

INDIAN AFFAIRS NEARING CRISIS IT IS BELIEVED

Rebellion of India from English Rule May Soon Break Out.

ARE THE JAPANESE BEHIND MOVEMENT?

England Is Taking Radical Means to Stamp Out Rebellious Spirit.

(Special Correspondent of The Citizen) WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—That a crisis in the Indian situation is approaching fast, and is considerably closer than generally realized, is the view of those government officials in Washington who are in better than average positions to judge. For diplomatic reasons these officials could not allow themselves to be quoted, but in private conversation they do not hesitate to express the opinion that an open and systematic rebellion of India from English rule may break out at any moment.

Close students of the situation also add there appears to be no doubt that Japanese are fostering a rebellious spirit among the Hindus in every manner possible.

England apparently fully realizes the approaching crisis, and is taking radical means to stamp out of Indian rebels the spirit of rebellion. The authorities are deporting not only the leaders of the sedition movement, but many peaceful home-rule advocates, the English idea being to crush the last hope of Indian autonomy.

Among those who have already been deported, without trial and without even being accused of any specific offense, are some of the richest and most influential Hindus of the empire. The severity of the officials is such that they are in fear of assassination and are under almost as close a guard as the Russian royalty.

India is now striking back at the mother country by conducting a boycott against English made goods. This retaliation is annoying England perhaps more than any other move on the part of the Hindus could have done. The boycott of 1906 cost England millions of dollars and bankrupted a score of the biggest English firms in India. The fear of a repetition of this commercial crisis therefore adds a new note of alarm to the general situation.

Anglo-Indians in the empire believe sedition will ultimately have to be crushed by military strength, and they are opposed to all temporizing measures. They contend one of the Indian organizations, "The Volunteers," is in reality an association of anarchists actively engaged in murder and arson. It has a membership of more than 15,000 natives.

Quick Steps. Lord Minto, the viceroy, emphasizes the urgent necessity of taking any step whatsoever that will attain the end of stamping out the conspiracy. "Whose acknowledged aims are the systematic assassination of government officials, the discrediting of the British administration, and the expulsion of the British rulers from India."

Lord Morley, secretary of state for India, is being commended from many quarters, and criticized from a few, for his remarkable patience with the Hindus. He favors the opening of an increased number of administrative government posts to natives and a slight increase in the Indian council, a body which advises the secretary of state for India on matters concerning the colony. Morley promises some form of home rule as the country progresses, while the natives demand immediate home rule under practically the same conditions as obtained in Canada.

Officials in Washington are aware that the leaders of the Indian sedition have agents throughout the United States. They are also aware that these agents are collecting and sending to those in charge of the situation at home large sums of money. Learning of the presence in Washington of one of the recognized leaders of seditionists, the writer secured a long discussion of the subject with Mme. Bhikhaiji Rustom Cama, a Parsee lady from East India. She made no secret of her desire for India's independence and her efforts in behalf of a free India.

"We are in slavery," she said, "and I am in America for the sole purpose."

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COMMITTEE OF N.C. LAWYERS URGE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT S.B. ADAMS

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—E. C. Duncan, national committeeman from North Carolina, also United States marshal of the eastern district of that state, headed a delegation of lawyers from North Carolina today, to urge upon the president the nomination of former Judge Spencer B. Adams, as judge of the eastern district of North Carolina, to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Judge Purnell. The delegation stated that Mr. Adams had the endorsement of the three republican members-elect of the house,

BROTHER'S MOVE SHOWS MR TAFT IN FALSE LIGHT

President-Elect Claims No Responsibility for C. P. Taft's Withdrawal.

LITTLE ROCK TO BE VISITED NEXT FALL

Mrs. Taft May Not Accompany Him on Panama Trip as Planned.

(By Associated Press.) AUGUSTA, GA., Jan. 4.—Regret is felt by the president-elect at what he and his friends regard as the unfair interpretations and explanations being printed regarding the withdrawal from the Ohio senatorial contest of Charles P. Taft. W. H. Taft contemplates no statement for publication regarding the matter, but in discussing it with friends he has not been uncertain in giving an idea of his feelings on the subject. There seems to be nothing further to be said by the Cincinnati capitalist, even though the reason he assigned for getting out of the race has since been made the subject of adverse comment. He is thus left, in the eyes of his friends, in a false light, and it is this which the president-elect feels keenly.

