

FATAL BALL IN COURT

Introduced as Exhibit in the Trial of Mrs. Lillie on Murder Charge.

FITS REVOLVER STOLEN FROM HEATH

Coroner Describes Course of Ball Which Went Through Window.

HOLE IN WINDOW HIGHER THAN IN CURTAIN

Says He Found Distinct Powder Burns on the Lace Curtain.

MAKES EXPERIMENTS WITH REVOLVER

Asserts Weapon Must Be Held Within Eight Inches to Produce Burns and Even Closer to Match Those in Lillie Home.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—The attendance at the preliminary hearing of Mrs. Lena M. Lillie was not as large as yesterday, the court room being only comfortably filled.

Dr. M. V. B. Sample, county coroner, was the first witness called.

He was at the hospital soon after Mr. Lillie was taken there and also after the patient died. He made a close examination of the wound and found the flesh around the wound was blackened from powder.

About thirty minutes after Mr. Lillie died, witness and Drs. Buch and Stewart held a post-mortem examination of the body and found grains of powder inside of the skull.

Witness, by the use of the skull of an adult person, demonstrated the course of the bullet. He said the bullet struck about two inches in front of and slightly above the right ear, and was found just behind the left ear, and that a bullet passing through the brain as this one did would produce paralysis immediately.

Bring Bullet into Court.

The bullet that was found in Lillie's brain was identified by the coroner and admitted in evidence, also the bullet found lodged in a barn 300 feet from the Lillie residence and in the distance from the window which went through the window. He also produced one procured from W. R. Heath, who says his revolver was stolen about the time Mr. Lillie was murdered, and it is supposed was the revolver used by the criminal. All of the bullets are exactly the same.

Coroner Sample in his evidence also gave a brief synopsis of the testimony of Mrs. Lillie before the coroner's jury.

Tries to Show Discrepancies.

At the convening of the court this afternoon Dr. Sample recalled and the direct examination resumed. He testified that where the bullet went through the window the lace curtain was powder-burned and that the bullet hole in the windscreen was slightly higher than the hole in the curtain. This was for the purpose of proving that it was impossible for a man to stand up and fire the shot that went through the window. That the distance from the window to the west side of the bed was fifty-nine inches. This was on a line with the bullet hole through the window. Witness also testified as to the statements made by Mrs. Lillie with reference to the looting of money.

The cross-examination of Dr. Sample was very direct and every point in his evidence on direct examination was gone over thoroughly, but did not weaken his testimony in the least. This is claimed to be one of the principal reasons for the state.

County Attorney Walling says that he will introduce several other witnesses to corroborate the evidence of Dr. Sample, and he thinks some of the members of the coroner's jury will testify even more certain than has Dr. Sample. The attorneys for the state claim that when the evidence in all produced the defendant will be held to the district court by Judge Skiles.

Experiments with Pistols.

The attorney for the defense is equally confident of an acquittal. On redirect examination the doctor stated he had made some experiments as to how near a pistol must be to an object to powder-burn; that the experiments were with different kinds and sizes of revolvers and different grades of powder. He was assisted by the coroner's jury. He demonstrated that to powder-burn a piece of lace curtain the pistol must be not further than eight inches away, and this was very different from that to burn similar to the powder-burn on the lace curtain in the Lillie home the pistol must be as close as six inches, and that to powder-burn a windowglass the pistol must be as close as three inches.

When court adjourned the examination of Dr. Sample was not concluded.

Mrs. Lillie says that the reports published in today's paper that the Lillies and Hills had intermarried several times, is an error, and requests that the same be corrected. Sam Lillie, brother of Harvey, married her sister, and this was the only marriage between the Hill and Lillie families. Also that she has only five relatives living in David City.

LORENZ OFFICIALLY THANKED

Aldermen of New York City Present Him with Resolutions Extolling His Work Among Poor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Professor Adolph Lorenz was today presented with the resolutions recently passed by the board of aldermen extolling the work he has done in this city, particularly for the poor.

After a luncheon at the Hardware club the surgeon was escorted to the city hall, where Alderman Walker delivered an address and Alderman Sullivan presented the album containing the engraved address.

Professor Lorenz replied, thanking the aldermen and expressing his pleasure at the reception tendered him in the United States.

NATURAL GAS WRECKS HOUSE

Leaks Into a Cellar and is Exploded by the Flame of Lighted Lamp.

