

## Bribe-taking Unearthed in Post Office Department

### Law Officer Arrested in Consequence of Investigation of Scandals—Accused Official Asserts He is Innocent

Washington, May 25.—The investigation of one phase of the alleged scandals in the post office department, culminated today in the arrest of Daniel V. Miller, assistant attorney in the office of the assistant attorney general for the post office department, on the charge of accepting a \$5,000 bribe from Ryan & Company, the St. Louis turf investment concern. Another warrant in the case will be issued in court either tonight or tomorrow, and still other arrests will probably follow.

Miller was taken before United States Commissioner Mills tonight and was released on \$2,000 bond to appear for trial. The investigation which resulted in Miller's arrest is only a part of the general inquiry, but specific information was furnished the department officials about two months ago, by T. C. Campbell of Cincinnati, attorney for a number of bond investment companies, who fled charges with President Roosevelt, naming Miller as the man who had been bribed to render a decision favorable to the Ryan Company, and permitting them to continue in business secure from interference by the postal officials. Since that time post office inspectors have been working on the case, and it was not until recently that enough of a definite nature was discovered to warrant action by the department officials.

For some days past the case has been in the hands of inspectors Vickery of Cincinnati and Fulton of St. Louis. Complaint was made before a United States commissioner in Cincinnati Saturday, and a warrant was issued. Inspector Fulton arrived here yesterday and this morning exhibited his papers to District Attorney Beeson, who issued a formal warrant for Miller's arrest. Miller was arrested this afternoon as he was about to leave the department for the day. He protested his innocence, and claimed that although he knew the circumstantial evidence was very strong against him, he was entirely innocent of the charge of bribe-taking made against him. Department officials familiar with the case, say, however, that the evidence against Miller is very strong and that there is no doubt of his guilt.

While Assistant Attorney General Robb of the post office department and other officials in a position to know will not discuss the details of the case, it has been learned that the negotia-

tions leading up to the actual transfer of the \$5,000 bribe, were conducted by some one outside of the department. According to this information, the money changed hands in Cincinnati. The reluctance of the officials to discuss the case arises from the fact that a warrant has already been issued for the arrest of the man who gave the bribe, and information that he has been taken into custody in Cincinnati is momentarily expected. These two, however, are not the only arrests which will be made. Both postmaster General Payne and Assistant Attorney General Robb stated positively this afternoon that Miller was the only post office department official whose arrest had been ordered, but that others, in addition to the Cincinnati individual against whom a warrant has been sworn out, would be implicated in the case.

The investigation is still in progress into the conduct of Harrison J. Barrett, formerly assistant attorney in the office of the assistant attorney general for the post office department. Mr. Barrett acted as counsel for the Arnold Turf Investment Company of St. Louis when that firm was before the assistant attorney general's office for hearing, and has represented many other concerns whose methods of doing business were considered at least questionable. Some time ago charges were filed against Mr. Barrett alleging that he exercised "undue influence" over General Tyner, who is an old man, and in feeble mental and physical condition and also that his conduct while an official of the department was improper.

Assistant Attorney General Robb said this afternoon that only half the story connected with the bribery charge had been told, but that he was unable to go into details, pending the receipt of information from Cincinnati, that the second warrant in the case had been served.

Miller was not represented by counsel at the hearing. His interests were looked after by Deputy Auditor Chew of the post office department, who secured the Citizens Trust and Guaranty Company of West Virginia to furnish Miller's \$2,000 bond. On leaving the city hall Miller again protested his innocence, asserting that purely circumstantial evidence was responsible for his arrest and that an injustice had been done. Assistant Attorney General Robb, who admired Miller's ability and liked him personally, appeared, however, to have no doubts as to the reliability of the evidence upon which Miller's arrest was ordered, and in fact said that he had made the arrest only after the most careful consideration and review of the facts.

