

INTENDING SUICIDE, ALLISON TELLS OF MURDER

HE SLAMMED HIS THROAT IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO FRUSTRATE CARRYING OUT OF THE SENTENCE

With This in View, He Prepares Statement for Readers of Gazette-News—Wishes He Could Kill Woman.

BUT SAYS AS TO M'GEE HE IS WELL SATISFIED

Had Concealed Small Knife, and When Told to Get Ready for Journey to Raleigh, Officers' Back Being Turned, Used It.

DESPERATELY determined not to be the first man from Buncombe county to die in the electric chair at Raleigh, James R. Allison, the slayer of Floyd McGee, and under sentence of death, made a vigorous effort to cut his throat in the county jail this morning shortly after 6 o'clock, when informed by officers that he was to get ready for the trip to the state capital. The attempt at suicide was unsuccessful, although the condemned man did succeed in cutting a gash in his throat probably one and one-half inches deep and four or five inches in length. Allison's effort to end his life in Buncombe rather than in the electric chair at Raleigh was made in the presence of the sheriff of the county and two deputies. It was perhaps the coolest and most carefully planned and determined attempt to frustrate the mandates of the law in the history of North Carolina.

Made No Secret of His Intention. Allison made no secret during the last few days that he was determined to die rather than go to Raleigh to be electrocuted; he hesitated between two courses; to attack the officers when they went in to take him out of the cell for the ride to Raleigh and force one of them to kill him, or end his life with his own hand. He chose the latter method but in this he failed. Allison realizes and has realized since the jury returned its verdict that he is a doomed man. Howbeit he is cool, calm and determined; he has no repentance; he looks upon death as the inevitable and evidently cares little what will become of his soul when life is extinct. He is simply a desperate man; a man who has made up his mind that he has but one time to die and that he doesn't propose that the state of North Carolina shall make a show of him and snuff out the spark of life with the electric current. He said as much in a letter written last night and addressed to "Lowrie Stockton, City Editor of The Gazette-News," and delivered this morning. It was a planned post-mortem statement, that letter. Allison evidently realized that he was about to be taken to Raleigh, or that an attempt would be made to take him, and he had determined that the officers of the law should not accomplish this act and that when the letter was delivered and read he would be a dead man.

The Suicidal Attempt. It was determined yesterday afternoon by Sheriff Hunter that since the condemned man had been taken to Raleigh this morning, it was believed that Allison had in his possession a pen-knife; also that he had been informed that he was to be taken to Raleigh this morning. The officers had been told that Allison had made bold the declaration that he would not go to the state capital for the electric chair; that before he would go he would either take his own life or kill an officer and force some other officer to kill him in an effort to overpower him. Realizing that Allison was a desperate man and knowing that he would attempt to put into execution his determination the sheriff's force were puzzled to know just which course to pursue; whether to go into the cell and make a search for the knife, thus putting him on his guard, and then run the risk of Allison hanging himself last night or otherwise ending his life; or whether it was best to permit the man to stay unmolested in his cell and overpower him this morning if he attempted self-destruction. This latter plan was adopted. Everything was quiet at the jail last night, the only unusual incident being the writing by Allison of the letter to the city editor of The Gazette-News, giving a version of the killing and the intense bitterness of heart that held the condemned man.

Allison Pleasantly Greeted Officers. Sheriff Hunter, in company with Deputy Sheriff Williams and Deputy Sheriff Mitchell, went to the county jail about 4 o'clock this morning for the purpose of removing Allison from the jail and taking him to Raleigh on the early morning train. When the officers made their visit to Allison's cell and notified him that he was to go to Raleigh, the prisoner made smiling reply and requested that he be permitted to change his shirt and collar before leaving the jail. Allison at the time was in a separate cell and the door of the door of his cell was open.

ALLISON'S LETTER TO THE CITY EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE-NEWS, INTENDED AS HIS LAST MESSAGE.

