

The Is Discussing Railway Rate Matter

Committee Bill Be Seems to be Question.

CLAIMS OF STATE FULLY OUTLINED

Pennsylvania Capitol Graft Cases Are Taken Up.

Assistant to Attorney General Makes Opening Speech, Presenting the Case From Standpoint of the Prosecution, Arranging the Defendants Very Severely.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 28.—The formal opening presentation of the charge against the four defendants now on trial in connection with alleged capitol grafting was made to the jury today by James Searle, Attorney General Todd's chief assistant in the prosecution. He severely arraigned the defendants and accused them of conspiring to cheat and defraud the state.

Proposed Plan For Censorship of Books

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28.—An attempt is being made to create the postoffice department with the authority of the late censorship over the literature of the country. The publication recently of books that have called forth scathing criticisms as to the morals they teach is responsible for this reform movement.

An amendment fathered by Representative Houston, of Texas, incorporating this idea received a majority vote in the house a few days ago, but was prevented from being registered as the decision of that body by a quick motion to adjourn on account of no quorum.

Every member of the house is in hearty accord with the desire to protect the mails and the people from indecent and impure literature, today said Representative Swager, of Kentucky, one of the leading members of the committee for the codification of the penal laws and reminded as one of the best lawyers in the house, "but there is very great danger in this movement by giving the postoffice department a censorship of the press. I remember that Mark Twain's books of 'Eve's Diary'—I recall the title, was excluded from the Boston Library because the trustees of that institution considered it an indecent book. Now, that is exactly the illustration of what will be possible under this statute if amended as suggested. The word 'indecent' puts in front of the word 'book' would be one in such construction as would practically enable the department to exercise a censorship over the press, and would think that perhaps we should take some steps looking to a better extension of improper literature from the mails, we ought to be exceedingly careful that we do not use language that simply enables the department of some person in the department to exclude books that may not appeal to him or her."

Charles Hays, the young man who was accidentally shot Sunday night near Advance by Miss Anna Livingston, is reported to be resting as comfortably as could be expected. The attending physician thinks it will be a week or more before Hays will be able to leave the hospital.

Mr. Hays offered an amendment to Section 8 prescribing that a sum not exceeding \$10,000 be paid by the railroads for the purpose of paying the costs of litigation imposed on the state by the railroads except the Wood case, the habeas corpus proceeding now pending before the United States supreme court.

Mr. Hays said everybody recognized that the legislature was here to correct a mistake made by the legislature of 1907 and that the sooner this matter is adjusted the better for the business interests of North Carolina. He spoke of the case pending in Raleigh, but believed that Judge Long made a mistake in putting a fine of \$38,000 upon the railroad in North Carolina. The first correction made



TAKING BODIES FROM BOYERTOWN FIRE RUINS WHERE 170 LIVES WERE LOST.

The Boyertown (Pa.) theater fire, where 170 persons, most of whom were women and children, lost their lives, made the town's theater horror and the General-Sloper steamboat disaster. The dead numbered almost 10 per cent of the population of the town. Kerosene lamps, used as footlights on the stage, where an amateur performance was in progress for the benefit of a church, are blamed for the disaster. Frightened by the popping of a kerosene lamp, the crowd surged toward the stage, where a lamp was overturned, and in an instant the hall was a mass of flames. In the panic that followed scores of women and children were trampled by death while others met a more agonizing fate as the flame danced their against the straggling mass of people at the exits. The firemen were unable to begin removing the dead until daylight, when they found dozens of charred bodies piled near the windows on the second floor, where the heat was situated. These had to be taken out by means of ladders and shovels.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF BASEBALL ASSO. HELD TODAY IN CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE, Jan. 28.—The directors of the North and South Carolina Baseball Association met here at 12 o'clock today for the purpose of deciding what town should be taken in the league to supply the vacancy caused by Salisbury's withdrawal.