DELAWARE, O., Dec. 30.—When Miss Helen Kurlay went to the cellar this morning to start the fire a terrific explosion of natural gas occurred from her lighted lamp and wrecked three sides of the house.

Five members of the family were blown through the house and Miss Kurlay was fatally injured and her mother seriously hurt. The other three were slightly injured.

Gas had leaked into the cellar and filled the house during the night.

STATUS OF PANAMA CANAL

Is Discussed at Meeting of the Stockholders and Pending Negotiations Approved.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The annual meeting of the Panama Canal company was held today. The attendance was smaller than usual and the proceedings were more orderly than last.

The meeting was occupied with reading the report of the directors of the company, in which were detailed the pending negotiations with the United States. The facts set forth in this report are already known.

The sanguine hope was expressed that all difficulties would be overcome and the canal completed at an early date.

The reading of the report was followed by a brief discussion, in the course of which two or three of the stockholders made the customary protests against the sale and asked what would happen if the negotiations with the United States fell through.

President Bo replied that in this event the stockholders again would be consulted, while if the sale took place they would have to meet to vote ratification.

The directors' report was approved, the outgoing officers of the company were re-elected and the meeting adjourned.

THREATENS TO SHELL TOWN

German Warship Commander's Mail Detained by Moroccan Postmaster Proposes Retaliation.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Willemstad, Curacao, dated yesterday, says: "The postmaster of Maracaibo, Venezuela, having detained correspondence belonging to German merchants, German cruiser Falke threatens in consequence to bombard 'the town'."

CARACAS, Dec. 30.—President Castro arrived here this morning. At 3 o'clock United States Minister Bowen called on the president and communicated to him the recommendation that issues between Venezuela and the allies be taken to the international peace court at The Hague. Venezuela's answer will be received tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

The victory gained by the government at Barquisimeto argues for President Castro's continuance in power.

HUMBERTS CHIEF ATTRACTION

Noted Prisoners Continue to Absorb a Large Portion of Public Attention in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The Humberts continue to absorb attention here. Minister of Justice, Velle brought the subject before the council of ministers today, saying he had given \$50,000 to the special police to assist in the arrest of the principals in the famous case.

This is in addition to the \$5,000 reward offered for their capture, which has not yet been paid, owing to conflicting claims. It is expected that the prosecution of the Humberts will not begin for several days. The prisoners have so far declined to name their lawyers, and the court has designated Maître Chenu to appear in their behalf.

The Humbert safe, which was alleged to contain \$20,000, has been removed to the interior theater, where it will be the chief attraction.

TRIP PROVES A FAILURE

Reports Made to Trade Unions by English Labor Commissioners Contain Contradictions.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The reports made by Mr. Mosely's commissioners to the trades unions on the result of their observations in the United States contain more contradictions than points of agreement.

The closest approach to a common understanding is the opinion that the domestic demand for manufactures of all kinds in the United States is so great that there is no immediate prospect of the displacement of British by American goods, either here or in neutral markets.

When the American home trade falls off it is admitted that the surplus products will be sent to England and to neutral markets with most damaging effects upon British trade.

SCHALKBURGER ASKS RELIEF

Appeals to Government to Be Merciful to Those Who Fought for Boer Cause.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 30.—General Schalkburger, former acting president of the former Orange Free State, in an open letter, published in Onand, appeals to the government to be merciful to those who suffered as a result of their devotion to the Boer cause and to remove the grievances which now make it impossible to live up to the motto, "forgive and forget."

In conclusion General Schalkburger expresses the hope that "the people who show that the power of the rule in South Africa lies in the Afrikaner, who will remain loyal while righteousness remains, and while his rightful portion is allotted him."

ARMY IS TO BE REDUCED

Revolution in Colombia Practically Ended by Surrender of Arms to Government.

PANAMA, Colombia, Dec. 30.—The Colombian army, by the recent national decree, has been reduced to 50,000 men.

The government commissioners have received up to date from the surrendered revolutionists twenty-three field pieces, 8,233 rifles and over 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition, not counting what is on board the steamers.

The consularship on cable messages has been abolished.

WANT A BOER GENERAL

British Government Anxious to Secure Services of Vlijoen, Now in United States.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The British government is trying to secure the services of General Ben Vlijoen, who is now touring the United States, to command the Boer forces which are going to Somaliland.

