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HOW ABOUT THE CUSTOM HOUSE?

Why Was Deed to N. Y. Property Not Recorded?

HOUSE WANTS TO KNOW

When Did Government Execute a Deed of National City Bank? Where is it and Who Has Had it Since Its Execution?

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 14.—The house today adopted a resolution inquiring of the secretary of the treasury when the government executed a deed for the old custom house property in New York to the National City Bank, where the deed is and in whose custody it has been since its execution, and why it has never been recorded.

Mr. Lamb (Va.), secured the adoption of a joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to deliver to the Southern Historical Society at Richmond, Va., all of the Confederate battle flags in his custody which have not been identified as belonging to any organization.

Consideration of the fortifications appropriation bill was resumed, the bill being taken up for amendment under the five minute rule.

An amendment was offered by Mr. Sullivan (Mass.), cutting off the \$400,000 for fortifications in the Philippine Islands. Every fortification erected in the Philippines is regarded as a barrier to their independence.

All indications now, he said, pointed to the fortification and construction of a naval station at Subig Bay. If this was correct it was useless to waste money at Cavite. Until a definite decision was reached he was opposed to appropriating anything.

Mr. Swift (Ill.), requested the amendment as simply an emphasis of a proposed amendment of the Philippines. He objected to departing from the policy of allowing defense works to be located by the experts of the army and their location or extent guarded from public knowledge. No matter under what flag the Philippines were governed they would need coast defenses.

Mr. Smith (Ia.) strongly objected that this country should ever be driven from the Philippines by a foreign nation as was Spain because of the lack of proper defense.

This aroused Mr. Williams, the minority leader, to action. The proper defense there was adequate naval power and not land fortifications. If by the lack of fortifications this country could run a chance of losing "the blessed archipelago" he would be pleased.

At this point Mr. Sibley (Pa.) asked the speaker to reflect that it was the great democratic leader, whose influence had fastened the Philippines on the United States.

"That is one of those awkward questions," began Mr. Williams in reply and the republicans laughed. He continued by expressing his admiration and personal affection for Mr. Bryan, and then said:

"He made the great mistake of his life when he did not leave you people free to do what you wanted to."

"But," he declared, "you cannot escape from your party responsibility."

Mr. Williams set forth Mr. Bryan's position that justice to the Filipinos would be more speedily secured by this government taking the islands and then giving them independence. The amendment was lost by a vote of 61 to 117.

THE HIGH POINT BANQUET TONIGHT.

(Special to The Evening Times.) High Point, N. C., Feb. 14.—All preparations for the big banquet of the Manufacturers Club of High Point tonight, with Governor Glenn as guest of honor, have been completed. There are a large number of distinguished visitors in the city including Messrs. John J. Walsh, M. V. Richards, C. C. Cane and Mr. Cutler of Washington, D. C.

The governor is attended by his staff. His subject will be, "North Carolina—Her Industrial Awakening."

Plates for fifty will be laid.

Miss Miles Will Recover.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Warrington, N. C., Feb. 14.—Miss Sallis Bet Miles, who was dangerously burned here last Saturday afternoon, is still living, and her physician, Dr. Macon, now thinks she will recover.

A. & N. C. SUIT BEGINS

H. C. Brown and E. C. Duncan Testify Today

County Commissioners of Craven, Are Confronted With H. C. Duncan's Evidence as Director Newly Shipped Letters Had Deposited \$100,000 in Secure Loans.

(Special to The Evening Times.) New Bern, N. C., Feb. 14.—The suit to annul the lease of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Co. began today before Judge Long. The case is brought under the name of W. F. Hall, but the county commissioners of Craven are co-plaintiffs with him.

The suit is made on the ground that the A. and N. C. Co. is not complying with the contract made as lessor for improvement of the road and that the promised dividends have not been paid.

H. C. Brown of the corporation commission, and E. C. Duncan, director, testified this morning. Duncan's evidence tended to show that the lessor made a deposit of \$100,000 to secure the lease.

Most of the proceedings this morning were consumed in preliminaries, and very slow progress is being made.

