

BRIEF BRIGHT BREEZY BITS OF NEWS

100 MORE YEARS' WORK

Paris, Dec. 27.—Christmas and New Year's day will set French academy back two weeks in their work of revising the French dictionary, which, according to the best estimates, will be completed in 2020 or 2025.

The two holidays this year happen to fall on Thursday, the only day of the week on which the Forty Immortals assemble.

Academy members began the revision in 1878 and have reached the letter "F."

SANTA CLAUS SENDS QUEER, BELATED GIFTS.

New Milford, Conn., Dec. 27.—Three naval men, Ensigns Kloor, Blackwell, Fleider, appeared in the upper branches of a huge Christmas tree on the Rogers Brothers' farm in the Wheeler farms district and hundreds of people gathered about the tree, rubbing their eyes to better discern the belated presents. Santa Claus had dropped from the clouds.

The three ensigns went up in a testing balloon at the Rockaway naval aviation station on Long Island at 1 o'clock in the morning. A brisk southerly wind carried the balloon over Long Island and Long Island Sound and up along the Housatonic valley. Then the gas leaked out of the balloon and they were plumped down in the Christmas tree's branches.

"We're furnished as wolves," said one of the ensigns as they were belated from their lofty perch.

They partook of an after-Christmas dinner with Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Rogers on their camp meeting woods estate.

FAITHFUL HANDMAIDEN RECEIVES RICH BEQUEST.

Boston, Dec. 27.—The faithfulness and kindness with which Miss Agnes Jane McNeven cared for Mrs. Mary C. Knight during the many years she served her as a maid were rewarded when she was given the Knight home, its furnishings and funds, the total of which was estimated at \$250,000.

OPERATION KILLS CANADIAN ACE.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Major A. M. McNeever, M. C. D. S. O., one of the best-known Canadian aces in the great war, and credited with the destruction of 45 German machines, died in the general hospital here as the result of an operation.

In an automobile accident near Stratford, Ont., some time ago, he suffered a broken leg and internal injuries. He was 25 years of age.

HOLD EVANGELIST AS FELONY SUSPECT.

San Bernardino, Cal., Dec. 27.—"Three Fingers Jack" Godwin evangelist and said to be a former I. W. W., was arrested here, and booked as a felony suspect. Godwin's arrest follows police investigation of the 13 fires here on the night of December 19, when two men were burned to death and damage of \$2,500 done.

WIFE KILLS HUSBAND AS HE HOLDS CHILD.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 27.—Mrs. Hattie Walker, 41 years old, shot and killed her husband, Perry M. Walker, while he was holding their 3-year-old daughter in his arms in their home here. Mrs. Walker was arrested and, according to police, asserted she and her husband have been estranged and she feared he was trying to take the child from her.

THIS IS THE TALE OF A FAMOUS CAT.

Paris, Dec. 27.—Gen. Philippe Berthelot tells the true story of the now famous cat that is the mascot of the French foreign office. Recovering from a slight indisposition, caused by the change of climate, Premier Clemenceau shortly upon his arrival in London, asked the general: "Where are you going?" "To buy a cat," answered the general.

"I'll go with you," said the premier. When they got to a shop and had decided on a particularly pretty feline, Clemenceau asked: "What'll we call it?"

"Your presence at this solemn moment in history," said Berthelot, "dictates my answer. I ask, permission to call her 'Tigerette'."

France's "Tiger" laughingly consented.

VESSEL SHIPSHAPE BUT LACKING CREW.

London, Dec. 27.—Shipping men have sought in vain for an explanation of the mystery of the Marion G. Douglas, a Nova Scotia built vessel, found off Shinnish Head, British Isles, Isle of Scilly, with all boats aboard and sails furled, but with no trace of a crew. The mystery is similar to that of the Marie Celeste of many years ago. The vessel is a three-masted schooner laden with timber and was in no danger of sinking. She was seen to be behaving erratically and a party put out from the island and brought her in. They expect liberal salvage from the owners. Why the crew left the vessel and what happened to them has not been ascertained.

'SAME OLD DOLLAR' DESPITE ITS VALUE.

