

STAKED FAMILY ON CARD GAME

Michael Cribben, Oddly Missing, Left Letter Telling of His Play With Death in Solitaire Game.

IF LOSER, HE PLANNED TO KILL ENTIRE FAMILY

Played Solitaire Constantly and Played One More Game to Decide the Fate of His Family—He Won.

NEW YORK, March 23.—Six lives hung on the turn of the cards in a game of solitaire last Friday night by Michael Cribben, an automobile mechanic, in his home, at No. 411 West Fifty-sixth street.

Mrs. Cribben noticed that her husband was nervous that evening. She heard him walking about another room of their apartment and saw him write a letter, which he took out to post.

Her husband was seated at a table with a deck of cards, slowly exposing them one after the other and laying them in lines before him.

"What on earth are you doing, Michael?" she asked.

"Just playing solitaire," Cribben answered, never raising his eyes from the cards.

"And what are you playing that for?" she persisted.

"You'll know soon enough," said Cribben in a voice so strange that Mrs. Cribben left him and hurried all the children to bed.

Cribben went to his place of employment in Yonkers on Saturday, drew his week's pay and disappeared.

"Thank God!" he exclaimed, when he found Mrs. Cribben and the children safe and sound.

"Dear Jim," the letter ran, "I am going to kill myself, my wife and all the children. I have something pressing on my mind that makes me want to kill them. I must do it. I can't help it."

"The only way I've kept from doing it before is by playing solitaire. I've been playing it all the time at home so I won't kill them, but if I don't make it, I will."

Cribben was seriously injured three years ago in stopping a runaway at Columbus circle. His recent condition, which was unsuspected by his friends and family, is attributed to skull depression resulting from that accident.

The police and Cribben's family are uncertain whether he has made away with himself or fears to return home because of his letter to McCormick.

New York March 23.—The American Telephone and Telegraph company's report for nineteen ten shows that during the year \$165,400,000 gross revenue was collected by the Bell system from the public for service.

New Divorce Bill in Nevada Signed. Carson, Nev., March 23.—Governor Odlin has signed the "time lock" divorce law stipulating six months' confinement of plaintiff in the United States as a sole requisite which he has jurisdiction in divorce proceedings.

Hungary Has Population of 20,550,700. Budapest, Hungary, March 23.—The official census shows Hungary has a population of 20,550,700, an increase of 1,000,000 in 10 years.

President Taft Refuses to Recall Troops at Mexican Envoy's Behest



PARTIAL VIEW OF CAMP

Chief Executive Insists That Mexico Must Crush Revolution Before American Government Acts

Washington, March 23.—President Taft will not recall, for the present at least, the American army which he has sent to the Mexican frontier to preserve neutrality.

When the president returned to the White House late yesterday afternoon, after having attended the Fort Myer horse show, he found newspaper correspondents waiting for some word on the Mexican situation.

Other questions were answered by the simple statement that the status quo in Mexico prevailed.

In other words, Senor de la Barra hopes that the time will shortly come when Mr. Taft will say to him: "Mr. Ambassador, conditions in your country are now so satisfactory that you can inform your president that I find the presence of 20,000 men near the frontier no longer necessary. I will leave a few thousand for patrol purposes, but the remainder I am going to use somewhere else."

When Senor de la Barra takes the view that the presence of the American troops will no longer be necessary, after two or three weeks, and tells President Taft so, he figures on the revolt being stamped out decisively in that time.

New York, March 23.—A roaring northwesterly gale that blew away all touches of spring that had lingered in the air and at times reached a velocity of 50 miles an hour, played many curious pranks here during the night and early this morning.

Mr. Taft hopes, too, that he will be able to take this action, but before he takes it he wants to be very sure that conditions in Mexico justify it.

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Albany, N. Y., March 23.—Governor Dix has sent a special message to the legislature recommending the repeal of the progressive inheritance tax law passed at the extraordinary session of the legislature last year which he says, "caused removal of capital from the state to an alarming amount."

Cleveland, March 23.—The condition at former Mayor Tom L. Johnson, who has been critically ill, continues to improve.

Columbus, O., March 23.—Following the robbery of a safe in the post-office at Gahanna, 10 miles northeast of Columbus last night, a fight occurred between deputies and citizens, led by Mayor Dawson, and five fleeing robbers.

Onida, March 23.—The First National bank has suspended business. The bank has \$500,000 resources and \$250,000 deposits with an equal amount of loans and discounts. It is expected the bank will pay the depositors in full.

Madison, Wis., March 23.—A bill to tax annually every unmarried woman over 25 years old and to create a "matrimonial commission" consisting of the governor, superintendent of public property and chief clerk of the assembly was introduced in the assembly today by Assemblyman Hansen of "Tousacette" fame.

SURVEY OF STATE FROM THE CAPITAL

Counties Moving for the Establishment of Farm-Life Schools Under Recent Legislative Act

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, March 23.

What is believed to be the first woman's suffrage act North Carolina has had was enacted by the recent legislature in a special act for Wreathsville Beach, the famous seaside resort near Wilmington.