W. W. Clark assisted by L. L. Moore of Greenville, are the attorneys for the plaintiffs; F. A. Daniels, A. D. Ward and P. M. Pearsall are counsel for defendant.

EVIDENCE AS TO GARFIELD PILES UP

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Feb. 14.—John M. Chaplin was on the stand when the hearing in the packers case was resumed today.

He was examined by Attorney Hynes for the packers in reference to a meeting of the board of directors of Swift and Company, which was held for the purpose of deciding what information should be given out to the agents of Commissioner Garfield.

The witness asserted that Mr. Swift told Mr. Durand, who represented the government at the plant of Swift and Company, that he desired all information to be held secret as under a change of administration the shares relative to the business might fall into undesirable hands.

Mr. Durand replied that Commissioner Garfield would decide what information would be given out.

Charles H. Swift, one of the managers of Swift and Company, followed Mr. Chaplin on the stand. He declared that he held a conversation with Commissioner Garfield before the commencement of the investigation, and that the commissioner declared that all the evidence secured would be held confidential.

DID NOT IDENTIFY MANN'S WRITING

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 14.—More than 200 samples of the letter D in writing were in evidence today at the hearing of Col. William D. Mann, editor of Town Topics, who is accused of perjury. These exhibits were shown by Martin W. Littleton of counsel for the defense to Albert S. Osborne, a handwriting expert of Rochester, N. Y., who was called by the prosecution and occupied the witness stand all day yesterday.

Mr. Littleton asked the witness today why, after he had read the "O. K. W. D. M." on Count Ward's letter as Colonel Mann's handwriting, he should not pick out from the 200 samples of the letter D those which Colonel Mann wrote. Mr. Osborne did not give out a direct answer to this question and did not identify any letter in the samples as Colonel Mann's handwriting.

COPPER MINERS GETTING SCARED

(By the Associated Press.) Houghton, Mich., Feb. 14.—Many miners are resigning their positions in the copper mines in this vicinity owing to the continued earthquakes or air blasts, which have now become so frequent and dangerous that the miners fear for their lives. Until last week no particular damage was done, when there commenced a series of shocks, much more violent than at any time in the past. Each day since there have been numerous shocks.

JOHN A. McCALL

REALLY DING

It Is Said He Is Now a Poor Man

SURRENDERED POLICIES

Mortgaged His Policy at Long Branch to Secure Part of the \$235,000 He Paid Back—That Was Recently Sold—He Paid Over \$85,000 in Cash to the Company.

(By the Associated Press.) Lakewood, N. J., Feb. 14.—So far as could be learned there was no noticeable change early today in the condition of John A. McCall, former president of the New York Life Insurance Company, whose illness is so grave that the last sacraments of the church have been given him.

A friend of Mr. McCall last night intimated that the latter would die a poor man. He said that just before Mr. McCall paid back into the treasury of the company the \$235,000 which he had advanced to Andrew Hamilton he surrendered for cash all his life insurance policies. These amounted to about \$400,000, and Mr. McCall, it is said, got about one-fourth of that amount on their surrender value. Of the \$235,000 payment only \$85,000 was in cash. The balance was secured by a mortgage on Mr. McCall's big summer place at Long Branch. This place was recently sold. Mr. McCall testified before the legislative investigating committee that if he were to die at that time the greater part of his estate would consist of his life insurance.

Although Mr. McCall was resting comfortably today, Dr. Charles L. Lindsey, his physician, said he has very little chance of recovery. The physician said he did not, however, think that Mr. McCall's recovery is impossible, and that he anticipates no immediate crisis in the disease.

The nature of Mr. McCall's complaint was not stated by Dr. Lindsey, but it was said at the residence to be a form of liver trouble.

The last rites of the Catholic Church were administered to Mr. McCall yesterday when a sinking spell attacked him. He rallied again, his strength returning to a marked degree, and he passed a fairly good night.

A RIFT SHOWS IN THE CLOUDS

(By the Associated Press.) Berlin, Feb. 14.—The situation at Algiers has again changed. There is a possibility of a way yet being found to bring the German and French governments into agreement, though the exact nature of the suggestions, which have been made by a neutral power, are not made public.