New York, Dec. 27.—Although the purchasing power of a dollar may be but half, or even less than half what it was before the war, the law still regards the dollar of today as the same old dollar so far as it affects degrees of larceny. This was settled by County Judge McMahon in Brooklyn, when Mrs. Mary Jank of 183 Avenue A, Manhattan, appeared to answer a charge of stealing \$50 worth of goods from a Brooklyn department store here. Her attorney asked to have the charge reduced to petty larceny, on the ground that a dollar is not worth a dollar.

"In the matter of crime," said the court, "I will have to look upon the dollar as the same old dollar, even though it may not go as far as it formerly did in meeting our wants."

OMAHA THE GATE CITY OF THE WEST, OFFERS YOU GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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FATAL DRINK LIST IS SOARING

WILL PROBE AWARDS TO NAVAL MEN

Full Investigation of the Controversy Brought to Head by Sims Has Been Ordered By Congress Committee.

NAVY DEPARTMENT TO REOPEN MATTER ALSO

Daniels Says Due Consideration Will Be Given to Objections Voiced by Officers Who Criticized Some of Awards.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Full investigation of the controversy over awards of decorations for war service to naval officers, brought to a head by Rear Admiral William S. Sims' recent protest against the tentative list issued by the Navy department, will be made both by congress and by the department. On the heels of Secretary Daniels' announcement that the naval board, headed by Rear Admiral Knight, had been ordered reconvened to review its findings on recommendations for medals or other decorations, Representative Lufkin, republican, Massachusetts, of the house naval committee, which does not need special authority of the senate committee and stated that a joint committee would take up the question when congress convened. Representative Lufkin said Secretary Daniels, Admiral Knight, Admiral Sims and other officers would be called before the joint committee, which does not need special authorization for its inquiry. Changes made by Mr. Daniels in the board list of awards, as well as the action of the board in each case, will be examined, he said.

To Consider Objections. Secretary Daniels said today that in revising the list of decorations and in passing on new recommendations for awards the board would be instructed to follow in general the policy he adopted in revising the original lists, giving due consideration to the objections voiced by officers who have criticized some of the awards.

The names of Admiral Henry B. Wilson, who commanded American naval forces in French waters during the war, and of Rear Admiral Henry T. Mayo, who was in command of the Atlantic fleet during the period of hostilities, were added today to the list of officers who have written protests regarding the awards. Other officers who have made protests include Vice Admiral Hillary P. Jones, commander of Squadron 2 of the Atlantic fleet; Rear Admiral Decker, commander of the Seventh naval district; and Captain Raymond D. Hasbrouck, commander of the battleship Minnesota. Admiral Jones and Captain Hasbrouck refused the navy cross for which they had been recommended, supporting the position taken by Admiral Sims.

Honors for Acceptance. The objections voiced by these officers will be placed before the board and the board will be asked today that it honor the revised awards made by the board could be accepted without change. He indicated that he would send them to the president for his personal approval.

Letters Made Public.

The department made public tonight copies of letters as to the awards received by Mr. Daniels from Admiral Jones, Mayo and Decker and Captain Hasbrouck. They said today that the board would be asked to honor the revised awards made by the board could be accepted without change. He indicated that he would send them to the president for his personal approval.

Admiral Jones Refuses.

In view of these considerations Admiral Jones said he felt it "my duty" (Continued on Page Two, Column Six)

America Is Today Facing Most Dangerous Period in History, Says Famous Writer

Effort to Minimize Seriousness of Industrial Unrest And Growth of Class Feeling Mistake, Declares Ray Stannard Baker—Will Seek to Show Way Out by Presenting Facts and Issues as Found by Him in Study of Conditions.

(Editor's Note—This is the first of a series of articles by Ray Stannard Baker on the present fight between capital and labor. Mr. Baker who needs no introduction to the reading public, will make a first-hand study of conditions as he finds them. His articles in Omaha will appear exclusively for The Bee.)

By RAY STANNARD BAKER.

ARTICLE I.

We are facing dangerous days in America; in many ways the most dangerous in our history. A tendency exists among great numbers of our people to take violent sides upon the chief problem confronting us—the relationship of capital and labor—without a clear understanding of what that problem really means, or what such a division portends. It is true that class-feeling has been growing in America for some years. No honest observer can have failed to see it; but while actively stimulated by certain groups of radicals, it has hitherto been resisted or minimized by the more responsible leaders upon all sides. The sinister aspect of recent developments lies in a new and powerful drift toward a tacit and helpless acceptance of the idea of an inevitable "head-on collision."

