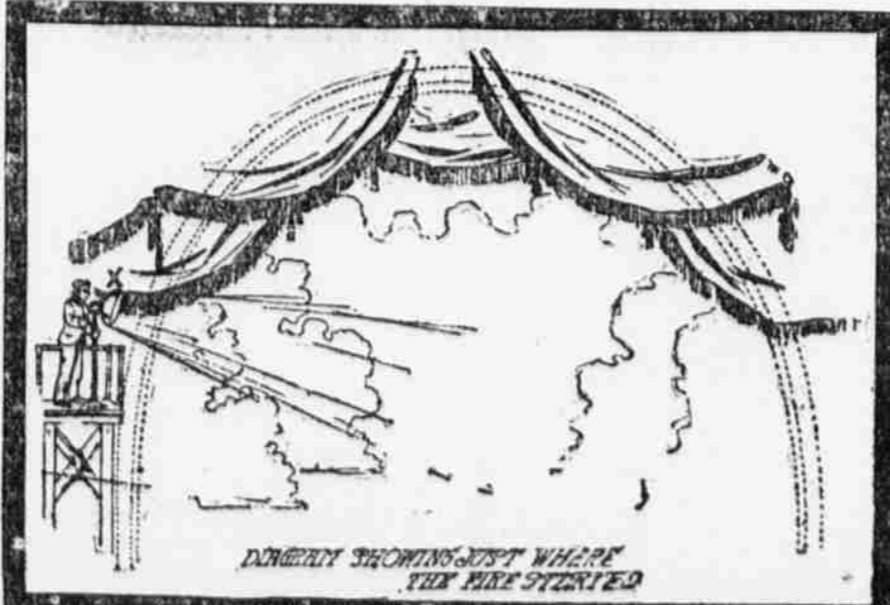
B. Barker, Miss Ethel; Barnhelsel, Charles H.; Bartlett, Mrs. C. D.; Bartlett, H.; Beurlet, William C.; Beyersloth, Helen; Bissinger, Walter B.; Birdsey, Mrs. H. G.; Bodice, N. W.; Brewster, Miss Julia; Brinkley, Mrs. Emma; Buehmann, Margaret; Bickford, C. M.; Boise, Beane; Buschwah, Louise; Beyers, —; Butler, Mrs. Rosa; Butler, Rose; Bymfurth, Ruth.

C. Cahn, Miss Lucy; Clark, E. D.; Pauline; Gerry, Miss Wilma; Gould, Mrs. B. E.; Gohan, J.; Guderhaugh, Sophie.

H. Hall, Emperly; Harbrough, Mary E.; Haviland, Miss Lee; Haviland, Lee; Harbaugh, Mrs.; Hickman, Mrs. Charles; Holland, John; Howard, Mrs. Mary E.; Hart, E. D.; Henning, —; Henry, Mrs. G. A.; Higginson, Miss Jeanette; Holmes, Mrs.; Higginson, Roger; Holst, Allen; Holst, Gertrude; Hooper, W. W.; Kenosha, Wis.; Howard, Miss Helen; Holland, Leigh; Horton, Edith; Ontonagon, Mich.; Howard, Ray E.; Hudson, Harry; Hehn, Otto.

J. Jones, Ethel; Johnson, J. C.

K. Kaufman, Alice; Kelly, Otto; Kieley, Harvey; Kennedy, Agnes; Winnetka; Kennedy, Frances; Winnetka; Koehens, J. A.; Koll, Charles H.; Kisser, Louis and wife; Ketchem, Mrs.; Kranz, Mrs. Sarah, Racine, Wis.



DANGER! SCORING JUST WHERE THE FIRE STARTED

litzer, Jack, Lafayette, Ind.

R. Rattey, William; Rattey, J.; Reiter, Mrs. G.; Regensberg, Hazel; Regensberg, Miss Helen; Remington, Thomas; Ross, Ellen; Robertson, Minnie; Reed, W. M.; Richardson, Rev. H. L.; Roberts, Theodore; Rogers, Rose K.; Rathey, William; Robinson, Minnie; Ross, —, 16 years old, daughter of Dr. Ross.

S. Saville, Warren E.; Sayore, Carrie J.; Spring, Mrs. W. A.; Stinger, Mrs. J. H.; Sayre, Miss Carrie A.; String, Mrs. Winthrop; Spindler, Burdette; Studley, Rev. George H.; Sutton, Harry D.; Sawyer, —; Sedill, Warner, 12 years old, Kankakee, Ill.; Smithbarry, Wilma; Smith, Mrs. —, Des Plaines, Ill.; Smith, Miss Marjorie, Des Plaines, Ill.; Sheppard, Lola, 12 years old; Scott, Burr; Shabbard, Myrtle; Shabbard, Lulu; Sherr, —; Sprang, W. N.; Stern, Mrs.; Sutton, Harry P.; Squier, Olive; Saville, Arthur; Spring, Winthrop; Schmidt, Rosa.