In connection it is explained that the withdrawal was not made at the instance of the president-elect, neither on the suggestion of Frank H. Hitchcock, nor of Wade H. Ellis, as has since been printed. That Charles P. Taft eliminated himself from the contest entirely in the interest of party harmony in the state, and on his own initiative, is remarked with vigor. By remaining in the light, it is asserted, he could have made possible the election of a "dark horse" at least, but that he recognized that the result of such a course would work havoc in the republican party in the state, and choose rather to voluntarily take himself out of the race, is regarded by his friends as exhibiting a high degree of self-sacrificing loyalty and was exactly what he denominated it, a move entirely in the interest of party harmony.

Little Rock, Ark., was today added to the list of Southern cities which will claim the attention of Mr. Taft, when as president he makes his promised tour of the South. This trip, he expects will be made next fall. A formal invitation from Little Rock was presented to Mr. Taft by Chairman Tucker, of the republican state central committee of Arkansas, and H. L. Remmel, a prominent republican of Little Rock. They received encouraging assurances. Incidentally they said something about federal appointments and claimed a greater republican gain—20,000—in Arkansas, than in any Southern state.

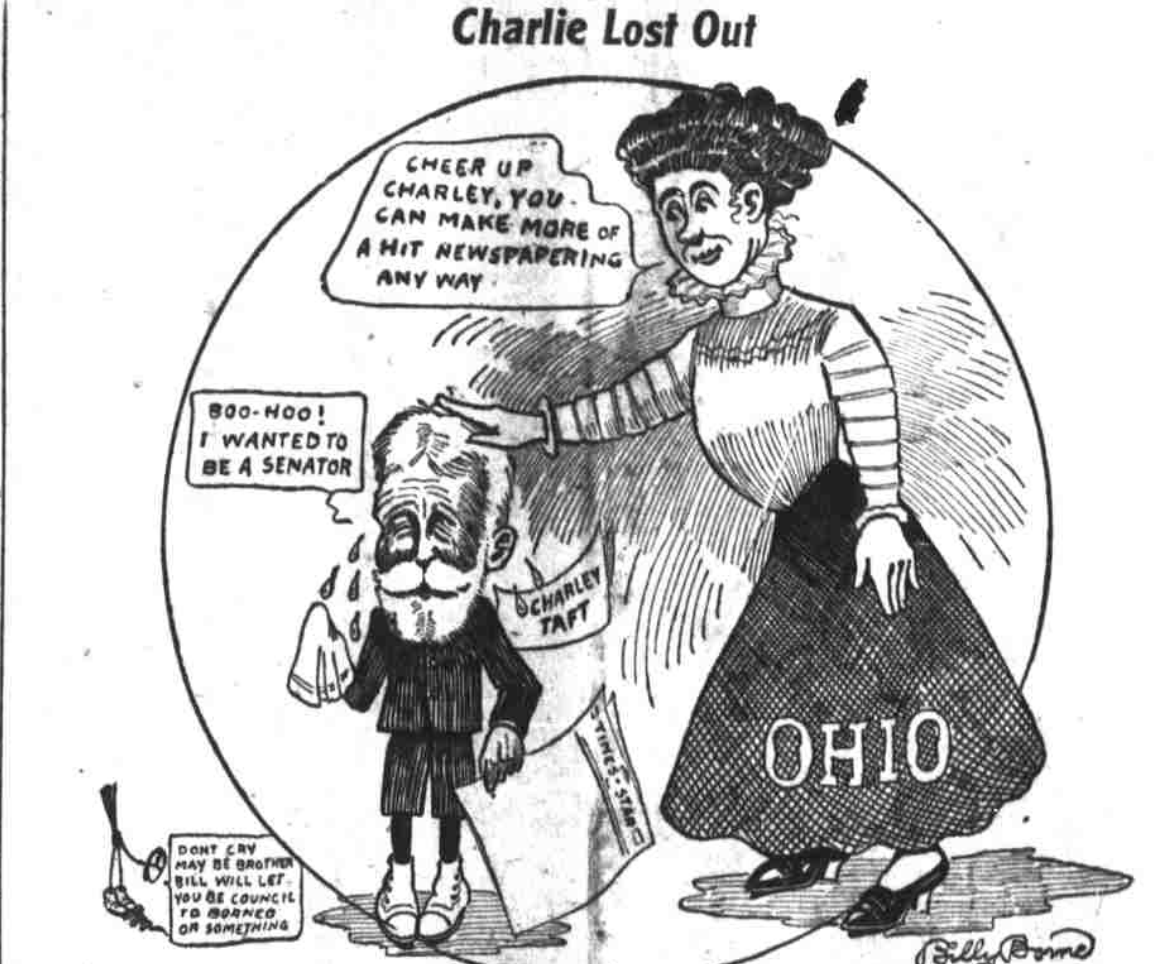
In Charleston. Charleston, S. C., is anxious that Mr. Taft play a game of golf in that city Saturday afternoon, January 23, when he goes north to sail for Panama on the 25th. He had planned to reach Charleston Saturday afternoon, now he will endeavor to leave here in the morning and get there by noon. Editor J. Hemphill and P. H. Gadsden, came as a committee to suggest this change.