Radicals Oppose Compromise.

How many times in recent weeks has one heard expressions something like this: "It's bound to come; we might just as well fight it out first as last."

The other day when I was in Chicago a radical college professor said to a large audience: "We are past that stage in which capital and labor can sit down and discuss their grievances. The recent industrial conference called by President Wilson was significant because it showed that there is no middle course. Both sides are now struggling for the control of industry. And there can be no compromise on that issue."

We are just emerging from two of the greatest strikes the country ever saw, the steel strike and the coal strike. In both cases the losses in wages, in production, in earnings are stupendous, and in the case of the coal strike the country has been

(Continued on Page 6-A, Column 1)

ATTEMPT MADE TO KILL MANAGER OF STEEL PLANT

As a Result of Attack in Colorado State Troops Will Come to Pueblo.

Pueblo, Colo., Dec. 27.—An attempt was made at 6 o'clock last night on the life of Frank E. Parks, manager of the Minnesota plant of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, according to reports current here and in Chicago.

It is one of the biggest positions in the legal field, said to carry a salary of close to \$100,000 a year. "I don't want to say anything on the subject at present," Judge McHugh said yesterday. "Nothing is settled and I won't know for 10 days, yet whether I shall take the position."

In Omaha 31 Years. Judge McHugh will move to Chicago, headquarters of the big corporation, if he makes the change. He has lived in Omaha for 31 years. His present home is a handsome one at 120 North Twenty-ninth street. His offices are in the First National bank building. His family consists of Mrs. McHugh, a son, William, Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. Claire Baird.

Judge McHugh's rise in the legal field has been rapid. He now has numerous corporations among his clients. He is special counsel for the Omaha Gas company, in the present litigation between it and the city. He was attorney for the Creighton heirs in the settlement of the big estate of C. M. Creighton. He was one of the attorneys for the International Harvester company at the time of the litigation between it and the federal government.

Judge McHugh is a self-made man. He was born in Galena, Ill. His parents apprenticed him to the shoemaker's trade at which he worked for five years. He kept studying, however, and attended college a year at Illinois State Normal school. Then he taught school three years, was admitted to the bar in 1883 and practiced in Galena, Ill., from 1883 to 1888 and then came to Omaha.

He was appointed a federal judge by President Cleveland in 1896, the appointment, however, not being confirmed.

The present general counsel of the International Harvester Co., is Edgar Addison Bancroft, who has held the position since 1907. It is said that he wishes to retire because of ill health and increasing duties in other corporations.

Fire Destroys Camp Pike Mess Hall and Barracks

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 27.—Fire starting late Saturday afternoon at Camp Pike destroyed two mess halls and two barracks buildings and partially destroyed two additional barracks buildings. All were unoccupied. The origin of the fire is unknown. The fire was put under control in less than an hour by the Camp Pike fire department.

The Passing Show



BLIND MAN HURT BY CAR IN FALL TO SAVE CHILD

Struck by Automobile Driven By South Side Woman—Seriously Injured—Child Is Unhurt.

In an effort to save his 3-year-old child from injury in an automobile accident at Twenty-fourth and Leavenworth streets yesterday afternoon, F. A. Franks, 2215 Leavenworth street, partially blind, was struck by an automobile and seriously injured.

An instant before the accident occurred, Franks attempted to leap out of the path of the car, driven by Miss Louise Watkins, 2514 E. street, South Side. He let the child fall from his arms ahead of him just as he was struck, according to witnesses. The child was uninjured.

Franks was rushed to the Central police station, where it was learned he suffered a broken leg and a sprained wrist. Later he was taken to the Lord Lister hospital.

Miss Watkins and Miss Ramona McElroy, 370 South Twenty-third street, a companion in the car, were taken to the police station by Policeman Behrens.

Franks was attempting to cross the street when the accident occurred, witnesses told police. Miss Watkins was driving her car north on Twenty-fourth street, she said.

Another accident was reported to police yesterday afternoon when E. R. Lathrop, Eighteenth and Jackson streets, was run over by a moving van. He suffered a possible fracture of the right leg, according to a police surgeon. The accident occurred at Eleventh and Howard streets. Lathrop accidentally slipped in front of the van when he sought to apply the brakes while walking beside it. The van was drawn by a three-horse team.