Mr. Stockton: Dear Sir—As I wish to make a full statement as to the killing of McGee in order that the papers may get it straight I herein state to you that we had been at outs for over a year about the Wheeler woman. And when he got me hemmed up at her home about ten days before I shot him, and made me run out the back door. In order to come down stairs I had to face him with a pistol in his hand as the woman had let him in the front door. And most every day after that when he would pass me he would laugh at me and make remarks about it. Right then he was driving nails in his coffin, for I had made up my mind the night he threatened me that I would kill him. He KNOWS I killed him, as we were face to face when I shot him. And I am satisfied, only I wish I could kill that woman that lied to me so much. I tried to avoid trouble with him for over a year, but he wouldn't let me alone and I had rather be killed than to let a man like him run over me. He fooled with the wrong man and I KILLED HIM.

I also wish to state that I am not going to Raleigh to the electric chair. I haven't got but one time to die and I will die in Asheville. I don't intend that they shall drag me about and make a show out of me. I will die game here. I don't intend to represent Asheville in the electric chair of Raleigh by being the first one to go there from here. Yours truly, J. B. ALLISON.

ATTACK CROOKS POOR AND RICH

Attack the Rich Crooks a Trifle Stronger—A Plea for Punishment of Crooked and Grafting Officials—"The More, if Crook or Grafter Belongs to My Own Party."

BUFFALO, Aug. 25.—Theodore Roosevelt made a plea for punishment of crooked and grafting officials in their places, speaking before the Elliott club, whose guest he was for breakfast, an hour after today's sunrise. "I believe in party government; but the moment the question of honesty is involved I recognize no party distinctions, or if I do it is that it is a little more my business to put the grafter and crook out of public life if he belongs to my party. I distrust, however, financiers who can see crookedness only in grafting small politicians and grafting leaders; I distrust also those who can see it only in big financiers. "But you must attack a man because he is crooked. If he is poor and crooked, attack him; if he is rich and crooked, attack him; in fact attack the rich crook a trifle stronger; yes, I will put it—attack him very strongly."

Only Thing He Cannot Talk Against. Dunkirk, N. Y., Aug. 25.—A large gathering of railroad men met Colonel Roosevelt here. "I have always admired railroad men because they have

certain qualities I like to think of as typically American. They know how to act. They know how to work and how to obey orders," he said. He was interrupted by an engine blowing off steam. "I can't talk against that," he protested. He added that an engine was the "only thing he couldn't talk against." As the train moved off some one yelled, "Do them up in convention, Teddy." He smiled broadly, but made no reply.

Hello, Teddy!" Now Less Objectionable. Erie, Pa., Aug. 25.—Fully 5000 greeted Colonel Roosevelt here. "Hello, Teddy!" yelled the crowd. In an undertone he remarked to Representative Bates: "I used to think it lowered my dignity to have them call me Teddy, but do you know I am getting to like it now." His speech here followed that at Buffalo.

Large Crowd at Ashtabula. O., Aug. 25.—Twelve thousand persons greeted former President Roosevelt this morning when his special train stopped here. Col. Roosevelt briefly addressed the crowd.

MAYNARD WILL CONTEST NOMINATION OF YOUNG

Will Allege Irregularities in certain Precincts of Norfolk, Both City and County.

Norfolk, Aug. 25.—Representative Harry L. Maynard announced today that he would contest the award of a certificate to former Representative William A. Young as the democratic nominee for congress from the second Virginia district on the grounds of irregularities in certain precincts of Norfolk city and Norfolk county in Tuesday's primary.

Will Take Taft Party to Panama.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 25.—The armored cruisers North Carolina and Tennessee have been ordered to the local navy yard for thorough outfitting preparatory to taking President Taft and members of his party on their trip to Panama.

Annoyed Brother's Wife; Killed.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Aug. 25.—During a quarrel at Pittston Matteo Fidano was shot and killed by his brother Frank. The man had quarreled because Frank was annoying his brother's wife.