It was General Vlijoen who suggested employing the Boers against the Somalis, but the authorities at that time were not prepared to accept his offer.

To Submit Claims to Court.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—France and Guatemala have agreed to submit to the international arbitration court at The Hague the French claims against Guatemala. They are similar to those against Venezuela. The terms of the protocol are now being discussed.

NEBRASKAN PENNED IN FEZ

Two Missionaries from This State and One from Iowa in Danger.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—A conference of anti-trust coal operators and their attorneys was held here today for the presentation of the mine owners' side of the controversy to the commission when that body convenes here next Tuesday.

The conference was called by Simon P. Wadsworth, counsel for the Philadelphia & Reading Railway company, and continued from 2 until 4 o'clock. James H. Torrey, representing the Delaware & Hudson company, presided. James Burr, counsel for the New York, Ontario & Western, was secretary. Samuel Dickinson, attorney for the Pennsylvania Coal company, and W. W. Ross, for the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western; Ira H. Burns, for several independent operators, and John T. Leithan, for the nonunion mine workers. After the conference had adjourned Mr. Wolverson, president of the commission, was present.

The testimony on the part of the nonunion miners is not complete. Tuesday, when the commission sits, the nonunion men's counsel will submit further testimony which will probably consume a day or two. The operators will open and proceed with evidence, which will be presented by companies in the following order: Delaware & Hudson, Erie, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, Lehigh Valley, Lehigh Coal and Iron, Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre, Independent operators and Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron company.

The presentation of the operators' side will occupy ten days or two weeks—perhaps more.

Judge Hand of Scranton, attorney for theConnell Coal and Coke company, said: "It is necessary to respect French aspirations that there is no blacklist and no discrimination against union men. Most of those who attended the conference left for their homes tonight. Members of the anti-trust coal commission and several of the lawyers have remained at the Continental hotel, which will be the headquarters of the commission."

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Two investigations into the cause of the scarcity and the high price of coal in Chicago were begun today. The Palmer House Attorney General Hamlin held a conference with the coal-hauling railroads and of the coal trade.

At the city hall the council committee on railroads held a public session, hearing statements from men who direct the movement of coal on the railroads entering the city.

Neither inquiry resulted in action by the public officials and both will be continued tomorrow.

Mr. Hamlin announced tonight that he had made rapid progress and intimated that the greater part of the blame rests with the dealers and not the railroads.

"If I find proof," he said, "that thousands upon thousands of tons of coal covered the streets of Chicago from the mountains and untouched, are not under contract, but held for the purpose of increasing the price, those dealers will be prosecuted and compelled to relieve the suffering occasioned by the scarcity of coal."

Before the railroads committee of the city council the fact was brought out that local dealers are holding vast quantities of coal merely to keep up the price.

COAL DEALERS BURY PRODUCT

Two Investigations Started at Chicago Already Show Thousands of Tons Securely Stowed Away.

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TARIFF ON COAL AND BEEF

American Free Trade League Asks Congress to Remove Duties Without Further Delay.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—At a meeting in Faneuil hall today called by the American Free Trade league the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The tariff duties upon beef and coal by assisting the extortions of monopolists and by withholding from the people the benefit of a serious hardship for our people, and

Resolved, That as American citizens we ask that tariff duty on beef and coal be now removed.

Resolved, That the tariff duties in general be removed, with the exception of those made in the case of these duties upon beef and coal and that they be reduced to the level of the most favored nation.

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ST. JOSEPH FACES COAL FAMINE

No Anthracite to Be Had and Railroads Are Consigning All Soft Coal in Sight.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 30.—The people of St. Joseph are confronted with a most serious coal famine.

The supply of soft coal had at any price. The supply of soft coal is almost exhausted and if the railroads continue to consignate coal as they have been during the last few days there will be no soft coal in the city.

MUST BUY COAL ON MARKET

Anthracite Companies' Sales Agents Agree Not to Renew Contracts with Large Consumers.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—The sales agents of the Pennsylvania Railroad company and anthracite coal companies met today and decided to continue the present circular prices during the month of January. The sales agents also declined to renew any of the expiring contracts with large consumers of anthracite, which action will compel all consumers to purchase coal in the open market. It is said the Philadelphia & Reading will take similar action.

OPERATORS PREPARING CASE

Employers' Side of Coal Strike Will Consume Ten Days or Two Weeks of Time of Commission.

