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IN THE ASHES OF DEEP GRIEF SITS ALL CLEVELAND

Death-Bells from Every Spire Sound the Funeral Dirge of School-Children

BURYING LOVE AND HOPE OF SOUL-SICK PARENTS

Little Charred Bodies of One-Third of the Children of Collingwood of School Age Interred in the Cemeteries of Cleveland, While Despairing Mothers and Fathers, Mute With the Horror Which They Do Not Yet Fully Realize, Bury Their Own Flesh and Blood in the Graves Filled With All That Many of Them Had On Earth to Love.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Cleveland, O., March 6.—This is the day of funerals in North Collingwood. Sorrowing parents are following one-third of all the school children in the city to the cemeteries where their mutilated bodies are to be laid to rest. Twenty more bodies are so mangled that it is difficult to identify them. The search for them consequently is slow. There is still speculation with various conclusions on the cause of the accident and the responsibility for the same, but the authorities have been unable to get any nearer a solution than they were on the day of the fire. Janitor Herter maintains that he saw three little girls running from the closet where the lime and sawdust were stored, and that, in his opinion, they started the fire. On the other hand, it was first reported these girls were met by the janitor as they came out of the collar. Moreover, another girl has been found who says she saw Herter working at the furnace, which was smoking furiously, before the fire broke out. The authorities have been unable to learn much from Herter. Every time he is questioned he becomes frantic and shouts like a man bereft of reason. While in this state he bemoans the fate of his own children and no satisfactory conversation can be carried on with him.

The belief is growing that the fire must have burned for a long time before it was discovered, otherwise it could not have gained such great headway. The parents of those children who survived the accident are doing all possible to assist the authorities in discovering the circumstances leading to the holocaust.

The three little girls met in the hall by the janitor, it is explained, probably had been excused from the room by their teachers and had met there. When the janitor saw them they probably were returning to their rooms. It is not considered likely that they would have lingered about the room beneath the stairway after a fire had been set and the talk of incendiarism, even though innocent on their part, is considered by many as ridiculous. Herter says also that he saw the girls playing in the hall. This, teachers say, would have been impossible, as children are not in the habit of risking reprimand by playing in hallways while their classes are in the most busy hours of the day.

The main line of inquiry is to determine why an alarm was not turned in before the fire gained great headway, as well as to determine whether or not an effort was first made to extinguish the blaze without the aid of the fire department and the flames got beyond control.

The whole state is stirred over the tragedy and there will be no cessation of effort until every means are doing their responsibility for the accident has been exhausted. The legislature today began its inquiry, but cannot progress far until the coronal hearing has been held.

The ruins are still surrounded by those weeping mothers and fathers who have not yet succeeded in recognizing the bodies of their dead. Some of the parents insist on joining the search. It is likely that all the bodies yet in the ruins will have to be buried along with the unidentified dead now in the morgue and their resting place marked by one common monument.

AN INJUNCTION IS BEGUN TODAY AGAINST S. A. L.

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Washington, D. C., March 6.—Injunction proceedings were begun in the supreme court of the District of Columbia today by the Continental Trust Company, trustees, against the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company and a number of individuals and trust companies to enjoin them from interfering with the enforcement of first mortgages against the road.

This step is taken to protect the creditors of the railroad system and to operate the line so as to pay off the indebtedness.

JUSTICE NOT A CANDIDATE FOR ALT'Y GENERAL

Charlotte, N. C., March 6.—In the Observer today is printed a two-column letter written by Speaker E. J. Justice to J. W. Pleas, of Marion, N. C. (who sends it to the Observer), in which he announces that he is no longer a candidate for the Democratic nomination for attorney-general.

Among other things Mr. Justice says:

"The reasons which at one time caused me to consider the question as to whether I should stand for the nomination are as follows:

"The office of the attorney-general has been considered in the minds of many people, of less dignity and importance than should properly attach to it. The attorney-general has often been kept too closely at Raleigh by some routine duties, which are almost entirely clerical, and which could be performed by a good law clerk; and the fact that the attorney-general has been without an assistant, until recently, has made it necessary for the real work of the office, in looking after the interests of the state in legal matters, to be attended to by other counsel, thus minimizing the importance of the office. The attorney-general should be in a position to act as sole leading counsel in all matters affecting the rights of the state, and there should be sufficient initiative and ability in the man who holds the office to cause him to institute proceedings where the state's interests demand this should be done, as well as to defend those cases which come to him in due course.