Lathrop was taken to the Lord Lister hospital.

Onetime Bluffs Stage Driver, Aged 106, Dies at Poor Farm

Rawlins, Wyo., Dec. 27.—James "Dad" Sherrod, 106 years old, died this week at the county poor farm near Dixon. His funeral will be held Sunday.

"Dad" Sherrod was born in Harrison county, Ohio, June 26, 1813. For many years he drove the South Platte and Council Bluffs stage. He was present at the Thornberg massacre and was one of the defenders of the white colony in that desperate battle against the red men.

Villa Hints at Reprisal For Angeles' Execution

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 27.—Gen. Francisco Villa, in a letter addressed to The Associated Press at El Paso, expressed sorrow for the execution by Carranza troops of Gen. Felipe Angeles, intellectual leader under Villa, and hinted at reprisal on those who had part in the "assassination."

ARREST MAN FOR INDECENT CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Self-Styled "Little Master" of Cult of Sun Worshipers Caught After Long Chase.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27.—Ottoman Zarr Adusht Hanisch, self-styled "little master" of the Mazdaznan cult of sun worshipers, was arrested Saturday night and started for Los Angeles, where he was indicted on June 4, 1918, several revolting offenses against young children being charged. Hanisch was convicted in the federal district court here in 1913 of sending indecent matter, his cult book, "The inner circle," through the mails and was sentenced to six months in jail.

Hanisch and followers were said to be celebrating a holiday here known as "Eahan bar" in a private home when Lieut. Charles A. Jones of the Los Angeles police and local detectives invaded the place. The cult's high priest was attired in white flannels and golden slippers, and, according to the police, roared a profane protest at their intrusion.

At the detective bureau Hanisch agreed to waive extradition declaring: "They have nothing on me in the west."

Both of them, Prevost told Sheriff William Caldwell, were infuriated with Mrs. Bennett to whom he stated Brown had paid court before his death. This, according to the statement, led to threats of violence against Brown.

Will Be Examined.

Sheriff Caldwell stated that Mrs. Bennett would be brought here for examination and that he had her promise to aid in clearing up the mysterious death of Brown who was found Wednesday morning shot to death at the wheel of his automobile on the road between Detroit and Mount Clemens.

A sheriff's deputy left for Battle Creek to take the soldier into custody.

The sheriff announced that Prevost and Mrs. Ruth Prevost Brown, young widow of the slain man, had been definitely eliminated from the investigation. Both of them had been held as material witnesses and were released shortly after writs of habeas corpus were granted at Detroit.

Will Be Taken Away.

Sandusky, O., Dec. 27.—A deputy sheriff arrived here and will take Mrs. Leona Bennett, 24 years old, to Mount Clemens Sunday. According to Sheriff Perry Mrs. Bennett, inquired if she was suspected of the murder and was told that she was wanted only as a witness. The woman appeared much worried, the sheriff said. She told the sheriff that she reached Sandusky Christmas day.

Deputy Sheriff Lowenstein of Mount Clemens declared that his office had information that Mrs. Bennett had a suitor at Battle Creek, her home and that Brown had also paid her attentions.

Fall of 1919 Healthful

New York, Dec. 27.—Health conditions this fall have been the most favorable in years throughout the country, reports the Metropolitan Life Insurance company. The records of states, cities and life insurance companies show no sign of a recurrence of the influenza epidemic.

The unusually low death rate, the report says, is due to the fact that many were more or less immunized by contracting the disease last fall.

WOMAN IS HELD AS SUSPECT IN MURDER CASE

Officers Convinced Jealousy Was Motive for Killing of J. Stanley Brown—Widow Freed.

Mount Clemens, Mich., Dec. 27.—Convinced that jealousy was the motive behind the slaying last Tuesday night of J. Stanley Brown, son of a former Detroit manufacturer, authorities have instituted a search in Ohio and southern Michigan for two men and Mrs. Leona Bennett is detained at Sandusky, O.

Further investigation here brought a statement from Lloyd Prevost, who was held as a material witness, but later released, implicating the three. One of the men it was stated, was a soldier stationed at Camp Custard.

