

GREAT FLOTILLA BEARS DOWN UPON THE CRESCENT CITY

Delegates to Deep Waterways Convention Set Sail Down The Mississippi

PRESIDENT TAFT IS LORD HIGH ADMIRAL Distinguished Gathering of Public Men From All Over Country at St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 25.—Water improvement as a part of a national policy of conservation of the streams, the lands adjoining them and the forests at their sources today was the theme of two notable gatherings in St. Louis and in East St. Louis, Ill., in which President Taft, Joseph G. Cannon, speaker of the national house of representatives, and Governors Deneen of Illinois and Bailey of Missouri, took leading parts.

Cabinet members, United States senators and representatives and ministers from foreign countries listened to the speech at one or both of the meetings. Added to these were state and municipal officers of all degrees, and close to one hundred thousand citizens who had flocked to the two cities to see and hear their superior officers.

While the president's utterance on waterways improvement was not so far-reaching regarding the creation of the fourteen foot channel as those of President Roosevelt on a similar occasion and therefore not entirely cheering to the advocates of an immediate commencement of the work, yet the fact that Speaker Cannon unqualifiedly endorsed the chief executive's stand regarding the bill for such projects, gave these same advocates encouragement. The general good was the fact which the president's stand regarding the bill for such projects, gave these same advocates encouragement.

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MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE IS CHARGE AGAINST WATKINS

Jury Easily Selected For Trial of Former Constable at Black Mountain, And Witnesses For State Testify.

Charged with murder in the second degree in connection with the shooting and killing of John Hill Fleming of Wilmington in the early hours of August 7, in a Black Mountain hotel at the time when he also wounded Paul C. Collins of Hillsboro, E. C. Watkins, then constable of Black Mountain, was yesterday morning placed on trial before Judge J. S. Adams and a jury in the Superior court and when court adjourned for the day the testimony of Mr. Collins and other witnesses had been completed.

Jurors Excused. The proceedings yesterday were featured by the statement of D. A. Dillingham, one of those summoned as a juror, that Capt. J. H. Brittain of the convict gang, had remarked in his presence that if Watkins was given a light trial he would be acquitted. Brittain knowing he supposed, witness said, that he had been summoned as a juror, and the exciting of Dillingham by Judge Adams, the statement of Z. B. Dillingham, another man who had been summoned as a juror, that former sheriff J. H. Reed had referred to the fact that Dillingham had been summoned as a juror, and asked him when he came to town to spend the night with him, Mr. Reed being incidentally one of Watkins' bondsmen and by the carefully measured evidence of Collins who remained calm under the hot cross examination fire of Mr. Craig.

Array of Counsel. When the case was called for trial there appeared as legal representatives of the state Solicitor Mark W. Brown, Judge T. A. Jones, E. H. Will, Mr. Thomas Settle and for the defendant Louis Frank, J. H. Martin, Judge J. D. Murphy, Garland A. Thompson and Allen T. Morrison. Near counsel for the state were the brother and sister of Mr. Bunting, and near his counsel were Mr. Watkins and members of his family.

Jury Quickly Secured. Considering the widespread notoriety of the case a jury of twelve men was secured in a comparatively brief time. Z. B. Dillingham was found incompetent by reason of what he said in Sheriff Reed had said to him and was excused by the state under a preliminary challenge, but Judge Adams set aside D. A. Dillingham, saying that he had never been much of a juror in recent years to pick jurors after they had been drawn and remarking

that he would set aside D. A. Dillingham because he had served under Brittain in employment in the gang under Brittain.

The following jurors were selected to try the case and were then placed under charge of Deputy Sheriff Lee with strict orders from Judge Adams that they should communicate with no one save the officer on any subject and that they should remain in the room.

Evidence Begins. Court took a recess from 12:30 to 2:30 p. m., when by consent of the defense two character witnesses were introduced out of regular order for their convenience.