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WYOMING MAN RECEIVES MANY CONGRATULATIONS

On Coming Promotion.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—(Special Telegram.)—"Well," said ex-Governor Richards, first assistant commissioner of the land office, as he smilingly grasped the extended hand of his friend today. "It may be a little premature to accept your congratulations, but I thank you." In fact, the announcement of Commissioner Hermann's resignation and the probable appointment of William A. Richards to succeed him as commissioner general of the land office in some manner leaked out prematurely. It had not been intended at the department that this choice bit of news should be made public until congress convened next week.

While Assistant Commissioner Richards is receiving many telegrams congratulating him upon his prospective promotion and numerous personal calls from friends, he is accepting all the well wishes with a suggestion to wait, "as my name has not yet been carried to congress. It is, however, regarded as almost certain that the president will appoint Mr. Richards to be the head of the general land office."

Commissioner Hermann says he will upon his retirement from office return to his former home in Oregon. "I have made arrangements," said Mr. Hermann today, "to re-enter the practice of my profession, the law. I will only remain in office long enough to settle several minor matters and close up the affairs of my incumbency."

OBIGIAN TO SUCCEED RICHARDS.

John H. Pimple of Carrollton, O., has been selected as assistant commissioner of the land office, to succeed ex-Governor W. A. Richards of Wyoming, who has been elected to succeed Blinger Herrman of Oregon as commissioner.

Both Mr. Richards and Mr. Pimple were slated for these offices by the late President McKinley. Mr. Pimple was law clerk in the land office for four years, was assistant attorney general for two years under Attorney General Vandewater of the interior department and resigned two years ago to resume his law practice. He is 40 years of age.

SOUTHERN QUARANTINE ORDER.

The secretary of agriculture has issued the annual order establishing a quarantine against a number of southern and western states on account of the southern or Texas fever. The quarantine against Texas and Oklahoma is made a month earlier this year, taking effect January 1, but it is not operative against the other states until February. In this respect the provisions of the act are identical with that of previous years.

HAD NO COUNTRY TO RESUME.

Justice Cushman of the District supreme court engaged in hearing a petition filed by Antonio M. De Yaca, a young Filipino, who is seeking to obtain naturalization papers. He came to this country after signing the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain. He applied for naturalization in this District. The local law requires that all applicants for citizenship must renounce allegiance to his country. He had no country to renounce and on this ground he was denied naturalization papers by the clerk of the District supreme court.

ROUTINE OF DEPARTMENTS.

J. C. Madison has been appointed postmaster at Glen, Sioux county, Neb. Vice J. Gilmore, resigned.

The postmaster at Marshalltown, Ia., will be allowed one additional letter carrier after January 1.

Jacob K. Davis has been appointed a rural letter carrier and Arthur Davis as substitute carrier, at Hot Springs, S. D., has been admitted to practice before the interior department.

The comptroller of the currency has approved the application of the Colman Building & Loan Association, to be converted into the First National bank of Colman, with \$25,000 capital.

The First National bank of Bellefourche, S. D., has been authorized to begin business with \$50,000 capital.

Dr. L. M. Beckman, B. A. Wade and C. W. Hargens have been appointed pension examining surgeons at Hot Springs, S. D.

Rural free delivery routes will be established in Iowa, February 2, as follows: Bonair, Howard county, one route; area, twenty-five square miles; population, 1,000. Lime Springs, Howard county, three routes; area, sixty square miles; population, 1,825. Northwood, Worth county, two additional routes; area, fifty-four square miles; population, 1,015.

Bids were opened today at the Treasury department for an electric elevator for the public building at Cheyenne, Wyo. The bidders were: Otis Elevator company, New York, \$5,625; Morris Engine and Machine company, New York, \$6,035.

The United States National bank of Omaha has been approved as reserve agent of the First National bank of Scotts Bluff, Neb.

Major William H. Cormusler, surgeon, upon the expiration of his present leave, will proceed to Fort Crook for duty to relieve Captain Paul F. Straube, assistant surgeon, who, upon being thus relieved, will proceed to the Philippines for assignment to duty.

Captain Horace M. Reeve, Seventeenth infantry, is detailed for duty as recorder of the Army Retiring board at Omaha, vice Captain Robert W. Dowdy, Twenty-second infantry, relieved.

KIND WORDS FOR RICHARDS

WYOMING MAN RECEIVES MANY CONGRATULATIONS ON COMING PROMOTION.

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