"There would, therefore, be a splendid opportunity for the right man in that position to exalt it and render the state good service, if he were given an assistant permanently to do the clerical and routine work necessary. If it were understood that the attorney-general would ferret out crime, and punish trusts and illegal combinations of capital, and inform himself as to whether the transportation companies were living within the law, this would go far towards making these great corporations, whose wealth is sufficient to enable them sometimes to override the law, obey it as ordinary citizens do. Whether I would be the right man in this position is a question that others than myself are best qualified to pass judgment upon. The man who is fitted for the office, could, I am sure, work great reforms in the office that would be of benefit to the people. Whoever is nominated for the office should be a man of such ability and character that he will reflect credit upon the legal profession and upon the state, and what is equally as important, he should be free from entangling alliances with the railroads and trusts. No lawyer who is suspected of giving his services to special interests while holding office should be considered.

"The considerations which have influenced me to say that I would not become a candidate, are that I foresee that seeking the nomination would seriously interfere with my private practice, and if I were elected it would involve financial sacrifices that I can ill-afford to make. Besides there is no assurance that the office of assistant attorney-general will be continued, and if it were not this would seriously interfere with (Continued on Page Seven.)

LOOKS LIKE A JAP.-CHINA WAR

Dispute Over Steamship Seizure Reaches Serious Stage

VICEROY OF CANTON OUT

Resignation of Viceroy of Canton, Announced Today, is Taken to Indicate That the Dispute Between Japan and China Has Reached the Critical Stage—Japan Urged Not to Accept Any Compromise, While China Refuses to Accede to Demands of Japan—Plenty of War Talk.

(Special Cable to The Times.)

Tokio, March 6.—A cable dispatch received here this morning states that the viceroy of Canton has resigned over the steamship Tatsu Maru affair. This is taken to indicate that the dispute between China and Japan has reached a most serious stage. China is determined not to accede to the demands of Japan, but is willing to release the steamer and maintain possession of the consignment of munitions of war which were seized. Japan wants all or nothing and has so stated her position.

Newspapers are urging that the Japanese government hold to this position and not suffer any loss of dignity by compromise.

The viceroy of Kwang Tung refused to give up the ship or anything else, notwithstanding instructions from Peking.

It is said that valuable witnesses have been found to sustain the contention of Chinese officials that the arms seized with the Tatsu Maru were part of a filibustering movement and that the rifles were intended for rebels.

Under no circumstances, it is stated, will China stand for interference in her domain by Japan. The encroachments of Japan upon Chinese rights has stirred the government to depths and the fact that a movement was in progress to arm rebels, whether it began with private parties or not will not be overlooked.

While Minister Hayashi has made no threats, it is admitted that war is the only one outcome of a refusal to accede to Japan's demands.

Public opinion has been aroused in Japan over the affair and there is plenty of war talk.

It is said that Minister Hayashi, acting under instructions, has sent the first secretary to the minister of foreign affairs with the statement that in view of the attitude of the Chinese government he could only proceed in a manner that would uphold the dignity and protect the interests of the island kingdom.

No answer has been made by China.

GARY ELECTED SENATOR IN S. C. TODAY

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Columbia, S. C., March 6.—Hon. Frank G. Gary, of Abbeville, S. C., was elected today on the fifteenth ballot by the general assembly in joint session to fill the unexpired term of A. C. Lattimer, deceased.

The corrected official vote given Gary is 79, on the fourth ballot today, being the fifteenth ballot taken in all, which is a majority of one over the number necessary to elect.

Gary's nearest competitor was Lieutenant Governor Thomas G. McLeod, who received 32 votes. The balloting commenced Tuesday night.

Mr. Gary has seen twelve years of service as a member of the legislature, having been speaker of the house for the term ending in 1901. He is now a member of the house.

He is a lawyer and has attained some eminence as a practitioner. He will be forty-eight years old next Sunday. His father was a physician of Abbeville county and his uncle, General Martin W. Gary, was one of the most dashing of the Confederate cavalry leaders. He is a brother to Associate Justice Gary, of the supreme court, and to Judge Ernest Gary, of the fifth circuit.