Rev. B. P. Walker, pastor of the West Asheville Baptist church, testified that he had known P. C. Collins in Orange county many years, and that his character was good.

J. M. Meares of Asheville, a traveling man, testified that he had known Collins sixteen or eighteen years and his character was good.

Photographer J. E. Hage identified a number of photographs he had taken of the Gladstone hotel and the room in which the shooting occurred and testified as to measurements between different points and objects in the room.

Dr. M. H. Fletcher testified that Bunting and Collins had been brought to the Mission hospital some hours after the shooting, the latter as a last resort. The bullet, he said, had entered on the right side about six or eight inches to the right of the center of the body and passed through the liver and pancreas and injured arteries, passing in a direct line of its course to the pleura in which it shattered and leaving a little way under the skin. Dr. Fletcher said that Bunting asked who shot him and when Dr. Landis told him it was an officer, Bunting asked:

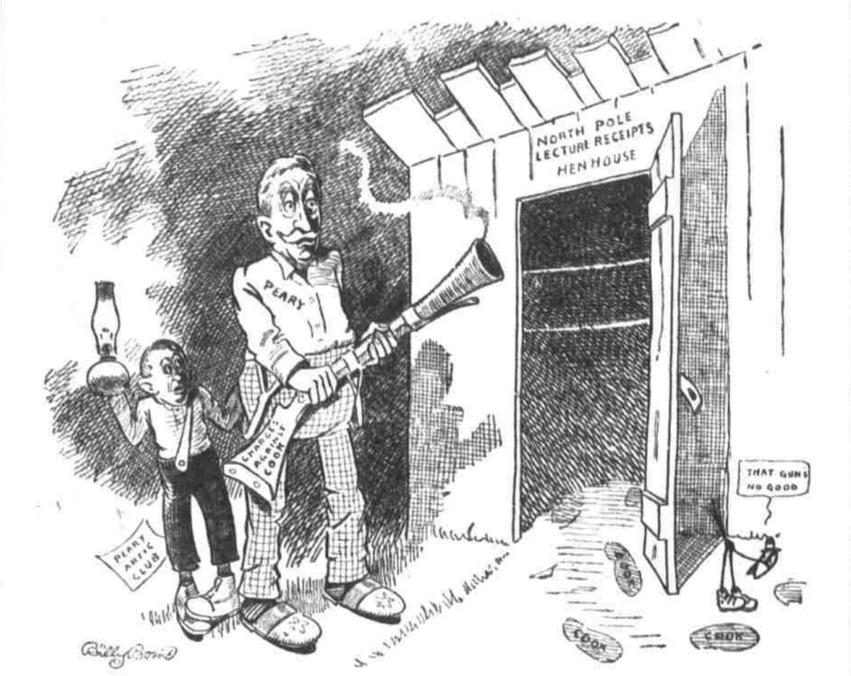
"Who did he shoot me? I haven't done anything to be shot for."

The doctor said that there was powder burns on both Fleming and Collins.

Mr. Collins Testifies. Paul C. Collins, being examined by Solicitor Brown, said that he was 32

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He Got Away With The Goods!



LOVE OF CHILD DROVE BIGAMIST TO MURDER HIS ILLEGAL WIFE

Identification of Skeleton Found in Islip Woods Through Detective Work Covering Two Continents Leads to Arrest and Confession of Man Who Committed the Crime.

NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—A year and a half ago a friendless girl was murdered in a forsaken patch of woodland near Islip, Long Island; a week ago her bleached and charred skeleton was found with nothing to indicate its identity but her jewelry and a bill of sale from a German shop; three days later, through the police of Hamburg, Germany, her identity was established as Anna Luther, though the cables first carried the name as Lutter; last night her husband, Frederick Gebhardt, who had married her under the name of Otto Mueller, was caught in Astoria, L. I., by a photographer's flashlight, and tonight he confessed under his signature that he is her slayer.

