

# Weather.

Washington, June 26.—Forecast for North Carolina tonight and Sunday: Partly cloudy, with showers to-night or Sunday; variable winds.

# The Evening Times

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## INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF MRS. WOODILL

### Probably Killed by Woman Who Struck Her With Champagne Bottle

## EASTMAN LEFT LETTERS

The Supposed Murderer of Mrs. Woodill, Robert E. Eastman, or Roberts, as He Was Known, Left Letters in Which He Says There Were Four Other People Present When the Woman Was Killed, and That One of the Women in a Jealous Rage, Struck Her With a Champagne Bottle and Killed Her—Party Then Flew, and Eastman Threw the Body Into the River—Friends of Eastman Had Gone Out to His Place from Baltimore.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

St. Michael's Md., June 26.—In order to more fully investigate the letters found upon Robert E. Eastman, the fugitive New York broker who killed himself yesterday morning when a posse was attempting to arrest him for the murder of Mrs. Edith May Thompson Woodill, the inquest which was begun last night into Mrs. Woodill's death was resumed today, and the state authorities are attempting to apprehend two men and two women who live in Baltimore and Annapolis on suspicion that they were present when Mrs. Woodill was killed.

At first the authorities were skeptical when the suggestion was made that Eastman had written the truth when he said Mrs. Woodill was killed by a blow from a champagne bottle in the hands of an enraged and jealous young woman. The testimony of reputable persons who saw a strange private yacht on Sunday on the river near Eastman's bungalow, however, has lent some color to the letters left by Eastman.

The letters go to show that an orgy was in progress last Sunday in his bungalow and that two men and two women had come down from Baltimore in the private yacht to attend the affair. At the bungalow they met Mrs. Woodill and Eastman. In a letter addressed to Mrs. R. E. Eastman, who was Winnie Bradcomb, an actress, before she married him recently in Hackensack on January 26, 1908, and now lives at 132 West 129th street, New York, Eastman paints a picture of the actual killing, and gives the names of the two men and two women who joined him at the bungalow.

In this letter Eastman says the woman who killed Mrs. Woodill attacked her suddenly, and after crushing her skull ran into the open, followed by her three companions, and leaving him alone with the body.

He tells in this letter how he placed the body on the bed in his house, and then in distraction dragged it a little way in his arms, placed it in a wheelbarrow and rolled it to the boat landing. He then lifted the body into his launch. He tied a kerchief loaded with brick to the corpse and heaved it into Broad Creek.

State Attorney Turner accepts the story of the disposal of the body as true, saying the letter telling of it is too graphic not to contain hard facts. He is not sure, however, that Eastman did not kill Mrs. Woodill.

Edward Sutton, who has a shanty on Broad Creek, near Eastman's bungalow, said he saw bright lights in the place Sunday night. He also heard the sounds of many voices. Next day he asked Eastman, whom he only knew as Roberts, what the celebration was.

"Just had some friends of mine down," replied Eastman.

"How did they come?" ventured Sutton.

"In a launch—an electric launch," answered Eastman.

E. A. Plummer of Easton has made an affidavit which indicates that two men and two women were at Eastman's bungalow Sunday and out in a launch with him.

Mrs. Thompson's Mother. Boise, Idaho, June 26.—A newspaper man found the mother of Mrs. Edith May Woodill, Mrs. Albert Knight, at her home at Ashaka, a mountain settlement about 50 miles from Lewiston. The news of her daughter's death was broken to her by the reporter.

When she recovered from the shock she told of her daughter's adoption by Charles S. Thompson in Minneapolis in October, 1890. The (Continued on page Two.)

## CHONG SING LIED ABOUT MURDER OF SIGEL GIRL

### Sing P. Lee Tells the Police a Story That Discredits Sing

## A NET WORK OF LIES

Sing Said He Was in His Room Asleep at Nine O'clock the Morning of the Murder—Lee Says That He Called at Sing's Room at That Hour, and That He Was Not There—Shant-eyed Mongolian Has, by His Stories About the Murder, Involved Himself in a Network of Lies—Lee Thinks Sing Has Gone to California—Believed That Sing Has Been in New York Since the Murder.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

New York, June 26.—Elsie Sigel and Chu Gain, the restaurant keeper who supplanted Leon Sing in her affections, were married in Philadelphia, according to the latest information received by the police. This fact, learned by Leon, drove him to kill the girl, the police now believe, and also to plan the murder of Chu Gain.

A clergyman living near the Sigel home, whose identity has not been revealed, told the police that a girl resembling Elsie Sigel and a Chinese answering the description of Chu Gain, came to him shortly before June 9, the day of the murder, and asked to be married. The clergyman refused to marry them because one of them was a Chinaman, until he had communicated with the girl's parents. They left abruptly, saying they were going to Philadelphia.