Algiers, Spain, Feb. 14.—The delegates to the Moroccan conference at their session today examined at length the proposed reforms in the customs of Morocco and the plans for the suppression of the contraband traffic in arms, and then adjourned until Saturday.

No word was spoken during the session concerning the main feature of the Franco-German controversy, namely, the control of the Moroccan police, as still remains the subject of private efforts to bring about a compromise. However, repeated conversations between the French and German delegates have not resulted in any perceptible progress towards a solution, each side showing much firmness.

HE PROVED HIS MARKSMANSHIP

(By the Associated Press.) Danville, Pa., Feb. 14.—James Jones, aged 44 years, was instantly killed early today by Peter Diederick in a saloon owned by the latter.

Diederick was boasting of his marksmanship, when Jones banteringly said that he did not believe Diederick could hit a barn at twenty paces. This remark enraged Diederick and he drew a revolver and sent a bullet into Jones' brain. The murderer was arrested.

SAILORS BRAVE THE VOLCANO.

(By the Associated Press.) Kingston Island of St. Vincent, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—A second party consisting of two midshipmen and forty-three sailors of the United States armored cruiser Pennsylvania visited the Soufriere volcano on this island February 12 and made a successful ascent of the mountain. The American sailors have distinguished themselves by their fortitude and endurance, not only in ascending to the summit of the mountain in recent time, but also in descending the inner walls of the crater despite the crags. They reached within five hundred feet of the lake, notwithstanding a small emission of steam from fissures, indicating volcanic activity.

FAST MAIL DITCHED

Three Mail Cars Burned—Several Trainmen Hurt

West Bound on the Missouri Pacific Near Jefferson City, at the Gasconade Bridge—No One Killed—Train Carried 50 Passengers.

(By the Associated Press.) Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 14.—Fast mail train No. 7 westbound on the Missouri Pacific Railway, which left St. Louis at 5 o'clock this morning, was wrecked at the Gasconade bridge, 27 miles east of Jefferson City, today. Three of the mail cars were ditched, caught fire and were destroyed.

Several members of the crew were hurt, but no one was killed. The train carried 50 passengers.

At the Same Shop. St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 14.—Thirty people lost their lives a little over fifty years ago at the spot where today's accident occurred. A special train on the Pacific Railroad (now the Missouri Pacific) went through the bridge into the Gasconade river, November 1, 1855. The special was carrying officials, leading citizens and military to Jefferson City to participate in a celebration of the completion of the road. The temporary bridge sank under the heavy train.

THE CHURCH BURNED

First Presbyterian in Heart of Cincinnati

Some of the Largest Buildings in the Business Section Threatened—Sky Scrapers Adjoin Church—Brought Under With Small Loss.

(By the Associated Press.) Cincinnati, O., Feb. 14.—Fire did considerable damage today to the First Presbyterian church, located in the middle of the block bounded by Fourth, Fifth, Walnut and Main streets, in the heart of the city.

The fire originated in the church and for a time threatened some of the largest buildings in the business section. The Cincinnati Traction Company and the Mercantile Library building, two of the largest sky scrapers in the city, adjoin the church on Walnut street. Owing to the surrounding buildings the fire was hard to reach.

After much hard work the fire was brought under control, with a comparatively small loss, due chiefly to water with which it was necessary to flood the basement. The damage was confined to the basement of the church and to three or four offices in the building on the church lot.

BRING HICKS BACK TO RALEIGH.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Warrington, N. C., Feb. 14.—Garfield Hicks, who was to have been tried here this week for the murder of Mr. W. G. King, will be returned to Raleigh for safe keeping until the June term of Warren superior court. The trial of Hicks was postponed on account of the state's principal witness.

REPORT ON THE MEADE DISASTER

(By the Associated Press.) San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 14.—The facts concerning the Meade disaster, so far as they can be known, are set forth in the findings of the board of inquiry, composed of Captains Wendell L. Simpson and A. E. Williams and Lieutenant L. D. Cabell.