Mrs. Taft has about decided that she will abandon the Panama trip and instead accompany the C. P. Taft family to Cuba, a trip which is to be taken by them shortly, and wherein they will witness the change of administration on that island and the withdrawal of the American government. Mr. C. P. Taft is expected here next Saturday.

Fifteen girls of the Tubman high school of Augusta, obtained a promise from Mr. Taft, as the result of a call at the Terrett cottage today for a visit to the school before he leaves the city. Mrs. Taft was also invited. Albin H. Sanders, chairman of the Reciprocal Tariff League, of Chicago and editor of a breeders paper, talked with Mr. Taft today in the interest of tariff legislation which would tend to secure larger foreign markets for the products of the farm. Mr. Sanders is on his way to Washington to make this cause before the ways and means committee of the house. Mr. Taft is to be told tomorrow that the best constructive and directive influence in American country life is the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. L. H. Bailey, of Ithica, N. Y., is here in that connection.

Henry W. Taft left for New York today after defeating the president-elect and John Hayes Hammond at golf.

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SEEKERS FOR OFFICE, HIGH AND LOW, THROG THE N.C STATE CAPITOL

Final Choice Will Be Made at Caucus of Democratic Members Tonight.

MEMBERS COMING IN.

(Special to The Citizen.) RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 4.—Incoming trains have brought in candidates innumerable for offices and clerkships in the general assembly. They and their friends are working hard as ever they can on the lawmakers as they arrive. Much the greater number of legislators are to come in tomorrow, the final contest for positions comes in the caucus of democratic members tomorrow night.

In the speakership contest, each of the three candidates manifests confidence. R. H. Hayes, of Chatham, first on the scene, says he is absolutely certain of winning. W. C. Dowd, of Charlotte, another strong candidate, reached here this evening, and manifests equal confidence in his own prospects. A. W. Graham, of Granville, the third candidate, has also just reached here and says he is well satisfied with the situation.

Such members as R. A. Doughton, of Allegheny, will have great influence in turning the tide to one or another of the candidates. He has not arrived and no candidate has succeeded in getting any intimation even as to his presence. The same is true of a number of other prominent members. It looks like the whole contest will be "in the air" until the caucus passes on the contest.

A. J. Maxwell has no opposition for the senate clerkship and Editor T. G. Cobb, of Morganton, is regarded as sure of getting the house clerkship. For door-keeper of the house, J. C. Kerr, of Caswell, is appointing J. C. Lisk, who is seeking re-election. Geo. L. Kirkpatrick, of Kinston, is also a strong candidate. Indications are that R. M. Phillips, Editor of The County Times will be reading clerk in the house and R. L. Ballou, of Ashe, in the senate.

COUNCILMEN ARE INDICTED

All of Accused Men Give Bond Soon After Arrest in Pittsburg.