Police Captain Galvin, who knows Leon by sight, is in Philadelphia today, presumably to ascertain facts concerning the supposed marriage, and to try to locate Leon.

Leon was well acquainted in Philadelphia, having lived there before he came to New York.

A pair of shoes believed to have belonged to Elsie Sigel, which were a new pair in the case, were discovered today in a room on the third floor of 728 Eighth avenue, near the room in which the girl was murdered.

The shoes were found in the room of Sun Leung, the proprietor of the chop suey restaurant on the floor below the one on which Leon's room was located.

New York, June 26.—Sing P. Lee, of No. 4 Mott street, a man considered wealthy by his countrymen, told the police today a story which proves that Chong Sing, chief witness in the murder of Elsie Sigel, and roommate of William L. Leon, the Chinaman wanted for the crime, lied when he said he was asleep in his room, which adjoins that where the murder occurred on the morning of June 9. This shant-eyed Mongolian has, in fact, in his many stories about the murder, involved himself in a network of lies.

Sing P. Lee told the police that in his opinion Leon had started for California, where the Cantonese from the Sun Wai district are numerous.

"I think he is headed that way, knowing he can get protection from those Cantonese," continued Sing. "I know Leon well, and up to the very day of the murder of the Sigel girl had planned to take him in business with me."

"Leon wanted a place, and I told him I would start him as manager of a restaurant at \$60 a month. If he suited, I would take him in with me and give him a substantial interest inside three months."

"Early in June, a few days after I rented the restaurant, I had occasion to go to Middletown, N. Y. I had learned some things about Leon's habits that displeased me, and when I arrived home early on the morning of June 9, I went to Leon's room, No. 782 Eighth avenue, to inform him that negotiations were off."

"I got to his room at 10 o'clock and knocked, but there was no answer. There was no answer to my knocking at the other door, either, in either of the rooms then."

Elsie Sigel left her home in Wadsworth avenue at 8 o'clock on the morning of June 9, and is supposed to have gone directly to Leon's room. It is now evident that she did not go there at once. Chong Sing's statement that he was in the room from early on the morning of June 9 until noon, is also disproved.

The sudden absence from the city (Continued on page Two.)

## Chong Sing, Leon's Room-mate, in Coroner's Office.



## Eastman Wrote That He Had No Part in Murder of Mrs. Woodill in Maryland

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Baltimore, Md., June 26.—The letter that Robert E. Eastman, the fugitive New York broker known as Kenneth E. Roberts, wrote to his wife before he committed suicide while under suspicion of having killed Mrs. Edith May Thompson Woodill, was made public by State's Attorney 3. Tinsler when the inquest over the body of the slain woman was resumed today. The letter is a protestation of Eastman's innocence. It was as follows:

"Vinnie: Take this money and go at once to McDaniel, Talbot county, Md., and claim my body and all my property. The property consists of 22 acres of land and a bungalow. There is also a motor boat. Have a sale and convert the whole thing into cash. I don't owe a cent, excepting for the paint and pump, etc., which Shanghai & Wrighton, of Easton, will be glad to get back, as it is not broken, but just as it was when shipped.

"Little girl, I had no hand in the tragedy. Was there and removed the evidence after the other two complex had fled. I did this for self-protection and am hunted. The victim was my particular friend and we were well mated. Have only known her three weeks. We all, that is, two men and two other women from Annapolis, went to the bungalow for a time. Every one got full excepting Edith and myself. Edith tried to win one of the girl's fellows and while laying on the bed with him was hit three times on the side of the head with a full bottle of champagne and the fellow hit once.

"The man did not come to for an hour. I was left with the corpse and cannot take a chance for a trial. Life to me is very bitter and I will pull down the shades and say goodbye. You can claim my property and say as little as possible, but get it.

## BINGHAM SUES GAYNOR.

Brings Libel Suit For \$100,000 Damages—Cause of Charges.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

New York, June 26.—Papers were filed in the county court this afternoon in a libel suit for \$100,000, brought by Police Commissioner Bingham against Supreme Court Justice William J. Gaynor. The suit is the outcome of the charges made against Bingham by Justice Gaynor when he denounced the commissioner for removing for keeping in the rogues' gallery the picture of George B. Duffy, the Brooklyn boy who is alleged to have been persecuted by the police, with the sanction of Bingham.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

I am awfully sorry for you and our boy and I have been hustling to make your path clear but fate is against me.

"Take Pennsylvania Railroad to Easton, Md., and then change to O. & A. Don't neglect this, the property is valuable.