Applications for membership were received from Winston-Salem and Raleigh. Mr. R. C. Carson, of Charlotte, represented the Twin-City and urged their claims. Mr. Wells, of Anderson, S. C., also favored Winston-Salem, saying that to take in Raleigh would mean too much mileage for the

South Carolina teams. A telegram was received this morning from the Twin-City to the effect that those behind the movement to secure a place of the league would be prepared to make a definite statement of proposition within the next few days. The matter of selecting a place to supply the vacancy caused by Salisbury's withdrawal was left with President Wear, of this city, who says he will render decision next week. It is quite certain that either Winston-Salem or Raleigh will be chosen, with the chances in favor of the Twin-City.

Are the Legislators More Conservative Than In '07?

"Isn't this session of the legislature more conservative than the regular one?" asked a business man a few days ago of a citizen who had just returned from a visit to Raleigh. The answer was to the effect that one of the senators, in open session, stated that if the railroad people had been as free to reveal information before the passenger rate was fixed at 2 1/4 cents a mile as they are since the extraordinary session convened, the legislators and railroads would have agreed upon a rate satisfactory to all parties concerned.

It has been argued by members of the senate and the house that the independent and dominating spirit manifested by the railroads was responsible for the action taken at the regular session of the general assembly.

Proceedings in the House of Representatives

RALEIGH, Jan. 28.—The house passed the railroad merger bill, an ordered committee substitute for the road rate bill and made it a special order for tomorrow. The house then adjourned 10 o'clock tonight.

Alleged That Draughan Has Served Term in Pen

Mr. J. A. Draughan, of Durham, the man who came here to testify against R. J. Pool, alias R. M. Pool, alias J. S. Draughan, made a statement to the officers here this morning to the effect that Pool had already been in the penitentiary in Raleigh for a term of four years for the larceny of some money from a citizen of Durham, and that after his time expired he changed his name to John Johnson. He says his real name is J. S. Draughan, and that he is a "smooth article" to counterfeit.

A member of The Sentinel staff visited the jail this afternoon and in an interview with Pool asked him if he remembered ever visiting McKays home some years ago and selling his insurance. His reply was that he had never been to that place and did not remember ever hearing of it. His mind seems to have changed since that time as several people in this city distinctly remember having seen him, and one man remarked that Pool had tried to sell him insurance in the hotel in the killing.

King News Items

KING, Jan. 28.—The burial service of Mr. William Lloyd was conducted by Rev. Mr. Cannon yesterday afternoon at the First Baptist church. Mr. Lloyd was beloved for the last eight years. He leaves a wife and many friends to mourn his loss. Misses Addie Keiser and Claudie Johnson visited friends at Dalton Saturday and Sunday. Miss Agnes Pulliam, who is teaching the King school is very ill. Miss Claudie Johnson takes her place in school. Mr. Walker, of Mt. Atry, is visiting Mrs. Lloyd this week. Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Pulliam attended the Denny-Gibson wedding last Sunday afternoon on King R. F. D. No. 2. Registrar of Deeds McKeanhan requests The Sentinel to state that those liable for special tax had better list as the collector will be here in a few days. J. I. Newman is wrestling with the gripe.

HURRICANE CAUSES OVER 20 DEATHS

Twenty-Four Bodies Already Recovered and More Are Expected.

Most Terrific Storm That Has Swept the Atlantic Coast in Twenty Years Does Great Damage at Various Points—At Times Storm Blew 100 Miles an Hour.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—In the most terrific hurricane that has swept the Atlantic coast in twenty years, 24 lives are lost and it is feared there will be additions to the death list. Steamers arriving here today bring details of the storm, which at times they say blew 100 miles an hour.

VISCOUNT HAYASHI TALKS

Gives Out Interview Relative to Restrictions On Immigration.

Death of Mrs. E. Carter

Mrs. E. Carter died at her home on Main street, Salem, last night at 10:40 of pneumonia, after an illness of only one week, her age being 68 years. The deceased was a devoted member of the West Salem Methodist church and an estimable Christian woman. Her husband preceded her to the grave in October, 1894.