(By Associated Press.) PITTSBURG, PA., Jan. 4.—The seven councilmen accused of accepting bribes, and conspiring to secure bribes and the two former bankers accused of giving bribes, all of whom were arrested two weeks ago tonight upon complaint of the Voters League, were indicted late today by a grand jury empaneled this morning. True bills were found as follows: T. O. Atkinson, select councilman, bribery and accepting bribes; William Brand, president of common council, bribery and accepting bribes, and conspiracy; John F. Klein, common councilman, bribery and accepting bribes, and conspiracy; Joseph C. Wason, common councilman, bribery and accepting bribes, and conspiracy; Jacob Soffel, common councilman, bribery and accepting bribes; W. H. Melaney, common councilman, bribery and accepting bribes; Hugh Ferguson, common councilman, bribery and accepting bribes; W. W. Ramsey, former president of German National Bank, offering and giving bribes; A. A. Vilsack, former cashier of same bank, offering and giving bribes. All of the accused men gave bond soon after their arrest and these bonds will stand until the court hearings. There is every indication that these hearings will be held immediately.

HOUSE HEARS THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT

Mr. Roosevelt Bases Statements Upon a Debate on Secret Service.

SOME MEMBERS LAUGH OUTRIGHT.

Message Finally Referred to the Special Committee. Galleries Packed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Unusual attention was paid in the house of representatives today to the reading of a message from the president replying to a resolution by that body calling upon him for an explanation of intimation in his annual message that members of congress were afraid to be investigated by the secret service. The galleries were packed to the doors. The president's specific reference to certain speeches by Messrs. Tawney, (Minn.) Smith, (Iowa); Sherry, (Ky.) and Fitzgerald, (N. Y.) when the provision for the restriction of the operations of the secret service was up for discussion, and also to Mr. Busby, the speaker's private secretary, created a storm of laughter. The speaker several times victoriously rapped for order.

In commenting on the president's reference to him in the message, Mr. Busby said: "I am an employe of the house of representatives. It would not be appropriate for me in any way to make any comment on the matter now before the house. I will say, however, that the article quoted from The Chicago Inter-Ocean in the president's message, was prepared in the regular course of work for a newspaper when I was the representative of The Inter-Ocean. I doubt if a dozen members of congress ever saw the article or heard of it until today."

As the reading of the message proceeded many of the members chuckled and others laughed outright while some were prone to talk with their neighbors. When the reading had been concluded, Mr. Perkins, (N. Y.) chairman of the special committee, which originally considered the matter, moved that the message be referred to that committee.

"Is an amendment in order to that motion," inquired Mr. Griggs (Ga.) in a deliberate tone.

"It is" replied the speaker. "Then," said Mr. Griggs "I move that this message be returned to the president."

"Oh no," "oh no," shouted several of Mr. Griggs' democratic colleagues. Mr. Perkins insisted that the message should go to the special committee and in the meantime Mr. Griggs withdrew his motion, saying he had that action at the request of his party leaders.

The message was referred.

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DIVISION OF THE FLEET WILL GO TO NAPLES TO AID IN RELIEF WORK

Ships Will be Distributed Among Ports at Admiral's Discretion.

PLANS UNCHANGED.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The first division of Admiral Sperry's battleship fleet has been directed to go to Naples to assist in the relief work. The remainder of the fleet is to be distributed at various points on the Mediterranean at Admiral Sperry's discretion. No other Italian ports will be visited.

The decision against the warships visiting other Italian ports was on the ground that it was inadvisable in view of Italy's great grief to permit the men to have entertainments or shore leave there. Two of the battleships will go to Toulon, France, and two other additional battleships, will go to Turkish ports. This program will not interfere with the assembling of the fleet as originally contemplated at Olbramo Roads, when they left for Hampton Roads.

The ships of the division, which are to go to Naples, include the flagship Connecticut, Captain H. Osterhaus, the Kansas, Vermont and the Minnesota. The original program contemplated that the Connecticut and the Vermont should go to Villefrance, on January 14, and the Minnesota and Kansas to Marseilles on the same date. In consequence of the decision of the department there must necessarily be some rearrangement of the itineraries of some of the other vessels. It is not supposed that Admiral Sperry's first division will remain long at Naples, as by the time they arrive there the relief work will have been pretty thoroughly organized. The fleet is expected to arrive at Hampton Roads February 22, and it was said at the navy department today that there was no reason to suppose that the changed conditions would delay that event.