"Bob."

The identification of the dead man as Robert E. Eastman, the fugitive Wall Street broker, was made positive today when L. A. Peddler, a newspaper artist and cousin of Winnie Bradcomb, showed the body.

"That man is Eastman," declared Peddler. "There can be no mistake about it. I knew him well."

Mrs. Eastman Leaves for Scene. New York, June 26.—Mrs. Robert E. Eastman, wife of the New York broker, alleged slayer of Mrs. Edith May Thompson Woodill, started for St. Michaels, Md., today. Mrs. Eastman's stage name is Winnie Bradcomb. She will be met in Washington by her cousin, Leo Peddler, a newspaper correspondent, who will accompany her to the Maryland village.

"My husband was no murderer," she said today before boarding her train, "and he did not commit suicide but was killed by the posse. I am going to bury him and then make every possible effort to clear his name for my own sake and the sake of our child. I will demand the letter left by him for me and demand full investigation as to the murder of Mrs. Woodill. I have retained a lawyer, and hope that the murderer will be brought to justice and the name of my husband cleared of the terrible charge."

Mrs. Eastman admitted that she and her husband had lived together for only five days, but declared that he left her and that she still loved him.

Iron, Tin and Steel Workers Sign Agreement for Another Year. (By Leased Wire to The Times.) Cambridge Springs, Pa., June 26.—The amalgamated association of iron, steel and tin workers and the Western Iron and Steel company have signed the present wage scale to continue for another year from July. The Republic Iron and Steel company and other independent mills of the west will also sign, now that the Western Bar association has taken the lead. The scale affects ten thousand men directly and provides for a sliding scale, to rise or fall with the market.

## THE SOUTHBOUND ROAD

### Will be Built to Wadesboro

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New York, June 26.—The Norfolk & Western and the Atlantic Coast Line, through the president and general counsel of each road, have completed an arrangement to furnish the Winston-Salem Southbound Railway with the funds required to complete its line from Winston-Salem, N. C., to Wadesboro, N. C., a distance of about 90 miles.

These two points are termini of the Norfolk & Western and of the Atlantic Coast Line respectively, and when linked up will establish a short line from Charleston, through the Pocahontas coal fields, to Cincinnati, and thence by other roads to points north. The new line will be owned jointly by the two systems building it.

Upon the completion of the new line it is the intention to make Charleston the great southeastern distributing port for Pocahontas coal and to that end immense coal pockets will shortly be constructed along the harbor. Pending the construction of the road the coal will be shipped to Charleston via Petersburg, Va.

## NEW GOVERNOR TAKES THE OATH

Atlanta, Ga., June 26.—Hon. Joseph M. Brown was at noon today in the hall of the house of representatives, inaugurated as governor of Georgia to succeed Governor Hoke Smith, whom he defeated for reelection in the primaries of 1907. Chief Justice Fish of the Georgia supreme court administered the oath.

The inaugural was attended by the simplest ceremonies, only the retiring governor, the former governors of the state, the supreme court, the members of the general assembly and other state officers taking part.

Mr. Brown came in from his home at Marietta, Cobb county, on a regular traction car and drove to the capitol where he arrived at 11:45.

The addresses were of the briefest and were marked by the utmost formality. This was in accord with Mr. Brown's wishes, he all along having opposed any plans for display on the occasion of his taking office.

## SAYING SHARP THINGS ABOUT SEN. ALDRICH

### Certain Republican Senators Say That Senate Boss Has Not Played Fair

## CENSUS BILL PASSED

Aldrich Promised Senators That if They Would Stand by Him in Other Matters, He Would Help Them Get a Duty on Crude Petroleum—This He Failed to Do and Senators Are Saying Sharp Things About Him for This Breach of Faith—Will Still Try to Have the Duty Placed on Crude Petroleum—House Bill Appropriating \$10,000,000 for Next Census Passed Without Debate.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, June 26.—The republican senators who favored a duty on crude petroleum are saying, under their breath, some sharp things about Senator Aldrich. In fact, they intimate strongly that the Rhode Island senator has not played them fair. They say that some few weeks ago when Senator Aldrich was busy making concessions in order to secure votes for certain amendments, and increasing duties over the rates prescribed by the Payne bill, the senators urging a duty on crude petroleum were given to understand that if they stood by the finance committee, Senator Aldrich would stand by them and offer an amendment placing a duty on crude petroleum. This was satisfactory to them, and it was accepted by the independent oil companies, but to the surprise of the advocates of the duty on crude petroleum, the amendment was not offered by the Rhode Island senator, thus depriving it of the support of the finance committee, with the result that crude petroleum remains on the free list. A change of four votes would have adopted the Penrose amendment.