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One for Large Cities

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THE WEATHER:

Generally fair Sunday and Monday; somewhat colder Sunday.

Hourly temperatures:

3 a. m.	37	5 p. m.	39
6 a. m.	37	8 p. m.	39
9 a. m.	37	11 p. m.	39
12 m.	37		
3 p. m.	37		
6 p. m.	37		
9 p. m.	37		
12 noon	39		

78 ARE DEAD, MANY MORE MADE BLIND

Others Are Paralyzed Due to Drinking Wood Alcohol "Whisky"—Toll Highest in New England States.

NEW YORK COMMISSION MAN SOUGHT BY POLICE

Asserted That He Sold 12 Barrels of Poisonous Liquor Which Were Concocted in His Own Store.

New York, Dec. 27.—Seventy-eight persons died during the past 48 hours and scores of others are suffering from paralysis and blindness due to drinking wood alcohol "whisky," according to reports received tonight from seven eastern cities and Chicago.

The toll of poisonous liquor is the highest in New England, where 60 deaths are recorded. Two women at Chicopee Falls, Mass., and one at Springfield, Mass., are included in this list.

In connection with the New England deaths and six reported in New York City, police, internal revenue officers and agents of the Department of Justice are seeking Adolph Paranchi, importer and commission merchant of this city, who they assert sold 12 barrels of the poisonous liquor. The police charge that the "whisky" was concocted in Paranchi's store at Bleeker street.

In Chicago, 34 men and two women died, in Springfield three men and one woman; in Holyoke six men and in Greenfield, Mass., one man. In Hartford 13 persons died of the poison.

Four Deaths in Chicago.

Chicago reported eight deaths from the drinking of poisonous beverages.

Two deaths were announced at Newark, N. J., by the police.

Three deaths in Cleveland, O., this week, brought the total there to 14 for the month.

Two deaths were reported in Pittsburgh.

Two men were found dead and two seriously ill tonight from what is believed by physicians to be wood alcohol poisoning, in a Fulton street hotel.

When questioned by the police the hotel proprietor denied having sold the men whisky and gave the officers a bottle from his stock for analysis.

Confesses Buying Liquor.

Chicopee, Mass., Dec. 27.—District Attorney Ely of Westfield, who has been investigating the deaths of more than 45 persons in the Connecticut valley as the result of drinking wood alcohol contained in whisky, announced tonight that Alex Perry, proprietor of the American house in Chicopee Falls, had confessed to buying 50 gallons of the concoction in Hartford, all except five of which were sold. The district attorney also stated that five other gallons of the liquor had been traced to the Polski hotel in Holyoke.

According to the district attorney, who had referred to grant bail of \$10,000 to Perry earlier in the day on the charge of manslaughter, Perry stated he bought the liquor through Sam Darling of Hartford, an expressman, who is under arrest in that city. Perry told the district attorney he had no idea the liquor was poisonous. Following the confession the district attorney allowed Perry to be released on bail.

The list of dead was increased to 46 in the Connecticut valley tonight with the death of another Chicopee man, Maurice Murphy in Mercey hospital, Springfield. The deaths are now divided as follows: Chicopee, 33 men and two women; Springfield, three men and one woman; Holyoke, six men; Greenfield, one man.

13 Dead in Hartford.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 27.—Death lists here as a result of drinking "whisky" said to contain wood alcohol, remained at 13 tonight, with only two new cases of liquor poisoning reported. Hospital reports show four persons in serious condition from the effects of poisonous liquor.

The cases of the four men held here on charges of murder were continued to next Wednesday in police court. Jacob Brunerwine, one of those held, is regarded by the police as a leader of the "whisky" ring and is alleged to have made a profit of \$75,000 from illegal liquor sales since July 1.

Twelve barrels of materials brought from New York City, the police say, were made into 24 barrels by the use of water, and then distributed over the bar here and sold in bulk to persons in Chicopee and Holyoke, Mass. Fifty cents a drink or \$7.50 a quart was the price of the "liquor" here.

Floods in Belgium.

Brussels, Dec. 27.—Heavy floods are reported in all parts of Belgium. The Scheldt river has risen over six feet and the Sambre more than seven. The lower parts of Charleroi and Mons are inundated. Rain continues.