

The News Has the Largest Circulation of Any Afternoon Paper Published in the Two Carolinas

SECTION ONE.
Eight Pages.
Four O'clock Edition.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS.

THE ONLY EVENING ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWSPAPER IN CHARLOTTE.

ESTABLISHED 1888.

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Eight Pages.
Four O'clock Edition.

New York Has Dark Murder Mystery

Body of Miss Elsie Siegel Found Crowded in Trunk in Room of China man—Had Been Strangled to Death.

Father of Girl Unable to Identify Body—Many Letters Found in Room Signed "Elsie"—Two Chinese Disappear.

By Associated Press.

New York, June 19.—The murder of Miss Elsie Siegel, granddaughter of general Franz Siegel, whose body was found last night crowded into a trunk in the room of a Chinese, after she had been strangled with a curtain cord, appears to be the most remarkable case the New York police have had to investigate in many years.

The failure of the murdered girl's father Paul Siegel, to identify the body as that of his daughter, while the girl's mother has declared that the articles and jewelry found in the room with her body belonged to Elsie Siegel.

Acquaintances of Miss Siegel who have seen the body of the murdered girl assert that it is that of Miss Siegel and a number of persons have been found by the police who declared that the young woman has been a friend to the Chinese, William L. Leon, in whose room the body was found.

Notwithstanding these identifications it was stated at the home of Mr. Siegel today that Paul Siegel, the girl's father had gone to Washington to bring Elsie home."

William Leon, Chinese, who was still unknown today as was also Chung Sin, who occupied the room adjoining that of Leon.

Over the Chinese restaurant conducted by San Leung, the police are searching for Leon but with scant hope of finding him, as it is believed the murder was committed possibly as early as last Thursday.

The police gave out the report that Leon and Chung Sin had sailed Friday for Vancouver on a steamer going by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

Asks Washington Police Aid.

Precautions have been taken to intercept the steamer at an intermediate port if possible. The police of Washington have been asked to aid the New York police by finding an original copy of a telegraph message which was received by the girls parents from that city last Saturday, saying: "I will be home by the end of the week. Don't worry."

It was signed with the name of Elsie Siegel. Miss Siegel had been engaged in missionary work among the Chinese.

Chinamen Jealous of Girl.

Mrs. Florence Todd, one of the missionary workers in the Chinese sections who identified Miss Siegel's body, told the police the girl and the Chinamen had been thrown much together for the past few years and that Leon was greatly enamored of the girl; that he was intensely jealous of her and disliked her to receive attentions of other men.

This had caused Miss Siegel to leave Leon, Mrs. Todd said.

Reproaches Chinamen in Letter.

Among several hundred letters discovered in Leon's room were a number signed "Elsie." The contents of most of them have not been revealed but in one of them "Elsie" reproached Leon for causing trouble between her father and herself.

"Just think of the sacrifice I have made for you" she wrote in one letter.

The Tafts to Beverly.

Washington, June 19.—With the prospect of a congressional session lasting until well into July, if not the first of August, President Taft has decided to take his family to Beverly, Mass., the evening of July 3.

Fearful Ending Of Children's Gay Picnic

By Associated Press.

Sparta, Ga., June 19.—While 16 children, who were attending a Sunday school picnic at Martin Springs near here, were standing under a tree yesterday, to escape a shower, a bolt of lightning struck the tree and every child was rendered unconscious.

When aid came the children were lying in a heap at the foot of the tree and all were apparently dead.

There were two doctors in the picnic party and on examination they

found not one of the children had been killed outright though six of them were in such condition that their recovery is hardly possible.

The other ten while rendered unconscious, are not considered in a dangerous condition.

Examinations disclosed that on the bodies of nine of the children the tree had been perfectly photographed by the electric bolt.

Shoes had been torn from their feet and every piece of metal about them fused.

BARACAS AND PHILATHEAS IN SESSION

Special to The News.