The action of the senate last evening does not, it is said today, end the matter, for when the bill has been reported to the senate from the committee of the whole, another effort will be made to place a duty on crude petroleum. It may be that the senators who favor the duty will be strong enough to force Senator Aldrich to accept it refusing to stand by the finance committee on several amendments yet to be reported.

The senate met at 10 o'clock this morning. Senator Hale called up the house bill appropriating \$10,000,000 for the next census. The bill was passed without debate. The tariff bill was then taken up. Senator Stone of Missouri, in discussing the duty on agricultural implements, gave a review of the agricultural implement trust and severely scored its operations.

Senator Carter of Montana introduced a postal savings bank bill, providing for postal savings banks, first in money order post offices, and later to be extended to other post offices. The institution is to be under the control of a board consisting of the secretary of the treasury, postmaster-general, and the attorney-general. Deposits may be made by any person over ten years of age, and by married women, with the provision that their accounts shall not be subject to the control of their husbands.

No person is privileged to carry more than one account, and deposits may be made ranging from \$1 to \$100, on which an interest at 2 per cent. will be paid.

Senator Davis of Arkansas then attacked the tariff bill and scored Senator Aldrich and others who he asserted are improperly protecting the interests of the large corporations and vested interests. He said in part:

"The American people are awakening today to the full realization of the fact that they have been tricked and cheated of their birthright, and that the promises of the republican party of this country are but as brown bread and smoking flax; and today they are turning their faces in hopefulness and glad acclaim to the great middle west, where a small cloud has arisen, not larger than a man's hand, but which is gathering in strength and volume, led on by the insurgent forces of the republican party in this body that assumes the downfall and destruction of the Bourbon element."

"Has the ultra wing of the republican party, headed in this body by the senator from Rhode Island (Continued on Page Two.)

## ALDRICH-TAFT SUBSTITUTE FOR AN INCOME TAX

### Has Been Reported From the Finance Committee by Senator Aldrich

## EMBRACES 2,500 WORDS

Corporation Tax Amendment Provides Flat Tax of Two Per Cent. on Net Income of Corporations Over and Above \$5,000—Interest on Bonded Indebtedness Is to be Deducted—Penalty for Failure to Make Returns—Amendment Prepared by Attorney-General and Endorsed by President Before Acted On by Finance Committee.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, June 25.—Senator Aldrich reported from the finance committee the corporation tax amendment to the tariff bill prepared by Attorney-General Wickersham and endorsed by the president. It is embraced in about 2,500 words and provides that every corporation, joint stock company or association organized for profit and having a capital stock represented by shares and every insurance company organized under the laws of the United States or territories or any foreign country engaged in business in the United States shall be subjected to an annual special excise tax equivalent to two per centum upon their entire net income over and above \$5,000. The net income is to be ascertained by deducting from the gross income the necessary expenses, losses, interest paid on bonded indebtedness not exceeding paid up capital stock, taxes and dividends received from other corporations subject to the tax.

The amendment prescribes the method of making returns to the internal revenue commissioner, and stipulates the character of information concerning the corporation which shall be contained in the report.

Whenever the commissioner of the internal revenue shall receive evidence which justifies the belief that the return to be made incorrect or that the commissioner is empowered to examine the books and papers pertaining to the matter upon which return is required to be made, and the commissioner may invoke the aid of the courts in compelling the attendance of officers and the production of books.

In case of fraudulent returns intentionally made, 100 per cent. is to be added to the tax and 50 per cent. is to be added in case of refusal or neglect to make return. Interest is to be added at the rate of five per cent. on taxes unpaid on June 30 of each year.

It is made unlawful for any collector or other person employed in collecting the tax to divulge any information except as provided by law obtained by him in the discharge of his official duty. Violation of this provision is made a misdemeanor.

Punishment for failure to make returns on the first day of March of each year or for making false returns is fixed at a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000 upon the corporation. Any person making false returns may be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court, with the cost of prosecution.

Jurisdiction is conferred on circuit and district courts for the adjudication of questions arising under the tax.

## REPLY FROM WICKERSHAM.

Answers Culberson's Resolution in Regard to Railroad Merger.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, June 25.—Attorney-General Wickersham today transmitted to the senate his reply to the Culberson resolution asking for information concerning the dismissal of the prosecution against the New York, New Haven & Hartford and the Boston & Maine railway merger, for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The attorney-general explained he had directed the United States attorney for the district of Massachusetts, to dismiss the proceedings and that his reasons for so doing were given in a statement which he issued at the time. Mr. Wickersham quotes the statement, which is, in effect, that the merger was authorized by the Massachusetts legislature.