T. Taysen, Ruth; Torney, Edna; Turner, Mrs. Susan; Turbush, C. W.; Thatcher, W.

V. Valley, Bernice; Valley, Mrs. J. T.; Vanzenen, Edward T.; Valley, Miss Bernice; Van Ingen, John; Vien, Herman.

W. Wells, Donald; Wolf, Mrs. Leo, Hammond, Ind.; Waldman, S.; Woltmann, Otto; Williams, H.; Winslow, C. A.; Three River Falls, Minn.; Wells, Donald; Windes, Paul; Wolff, Harriet; Welskopf, Emma.

Z. Zeisler, Walter B.

Unidentified Dead Are Many. In addition to the foregoing, there are seventy bodies at the various morgues awaiting identification.

IS A PRISON CHILD

PATHETIC HISTORY OF LITTLE ALMA GREASON.

Born in Jail at Reading, Pa., She is the Pet of All Who Know Her—Her Mother and Reputed Father Under Sentence of Death.

Alma Greason of Reading, Pa., is a child with a strange history. She has never been outside of prison walls. She is two and a half years old, and her mother and her reputed father are in now the same jail under sentence of death.

Alma is dark skinned, bright and attractive and she speaks two languages—English to the prison visitors and the Pennsylvania German dialect to her mother.

Being a pet of the jail, the child is daintily dressed and has the run of the prison. She spends an hour downstairs with the warden's family and the next hour up on the second tier of cells with the death watch in charge of her convicted mother.

In all her jail liberty she is never permitted to see Samuel Greason, her reputed father, in another part of the jail. Greason is a negro. Alma's mother is white. The murder of which the two were convicted was that of the woman's husband.

The story of this prison child's life is unusual, even in criminal history. Her complexion at birth was to determine the life or death of her mother.

John Edwards, the husband of the woman, was a white laborer in the quarries of Stouchburg. Being out of work and shiftless, he failed to support his wife, Kate, and their children. Greason, also a laborer, had money. When he saw Mrs. Edwards' children going barefoot in winter he provided money for their needs. In this way their mother came to have kindly feelings toward him.

Edwards' suspicions were finally aroused. He accused his wife of having been unfaithful and declared that if the child soon to be born was black he would murder her.

Now Mrs. Edwards is a dark skinned woman. It was evident, therefore, that whether her husband's suspicions were well founded or not, the complexion of the child might cost her life.

Some time before the child was born, in July, 1901, there was a party at the Edwards home. Edwards drank a great deal of beer. The next day his body was found in the cistern near the house. He had been struck on the head with some blunt instrument while sleeping on the porch after the party.

Mrs. Edwards told a variety of stories about his death and finally she accused Greason of being concerned in it. Both were convicted of murder in the first degree.

The child was born in prison. As has been said, she has a dark skin, and they christened her Alma Greason. Her reputed father has never seen her.

Thrice Greason has been reprieved. Churches, Sunday schools and cake-walks have raised money to pay his lawyers to save him from the gallows. He declares that he was not at the Edwards home on the night of Edwards' murder.

He says he does not know who killed him, but the theory of his friends is that the wife and her eldest daughter alone know the true story of the death of Edwards. It is generally believed that Edwards was murdered because it was feared that the child would be black and that he would carry out his threat to kill his wife.

And while Greason and Mrs. Edwards are growing fat in the shadow of the scaffold the little child is joyously prattling about the prison corridors by day and sleeping in the bosom of her mother by night in a cell. Some say the child will grow up in the jail and never leave it. If the love that is shown for Alma continues developing, it will be very hard to part with the child in the years to come, when her parents have paid the penalty of their crime.

Success is Like a Distant Hill. Success is like a far-off hill. Scarcely wreathed in mellow haze; it looms there, dim and distant, still when, after many trying days, with waning hopes and shattered will, we lift our weary heads and gaze.

And like the far-off hill that through the softening haze shows gentle slopes, the clouds off hide it from his view. That in the darkened valley gropes; The road winds much in leading to The light whereon he sets his hopes.

The hill that looms before us, far Away across the misty space, Shows not a gap nor break to mar The even beauty of its face. But when we reach it many a scar And clef its rough steep's interlace.

Success is like the hill we see Far off, where mighty rivers spring, And few that reach it wait for free, Fair days the future is to bring; It will not come to us 'tis we That have to do the traveling.

A War Office Anecdote. This story is told to us as true. An admiralty clerk was giving luncheon to a brother official from the war office. "Black coffee?" asked the admiralty clerk. "Good heavens, no!" cried the other. "Why, if I were to drink a drop of coffee at this hour of the day I shouldn't get a wink of sleep all the weary afternoon."—London Globe.

Teaches Journalism. Dr. A. Koch, the professor of Journalism at the University of Heidelberg, not only lectures on his subjects, but makes his pupils write editorials, reports, book reviews and criticisms of entertainments.

Municipal Tramway Profits. The London city council now makes £69,600 a year from tramways. Leeds corporation secures from a similar source an income of £21,000.