Asheville, N. C., June 19.—Delegates are today gathering from every state in the union to attend the national Baraca-Philathea convention which opens here tonight to be in session through Wednesday night. Between twelve and fifteen hundred delegates are expected.

The first special train arrived this morning from Atlanta bringing several hundred from Georgia and the Gulf states. Special Baraca-Philathea cars are attached to every incoming train.

The streets are lighted with over three thousand electric lights and many business houses are draped with bunting and flags in honor of the occasion. The convention opens with a reception at the Young Men's Christian Association building this evening, which will be attended by the delegates and visitors to the convention.

Tomorrow's services will be of a devotional nature. In the morning, there will be a special teacher in every Baraca and Philathea class in the city and the larger numbers of the city's pupils will be filled with ministers here on account of the convention, both morning and evening. In the afternoon a mass meeting will be held at the Auditorium, presided over by Rev. Charles McKenzie, national vice president. Among the speakers will be Luther M. Tesh, field secretary, Marshall A. Hudson, president of the World Wide Baraca Union, and Rev. Chester F. Ralston, D. D., of New York.

On the following days the Baraca and Philatheas will meet in separate sessions, the former at the First Presbyterian church and the latter at Central Methodist in the morning and afternoon. A joint session will be held at the Auditorium, or the First Baptist church if it is large enough, in the evening.

Tuesday afternoon will be given over to a drive through the Biltmore estate and other side trips to Overlook Park, Riverside Park and other points of interest in and about the city.

Calhoun Case With Jury.

By Associated Press.

San Francisco, Calif., June 19.—Concerning the greatest issue in the history of San Francisco's graft scandal, the case of Patrick Calhoun, millionaire president of the United Railroads, charged with bribery, was given to the jury shortly before noon.

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Long Blockade of Traffic From Mint to Cedar Across First Street Extension at Last Ended—Beautiful Park at Lakewood.

The 4 C's Company marks a new era in its eventful history by securing the right of way through West First street, which has been blocked hitherto for several years.

Cost too Much to Open Street.

It looked several years ago as if the 4 C's were about to get through at this point, and the city was about to open First street west from Mint. A survey was ordered made, however, by the city engineer and he reported that it would cost \$30,000 or more, and the city, in its poverty-stricken condition, decided that it could not do so. The project was then abandoned by the 4 C's but is now at last happily concluded.

Lakewood Park.

The significance of securing this outlet is that there will be a tremendous impetus given to the travel to Lakewood Park this summer. The 4 C's Company have made Lakewood the most beautiful park which Charlotte has ever had. The new lake has been filled with water for some weeks past and is now almost full. It is three-fourths of a mile long, with an average width of 500 feet—800 at the widest point. It is formed by a dam 45 feet long, 30 feet wide on top and 105 at the bottom, and is 24 feet high.

On the far western bank the splen-

By Associated Press.

Washington, June 19.—Secretary of War Dickinson has referred to the Panama railroad company of New

York a proposition to have the steamers of the company stop at Charleston, South Carolina, on their voyages from New York to Colon and return.

The secretary favors this plan if it can be done without causing injurious delay in transportation of the canal construction material.

An important consideration is the saving of the days time in dispatch and receipts of mail matter should the vessel stop at Charleston, the cost of which would be about \$800 each trip. There are advantages and disadvantages in the plan proposed which will be fully considered before the decision is reached.

The Tafts to Beverly.

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., SATURDAY EVENING JUNE 19, 1909

PRICE 5 CENTS



Is Insanity Hereditary In Biggers Family

EXPERTS DISCUSS BIGGERS'S SANITY

Several other character witnesses were introduced after court convened at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Among those examined were Messrs. W. J. Chambers, J. K. Wolfe, R. L. Grier, W. S. Stevens.

The defense then introduced documentary evidence among which was that showing a judgment of the Commercial Bank against J. G. Hood Co., J. G. Hood, W. S. Biggers and others. Also a record in the book of deeds showing that H. H. Hood was a trustee in judgment for J. G. and P. B. Hood. Also a deed from W. S. Biggers to Mrs. Biggers. From the record of corporations was introduced the certificate of incorporation of the J. G. Hood Co., dated February 28, 1905.

