

# BODY IS FOUND IN A CREEK

## Nude Body Of Mrs. Woodill, Who Had Been Foully Murdered, Found By Some Boys—Her Supposed Slayer Suicides.

St. Michaels, Md., Special.—Practically the entire eastern shore of Maryland was aroused and searching Thursday night for one Emmett E. Roberts, who had been wanted in connection with the brutal murder of Mrs. Edith May Woodill, wife of Gilbert Woodill, an automobile dealer of Los Angeles, Cal., whose nude body the skull crushed in from a blow apparently delivered from behind; the face horribly disfigured, the entire body swollen from the effects of several days' immersion, and weighted with an iron pot containing half a dozen bricks was Wednesday discovered by boys who were crabbing in Back creek, tributary of the Choptank river, not far from the home of Mrs. Woodill's foster father, Capt. Charles H. Thompson, a few miles from here.

Roberts was with Mrs. Woodill when she was seen for the last known time, and he is accused of having committed the murder. The motive for the crime is at present a mystery. The police of Baltimore and all other cities to which Roberts might make his way were asked to search for and arrest him. He is said to be about 50 years old, five feet six inches tall, stout, smooth-shaven, with abundant bushy hair and a ruddy complexion. He limps and wears a brace on one leg. He claimed to be a magazine writer and general correspondent of newspapers.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodill came here early this month, the latter with the intention of spending the summer with her foster-father. Her husband remained only a few days, leaving it is understood; for Detroit, whence he intended to return to Los Angeles. From that time, Mrs. Woodill and Roberts are said to have seen much of each other. Last Saturday Mrs. Woodill went to Eaton to have some dental work done, and it had been arranged that Roberts should meet her at Royal Oak and return with her to her home. Roberts missed the train for Royal Oak and drove there, met Mrs. Woodill and drove with her back here to the landing where his launch was moored. They entered the launch and Mrs. Woodill was not seen again alive, so far as has been learned.

Since her disappearance Roberts has made a trip to Baltimore, from which point a letter was received by Captain Thompson, ostensibly from Mrs. Woodill, saying that she was in that city and would shortly return. Roberts remained in this neighborhood until the finding of the body. He had previously endeavored to allay the growing uneasiness of Captain Thompson in connection with his foster-daughter's absence, and used

the letter referred to as evidence in support of his contention that she was all right and would soon return.

When the body was brought ashore it was so horribly swollen that Captain Thompson could not, at first, believe that it was the body of Mrs. Woodill, who is said to have weighed only about 100 pounds. The identification was made positive however, by the dentist Mrs. Woodill had visited professionally in Easton.

Investigations since made indicate that when Roberts and Mrs. Woodill left here they went in the launch to a bungalow that is being built on Roberts' small farm, near that of Captain Thompson, and that in this bungalow the murder was committed. There were found a bloody sheet and mattress and portions of a woman's clothes, partly burned. These have been identified as having belonged to Mrs. Woodill. There were also found in the bungalow a pair of corduroy trousers in the pocket of which were two letters. One, believed to have been from Mrs. Woodill and to have some connection with the meeting at Royal Oak.

Mrs. Woodill before her marriage was given an excellent musical education in this country and Europe and she is said to have sung in the White House before the late President McKinley. She was a beautiful woman and highly attractive and was given a warm welcome by her many friends in this locality when she returned with her husband the early part of the month.

Former Secretary of the Treasury Lyman J. Gage took a great deal of interest in Mrs. Woodill, and has visited his young protegee at Captain Thompson's home.

### The Murderer of Mrs. Woodill Murders Himself.

St. Michaels, Md., Special.—The last tragic chapter in a story of crime unparalleled in this section of the country, was written in the half light of an early summer's dawn Friday when the man accused of the heartless murder of pretty little Mrs. Woodill—a spectre-like form fleeing in a skiff from a posse of determined, relentless pursuers, who had cornered him on the waters of a narrow creek, then fired a bullet crashing into his heart and fell a lifeless lump into the bottom of the boat, which he had hoped would carry him to a landing place where flight might be possible.

The mystery is deep as to the motive, but it all points to the fact that Emmet E. Roberts, who was really Robert E. Eastman, committed the terrible deed, and stayed about with silence till the body was found and he was known to have been with her last. He then attempted to escape but finding escape impossible took his own life.

### KATHARINE GOULD DENIES CHARGE OF IMMORALITY

New York, Special.—Katharine Clemmons Gould was called back to the stand for a final ordeal Thursday to explain away if possible the damaging testimony given by the witnesses for her husband in her suit for separation and alimony of \$250,000 a year.