The last ballot was as follows: Gary, 79; McLeod, 32; Walker, 24; Mauldin, 11; Ira B. Jones, 4; Will Jones, 2; J. T. Crocker, 1; D. T. McKeithan, 1.

Senator Gary will take his seat immediately and serve until March 4, 1909, when the senator for the full term will be sworn in.

SALISBURY MEET WAS A FIZZLE

Only A Quartette of Prominent Party men Present

LETTER FROM WATSON

Fifty-Two, Represented Partly by Proxy, Took Part in the Little "Private Conference"—They Say Self-Government is Threatened by State Prohibition Measure—Address to Be Given Out and Organization Announced in a Few Days, Says Conductor Morton.

(Special to The Times.)

Salisbury, N. C., March 6.—The conference of anti-prohibition democrats held here last evening was something of a failure in point of attendance, only a few prominent party men outside of Salisbury being present.

George L. Morton, of Wilmington, and James D. McNeill, of Fayetteville, and Harry Stubbs, of Martin, were here and took a leading part with a number of Rowan men, headed by Walter Murphy.

Colonel Morton stated that the meeting was just a private conference to devise ways and means looking to the betterment of the democratic party. With many democrats Mr. Morton thinks the principle of self-government is threatened by the bill which is to be voted on in May. The tentative plans formulated by the meeting here have not matured and so Mr. Morton refused to say what the plan of campaign would be. However, he informed your correspondent that the meeting here today was attended in person and by proxy by fifty-two prominent and representative democrats and an organization was agreed upon, which will be perfected in the next few days, when the address to the people of North Carolina prepared at this meeting will be issued. The organization will be made public at the same time as the address.

Cy Watson Sends a Letter.

A letter was read at the conference from Mr. C. B. Watson, of Winston-Salem, whose views are in sympathy with the present anti-prohibition movement. The full text of the letter is given below:

Hon. Geo. L. Morton, Salisbury, N. C.

Dear Sir: When I saw you I expected to have been at Davidson court this week and to run over and be with you at the conference of democrats to be held on the evening of the 5th inst., but under the urgent advice, and I might say command, of my family physician, I am at home and out of duty for at least a month. I am improving and hope to be well soon, but have completely abandoned all business for the present.

The local editor of the Sentinel here called me up a few days ago and asked me if I were going to meet you gentlemen in Salisbury and make a speech. I answered him, over the phone, that I could not go, which he understood, but that I was in full sympathy with the men who are expected to be present on that occasion, and asked him to call on me so that I might explain myself fully. This he did not do, but sent to the papers what you have doubtless seen.

You know my views on the questions that I have no doubt will be discussed at your conference, that such a conference and in fact many conferences between now and the meeting of the state convention are absolutely necessary looking to the welfare of the democratic party. I have no doubt. The adoption of the late amendment to the constitution gave to the democratic party of North Carolina a "lion's strength." Thousands of democrats in the state, I among the number, can but think that our organization has been using this strength "as a lion," not only in proposing to force prohibition upon sections of the state against their will, and their best interest, as many believe, but by following a course in the general assembly that has already led and will continue to lead to financial disaster. There is no part of the state that has had this fact so brought home to them as the heretofore prosperous and thrifty towns and cities which have been so rapidly building up along the lines of the Southern Railway. I firmly believe that unless the forces that control the state democratic organization can be induced to adopt (Continued on Page Two.)

1,000 CHILDREN IN SCHOOL; FIRE ALARM: SAVED!

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

New York, March 6.—Fire broke out on the top floor of public school No. 165 at 119th street and Amsterdam Avenue at 11 o'clock today.

On hearing the fire alarm bells in their class rooms 1,000 children were formed in line and marched to the street.

The fire was confined to the top story of the building, used as an assembly hall.

BOY YESTERDAY, VENERABLE OLD MAN TODAY IS HE

(By Cable to The Times.)

