# THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL.

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Colder; snow.

Begins

This Morning

THE WHEN'S

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With its wealth of wonderful values, with its array of deeply cut prices—a remarkable giving of big worth for little money—is on this morning. Here are the pre-inventory figures on Men's Suits.

Thirty Suits at One Dollar Each

They are small sizes—33 to 36 inches chest measure.

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Three hundred young Men's Suits—frocks and sacks—worth $10, $12 and $15—now $5.

At $5.00

Twenty-five Black Corkscrew Coats and Vests, worth $15. Sizes 33 to 36 inches chest measure.

At $7.75

Full lines of $10 and $12 Suits, and hundreds of $15 and $18 Suits from broken lots. A rich bargain for early buyers.

At $12.75

Full lines of $15 and $18 Suits, in Cheviots, Cassimeres, Vicunas, etc.

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Three hundred Boys' Overcoats, worth $8, $10 and $12 are divided into two classes.

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THE OTHER SELLS AT.$5.45

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BEGINS THIS MORNING

THE WHEN.

MURPHY, HIBBEN & CO.

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LADIES' SHIRT WAISTS

The line comprises all the novelties in Fabrics and Fashions. We personally warrant the garments to in every way render satisfaction in Fit and Finish.

Sole Agents in this Market. The Trade Mark Registered.

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"MARSALA" WINE
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A trial will convince you that it is perfect.

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| Arrive Greensburg... | 5.20 am | 8.35 am | 4.25 pm |
| Arrive North Vernon | 6.15 am | 9.35 am | 5.20 pm |
| Arrive Jeffersonville. | 7.30 am | 10.40 am | 6.35 pm |
| Arrive Louisville..... | 7.45 am | 10.55 am | 6.50 pm |

GOING NORTH.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Leave Louisville..... | *8.10 am | 2.40 pm | *8.10 pm |
| Leave Jeffersonville. | 8.25 am | 2.55 pm | 8.25 pm |
| Leave North Vernon. | 9.35 am | 4.02 pm | 9.40 pm |
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Cincinnati Fast Express, daily ex. Sunday.... 2:50 pm
Cincinnati and Dayton Vestibule, daily..... 5:35 pm
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You will be sure to find me at

Hotel English
CIGAR STAND
. . . FRANK COSTIGAN


## NO LONGER PROFITABLE.

**New York Saloon Keepers Realize that Sunday Laws Are Not to Be Broken.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The police relaxed in no degree their vigilance in watching the saloons to-day in their efforts to prevent violation of the excise law. As has been the case on all Sundays since the crusade against Sunday selling of liquor began, suspected places had uniformed patrolmen stationed at the doors, while detectives in citizens' clothing were active in seeking opportunities to gain entrance to saloons where business was being transacted. It was said to-day by an experienced police sergeant that the saloon keepers were taking the changed order of affairs as a matter of course now, and that only a very few of them, and those of the cheapest class, are making any attempt to violate the law. Sunday liquor selling, he said, is no longer profitable.

# BURNED BY LYNCHERS

**A GUILTY COUPLE'S HORRIBLE EXECUTION BY A KENTUCKY MOB.**

**Mrs. Thomas West Cremated in Her Own Home and Her Husband's Slayer Shot Attempting to Escape.**

## A DAUGHTER'S VAIN PRAYER

**POSSE OF UNMASKED NEIGHBORS DETERMINED ON VENGEANCE.**

**Most Brutal Tragedy in the Annals of the Bluegrass State Occurs Near Lebanon.**

LEBANON, Ky., Dec. 29.—Within two miles of this city last night a relentless mob burned to death a pregnant woman and riddled with bullets her gray-haired paramour. The blackened and disfigured corpses of the victims, Mrs. Thomas West and William Deveres, were found in the ruins of the woman's home to-day by the fourteen-year-old daughter of the murdered man.