The report says that the fire started in one of two packages, viz. arms chest containing rifles and quantity of mosquito netting and crate containing mirror, probably the former, and was presumably caused by spontaneous combustion. The officers and crew, says the report, were prompt, efficient and energetic. The damage to the vessel did not exceed fifty dollars.

FOUND DEAD AT SALISBURY.

(Special to The Evening Times.) High Point, N. C., Feb. 14.—A telegram was received here this morning from Salisbury saying that Billy Payne of this place was found dead there this morning, due to heart failure, it is thought. The body will be shipped here tonight. Mr. Payne leaves a wife and several children.

MISS ABIGAIL BLAIR DEAD.

(By the Associated Press.) High Point, N. C., Feb. 14.—Mrs. Abigail P. Blair died at her home here last night after a long illness. She was the widow of the late Holoman Blair and was 74 years of age. She was the mother of William A. and David H. Blair of Winston, John J. Blair of Wilmington and Misses Ada, Emma, Martha, and Eva Blair of High Point.

THREE CREMATED IN THE WRECK

Box Cars Broke Loose and Played Havoc

Express Messenger, One Passenger and a Newsboy Are the Dead—Engineer and Fireman Hurt—Entire Train Except Sleeper Burned. At Columbus, Kansas.

(By the Associated Press.) Fort Scott, Kan., Feb. 14.—St. Louis & San Francisco passenger train No. 118, northbound, was wrecked at Columbus, Kan., today.

Harry Boundree of Fort Scott, the express messenger, one passenger and a newsboy, names unknown, were burned to death.

George Woods, the engineer, was badly hurt and W. F. Runyon, the fireman, sustained a broken leg.

The passenger train ran into a string of box cars that had broken loose from a freight train and run back down on to the main line. The entire passenger train, except the sleeper, was burned.

A BAKER KILLED IN HIS SHOP.

(By the Associated Press.) Phoenixville, Pa., Feb. 14.—Max Elkins, a baker, aged 34 years, was shot and instantly killed today by negroes who had entered his bakery for the purpose of robbery.

Before killing Elkins the negroes entered the bakery and held up two of the assistants. "White" and "Red" the burglars stood guard over the two bakers who other negroes went to Elkins' bedroom. The latter was awakened by the men but before he could reach his revolver one of the burglars sent a bullet through Elkins' heart.

The three men then stole a horse and wagon and escaped.

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WAS IT BLACK HAND? SILENT ABOUT CONFERENCE

Saloon Wrecked by a Dynamite Explosion

The Owner, Dr. Lewis, Reported to Be Wealthy, Says He Received Letters Demanding \$2,000 Signed "The Black Hand" and Threatening Death and Kidnapping.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 14.—A dynamite explosion declared to have been the work of the "black hand" fraternity completely wrecked the saloon of Dr. Lewis at Fourth and Broadway streets, Brooklyn, early today. The windows of the houses adjoining also were broken by the concussion.

Dr. Lewis, who is the owner of eight or nine houses in the neighborhood of his saloon and is reported to be wealthy, said that he received a letter signed "The black hand" demanding \$2,000 about a year ago. The letter was turned over to the police and a trap was laid for the blackmailers, but it failed.

Since that time Dr. Lewis said he had received additional letters threatening him with death and the kidnapping of one of his children. He said today that he paid no attention to these threats and declared that he would not pay one cent of tribute money. He offered a reward of \$1,000 for the apprehension of the perpetrators of today's outrage.

STRUCK DYNAMITE WITH HIS SHOVEL

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Feb. 14.—One man was killed and seven others injured at the plant of the Illinois Steel Company in south Chicago today when one of a party of workmen struck with his shovel some dynamite that had been left lying in the trench in which the men were digging. The man who struck the dynamite was instantly killed, his body being hurled many feet into the air. The other men are all seriously hurt but will recover.

SOLD BUNCOMBE BONDS NORTH.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Asheville, N. C., Feb. 14.—A message from County Attorney Charles A. Webb in New York this morning says that Mr. Webb has succeeded in selling sixty thousand dollars of Buncombe county bonds to a New York firm of brokers.