Neither Mr. Robb nor Postmaster General Payne would discuss the investigation that has been in progress into the relations of Harrison J. Barrett with officials of the assistant attorney general's office, but said, how-

ever, that other cases of alleged bribery were being investigated and that early action was probable.

Former Acting Assistant Attorney General Christiancy, who signed the decision in the Ryan case, which Miller is alleged to have received \$5,000 for preparing, was at the department today, having been summoned by Mr. Payne. Mr. Christiancy explained that the decision in the Ryan case had been presented to him for approval; that he had made it, and believing Mr. Miller to be an efficient and conscientious public officer, and the decision to be in accordance with the facts in the case, had given it his signature. This decision was rendered December 10 last. The bribe is alleged to have been given to Miller some time in November.

Assistant Attorney Miller has only been in the postal service since last July and was the personal selection of the then Assistant Attorney General Tyner, who brought Miller to Washington from his home in Terre Haute, Ind. Miller was quite popular with officials of the department and with every one with whom he came in contact. His arrest today was absolutely unexpected by his fellow clerks in the department.

It was learned tonight that the man implicated with Miller is J. M. Johns of Rockville, Park county, Ind. It is expected that he will be arrested tonight or tomorrow. He is said to have made the arrangement in Cincinnati for the transfer of the money to Miller, and is said to have received a share for his part in the transaction.

### Hail Storm in Virginia

Richmond, Va., May 25.—A disastrous hail storm visited the strip of land in Powhatan county, between Macon and Tobascoville yesterday. Hail stones as big as small potatoes were piled several inches deep. Barns were wrecked and chimneys blown down. There is not a blade of wheat or clover or any farm or garden produce left standing in the district.

## WELCOMES THE ISSUE

### Ohio Disturbance Evidently Pleases the President

Walla Walla, May 25.—William Loeb, secretary to the president, today gave out the following statement as coming from Mr. Roosevelt:

"In speaking of the sudden political developments in Ohio the president said, 'I have not asked any man for his support. I have had nothing whatever to do with raising the issue as to my endorsement. Sooner or later it was bound to arise, and inasmuch as it has now arisen, of course those who favor my administration and my nomination will endorse and those who do not will oppose.'"

were saved, though the same were insured.

The second building burned was owned by F. H. Vanderford of Salisbury, and occupied by J. H. VanMiller, who saved part of his household goods. It is learned that the building was covered by insurance.

Both were frame structures. The total loss is estimated at \$2,500. The Spencer fire company of the Southern Railway shops, was on duty and rendered valuable service in protecting other property.

## STORM AT WILMINGTON

### Hotel at Wrightsville Beach Struck by Lightning

Wilmington, N. C., May 25.—Special. The dry spell in this section was broken last night by a terrific thunder storm, with much electricity. Rain fell in torrents, greatly aiding vegetation, which has been suffering for a couple of weeks from drought. The truckers are happy over the change, the rain coming just in time to save their growing vegetable crops. No damage from the storm has been reported in the city, but lightning struck several places on Wrightsville Beach. The light cupola on the south wing of the Seashore Hotel was shattered by a bolt of lightning which ran down into the building and did slight damage. Fortunately there were no guests in the hotel, which will not open until next Monday, June 1st. Several persons, the hotel help, were badly frightened, also cottagers living near by.

### Saloon Men in Commotion

Asheville, N. C., May 25.—Special.—There was considerable commotion among Asheville saloon men today at the instance of state authorities. An investigation is being made to ascertain whether dealers have paid the full amount of their purchase tax. Today liquor dealers have been notified to appear before the board of county commissioners June 2nd, to explain where such taxes have been paid.

## KILLED AT DEEP RIVER BRIDGE

### Southern Fireman Lost His Life Yesterday Morning

Jonesboro, N. C., May 25.—Special.—A young man named Charlie Webster, of Sanford, N. C., fireman on one of the Southern's freight trains, was killed at the bridge across Deep river, between Cummock and Gulf, Monday morning between 1 and 2 o'clock.