THE MURDERERS ARE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE

Mexicans Who Killed William R. Boggs, Jr., of Mexico, Were Sentenced This Morning.

Washington, Aug. 25.—The murderers of William R. Boggs, Jr., son of General William R. Boggs of Winston-Salem, N. C., have been brought to justice at Durango, Mexico, according to a state department report. Young Boggs was slain in November, 1907, while acting superintendent of the local navy yard for thorough outfitting preparatory to taking President Taft and members of his party on their trip to Panama.

Torpedo Boat Destroyers in Collision.

Norfolk, Aug. 25.—Report of a collision near the Virginia Capes yesterday between the torpedo boat destroyers Flamingo and Preston of the Atlantic torpedo flotilla has been forwarded to Washington. The accident occurred while the vessels were heading up the Chesapeake bay for a gunnery school target practice. The bow of the Flamingo was stove in. The vessel was uninjured.

Their Car Smashed; Narrow Escape For Duke Franz Josef and Party



DUKE FRANZ JOSEF OF BAVARIA

MRS. LONGWORTH

MRS. ROBERT GOELET

Newport, R. I., Aug. 25.—By the narrow margin the Duke Franz Josef of Bavaria, Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth and Mrs. Robert Goelet escaped serious injury in an automobile accident which befell them here. As it was no one was injured, although the Duke's car was put completely out of commission and it is doubtful if he will be able to use it again during his stay here. The French touring car in which they were riding was run into by a car driven by Vincent Astor, and had the impact been a pound heavier it is believed that the Duke's machine would have been turned completely over. The Duke's machine was in charge of his chauffeur, and he and his party were going to make a call upon Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Thayer. They were going at a slow rate, and were just turning into the gate of the Thayer place when along came Vincent Astor in his touring car. He was hurrying, as he was going to make a call upon his mother before leaving with his father, Col. John Jacob Astor, for a cruise to Bar Harbor on the Norma. He was not expecting the Duke's machine to turn in, and so he was running close to the car in front of him. When the Duke's car curved in, Mr. Astor turned off his power and put on his emergency brakes, but too late to avert a collision.

ONE HOWARD WINS, THE OTHER LOSES

Smith's Popular Majority About 4,000—Felder Defeats Hall in Attorney General Race.

Atlanta, Aug. 25.—"Cannonism" played an important part in Georgia politics during the past several months, and at the democratic primaries brought about the defeat of Leonidas F. Livingston and William M. Howard, in point of service the oldest members of the Georgia delegation in the national house of representatives. In the fifth district William Schley Howard, a young attorney, won a decisive victory over Livingston. In the eighth district the returns show a convention majority of four votes for S. J. Tribble, and Congressman Howard has filed notice of contest of the election. He charges irregularities at two precincts in Elbert county, which gave Tribble a majority of four votes. The other nine members of Georgia's delegation in congress are assured re-nomination. Of the six Georgians who joined the democratic bolters in that fight on Cannon, three were re-nominated, Brantley without opposition, and Edwards and Lee.

Former Governor Hoke Smith won the nomination for governor over the incumbent, Joseph M. Brown. Smith's popular majority in the state was approximately 4000. Two years ago Brown, whom Governor Smith had removed as chairman of the state railroad commission, defeated Smith for re-election by a popular majority of more than 10,000. Smith's majority in the convention will be about 35 votes.

Among the few contests for other state offices, J. A. Perry won over O. B. Stevens for railroad commissioner; M. L. Britain defeated B. M. Zettler for state school commissioner; T. B. Felder won over the incumbent, Hewlett A. Hall, for attorney general.

THE DAY'S CENSUS FIGURES.

Reports of Increases of Buffalo, N. Y., Denver, Col., East Orange, N. J., and Patterson, N. J. Washington, Aug. 25.—The census returns show the population of Buffalo, N. Y., to be 423,715, an increase of 71,273 since 1900; Denver, Colo., has 217,751, an increase of 73,522; East Orange, N. J., 24,371, an increase of 12,865; and Patterson, N. J., 125,000, an increase of 20,429.