It was a day of denials, beginning with the reading of the deposition of Dustin Farnum, the actor, who denied in toto all allegations of improper conduct with Mrs. Gould and ending with Mrs. Gould's repeated denials of practically everything in word or action attributed to her by the witnesses for the other side.

For two warm hours Mrs. Gould, looking for the first time somewhat uncomfortable in her smothering black satin gown, answered the carefully framed questions of her counsel, repudiating with a monotonous flat denial all testimony and insinuations charging her with excessive drinking, profanity or any other impropriety. Chaffeurs, grooms, stable men, shop keepers, laborers and other servants and employes were alike branded with the short and ugly epithet. She never drank to excess, never used profane language, never forgot her dignity as mistress of Castle Gould.

### MRS. GOULD GETS DIVORCE AND \$36,000 A YEAR

New York, Special.—After a trial which lasted nearly three weeks, Katharine Clemmons Gould obtained a legal separation from her husband, Howard Gould, third son of the late Jay Gould, by a decision of Justice Dowling in the Supreme Court Friday. With the exception of alimony, her victory was complete, but in this phase of the case the court decided

that \$36,000 a year was sufficient, although in her suit Mrs. Gould asked for \$250,000. She has been receiving \$25,000 a year from Mr. Gould, so that the amount fixed by the court is but a slight increase, compared with the amount sued for.

As to Dustin Farnham, it was held that her association with him came after Mr. and Mrs. Gould separated.

### TESTIMONY CONCLUDED IN GEORGIA RAILROAD CASE

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—With the testimony Friday afternoon of General Manager Thomas K. Scott, of the Georgia Railroad, the proceedings before the board of arbitration in the matter of the settlement of the questions arising from the recent strike of white firemen of that road, reached the argument stage.

General Manager Scott gave a detailed history of the differences between the firemen and the railroad, offering in evidence many letters, telegrams and other documents to bear out his verbal testimony, which was directed to show the unjustness of the demands of the firemen, from the standpoint of the railroad. Mr. Scott testified that negroes were competent firemen. He declared the Georgia Railroad had no reason to complain of the services of the negro firemen now in its employ. Some of these had served the road faithfully, he testified, for years.

### HORRIBLE CRIME OF A 12 YEAR OLD CALIFORNIAN

Modesto, Cal., Special.—Cecil Hopkins, 12 years old, Friday confessed that he shot and buried his brother, Theodore, 6 years old, and his statement strengthens the coroner's belief that the victim was buried alive on the hill where his body was found Thursday. As he told of the shooting and consequent burial of his brother, Cecil, ate candy and apparently failed to realize the gravity of

the acts related. According to his story, Cecil killed Theodore while the parents were absent from home after the boys had quarreled over their luncheon. Cecil said he drove his brother from the house and shot him. Fearing the consequences of his deed when the parents should return, he dug a grave in the sand. While digging the grave for the boy Cecil said Theodore moaned and stretched his arms.

## BIGGERS SET FREE

### Jury Holds That He Was Inmate at the Time of Killing Hood.

Charlotte, Special.—The jury of twelve freemen, the select body chosen to pass upon the merits of the case of State against W. S. Biggers, charged with the murder on the morning of Tuesday, February 9, of J. Green Hood, reached a verdict Saturday afternoon at 4:45 o'clock, their decision being that the defendant was "not guilty" of the crime as charged.

As noted by every one who followed the trend of this great legal battle whose results held within it the freedom if not the life of Biggers, the plea of insanity was the entire issue. It was not that insanity for which the asylums are built and maintained, but that termed variously emotional insanity, brain storm, and the like, but in this case termed "confusional" insanity.

The case was fought before the bar with the utmost tact and unlimited talent and legal force. No stone, as it were, was left unturned. It was pleaded that the man had suffered a wrong and that his financial straits had preyed upon his mind till mental confusion had brought him to the stage of not being conscious of the enormity of the deed which he contemplated and actually committed.

At the first vote of the jury 10 stood for acquittal, one for murder in the first and one for murder in the second degree.

The jury had the case just four hours when it became unanimous. The case had taken 11 days in its course.

### Shepard the Slayer of Holt.

Durham, N. C., Special.—Solomon Shepard, the negro of mysterious action, has confessed that he killed Engineer Holt near Durham last December and that he had no assistant.

This startling turn in the dreadful affair came Saturday night when Dr. N. M. Johnson went into the jail to attend a sick prisoner. Shepard had spent the day reading the Bible and getting religion. Why he took a notion to unburden himself to the doctor, is not known, but he did and said that he slew the engineer that night without the aid of anyone.