BEGIN ACTION FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL

Brought on Complaint of J. D. Rockefeller, Jr. Against Officers of Star Co.

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The action for criminal libel brought on complaint of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., against E. S. Carvalho, Bradford Merrill and E. H. Clark, officers of the Star Publishing company, which published The New York American, was begun today in the Center street police court before Magistrate Moss. Mr. Rockefeller testified that the article in The American, in which he was accused of having caused a system of penance to be adopted by a certain breakfast food company at Chicago, was false in every particular. He had not set foot in Chicago, he declared, for nearly two years.

Charles J. Shearn, attorney for the defendants were officers of The Star printed on the day following the publication of the original story, as evidence that the libel had not been committed with malicious intent. Mr. Shearn then cross-examined the witness, and secured from him an admission that while he had sworn in his original complaint that he "knew of his personal knowledge" that the defendants were officers of the Star Publishing company, that knowledge had in reality been based simply on information and belief. Mr. Shearn contended that this constituted perjury on the part of Mr. Rockefeller, and promptly applied for a warrant for his arrest on that charge.

GRANTING OF \$800,000 FOR ITALY'S AID

Bountiful Provision for the Sufferers Made By Congress.

BILL CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Members of Congress Filled With Sympathy for the Stricken Nation.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Bountiful provisions for the earthquake sufferers of Italy was made by congress today and that, too, by unanimous vote. In the house there was vigorous hand clapping as the bill carrying the appropriation was sent on its way. The magnificent sum of \$800,000 was granted almost immediately after the reception in both houses, of a message from the president calling attention to the calamity and the pressing need for aid for the stricken sister nation.

The president's signature was not affixed to the bill tonight as it did not reach him, neither the vice-president nor the speaker yet having signed it. The house had adjourned and Speaker Cannon had left the capitol before the Senate passed the measure. President Roosevelt will sign the bill, making it effective, when it reaches him, which probably will be tomorrow.

Only the fact that the national legislature was adjourned for the usual holiday recess when the earthquake occurred, prevented earlier action, although by the president's direction and with confidence of congressional approval, supplies aboard the naval ships Culgoa, and Celtic intended for the battleship fleet, were diverted and ordered delivered as quickly as their speed could take them to the scene of the disaster and want. The members of congress filled with sympathy for a stricken nation, were early in their seats and prepared to take action to assist in immediate relief in providing for ample funds.

Over \$335,000 has been collected through the Red Cross Society alone of which \$250,000 represents the advance of one half of what the Christian Herald has agreed to raise.

President Roosevelt in a message to congress asked for a direct appropriation of half a million of dollars. At the conference at the White House last night at which Speaker Cannon was present \$500,000 was agreed upon as the amount to be appropriated, but ten minutes after congress met the speaker received a communication from the president suggesting that the sum be made \$800,000, and the appropriation committee having the bill in charge at once substituted this amount for the \$500,000 originally agreed upon.

President's Message. The president's message to congress followed: "To the senate and house: The appalling calamity which has befallen the people of Italy has been followed by distress and suffering throughout a wide region, among many thousands who have escaped with life, but whose shelter and food and means of livelihood have disappeared. The ordinary means for supplying the wants of civilized communities is paralyzed and such an emergency exists which demands that the obligations of humanity shall regard no limit of national lines.

"The immediate debt of civilization to Italy, the warm and steadfast friendship between that country and our own, the affecting for their native land felt by great numbers of good American citizens who are immigrants from Italy; the abundance with which God has blessed us in our safety; all these prompt us to immediate and effective action.

"Private generosity is responding nobly to the demand by contributions through the safe and efficient channel of the American Red Cross society. Confident of your approval, I have ordered the government supply ships Celtic and Culgoa to the scene of disaster, whereupon receiving the authority which I now ask from you they will be able to dispense food, clothing and other supplies, with which they are laden to the value of about \$300,000. The Celtic has already sailed and the Culgoa is at Port Said. Eight vessels of the returning battleship fleet are already under orders for Italian waters and that government has been asked if their service can be useful.

"I recommend that the congress approve the application of supplies above indicated and further appropriate action."