London, March 6.—A score of doctors and vocal experts who have examined Joseph Williams, the son of a decorator pronounced him a strange freak of nature, the same having been said of him by Sir William Broadbent, the noted physician. Recently the boy's voice "broke" and within a few months it became a basso profundo of great power. A mustache appeared which his mother now trims. The boy lost all gaiety and is fast becoming a venerable old man. Parry Cole, organist of a church in Malda Vale, heard of the case and obtained permission to teach the boy singing for seven years. While his ear is poor, Mr. Cole hopes to overcome this. He says the boy will probably have the deepest voice ever known.

WAY OPEN THE BALLOT BOXES

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Albany, N. Y., March 6.—The court of appeals this afternoon decided that Attorney-General Jackson has a right, without further court proceedings, to open the ballot boxes in any district of Greater New York to determine the question as to whether W. R. Hearst or George B. McClellan was elected mayor of New York City in 1905.

WARNED CHIEF SAYS TOMMY-ROT

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

St. Louis, Mo., March 6.—Chief of Police Creedy has received a note, embellished with Black Hand marks, reading:

"I warn you that you are the next victim. I would call on you in person, but do not want to be a marked man—an American-Italian."

"Tommy-rot," observed Chief Creedy. (The chief of police referred to above is a son of Col. R. B. Creedy, of Elizabeth City, the nestor of North Carolina journalism.—Times.)

BIG FIRE TODAY IN TOKIO, JAPAN

(By Cable to The Times.)

Tokio, March 6.—A serious fire took place this morning at Noda Soy, a brewing town near Tokio. Four hundred out of 1,000 houses in the town were destroyed. The damage is estimated at about \$2,500,000.

New North Carolina Postmasters. (By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 6.—Daily changes of fourth-class postmasters for North Carolina: Bessemer City, Gaston county, John P. Chandler, vice R. L. Thornburg, removed. Linville Falls, Burke county, Clara Penland, vice Jennie Clark, resigned.

CONVICT PAYS \$300 PER DAY FOR HIS LIBERTY

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Postofficial Thief Who Pays \$10,000 to Get Out

WOULDN'T STAY 30 DAYS

Notorious Graftor, August Machen, in Postoffice Department, and One of Several Official Thieves, Sent to the Penitentiary a Few Years Ago, Will Be Discharged at Midnight Tonight—Said to Be Penitent Now, But That's Doubtful, Although the Lawyers Stripped Him at the Trial.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Moundville, W. Va., March 6.—Rather than spend thirty days more in the federal penitentiary here the sum of \$10,000 (his fine under conviction in the postoffice graft cases) has been paid by August Machen, former superintendent of rural free delivery of the postoffice department, and he becomes a free man at midnight tonight.

Almost penniless, anxious to live down disgrace, hoping for the establishment of his innocence, Machen will begin life over again in Washington, determined to build up for himself and his family a living and a reputation.

Machen freely discussed his affairs last night. He expressed the determination not to succumb to the prejudices of the world, but to start anew in the world and live down his disgrace.

He expressed deep gratefulness to the officials of the prison for their treatment of him. In spite of every effort made to lighten his imprisonment, however, he said, the past few years had been like a long, dreary lifetime.

"I have never been able to forget my misfortunes," he said. "At the very time my children needed me most I was torn away from them. This separation has been one of my heaviest burdens."

When asked whether he wished to make any statement in regard to his guilt or innocence, Machen said: "I am innocent. Had I been tried a year later I should never have been sent to this institution."

"My transactions with the Groff brothers and Lorenz were as legitimate as could be. There were many complications, that made my case look bad.

"But right now, with my term of imprisonment nearly at an end, I want to declare again that there was nothing crooked or illegal about our business dealings. Sam Groff died an innocent man.

"I have paid the penalty of the charges on which I was convicted. I have nothing to conceal. But I am innocent. The whole world will know it some day."

In regard to his plans for the future, Machen said he should go back to Washington and shall devote his time to making a new future for himself and family.

Machen continued: "My hope is that I may be able to live down this fearful and undeserved disgrace and build up for myself and family a good income and reputation."

NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA WAIT; NO MORE STATES

(By Leased wire to The Times.)

Washington, March 6.—It is now assured that the bills proposing to confer statehood upon New Mexico and Arizona will not be laid before the house this session; the committee on territories will not even consider such measures during the present sitting of congress.