The manner of his death is somewhat mysterious. He was firing the engine and was missed from the cab by the engineer as the train was nearing Gulf. Upon search being made his body was found in Deep river, with the skull crushed in.

There was at least one other person in the cab besides the engineer.

How he could have disappeared from the cab and not be missed until the train had traveled about three miles is a question being much discussed at Sanford.

The body was carried to Sanford and when the Seaboard mail passed it was thought that an investigation would be held. The young man's father is a jeweler at Sanford and his son lived with him. Your correspondent also learned at Sanford that a negro laborer was caught in the machinery of the brick mill near there and was injured so badly that he had not recovered consciousness up to noon.

## OLD SALEM

### Baccalaureate Sermon and Class Day Exercises

Winston-Salem, N. C., May 25.—Special.—The commencement exercises of Salem Female College, marking the close of the 101st annual session, opened yesterday with the baccalaureate sermon, delivered by the Rev. G. E. Strickler, D. D., of Richmond, Va., in the old Home Moravian church. The discourse was beautiful in the extreme and was heard by a large and appreciative congregation. Dr. Strickler chose his text from Hebrews 4: 12—"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit." One of the beauties of the sermon, the one that made such a profound impression, was its simplicity.

Today was senior class day. At 11 a. m. the ceremony of the planting of the class tree took place. This was held on the campus, at the spot where the tree was planted. The special features of this interesting occasion were the songs, the brief addresses and the ceremonies themselves. It was brimful of the college spirit. At the close of the exercises luncheon was served by Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Clewell.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon the class day exercises were continued in the school chapel. The program consisted of the class prophecy, the class ivy essay, the class history, the presentation of the class banner, and some unusually bright and brilliant music.

At 8 o'clock at night the first concert was held, given by the music and elocution departments. The alumnae day exercises will be held at 3 o'clock tomorrow.

## DURHAM IN THE TRACK OF THE HARD BLOW

Durham, N. C., May 25.—Special.—This vicinity was visited by a terrific wind storm yesterday afternoon and much damage was done in and near the city limits. Following the storm was a small rain, the first for four or five weeks.

The greatest damage done by the storm was at the park of the Durham Traction Company. Here a bowling alley, owned by T. J. W. Brown, and just completed, was demolished. The building, which cost about eight hundred dollars, is an entire loss. In the southern part of the city a two-story house, belonging to George Rigabee, and about completely, was blown down, causing a loss of three or four hundred dollars. The beautiful home of W. T. Carrington, in McMannan street, had the slate roof damaged by the falling of a large chimney. A porch was blown off a house belonging to Mrs. W. L. Wall in Chapel Hill streets, and there was other small damage in other parts of the city. A number of shade trees were blown down in the streets. The storm lasted but a few minutes, and from reports it seems that it was at its worst in and near the city limits. Very little damage is reported from the country. In East Durham the South ern depot was blown down.

So far as could be learned today no one was hurt by any of the falling trees or timbers.

### Sudden Death at Lumberton

Lumberton, N. C., May 25.—Special.—Mr. A. W. Fuller, aged seventy-four, died suddenly at 7 p. m. today at his residence in Elm street. The cause of his death was paralysis. It was the third stroke.

## Automobile Racing Proves Hot Sport

### Five Persons Killed and Four Seriously Injured—Several Machines Smashed—Great Outcry of Indignation

Paris, May 25.—It is estimated that two million people witnessed the first part of the Paris-Madrid motor race yesterday between Paris and Bordeaux. There were a number of hurriedly written accounts of the various accidents and casualties in the morning papers. These have been corrected since. Farman gave up the race to take care of Renault. Some of the most serious accidents were the following:

Stead, at Mont Gyon, ran his car into the machine ahead of him in trying to pass it, and both automobiles were overturned. Stead was pinned beneath his machine. He was not killed, but was very seriously injured. His machinist was injured, but not so severely as Stead himself.

About two miles outside of Angouleme the car of M. Tourand ran into a tree after running over two soldiers and a child, all of whom were killed. The machinist and M. Tourand were seriously injured.