The negro tells a reasonable story. There never has been any large number of people who did not believe that Engineer Holt met death meant for another man. The wanton use of a shotgun was commonly called a Reuben Barbee characteristic, but nobody ever found the motive whereby Reuben Barbee became the assassin of Fred Holt. The brothers of the dead man believed that their kinsman had been murdered by mistake and the negro says so.

Suspicion for this crime has been resting on Reuben Barbee who is now in jail awaiting trial.

It seems that Shepard had been put off the train. In his rage he secured a shotgun and went to kill the brakeman who put him off. Not finding his man he fired a random shot, as he says, to scare somebody. This shot put out the life of a popular and most valuable engineer.

### Joe Brown is Governor.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Joseph M. Brown, son of "Joe" Brown, one of Georgia's war-time Governors, took office Saturday amid ceremonies of Jeffersonian simplicity.

Governor Brown's address was brief. At its conclusion Governor Smith handed Governor Brown the seal of the State of Georgia and the ceremony was complete.

Governor Smith's last official act Saturday was the signing of 15 pardons. Those set free included six murderers and three persons convicted of violating the prohibition laws.

### Firemen Lose Case.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—The Georgia Railroad strike arbitration board Saturday night decided against the seniority of white firemen over negroes. The arbitrators, however, placed a premium on intelligence among firemen, which it is believed will ultimately result in the gradual elimination of all except the most expert negro firemen.

### From Chicago to Charleston.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The official announcement Saturday by the Atlantic Coast Line and Norfolk and Western that the Winston-Salem Southbound Railroad would be pushed to completion within the next 18 months is received with great satisfaction here. The movement for this through line from Chicago to Charleston, with the Twin City as a prominent junction point, was begun about three years ago. Col. F. H. Fries and Mr. Henry E. Fries, of this city, being among the leaders in the enterprise. Henry E. Fries is now president.

### Exonerates Man Convicted of Murder

Palatka, Fla., Special.—When James Kelly and D. M. Davidson were sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, Kelly said: "I accept the verdict of the jury, but as for D. M. Davidson, he is as innocent of this crime as any man in the hearing of my voice." The men were convicted of the murder of W. C. Sellers, a night watchman of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad three years ago at High Springs, Fla.

## COTTON CONDITIONS

### An Acreage Abandonment of Seven Per Cent.

### THE NATIONAL GINNERS' REPORT

The Average Condition Up to June 24 Was 75.6, the Condition in North Carolina Being 77—The Acreage Abandoned in North Carolina is 4 Per Cent.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—The report of the National Ginner's Association gives the average condition of cotton up to June 24, as 75.6. There has been an abandonment of acreage of 7 per cent according to the report, making the total acreage 9.8 less than last year.

Detailed report by States:  
Alabama, condition 70; acreage abandoned 14 per cent; crop very grassy in nearly all sections; plant small and from two to four weeks late.

Arkansas, condition 76; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; crop very good in west and north; very grassy and small elsewhere; boll weevil in 24 counties worse than last season, some of the fields being abandoned on account of them.

Florida, condition 90; very little loss in acreage; most sections good.

Georgia, condition 79; acreage abandoned 5 per cent; crop grassy; most sections not all chopped yet; plant generally small and from one to three weeks late; some complaints of lice and black rot.

Louisiana, condition 56; acreage abandoned 13 per cent; some sections in very good shape but so many weevils they are destroying all the squares as fast as they form; much cotton being abandoned or planted in age only on this account; many reports nothing will be made in their sections.

Mississippi, conditions 61; acreage abandoned 14 per cent; plant generally small; poor stands and grassy.

Missouri, condition 56; very little loss in acreage; crops late but good.

North Carolina, condition 77; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; crops grassy in most sections and from 1 to 3 weeks late.

Oklahoma, condition 90; acreage abandoned 1 per cent; reports from nearly all sections very good.

South Carolina, condition 78; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; some few sections report good conditions but most of them report fields grassy and not all chopped yet, plant small and from two to three weeks late.

Tennessee, condition 77; acreage abandoned 7 per cent; plant small and grassy.

Texas, condition 80; acreage abandoned 5 per cent; principally in the dry section where rains came too late; condition north and east Texas best in years but weevils are reported more numerous than usual and this fine prospect may be changed in a very short time.

South Texas had plenty of rain, plant generally small and from four to six weeks late. Weevils reported in large numbers doing damage already. West Texas still very dry except four counties, some places have had no rain in six months. With plenty of rain this section will produce from 50 to 60 per cent of a crop.