The confession follows: "About December, 1907, I first met Anna Luther. We were married in February, 1908, and went to Europe to live. We returned April 6, 1908. She went to Henry Werrapp's in Newark, N. J., to spend a day or two on the pretense that I was going to rent an apartment for us to live in. I returned to my home and wife in Astoria. I met Anna again on April 8, in Newark and we went to an address in Thirty-fourth street, New York, and then went to Jamaica, L. I.

We stayed in Jamaica until next day. "April 9 we went to Bay Shore and we walked about and I showed her some property. I got into an argument with her about some money matters and I turned away and wanted to go back. She followed me up, screaming, and I shot her in the head. I didn't look at her, and do not remember whether I shot her more than once. "Immediately after I went to the help depot and took a train for home. It was dark. On the way home on the train I threw the revolver out of the car window. "I want to state that I didn't kill Anna Luther for her money as the newspapers have stated. My original reason for marrying Anna is that I didn't care to live with my first wife any longer, but as she—my first wife—had given me a child, my desire to again see my child caused me to want to get rid of Anna Luther and return to my first wife and child. "This is the reason why I shot Anna Luther, and I told her in Bay Shore that I was married and had a wife and child and must leave her. "She screamed and ran after me,

and kissed me and wanted me back, and I shot her. "This confession is made on my own free will without any hope of recompense being offered me." "Good Police Work. From the time of his arrest last night until he broke down today under police questioning, Gebhardt, although he admitted that he committed bigamy when he married Anna Luther, denied all knowledge of her death. "In a letter written to the German consul last night, Mueller, the author, spoke of a Mr. Bradley, of Denver, as having called to see Mueller's wife during his absence. The description of this man who existed in imagination only, answered exactly to that of Gebhardt. Gebhardt when he was in Germany brought two German police dogs and it was by tracing the dogs that the detectives found his home in Astoria. While a newspaper photographer chanced a flashlight at the dogs, the flare revealed the pale face of Gebhardt peering from the chinks of an outhouse. He was run down and arrested.

CHAUFFEUR'S STORY MAKES DARK CASE AGAINST DOCTOR

Detroit Murder Laid at Door of Physician Who Performed Operation

AUTO DRIVER AIDED IN HIDING THE BODY

Tells Gruesome Story of Ride at Night With Dismembered Body of Woman

DETROIT, Mich., Oct. 25.—After Chauffeur Joseph W. Leach had testified in police court this afternoon that on the night of August 27 he drove Dr. George A. Fritch from the physician's office to Ecorse creek where the doctor threw into the water three sacks, which they had taken from his office, Dr. Fritch was held for trial in the recorder's court on the charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Maybelle Millman, of Ann Arbor.

Miss Millman's body was found in three sections in sacks in Ecorse creek and the lower Detroit river early in September. The body bore evidence, the police and county physicians were satisfied, that a criminal operation had been performed or attempted.

At the conclusion of Leach's cross-examination, Attorney Lodge for Dr. Fritch made an unsuccessful attempt to have the complaint dismissed on the ground that evidence necessary to establish the manslaughter charge had not been presented.

Chauffeur's Story. Chauffeur Leach today on the stand gave a graphic description of the story he told the police about the events of the night of August 27, which led to Dr. Fritch's re-arrest. Cross examination failed to shake his testimony. Leach said that he responded to Dr. Fritch's call for an automobile early in the evening of August 27, that the doctor told him he was in trouble and needed a friend, and asked him about accessible deep water. "Have you been killing some one?" the chauffeur testified he asked Dr. Fritch.

"You are not supposed to know anything," was the response Leach said he received.

They arranged that Leach was to return to the doctor's office later and drive him down the river.