The Atlas Manufacturing company of Bessemer city is chartered today with \$100,000 capital for general cotton manufacturing and textile business, the incorporators being C. G. House, A. A. McLean and J. J. Ormond.

The indications are now that within a few days the paving of the last section of vitrified brick paving along the street railway tracks where the city had put down asphalt will be completed.

The Swain Man Committed to Penitentiary Sheriff R. G. Roane of Swain county has committed to the penitentiary Jesse R. Dwyer to serve five years for breaking into a store.

Movements by counties for the establishment of farm-life schools under the state aid act of the recent general assembly are being inaugurated.

Food Supply to Curtailed in Sinaloa District, Farmers Are Not Working, Famine Threatened.

Sinaloa, Mexico, March 23.—Suffering prevails in this state. The food supply is curtailed and in some instances is cut off.

Washington, March 23.—Announcing that they will not lay down their arms until formal negotiations for peace are under way, the revolutionary party of Mexico, through Dr. Vasquez Gomez, their representative in Washington, issued a statement yesterday outlining the attitude of the revolutionists toward peace overtures and reforms in the republic.

San Antonio, March 23.—John Hamilton Dignowity and three other Americans were shot to death today under order of a Mexican court martial for participation in the insurrection according to a dispatch received by members of the Dignowity family.

Norfolk, March 23.—Eleven ships of the Atlantic battleship fleet returned to Hampton Roads from the Tangle sound where they observed armor and unnecessary tests to which the second class battleship San Marcos or Old Texas was subjected Tuesday and yesterday with the result of complete destruction of that vessel.

New York, March 23.—One of the first consequences of the Jockey club decision in closing the race tracks of New York state during the coming season is the announcement of August Belmont that he will ship to England his best two year olds.

Roosevelt in Oakland. Oakland, California, March 23.—Theodore Roosevelt arrived to give the annual charter day address to the University of California students.

Woman Suffrage Bill Passes. Springfield, Ill., March 23.—The woman suffrage bill, with referendum amendments passed the senate today 21 to 19.

Meat Packing Establishment Burned. Baltimore, March 23.—The meat packing establishment of Christopher F. Kovic, in North Baltimore, was burned today, entailing a loss of \$250,000, two-thirds insured.

Robbers Pursued by Deputies Led by an Ohio Mayor—In Darkness Thieves Escape.

GOVERNMENT MUST CONTROL WIRELESS

Experience of Admiral Schroeder Plainly Demonstrates This, It Is Said.

Washington, March 23.—The experience of Admiral Schroeder's battleship fleet Tuesday in trying to communicate to the navy department results of firing by the New Hampshire upon the San Marcos as a test, may have the effect to renew the efforts of the army and navy officers to secure legislation by congress to regulate the use of the wireless system of telegraphy.

Northwest Gale Played Pranks in New York City. Plate Glass Windows Were Torn from Their Frames While Vessels Strained at Anchors.

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Postoffice Safe Robbed; Sharp Fight Is Result.

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MURPHY CAME NEAR HAVING A BAD FIRE

But for Town's Splendid Water Works System Much Property Would Have Been Destroyed.

Special to The Gazette-News. Murphy, March 23.—Monday night Murphy came very near having a serious fire. At about midnight the boiler room of the Andrews Planning mill was found to be on fire.

Two Buncombe Convicts Have Secured Pardons.

Thomas Gudger and Palmer Golightly Given Their Freedom Today by Gov. Kitchin.

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Wisconsin Legislator Desires Establishment of "Matrimonial Commission"—Its Object.

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Miss Fownes Led the Field



MISS MARY FOWNES

Pinhurst, N. C., March 23.—Miss Mary Fownes of the Oakmount Country club, led the field in the first day's competition round of the women's event of the eleventh annual United States amateur golf championship, with a card of ninety-three.

SUFFERING IS RESULT OF THE MEXICAN WAR

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SHEEHAN'S THE MAN SAYS RYAN

If Democratic Party Hopes for Future Success Should Stand by Caucus Nominee Is the Advice of Mr. Ryan.

ALTON B. PARKER MUST NOT BE CONSIDERED CANDIDATE

New York Democrats Will Hold Another Caucus to Decide upon Candidate for United States Senatorship.

NEW YORK, March 23.—Regarding the United States senatorship, over which the New York legislature is deadlocked, Alton B. Parker, William F. Sheehan's law partner, denied the statement he is one of six candidates for whom the influence of Thomas Fortune Ryan was sought indirectly.

"I deny," he said, "any one with my consent or knowledge sought Ryan's influence or that of any other person at any time to secure for me the United States senatorship. I made it as clear as I could both before the election and in public speeches and the day afterward in interviews my obligations were such that I could not accept the senatorial office. From that day to this there has been no change in my position."

Alton A. Ryan, through whom it is supposed his father's influence was sought, refused to deny or confirm the interview accredited to him.

New York Democrats Will Convene Again.

Without opposition or debate the democratic members of the legislature at a caucus held at the Hotel Hamilton yesterday afternoon voted to hold another caucus to select another candidate for United States senator.

Various opinions were expressed as to the probable outcome of Monday night's meeting.

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