Daily Observer Plant At Fayetteville Burned

RALEIGH, Jan. 28.—A special from Fayetteville states the Daily Observer plant was burned out there early this morning but the paper will be issued as usual at another office. Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Ross, after a pleasant visit to Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Miller, on West Fourth street, returned to their home in Charlotte today.

STATE PUTTING IN MORE TESTIMONY

Introducing Evidence in Rebuttal in the Thaw Case Now.

It is Rumored That Some Startling Facts Are To Be Brought Out—As Trial Nears End Interest Increases to a Great Extent—Mr. Jerome Introduces Several Witnesses.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The critical sessions of the Thaw trial are now at hand and there will be some "surprises" developed which have been held back by both the defense and prosecution. It is reported here today that there are witnesses who can be produced to show that the pistol with which Thaw killed White was not Thaw's, but one that had been handed to him a few minutes previous to the tragedy with the advice to use it on White, that he would get out of trouble all right.

At the opening of the trial today there was the greatest interest manifested by all.

Evidence in rebuttal began with the opening of the trial today. R. E. Limley, public accountant, and Mayor Cahon, music publishing house manager, eye witnesses of the shooting, testified that Thaw appeared perfectly rational after shooting White.

After several more witnesses had described Thaw as being rational after the shooting a short recess was taken so counsel could arrange an agreement doing away with the necessity of a court session at Blackwell's island penitentiary to hear the testimony of Abraham Hummel. After recess Mr. Littleton consented that Hummel's evidence at the first trial and Evelyn Nesbit's affidavit, alleged to have been made in Hummel's office, reciting certain acts of Thaw while she travelled with him in Europe prior to their marriage, be read to the jury.

Mr. Jerome consented that Thaw's will, containing many strange bequests, be admitted in evidence.

Jerome announced he would call no medical experts in rebuttal.

It is likely now that the case will go to the jury Wednesday. Among the last witnesses this evening was Abe Snydercker, a clerk in the law office then of Abe Hummel, who testified that Evelyn told him she had read the paper Hummel got her to sign, which Hummel alleges and Evelyn denies.

Late this afternoon Judge Dowling decided to allow the reading of Hummel's testimony at the former trial.

Yesterday's Evidence.

Following is a brief review of the evidence submitted in the Thaw trial late yesterday afternoon:

District Attorney Jerome refrained from his tactics of last year in baiting the expert witnesses for the defense, three of whom—Drs. Wagner, Evans and Jelliffe—declared Thaw at the time he killed Stanford White was suffering from such a defect of reason as not to know the nature or quality of his act or that the act was wrong. The prosecutor contented himself with drawing from the plaintiffs the fact that last year they swore it was during a "brain storm," Thaw committed the homicide.

Thaw committed the homicide. He also read from the affidavit by Dr. Wagner before the lunacy commission last year giving the conversations he had with Thaw in court which tended to show that the defendant had a distinct recollection of occurrences on the roof garden immediately preceding the tragedy.

It was left to Justice Dowling to make a most important inquiry of the alienists. He desired to know the exact nature of "manic-depressive" insanity, and if the attacks were likely to recur. He also was asked if a person suffering from this form of insanity would be likely to commit assaults. He learned that it was a recurrent form of mental disorder, the attacks coming suddenly and without warning, a period of insanity being followed by a maniacal outburst, then by a period of complete depression and then by another brief interval. He seemed that the presiding judge was securing information upon which to predicate judicial action in the event of a verdict of not guilty on the ground of insanity or of a straight acquittal. Even in the latter event Justice Dowling would have the right to have Thaw committed for examination.

Deputy Collector J. H. C. Stewart, of Dobson, was here today and sold two copper stills, one and a half, one keg and three jugs of whiskey and one jug of brandy, recently seized by revenue officers. The copper was purchased by Mr. Henry Spott. The whiskey brought \$1.40 a gallon and the brandy \$2.00. Deputy Norman says it was "good goods," as it had never passed through the hands of the adulterators.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Ross, after a pleasant visit to Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Miller, on West Fourth street, returned to their home in Charlotte today.