### Mr. E. L. Royster Drowned.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Mr. Arthur L. Royster, chief clerk for Superintendent H. A. Williams of the Southern, and one of the most capable and promising young railroad men in this section, met a tragic and extremely sad death while out swimming and boating in the Columbia canal about 10 o'clock Monday morning by drowning. His body has not yet been recovered.

Mr. Royster was a popular clubman and was very popular throughout the city generally, being of quiet and retiring disposition and of many many characteristics. His fellow-workmen at the union station, from heads of departments on down to the youngest clerks, are grieved and shocked over his death, as if they had lost a brother, for Mr. Royster was most popular with those closest to him.

### Dies Under His Auto.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—William G. Rudd, a traveling salesman for the Durst-Andrews Company, was killed Monday in an automobile which was struck by the Seaboard vestibuled train at Salak, four miles west of Greenwood. One of the eyewitnesses, Mrs. Malone, saw Mr. Rudd stop the automobile on the crossing. He jumped out, but on the wrong side and in front of the moving train, which struck the automobile and threw it on him. He was picked up and carried to Abbeville, but died on the way. Mr. Rudd leaves a widow. No children survive him.

### Alleged Members Black Hand Band Bound Over.

Toledo, O., Special.—At the conclusion of the preliminary hearing here Monday Salvatore and Sebastiano Lima and Salvatore Rizzo, three members of the alleged Black Hand band, recently arrested, were bound over to the Federal grand jury. The bond of Salvatore Lima was increased to \$5,000 and that of the others to \$5,000 each. They will probably have to remain in the county jail.

## WILL CATCH LEON LING

### Chief McCaffery Feels Reasonably Certain That Elsie Sigel's Murderer Will Be Apprehended.

New York, Special.—Inspector McCaffery, chief of the New York detective bureau, has given out the first authentic statement on the murder of Elsie Sigel that has been made by the police since the discovery of the girl's body on June 18 in a trunk in the bedroom of Leon Ling, an Americanized Chinaman, in an Eighth avenue chop suey restaurant.

"We shall catch the murderer," the inspector said. "Delay does not altar that although it chafes us. The whole country is one vast rat-trap with every exit guarded."

"The girl was killed between 10 o'clock in the morning and noon of June 9 and we believe Leon Ling is the man who did it with Chung Sing, his intimate, and possibly others, as possible accomplices. We have Chung Sing. From his room in Eighth avenue, Leon Ling was thought to have gone straight to Washington and there sent the 'Don't worry' telegram signed 'Elsie' received on the night of the murder by the Sigel family."

It is definitely and clearly established that the trunk was carted from the Eighth avenue house in which the body was found to a Chinese laundry at No. 370 West 126 street and thence to Newark, N. J., whence it was returned to the room of Leon Ling, where it was discovered. It has been shown, too, that Ling was personally busied in moving the trunk about.

It seems clear that to have been at the various places mentioned Ling could not have spared the time for a trip to Washington. Those receiving him and the trunk all showed suspicious foreknowledge of his coming.

"No other murder that I can remember has attracted such wide interest or such enthusiastic co-operation on the part of police of other cities. All the forces of the country are working as one great machine. We have fifty men of our own in the cities of the East."

The only possible ship on which Leon could have left the country is due to arrive in Yokohama July 3. She will be watched."

All the Chinese laundries in the city, which are operated by four companies in the name of individual managers, received notices in Chinese warning employes that they must have nothing to do with white women beyond business over the counter, on pain of dismissal.

### Brandenburg Out and In.

New York, Special.—Although Broughton Brandenburg was acquitted here Tuesday of the charge of grand larceny in connection with the sale of an alleged spurious letter of Grover Cleveland to The New York Times he had only a few minutes of freedom. Before leaving the court room, he was re-arrested and will be taken to St. Louis next week for trial on a charge of fraudulently enticing from the child's parents his stepson. The minimum penalty for this offense in Missouri is 20 years' imprisonment. The author was taken back to the toms in default of \$5,000 bail, to await the arrival of the Missouri officers.

### After Train Robbers.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Special.—Detective Draper, of Spokane, with a pack of bloodhounds has traced the Canadian-Pacific train bandits that held up an express train last week at Kamloops into an old mining tunnel at Red Gulch, 6 miles east of Ashcroft, British Columbia. Detective Draper has sent for help, as the two men trapped are heavily armed and show fight.

One of the robbers was killed by Constable Rucker Tuesday. He wore clothes bought in Spokane.

### O. H. Hix Appointed General Manager Seaboard Air Line.

Baltimore, Special.—C. H. Hix has been appointed general manager, and C. R. Capps, freight traffic manager of the Seaboard Air Line with headquarters in Portsmouth, Va. These important changes in the organization, as announced officially, follow the recent resignations of W. A. Garrett, and L. Sevier, both of their offices having been abolished.