The tragedy was one of the most brutal ever enacted under the gruesome sway of dread Judge Lynch. Despite the pleadings for her father's life of a half-clad, frightened child and the prayers and tears of the ill and helpless woman, the mob went through with its work with cold-blooded, cruel deliberation and left only when certain that both man and woman were dead.

The affair was the otugrowth of the old story of a faithless wife and vengeful husband. Several months ago Deveres, a middle-aged widower, was accused by Thomas West, a prosperous farmer, of intimacy with Mrs. West. Quarrel followed quarrel throughout the fall until West instituted divorce proceedings and declared that Deveres must die. Finally the men met in Lebanon. West snapped his revolver, which missed fire, and Deveres killed him on the spot. On the plea of self-defense, the murderer secured bail and scandalized the neighborhood by immediately taking his two daughters and moving into West's house. The relatives of the murdered husband swore vengeance, and last night it came. About 10 o'clock a band of men rode up to the West homestead and demanded admittance.

"Tom West is dead. Now it's your turn," the spokesman called and Deveres and the woman awoke to find their house surrounded. Mrs. West rushed to a darkened window and began a wild, hysterical plea for mercy. A dozen bullets answered her cries and the demand for immediate surrender was repeated. Deveres, too, asked for a hearing, but his request was greeted with a shower of shots.

"We'll give you ten minutes to open up. Then you burn," said the mob's leader, and his men quietly retired from the door.

A hurried consultation was held inside the house and then, white and terror-stricken, the little girl of Deveres was thrust out to plead with the mob. Clad in her night robe, barefooted and unprotected she bravely walked out into the moonlight and sobbed out a prayer for her white-haired father's life.

"Get out. You're liable to get shot yourself," a ruffian said, and thoroughly panic stricken, the child fled to the cabin of a negro neighbor.

Mrs. West then appeared at the door and referring to her condition, made a last appeal for mercy. It was unavailing, and in another moment the house was fired. The shrieks of the imprisoned wretches failed to move their torturers who, as the flames reached the living room, could see the man and woman in the agony of death by fire.

Just before the roof fell the woman was seen to reel across the room and plunge headlong into the fireplace among the burning coals, and there she died. Wild with pain, Deveres, at the last moment made a dash for liberty, but a score of bullets stopped him half a dozen steps from the door.

This morning the little girl led her negro protector to the scene and there the bodies, scorched beyond recognition, were found, untouched by the lynchers. There is but little doubt that the members of the mob will be captured, as they were without masks and made no attempt at secrecy.

It is not improbable that the scenes of last night will be re-enacted in the vicinity shortly, as the outrage has aroused the most intense indignation among the people of the county. Because of the fact that West's relatives had threatened vengeance there is a strong belief that they are responsible for last night's crime. The uncertainty, however, as to just who was implicated has so far prevented further trouble.

The child of Deveres, who was a witness to the tragedy, is dangerously ill as the result of the fright and exposure, but on her recovery she may be able to identify some of the lynchers. The night was brilliant with moonlight and the unmasked faces of the members of the mob should be easily identified as soon as the child is able to appear in court.

The scene of the horror was visited by crowds of curious people to-day, and it was well towards noon before the bodies were cared for by an undertaker. Mrs. West's corpse was charred almost beyond human semblance. Overcome by the flames, she had fallen into the large, old-fashioned fireplace of the living room, and the head was almost burned from the body.

Devere's body was pierced by at least twenty-five bullets. Before his desperate dash for liberty he had been frightfully burned and would probably have died without the gunshot wounds. His hair and beard were burned off, his clothes were in charred shreds and his face blistered and blackened. No arrests have so far been made, but developments are expected to-morrow.

Justice Nave late this afternoon held an inquest on the bodies of the victims. Several witnesses were examined, but nothing tending to incriminate any one was developed. The investigation will be continued to-morrow.

Deveres formerly lived at Knoxville, Tenn.