In trying to avoid a dog Lorraine Barrow overturned his car against a tree. He is in a hopeless condition. His chauffeur was killed. It was at first reported that Marcel Renault had been killed by an accident three kilometers from Couche-Verac; but this now appears to be untrue. He was endeavoring to pass a competitor, which he succeeded in doing, but immediately afterwards took a corner too fine and ran into a tree. The car was overturned and Renault was badly hurt. The machinist escaped with severe cuts.

At Ables a car ran into a woman who was crossing the road and killed her instantly.

At Vitroy-En-Beuce a motor cycle ridden by La Mauser, collided with the motor car of a Paris stock broker. No one was injured.

Porter's car while crossing a level crossing was overturned and caught fire. Porter was badly burned. His companion, Nixon, of Belfast, was killed.

The latest news in regard to Marcel Renault, the motorist, who was injured yesterday, is that he is still alive, but is dangerously injured.

No Racing in Spain

Paris, May 25.—Great public indignation has been aroused by the list of fatal accidents that followed the first stage of the Paris-Madrid automobile race yesterday. Automobile racing has received the worst blow since the hazardous sport became popular, and in

many quarters it is proposed that restrictive laws be passed.

The race to Madrid is off, as the Spanish premier, following the example of Premier Combes, has forbidden the contestants to go at racing speed on Spanish soil.

### Another Serious Accident

Bordeaux, May 25.—Another serious accident may be added to the list of casualties caused by the race. Madame Chayssas, wife of a professor of music, was cycling on the Libourne road to watch the race. She was thrown from her wheel by a frightened horse, and a heavy automobile passed over her, crushing both her legs. It is feared that she will die.

It is stated that Mr. Terry, an American who was piloting a sixty-horsepower Mercedes car, entered the village of Colgnieres at a speed of seventy miles an hour. He swerved to the left to pass Mr. Porter's car, which was close ahead. Mr. Porter swerved simultaneously, and Mr. Terry, to avoid a collision, drove on the sidewalk. This action caused one of his tires to burst and his car skidded sideways for 200 yards, making diagonally across the road in front of Mr. Porter's car. Then the reservoir caught fire and instantly the car was a mass of roaring flames. Mr. Terry sat with the firmest face, gripping the steering wheel, apparently stupefied. His chauffeur saved him.

It is reported that Mr. Terry then broke down and sobbed like a child. There is hardly a driver who has arrived here who does not relate some thrilling experiences and hairbreadth escapes, when, as the French phrase has it, they felt death whiz past. Some of the lads who accompanied the drivers as mechanics are in bed, suffering from the shock to their nerves.

### Bowen Welcomed to Caracas

Caracas, May 25.—Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, American minister who for some time past has been at Washington acting as the special representative of Venezuela for settlement of the claims against this country, arrived here today. His arrival was the occasion of a great demonstration of sympathy by all classes of the population. He was received at the railway station by President Castro, who was accompanied by all the Venezuelan cabinet and by the representatives of Spain, Holland and Mexico.

### Bad Marksman

Paris, May 25.—The duel between Prince Radzivil, an attaché of the Russian embassy in London, and Count Sizzo Norris, growing out of a game of cards played in a London club, was fought early this morning at Villebon, near Paris. Pistols were the weapons used. Each fired three times without hitting his opponent. Although their honor was satisfied by this exchange of shots the seconds had difficulty in effecting a formal reconciliation.

## Wild Winds Wreck Towns and Claim Many Victims

Lincoln, Neb., May 25.—A tornado that passed near Norman, and later struck Pauline and the intervening country early today, caused heavy damage. Many lives are reported lost. It is believed the death list will number twenty-one, while many others are known to have been injured.

Details are meager, wires being down in all directions. Nine of the victims were found dead and eleven people are still missing. The injured, so far as reported, will number twelve.