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RESCUE WORK DAY AND NIGHT AT MESSINA

Search Lights on Warships Flood Ruins With Rays at Night.

THEIR MAJESTIES' NOBLE EXAMPLE.

Air of City Heavy With the Stench of Numberless Putrifying Bodies.

(By Associated Press.) MESSINA, Jan. 4.—Although confused and without system, the work of rescue has been carried on bravely by night as well as by day. Search lights on the warships flood the ruins with their rays and give light to the salvage parties. The king and queen of Italy, on board the battleship Regina Elena, have given a noble example of devotion. The king with some of his ministers at his side has been directing and supervising the relief work, yet he has found time to visit the field hospitals and speak words of encouragement to his stricken subjects. The queen has been spending 15 hours a day beside the sick beds on the Regina Elena, encouraging and consoling the unfortunate victims. The brunt of the rescue work has fallen on the sailors, foreigners as well as Italians and all have done their duty nobly. Much praise is especially given the Russian sailors. Hesitating before no toiling, and entering ruined, led perhaps by some frantic woman, who had lost all hope that husband or child might still be alive.

The air of Messina is heavy with the stench of putrifying bodies, nevertheless large groups of refugees have camped out on the outskirts of the city and obstinately refuse all invitations to them to move away.

The accounts of all agree that the devastation was accomplished in less than one minute on the fatal morning. The strata below the Strait slipped, then a tidal wave swept in and out and all was over. Those capable of analyzing their sensations say that when the shock came they felt an upward thrust of the earth. This was followed by an oscillatory motion and the onset of the earthquake. Few of the survivors are able to explain how they escaped. They know only that amid falling plaster and masonry they managed to jump safely from windows or doors or stumbled down crumbling stairways.

TAKEN TO VATICAN.

ROME, Jan. 4.—Upon the arrival of 1,500 wounded from Messina and Reggio this morning, Mayor Nathan telephoned the Vatican asking whether these unfortunates could be taken in there. The Vatican replied in the affirmative and the wounded were received with open arms.

To realize fully what this incident signifies, it must be explained that Signor Nathan is not a Catholic, and that he was at one time grand master of the Free Masons, an organization that has carried on a persistent struggle against the Vatican.

The first 120 of the wounded sent to the Vatican this morning were received at the railroad station by Mr. Muscatelli, sent especially by the pope. Some of them were taken to the Vatican in public conveyances, but the more grievously injured were carried on stretchers by the Red Cross. They were received in the Vatican precincts by the nursing sisters. The pope could not restrain his desire to bring them consolation, and sought them out. He passed through the Basilica of St. Peter, over the arch connecting the Basilica with the hospital. Although he did not actually set foot on Italian territory, he in reality went outside that era, which under the law, is guaranteed and enjoys the right of extraterritoriality. The hospital, although belonging to the pope, stands on Italian ground.

ACCIDENT TO QUEEN.

ROME, Jan. 4.—Signor Mitrabello has given the following account of the accident to Queen Helene, three days ago at Messina, when her majesty suffered contusions of the chest he said: "The queen was in one of the improvised hospitals. She was in the act of lending over a wounded woman when suddenly the door was thrown open violently and a crazy man rushed in, crying loudly 'The end of the world has come; the earth has fallen in; save yourselves; save yourselves.' The wounded woman terrified, jumped from her bed and started running toward the door. The queen placed herself in front of the unfortunate woman and extended her

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DRAMATIC DENIAL OF MRS. ERB THAT SHE KILLED HER HUSBAND

(By Associated Press.) MEDIA, PA., Jan. 4.—The dramatic denial of Mrs. Florence Erb that she participated in the killing of her husband; the repetition and corroboration of stories which she told of brutal treatment accorded her by the murdered man and the testimony of Mrs. Catherine Beisel, the self-confessed slayer of her brother-in-law, as to the family differences, which led up to the shooting, marked the proceedings in the trial here today of the two women charged with the murder of Capt. J. Clayton Erb on October 6.

The witness declared that she had in no way assisted Mrs. Beisel in the killing of her husband, and that she was not an actual party to the murder. That she had permitted her sister to battle single-handed with her angry husband, the witness declared was due to the fact that she was afraid of him; that she had been made a coward by his abuse.