**Another Story of the Outrage.**

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—The Commercial Gazette's special from Lebanon, Ky., says: Mrs. Thomas J. West was burned to death by a mob and William A. Deveres riddled with bullets and afterwards also cremated last night. The mob called for Deveres to come out first, but Mrs. West and her little girl came to the door. The child was pulled outside and a volley of bullets fired into the house. When the fires were built around the house, Deveres rushed out with his pistol, firing on the mob. He was chased to a corn shock, from which he kept up the firing until killed. His body was riddle with bullets and then he was cremated. He was not burned alive as was the woman. There was no effort to save the woman, but it is generally believed she had been fatally shot before the house was fired, so that she could not escape. As her remains were found in the chimney she is believed to have jumped in the big fireplace when the fire was burning all around her. The child was left to wander alone about the ruins and was almost frozen when it was brought to town to-day. It wandered in the woods. It could not talk at first and is unable to-night to tell the story.

West's friends have been threatening something ever since Tom West was killed by Deveres three weeks ago. Mrs. West had three children. The two, who are young women, are said to have been driven from the West home when Deveres came there to live and they have been with West's relatives recently. Excitement is intense and it is believed that Mrs. West's friends will be revenged.

The Enquirer's special from Lebanon says: W. A. Deveres, a widower with two daughters, having had his life threatened by T. J. West on the charge of intimacy with his wife, killed West three weeks ago and was exonerated by the court. Deveres's elder daughter died and was buried three days ago, and from the grave Deveres went with his other daughter, Carrie, ten years old, to the house of Mrs. T. J. West and moved all his effects there. This caused excitement, which resulted in a mob of twenty-five masked men calling at the house last midnight and demanding to see Deveres. Mrs. West came to the door and said she was soon to be confined and begged them in the name of humanity to go away. The mob first fired shots in the air and the woman went into the house. Deveres came to the window and expostulated, but was answered with a volley. Then Carrie Deveres, the ten-year-old daughter, who was on the outside, pleaded piteously not to kill her father. A pistol was thrust in her face, and, half frightened to death, she ran to a negro cabin a half mile away and there remained the rest of the night. When brought here to-day she was dazed and unable to tell a coherent story. She said the house was fired and the mob saw through the windows the man and woman battling the flames and fired at them. At last Deveres ran out, his hair and clothing on fire, and with his single revolver attacked the mob. He was soon riddled with buckshot and pistol balls. The woman was found in the chimney to-day with her legs burned off, while the upper part of her body, screened somewhat by the chimney, was not charred or burned beyond recognition.

# KATE FIELD IN HAWAII

**PRESIDENT DOLE SAYS ANNEXATION IS THEIR SOLE OBJECT.**

**Denies in the Presence of His Cabinet that the Republic Contemplates Overtures to England.**

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—In the Times-Herald of to-morrow will be printed an interview with President Sanford B. Dole, of Hawaii, by Miss Kate Field. The interview is elaborate, filling several columns and touching closely on Hawaiian policy and international questions. Although it does not appear in Miss Field's letter, the talk was had in the presence of Mr. Dole's Cabinet, the members of which subscribed to their chief's opinions unreservedly. Miss Field called his attention to the fact that his government had been said to be characterized by an insane desire to perpetuate itself in office Mr. Dole said:

"The fact that the government is working for annexation to the United States is a good denial of that charge. Annexation may deprive us or some of us of office. In the higher offices are men to whom it means personal sacrifice and business loss to discharge their duties. It is simply a slander to say this desire for annexation is simply a pretense. We are working in good faith, and I believe the people appreciate the fact. As to the form of annnexation that would best meet our requirements it is difficult to say. A territorial form of government unmodified from the form obtaining in the United States Territories would scarcely be suitable. Probably the best course would be to gradually develop from our present system, the federal authorities of course having from the beginning jurisdiction over customs houses, postoffices and federal courts. Our own government should not be limited by the United States law concerning the Territories. A new system would have to be invented to suit our conditions, much the same as is the practice of England in establishing a new colony. There is no set system. Each new colony is organized as the necessity of the case demands."

In reply to a statement by Miss Field that she had been told if the United States did not annex the Hawaiian islands they would be offered to England, Mr. Dole said: "Our sole policy is annexation to the United States."