### Royster's Body Recovered.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—After two days of hard work, dragging and diving in the canal, the body of young Arthur L. Royster was discovered about 8 o'clock Tuesday night at the Gervais street gates of the canal, having passed almost the entire length of the canal, nearly three miles, since he was drowned Monday morning. The body was taken to Oxford on the early morning Seaboard train Wednesday, accompanied by his brother, Tom, who arrived Tuesday morning, a delegation of Masons and a company of friends and office associates.

### Judge Overrules Motion.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—"I do not find anything wrong whatever in the manner in which this grand jury was drawn, summoned and empaneled," spoke Judge Newman from the bench in United States District Court Tuesday morning in referring to the motion of defendants in the First National Bank of Asheville conspiracy and embezzlement cases to quash the bill of indictment.

## THE NEWS IN BRIEF

### Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

### CLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

### Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

### At the meeting of druggists at Greensboro, N. C., last week, 33 applicants were licensed to practice pharmacy.

### Wm. J. Bryan, Jr., was married on Thursday to Miss Helen Virginia Berger, a Milwaukee heiress.

### The students under the direction of Prof. H. Pettit, of the Michigan Agricultural college have planned a war for the extermination of the mosquito. There are three expedients, drainage of stagnant pools, where practical; stocking with sun fish which devour the mosquito larvae, and the application of coal oil, where neither of the other modes is practical. Their undertaking at first is for the area of nine miles every way from the college.

### It is proposed to erect a \$25,000 monument to Senator Carmack at Nashville, Tenn. A commission authorized by the legislature has selected the site.

### Charles Dilsen and wife and a 12 year old daughter, who took refuge in a storm cellar during one of the late Texas cyclones, were found and rescued, more dead than alive, after two weeks. They had a limited supply of raw potatoes, but were without food for about a week and without water for two days. They will survive however.

### The Fayetteville celebration on Monday was attended by probably 10,000 people, and one in attendance says, he did not see an intoxicated man.

### At a Sunday school picnic, near Sparta, Ga., last week, a thunder storm came up suddenly, and lightning struck a tree under which sixteen children had gathered for protection from the rain, shocking each severely. Many were strangely affected, the outlines of the tree appearing as if photographed on the bodies of several of the children. No fatalities resulted, but several of the children were in a serious condition.

### Seventeen men were killed and 16 injured in the Lackawanna coal and coke explosion at Wehrum, Pa., last Wednesday.

### One million five hundred thousand dollars in gold in the form of dust and nuggets is soon to be one of the sights at the Yukon Exposition.

### Near Olympia, Ga., eleven bridge-builders took refuge in a signal tower, from a severe storm last week. Lightning struck the wires leading to the tower and nine men were more or less injured. One negro man, was fatally injured. The lightning did a number of curious feats, such as melting a watch chain without injuring the watch, tearing and ripping under garments, tearing ones shirt to shreds, while some of the men had blisters burned on them.

### Pittsburg, Pa., had a \$100,000 fire last Monday. The Michigan furniture company's six story building and several smaller buildings were destroyed.

### The Mauretania, which has been lowering the time across the Atlantic has now gotten the time from New York to London including train from landing to the city, down to five days and 8 hours.

### Mrs. Herman Wadsworth, of Chester, New York, has accomplished a voluntary task of surpassing Mr. Roosevelt's riding test. She rode 150 miles in 16 hours, using eight different horses.

### The Baptist Ministers conference of Chicago, on last Monday struck from its roll the name of Prof. Geo. Burman Foster, of the University of Chicago, for publishing a book denying the divinity of Christ.

### Ten persons were killed and 40 wounded near South Bend, Indiana, last Sunday in a head-on collision of trains, said to have been caused by lack of obedience to orders on the part of one of those killed.

### Washington News Notes.

### To a delegation from Wilmington, N. C., President Taft last Thursday promised to visit their city on his return from the West next fall.

### Senator Overman and others have expressed the opinion that Congress will adjourn by July 15.

### Congress on the nick of time has appropriated \$10,000,000 for taking the census of the nation.

### Judge Connor called at the White House and in person thanked President Taft for his appointment to the Eastern Judgeship.

### Foreign Affairs.

### The government of Spain has asked of Cuba to share part of her national debt, incurred on account of Cuba. Cuba declines to do so. Both governments couch their communications in the most friendly and respectful terms.

### The German reichstag has adopted policies so at variance with Chancellor von Buelow's declarations as to render the situation very critical.