THE WEATHER.

For Asheville and vicinity: Partly cloudy weather with showers tonight or Friday, cooler Friday. For North Carolina: Unsettled weather with showers tonight or Friday, cooler in west portion Friday.

LIST OF DEAD STANDS AT 142

And 106 Men of St. Joe Valley Are Missing—Risk of Life to Save Timber is Stopped

NO MORE EFFORT TO CHECK ANY BUT SMALLER FIRES

In Clear Water Country and Thick Forest of Coeur d'Alene the Flames Have Already Exhausted Their Fury.

Thinks Crisis Past. Washington, Aug. 25.—Two companies of troops, requested by Supt. Morgan of the Flathead Indian reservation for fire fighting duty, will not be required owing to a fall of snow last night. Associate Forester Potter, basing his judgment on telegrams from the northwest, expresses the opinion that the crisis has passed. About 86 lost in the Forest Service. Spokane, Aug. 25.—The fact that about 86 men of the forest service perished has been definitely established by reports to the supervisor at Wallace, Idaho.

SPOKANE, Aug. 25.—One hundred and six men living in the St. Joe valley are missing. Twenty-two bodies, supposed to be those of settlers, were found yesterday. Several days ago 20 supposed rangers were found dead over an area of a mile. Adding the dead rangers, 74 to 44 found near Avery, ten Japanese who perished near Avery and various known dead in Washington, Idaho and Montana, the total is 142, not including 185 rangers imprisoned on the head waters of the St. Joe. The appalling loss of life among the forest employes has resulted in an order not to risk life to save timber. Little fires are being extinguished, but the greater ones will be allowed to burn themselves out.

In the Coeur d'Alene mining country and in Pen d'Reille valley the fires have exhausted their fury. In the Clear Water country and in the thickest timber of the Coeur d'Alene the forest flames are hungry as ever. It is believed that the present fires are about the most expensive the United States has ever known. Conditions on Clear Water reserve are hopeless, and forestry headquarters at Missoula have ordered the fire fighters recalled from the interior of the stricken region and sent to work on the outskirts.

Beyond Control. Seattle, Aug. 25.—The forest fire in Cedar river valley is beyond control. The Washington forest fire association is powerless. The governor will be called upon to order out the militia.

JAPAN IS SOON TO TAKE OVER "HERMIT KINGDOM"

Text of Convention Made Known to Powers but not Published—Soon Operative.

Washington, Aug. 25.—Baron Uchida, Japanese ambassador to the United States came to Washington yesterday from Buena Vista Springs, Pa., where he is spending the summer, for a conference with acting Secretary Wilson of the state department. While both the ambassador and the secretary declined to discuss the object of the ambassador's visit, it is believed that the baron bore a copy of the text of the convention reported to have been concluded between Japan and Korea for the Japanese control of the "Hermit Kingdom," and a message from the Japanese government to the United States bearing on the purpose of Tokio in taking this step. The United States has a number of treaties with Korea which would be affected by the proposed control of Korea by Japan and negotiations are expected to be opened shortly between the two governments looking to an agreement on the status of those instruments.

Text of Convention. Tokio, Aug. 24.—The text of the convention, under which Korea is annexed to Japan was communicated at 11 o'clock yesterday to the representatives of the powers. The document which, according to new established facts, was signed August 23, will be effective when officially promulgated. This will occur, according to some of the ministers, August 29, or when the independent existence of the Hermit Kingdom, the struggle for whose

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EIGHT KILLED IN COLLISION

Locomotive Ploughs into Sleeping Car, Crushing Passengers as They Sleep—Some Are Burned

FOUR PASSENGERS MISSING; THREE ARE FATALLY HURT

The Front Train, on Grand Trunk Line, Stopped to Repair Brake, Torpedo Failed to Stop One Coming From the Rear.