The bonds ran for thirty years and bear 4 1/2 per cent interest. The bonds are for the purpose of taking up sixty thousand dollars of the county's debt now bearing six per cent interest, and relieving the county of some financial embarrassment.

DISAPPOINTED LOVE BROUGHT BULLETS

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 14.—After firing two shots at close range at Miss Josephine Ricker, employed in a laundry establishment here, neither of which took effect, William Sefton, a photographer, blew out his brains in front of the building where the young woman is employed.

Sefton went to the laundry early in the day and called Miss Ricker to the door. After a few moments conversation, he drew a revolver and dividing his purpose to shoot her, Miss Ricker fled. The two bullets which were sent after her imbedded themselves in the front door. Evidently believing that he had killed the young woman Sefton took his own life. The case was one of disappointed love.

SHIP SUBSIDY BEFORE SENATE.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 14.—Immediately after the routine morning business had been disposed of today the subsidy shipping bill was laid before the senate and its consideration resumed with the understanding that it would be voted on before adjournment.

Mr. Gallinger offered a number of amendments on behalf of the merchant marine commission. One of them limits the number of officers and men in the proposed naval reserve to 10,000.

COAL MINERS WILL PRESENT DEMANDS TOMORROW

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 14.—The special scale committee of the united anthracite mine workers to which has been entrusted the duty of presenting to the operators the demands of the men has completed its work and everything is now practically in readiness for tomorrow's conference. The work of the sub-committee which is made up of the three district presidents and secretaries has been ratified and the district officers were today engaged in putting the finishing touches on the communication to be handed to the employers. President Mitchell said today that the full membership of the special committee which, including the miners' chief, numbers thirty-six men would be taken into the conference.

The same secrecy which surrounded the work of the scale committee at Wilkesbarre and in this city still obtains, not the slightest intimation of the exact nature of the demands to be made having leaked out. Not one of the committee men will discuss the anthracite situation in any of its phases, referring all inquiries to Mr. Mitchell. He has no desire to keep from the public the grievances of the mine workers, but he feels that if they were made known at this time a public discussion of the merits of the miner's case would probably issue which might have a tendency to upset well laid plans.

President Mitchell devoted much of today to business connected with the bituminous situation. All communications pertaining to the soft coal regions are being forwarded to him here. Asked whether he had anything to say in reply to various statements made by western coal operators, Mr. Mitchell said he preferred not to discuss conditions in the bituminous fields at this time. It has been learned from an authoritative source, however, that the resolution adopted by the miners to the effect that no district should sign an agreement until grievances in all districts have been adjusted will not be permitted to stand in the way of agreement. If the occasion arises it can easily be rescinded.

Mr. Mitchell went to St. Francis Hospital, Jersey City, today to see Edward McKay of Pittsburg, a national organizer in the miners union. Mr. McKay was taken ill on a train yesterday while on the way here to see his chief. He was reported much better today. Mr. Mitchell's principal object in calling on the Pittsburg man was to get from him the exact situation in the western Pennsylvania territory.

Mitchell to Dolan. Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 14.—The adjourned session of the Pittsburg district miners convention re-assembled today with President Patrick Dolan presiding. National Vice President Lewis also was present. Immediately after the opening of the convention Mr. Lewis read a letter from President Mitchell, which said in part: "It is not my intention at this time to make reply to the statement issued—although not written—by Mr. Dolan which appeared in the various papers, more than to say that his allegation that I said to him during the Pittsburg convention of the American Federation of Labor that I should be well satisfied with a renewal of the present agreement, is a deliberate, malicious and premeditated falsehood. No statement was made by me to him at Pittsburg or anywhere else. If I had ever entertained a sentiment in favor of the renewal of the present agreement I should have communicated that fact to my colleagues in the international office or to the members of the international executive board. I certainly should not have gone to Pittsburg and divulged my feelings to one who has for years been unfriendly to my administration. Since the adjournment of the international convention I have refrained studiously from discussing publicly the affairs of the organization and have allowed to pass unchallenged many assertions and reflections upon myself. It is my intention, however, at the proper time and in the proper place to reply to all of these."