Other parts of the interview relate to the domestic, political and material affairs of the islands. Profit sharing is taking the place of contract labor, and other business and social improvements have been established.

# A BIMETALLIC UNION

**THREE SILVER ORGANIZATIONS COMBINE FOR POLITICAL WORK.**

**Plan of Campaign to Be Adopted at the Conference of Silver Men in Washington This Month.**

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—For some time past negotiations have been pending for a complete consolidation of the American Bimetallic League, National Bimetallic Union and the national silver committee, the three principal silver organizations in the United States, representing all sections of the country. Yesterday these negotiations culminated in an agreement by the representatives of the respective organizations by which such consolidation has been substantially perfected. Nothing now remains to be done but a ratification by the executive committees of these organizations, each acting separately, which will speedily follow.

The consolidated organization will be known as the American Bimetallic Union. Its principal office and general headquarters will be in Chicago, at No. 134 Monroe street, in the offices occupied by the National Bimetallic Union, with branch offices in Washington, San Francisco and, perhaps, in other cities, both North and South. It is the purpose of the united organization to press the campaign of education on behalf of bimetallism with the utmost vigor in all parts of the country.

A conference of pronounced silver men will be held at Washington on Jan. 22, when a plan of action will be outlined, which, it is said, will have an important bearing on the political events of next year.

**Cincinnati After the Convention.**

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 29.—The Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations have inaugurated a vigorous movement to secure the Democratic national convention when the committee meets in Washington next month. In addition to the guarantee fund of $50,000, provided yesterday, Music Hall is being remodeled and enlarged, so that there will be good accommodations for the convention, as well as ample hotel and other accommodations. With E. O. McCormick at the head of the local committee, there will be nothing left undone. This city would have contested for the Republican national convention, but for the fact that it was held that other candidates would have successfully objected to the advantage of the location for the friends of ex-President Harrison, from Indiana; of Governor Bradley, from Kentucky, and of Governor McKinley, from Ohio. As Greensburg, Ind., the center of population at the last federal census, is only a few miles west of this city, it will be argued that this is the most central city for the convention. Among the national conventions held were those nominating Buchanan, in 1856; Greely, in 1872; Hayes, in 1876, and Hancock, in 1880.

**Nellis Charged with Murder.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Albert A. Nellis, a real-estate dealer, was arrested to-day and held in $5,000 bonds, suspected of having murdered Mrs. Jane Runnett some time last night. The body of the murdered woman was found in the hallway of the house in which Nellis lived. The coroner's physician held an autopsy to-day and announced that death was due to a fracture of the skull, probably caused by a blunt instrument. Nellis at first denied that he was acquainted with Mrs. Runnett, but afterwards stated that he had known her for fifteen years and that his wife and the murdered woman were close friends.

# A FIGHTING RETREAT

**CUBAN INSURGENTS LAYING WASTE IN ALL DIRECTIONS.**

**Previous Reports About Their Having Left Province of Matanzas Appear Incorrect.**

## SPANISH CIRCLES UNEASY

**GENERAL CAMPOS GETS UP A BIG DEMONSTRATION IN HAVANA.**

**Badly Frightened a Few Days Ago, but Says He Is Now Himself Again—Skirmishes.**

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—In spite of the reports received here yesterday that the main body of the insurgents had retreated from the province of Matanzas and was once more in Santa Clara, reports continue to come in of damage done at various points in Matanzas and of threatening movements of bodies of insurgents. Whether these are wandering and isolated bands cannot be estimated accurately. An engagement with an insurgent band is also reported to-day from the province of Pinar del Dio, the westernmost on the island.