Estimates Dead at Twelve. Detroit, Aug. 25.—The Detroit Journal estimates the number of dead in the Grand Trunk wreck near Durand at 12. FLINT, MICH., Aug. 25.—In a rear-end collision of passenger trains Nos. 4 and 14, both eastbound, on the Grand Trunk railway, two miles east of Durand, early today, eight were killed, three probably fatally hurt and five seriously injured. Four passengers are missing. No. 14 stopped to repair a defective brake when No. 4 crashed into a sleeper, ploughing half way through and crushing the sleeping passengers. The wreckage caught fire and many were burned or scalded. The dead and injured were taken to Durand. When the forward train stopped a brakeman was sent back to signal the train following, but the warning torpedo exploded too late for the engineer of the onrushing train to avoid a collision. The dead include two unidentified women and six persons so badly burned as to render identification impossible.

Labor Report From Scene of the Wreck. Durand, Mich., Aug. 25.—Probably eight persons were killed and eight injured, three probably fatally, when Grand Trunk line train No. 4 crashed into the rear of train No. 14 on the track two miles east of Durand this last night. The engine of No. 4 plowed way three-quarters of the way through the sleeping car "Nebraska," catching 18 persons asleep in the coach. The fire box of the colliding engine dropped out and soon the sleeping car was blazing.

Launch Run Down; Two Drowned. New York, Aug. 25.—Two lives were lost early today when the excursion boat Majestic, returning to Newark from Coney Island, ran down and sank a launch containing merry-makers.

TRAIN IS DERAILED; NO SERIOUS HURTS

Wreck Occurred Near Connelly Springs and Passengers Had Narrow Escape.

Special to The Gazette-News. Connelly Springs, Aug. 25.—Train No. 22, which left Asheville this morning at 8 o'clock for Goldsboro, was wrecked at 10:45 a. m. two miles west of Connelly Springs. None of the passengers were injured to any extent, only slight bruises being sustained. That the whole train left the track near a 150 foot gorge, ran its length and stopped on the brink of the gorge, almost, and about 20 feet from the track. The fireman, John Lenoir, had his left jaw scalded, his left wrist and left hip bruised and leg slightly scalded. The engineer was shaken up. Earl Norman, clerk at the Battery Park hotel, and his mother were on the train and escaped without bruises.

At the dispatcher's office the following official statement was given out: "Train No. 22, bound from Asheville to Goldsboro, was wrecked this morning at the 78 mile post, about two miles west of Connelly Springs, the engine and all the coaches having the rails and the baggage coach turning slightly on its side. Train was in charge of Engineer W. V. Lows and Conductor H. L. Tomlin of Asheville. Fireman John Lenoir had his left hip and left leg slightly scalded. The wrecking crew at Bridgewater was sent to the scene of the wreck, while a relief train was sent from Asheville to transport with westbound passenger train No. 11. About 50 yards of track was torn up. The cause of the wreck is undetermined."

FORMER STUDENT HERE KILLED BY AUTOMOBILE

Tragic Death of Daniel Douglas, in Michigan, a Week Ago Today.

News has reached the city of the tragic death of Daniel Douglas, formerly a student at Asheville school, in an automobile accident on the Michigan peninsula August 15. It seems that Mr. Douglas was driving a machine in which there were three others and that he noticed a stone in the roadway just ahead. He attempted to steer the machine off the stone, and lost control of it, the automobile running over an embankment and turning completely over, catching the driver under the machine. The other occupants were thrown out, but were not badly injured. They succeeded in raising the machine off of Douglas. He died on the way to a hospital. Mr. Douglas lived at Houghton, Mich., and for the past two years he was at the Asheville school where he made many friends among the students and faculty. He intended entering the University of Virginia this fall.

Lunches With President Fallieres.

Paris, Aug. 25.—The Virginia delegation which came to France to attend the dedication of the bronze replicas of the Houdon statue of Washington, presented by Virginia to the French republic, were guests of President Fallieres at luncheon at Rambouillet today. American Ambassador Bacon also attended.