Disposed of Body. "When I called for the doctor about nine o'clock," Leach testified, "he brought out a newspaper package perhaps eighteen inches long and said for me to drive to his house. We drove into the alley behind the doctor's house and under the doctor's direction, I took half a dozen bricks from a pile in the alley and put them in the automobile. While I was doing this the doctor went into the yard. He returned without the package and we drove back to his office. We did not remain near the office more than ten minutes. During this the doctor made two trips up the steps into his

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AGED WHITE MAN FOUND DRUGGED AND PENNILESS

Declares Young Man Gave Him Liquor and Then Stole His Money.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Oct. 25.—It seems there is more in the case of John Robinson, the aged white man who was found unconscious near the Southern railway tracks between Third and Fourth streets Saturday night, than first appeared. When he recovered his senses yesterday he claimed that he had been drugged and robbed and the circumstances support this claim. He states that he fell into the company of a young fellow whom he did not know, on Cedar street. The youth left him for a moment, returned with some liquor and insisted on his taking a drink. He took a small swallow or two.

"Oh, you haven't had any liquor at all," protested his new found companion, who prevailed on him to imbibe again. He then shoved him over to one side and he remembered no more until his eyes opened on the uninspiring walls of his cell, his ears greeted by the unusual notes of voices across the corridor.

The old man says he is 75 years old. He had been ditching and doing farm work for Mr. Paul Chatham on his farm and the latter had paid him off Saturday. Mr. Chatham stated that night that this was true and that Robinson since he had known him had been as straight as a dye. It will be recalled that Robinson's pocketbook and a tobacco bag were found empty at his side, while his clothes were in disarray. A cheap watch was lying on the ground. Robinson said he was just going to move to Providence. The police decided to credit his story and turned him loose last night to investigate the robbery.

WERE NEVER MARRIED BUT S.C. COURTS CANNOT GRANT THEM A DIVORCE

Remarkable Situation Develops From Peculiar Laws.

SUIT DISMISSED.

ANDERSON, Oct. 25.—In the Court of Common Pleas here yesterday, Judge Robert Aldrich handed down a decision in a most unusual case. There has probably never been another case like it in the courts of South Carolina. The title of the case was Charles Spencer vs. Mollie Spencer and it was made more nor less than a suit for divorce.

The plaintiff alleged through his attorneys, Mr. H. C. McKnight of Greenville, that he and Mollie Spencer had lived together for some time as man and wife; that they had been so regarded by their neighbors, but that they had been separated for about three years and did not intend to live together any more. He alleged that he had never been lawfully married to the woman, and the purpose of the action was to ask a divorce from the courts that they had never been married, presumably so that if either should marry again he or she could be prosecuted for bigamy. The Spencer woman, or as she said her right name is, Mollie Roberts, seemed willing for the decree to be issued. A signed statement was presented from her, in which she admitted all the allegations made by the plaintiff.

COTTON MILLS PUT INTO EFFECT THEIR POLICY OF REDUCING OUTPUT

Mills in New England As Well As Those of South Cut Down.

COTTON TOO HIGH.

BOSTON, Oct. 25.—The officials of the A. W. Wright who reported today that cotton manufacturers in New England representing several million spindles, have expressed their intention of following the clubs' suggestion for a curtailment to 224 hours between November 1 and August next.

While some of the mills may not curtail unless there is general action by a large majority many other mills will close their factories regardless of what other others may take. It is said assurances have been received from mills in New York state that they will follow the example of the New England mills. If the other mills represented in the A. W. Wright club join in the movement, between nine and ten million spindles will be affected.

STRETCH DAY TO GIVE FRENCH IMPORTERS A CHANCE UNDER TREATY

New Tariff Law Goes Into Effect as to That Country Last of This Month.

SHIPS RACING IN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—What is regarded as a distinct concession to importing interests and to France was made by the treasury department today in directing the collectors of customs to keep custom houses open until 4:30 p. m., next Saturday, October 30, on which date the commercial agreement with France, Switzerland and Bulgaria will expire.

The purpose of the order is to give every facility to importers to counter goods at the reduced rates of the expiring treaty and applies particularly to New York and a few other cities where the custom houses close ordinarily at 1 p. m., on Saturday.