Minden, Neb., May 25.—A tornado struck fifteen miles south of Norman, a small town near here, early today, demolishing fifteen buildings, killing three persons and injuring a dozen others.

From Norman, which is a town of about 100 inhabitants, situated on what is called the "high line" of the Burlington Railway, the path of the storm lay east to Pauline, a little station on the Prosser branch of the Missouri Pacific Railway. From Pauline it proceeded in a southeasterly direction, finally losing its force southwest of Fairfield.

The entire town of Fairfield, which had about thirty-five houses, is reported wrecked, and it is said that three persons were killed and others injured. The Missouri Pacific has sent a relief train to the scene.

Fairfield reports many farm houses wrecked in Clay, Adams and Kearney counties, and eight persons are reported killed in the district near Fairfield.

A tornado struck the town of Elmo, near here, early today, unroofing stores and littering the town with the debris of outhouses, barns and trees.

Des Moines, May 25.—A tornado struck the town of Rolfe, seventy miles west of here, late yesterday, killing Fong Foo, a laundryman, fatally injuring a child and wrecking the State Bank building, Crayon's general store, the Hotel De Main, and one other building. Several dwellings were damaged.

## Court in Kentucky Under Protection of Bayonets

### Grand Jury Begins the Investigation of Three Cases Assassination of Victims of Local Feuds

Jackson, Ky., May 25.—The special term of the Breathitt circuit court, called by Judge D. B. Redwine, to investigate the assassination of J. B. Marcum, Dr. Cox and James Cockrell, feud victims, at Jackson, convened this morning under the protection of two companies of state troops armed with rifles and one Gatling gun. A cautious silence hangs over the town, persons fearing to talk about the murders lest they get into trouble. The soldiers were given strict orders not to mention the feuds to any resident of Jackson, and not to write any letters about the situation lest trouble be precipitated.

The crowd at the court house was a silent one when Judge Redwine opened court with soldiers with fixed bayonets standing at regular intervals through the room. Sheriff Ed Callahan asked to be excused from the duty of organizing the grand jury, and Charles Little was appointed to act in his place. The grand jury was formed and Judge Redwine read his instructions and they made the grand jury retire and begin the examination of witnesses. The instructions, in part, were as follows:

"When the blood of fallen victims stains the very door of the temple of justice, and hidden assassins do their work of destruction in open daylight in the streets, is it not time that not only juries, but the whole people, join in such determined efforts as will insure the indictment, and conviction, and punishment of every criminal who has a part in this savage and inhuman warfare? The blood of the slain must be avenged."

The judge in his instructions assured the grand jury that the militia would protect all witnesses. The testimony of each witness will be written down

in the grand jury room to avoid the possibility of any witness refusing to testify in open court.

The charges against Curtis Jett, the man now under arrest at Winchester, was taken up first. An indictment for the murder of J. B. Marcum may probably be returned.

Capt. B. J. Ewan, the man who was talking to J. B. Marcum when he was assassinated in the door of the court house, was brought to the grand jury room, under military escort, and his testimony was taken down in writing. Ewan has been barricaded in his house since he made the statement that he saw the assassination.

### Died at Old Home

Goldsboro, N. C., May 25.—Special.—The funeral of Mr. Everett Smith of South Dakota, who died suddenly at the home of relatives in Smithfield last Thursday, will take place tomorrow afternoon in Smithfield, and the interment will be made in the cemetery of that town. The remains were embalmed soon after death, with the expectation that they would be taken to South Dakota, where his wife is buried, but a letter from his son, who is now on his way to this State and will arrive in Smithfield tonight, requested that the burial take place in this, his native state.

## FIRE AT SPENCER

### Two Dwelling Houses Burned Monday Morning

Spencer, N. C., May 25.—Special.—Fire destroyed two houses here early this morning and it was by heroic efforts that many others were saved. The fire originated in the garret of a house occupied by Mr. Charles K. Church and owned by Major B. F. Lively, and it was but a few moments until the building was enveloped in flames. None of the household effects