Dr. J. P. Munroe.

Following the introduction of the above evidence Dr. J. P. Munroe was placed on the stand to give expert testimony. A hypothetical question was asked of Dr. Munroe. This question embraced practically all the evidence which has been adduced by the defense which is alleged caused him trouble. Assuming the jury to find those facts, true, doctor, concluded the question, would you say that the defendant was sane or insane at the time of the killing?

Insane, was the answer.

State, in your opinion, whether or not he knew right from wrong at the time of the killing?

Assuming those other things to be true?

Yes, sir.

No.

Doctor, did you prescribe for Biggers in the jail, and what did you give him?

Yes, I gave him come C. C. pills. Did you give him any narcotics?

No, sir. I gave him some bromide and chloral.

What effect, asked Mr. Stewart, has bromide and chloral?

A quieting effect.

What effect would chloral have on the pupils of the eye?

Ordinarily, it would cause them to contract.

What effect has cocaine?

Temporary mental aberration, contraction of muscles and other effects.

Does it have the effect of making a person look wild if taken in excessive doses?

Yes.

Would cocaine cause a person to act as Mr. Alexander said Mr. Biggers was acting when he saw him on the Lawver road?

It might.

Under the influence of chloral would not a person appear stupid or despondent?

I think that if he had taken a sufficient dose to produce that effect he wouldn't walk.

Well, he could, couldn't he?

Yes, it is possible.

A man can be crazy and recognize his friends, and be conscious of what he is doing, can't he?

Yes.

If a man is crazy he does not necessarily lose his conception of his surroundings?

No.

If a man crazy should meet two men, one his friend and the other his enemy and should shoot his enemy would you say he knew whom he was shooting?

Yes.

If a man should leave his home and trace his enemy along the street and finally come upon his enemy and shoot his enemy would you say he knew he was shooting his enemy?

Yes.

Mr. Alfred Brown testified to the good reputation of the defendant. He said that in a conversation with the defendant he told the witness he had had a lot of trouble and had lost everything he had in the J. G. Hood Company.

Mr. Brown said that from his observation of the defendant he considered something to be wrong with him.

Mr. W. M. Moore testified to the good reputation of Biggers. He said a week or so before the defendant was in his office and he noticed a decided change in his manner.

Mr. W. M. Crowell said the defendant had a good reputation. The witness said he had business dealings with the defendant and that a week or so before the tragedy he noticed a decided change in his appearance, an that a day or two before the shooting he had a wild-looking appearance. He saw the defendant on the morning of the homicide and thought that he was crazy.

On cross-examination he said the defendant came into his store early on the morning of the tragedy and had a very wild look. He spoke of his troubles and said he had not slept much the night before.

Did you tell anybody he was crazy?

No.

Did he make a single insane remark to you?

I don't know that he did.

You don't know that he ever made a single crazy remark to you, do you?

I think so. In speaking of the transfer of the Shelleff property one day he said he was going to make his law-firms pay the expense.

Mr. A. F. Helms.

Mr. A. F. Helms was the next witness called:

Do you know the general character of Biggers?

Yes, it is good.

When did you last see the defendant before the shooting?

Monday evening on the Square.

He had a very wild look and I would say he was crazy. I also saw him Saturday evening and he seemed to be in the same condition.

On cross-examination he said he told his father that he thought something bad was the matter with Mr. Biggers.

Mrs. Reid McCall stated that on

February 5th her phone rang and Mr.

Biggers asked to speak to her husband.

She told him that he was not in. He repeated his question two or three times.

Mr. McCall said he had a conversation over the phone with the defendant Friday morning.

The defendant asked him to change the ton of coal he got from

Goods Advertised in The News Are Half Sold

Monument to C. S. I. Privates.

By Associated Press.

Nashville, Tenn., June 19.—A monument to the private Confederate soldiers was unveiled in the Centennial park in the presence of a large crowd this morning.