A French trans-Atlantic liner is making a race against time in order to get a cargo of goods under the better rates provided by the commercial agreement. The steamer is scheduled to arrive early Saturday afternoon and today's extension of the hours probably will permit the steamer to enter the goods under the expiring agreement.

MERCHANT SHOT, ROBBED AND LEFT ALONE TO DIE

Winston-Salem Highwayman Identified by Man He Robbed.

WINSTON-SALEM, Oct. 25.—J. P. Reid, a merchant of this city who held up near Blount's pond, in the northern part of this city early this morning and robbed by an unknown white man, tonight identified shot him twice, his bullet taking effect in his right temple and the other in his left side near the heart. He was removed to a local hospital where it is stated he will probably die.

GINNERS' REPORT SHOWS DECREASE.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—The census bureau today issued a report showing that 5,227,591 bales, counting round as half bales, had been ginned from the growth of 1909 to October 18, as compared with 6,296,165 for 1908, 4,420,538 for 1907, and 4,931,621 for 1906.

In this report, 2,754 round bales were included, as compared with 118,729 for 1908, 92,997 for 1907, and 132,144 for 1906. The number of sea island bales included was 26,339, as compared with 22,912 for 1908, 18,775 for 1907, and 12,991 for 1906.

MRS. HAYES ASHES WILL REST BESIDE HER FATHER'S

Removed From Colorado Springs to Davis Lot in Richmond.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Oct. 25.—Extreme simplicity will mark the departure of the ashes of Mrs. J. Addison Hayes, the daughter of the Confederacy, for their final resting place at Richmond, Va.

The ashes will be removed this evening from Evergreen cemetery, where they have been resting since the funeral services here and taken to Richmond, leaving here over the Rock Island at 9:40 o'clock. The party will go by way of Chicago, reaching Richmond Thursday afternoon at three o'clock.

DOMESTIC QUARREL ENDS IN TRAGEDY.

ROANOKE, Va., Oct. 25.—Following a domestic quarrel in their home near the Norton Coal company's mine in Wise county this afternoon Charles Rhinehardt fatally shot his thirteen-year-old wife and then killed himself. When the girl-wife started to bring a bucket of water from a well she was shot three times by Rhinehardt, all the bullets taking effect in the back and coming out just below the breast. Rhinehardt then turned the revolver on himself and blew out his brains. It is said Mrs. Rhinehardt cannot survive the night. The couple had been married about a month.

ICE TRUST METHODS IN GOBBLING UP RIVALS AIRD

Testimony Shows How Its Agents Tied Up Every Independent Dealer.

NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—The thoroughness with which the American Ice company on trial for attempted restraint of trade is alleged to have gobblined up independent competitors, was shown today by Deputy State's Attorney General Osborne, who read a list of the businesses purchased by I. O. Black, at one time a branch manager of the company. The independent gathered in were of varying sizes, the assets of some of them consisting of nothing more than a single horse and wagon. Most of the agreements signed with these independent dealers provided cash penalties if the dealers engaged in the ice business in New York within ten years. The penalties varied in amount from \$200 to \$75,000.

The names of Charles W. Morse, the convicted financier, was frequently mentioned in today's proceedings and the name of Augustus C. Sprague, the mysterious person who received \$15,000,000 from the company "for value received" also figured in the testimony.

KILLED ON TRACKS.

ATLANTA, Oct. 25.—While trying to get out of the way of an approaching freight train early today, J. B. Cleveland, aged thirty-three, junction clerk for the Southern railway at Howell station stepped onto another track and was instantly killed by an incoming passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville road. Cleveland leaves a wife and four children.

ANDERSON MILLS CLOSE.

ANDERSON, S. C., Oct. 25.—Because the price of cotton goods does not correspond with the high price of raw cotton, the cotton mills of Anderson and adjacent counties will operate but five days a week. This action was decided upon today and became immediately effective. Several thousand operatives are affected. It was not announced how long this curtailment would be in force.