Uneasiness is also caused in official circles by reports that come from the province of Santiago De Cuba, the Oriental province. The report of Jose Maceo's flight, which was received here yesterday, seems to have been without foundation, as there are renewed evidences of his activity in that province and the troops stationed there are finding abundant occupation. The Spanish authorities have reason to suspect that a movement is contemplated in the Oriental province to bring about a junction of the insurgent bands there, and troops are actively engaged trying to prevent the coming together of Jose Maceo and Rabi, whose combined forces will afford means for a formidable movement that would effect a diversion and prevent the withdrawal of Spanish troops to reinforce those acting against Gomez, Antonio Maceo and Bandera in Matanzas and Santa Clara provinces.

Nothing authentic is known of the immediate whereabouts and doings of Gomez and his forces, who are said to be threatening Cienfuegos. Nothing has been heard from there to-day, though several skirmishes are said to have occurred in Santa Clara province, with the result that fifteen insurgents were killed and nine taken prisoners. The insurgents seem to be still in considerable force in the neighborhood of Cardenas and Cimarrones. The bands of Pancho and Perez, who were said to be retreating, burned the station at Murga and destroyed several houses at La Gunillas. They also plundered the stores at Contreras. The bands of Lacret and Roloff were last evening discovered to be moving in the immediate vicinity of Cardenas, just east of Matanzas, and the news created a great deal of excitement at that place, and it was suspected that an attempt was about to be made to capture the town, in pursuance of the earnest desire of the insurgents to hold a seaport. The garrison was called to quarters in hot haste, and waited long in expectation of an attack, while the volunteer forces of the business men of the place were also put under arms, manifesting enthusiasm in the service. The band of Rovau was also reported to be moving upon Cimarrones. The authorities here continue to claim with jubilation that the insurgents are powerless to effect the capture of any towns or seaports.

The skirmish in Pinar del Rio occurred in the district of Gushajav, the city of that name, capital of the district, being about twenty miles southwest of Havana. A column of troops attacked a band led by the famous insurgent bandit leader, Perico Delgado, who is said to have been seriously wounded, one of his men being killed and three taken prisoners. An expedition numbering eighteen men, led by a brother of the leader Mayar Rodriguez, has landed at Estero Junio, province of Puerto Principe. The plantations in Puerto Principe have commenced grinding their cane.

The guerilla chief, Lolo Benitez, surprised a band of twenty in the district of Manzanillo, province of Santiago de Cuba, among them being several insurgent leaders, who were celebrating Christmas night, and four of them were killed and three taken prisoners. A column commanded by Gen. Tejeda has had an engagement at Loma Ciegos, and has taken strong positions held by the insurgents at San Prudencio, in the province of Santiago de Cuba. Insurgents left on the field nine killed and carried away numerous wounded. Of the troops three were killed and ten wounded.

**A SPANISH DEMONSTRATION.**

**General Campos Has Occasion to Make Two Speeches in Havana.**

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—Last night's demonstration of political parties in honor of Gen. Campos proved the grandest popular outburst of sympathy toward the Spanish cause that has ever taken place in Havana. Conservatives, autonomists, reformists, Spaniards, Cubans, men, women and everybody united in a great brotherhood. About 40,000 people in all took part in the demonstration. The procession started at Central Park and took its course up Obisto street to the Plaza De Armas. In front of the palace a committee went up to give the General greeting. Senor Guzman, of the Union Constitutional, spoke on behalf of the Conservatives as follows: "Our party reassure you of their unconditional support wherever it is necessary. We protest against the revolution backed by many foreigners and by many Cuban bandits, and we are not disposed to be ruined by a tendency toward the rule of barbarism."

Gen. Campos answered as follows: "What can I reply to the noble words of Senor Guzman in behalf of the three parties? I congratulate myself on the unity of the political parties, and I entreat you at this moment not to forget what should be the standard of our future doings. The danger that threatens us is more showy than real, because the genuine majority of Cubans will never remain under the glorious banner of the civilized discoverer of America.

"I do not deny that my mind was gloomy a few days ago at Matanzas, when I saw the flames come even to our horses' hoofs. I do not deny my great sorrow when towns perish. I confess that if the enemy had attempted to resist there would have been a cruel punishment meted out for their execrable crimes. In view of the behavior of the rebels, I decided to return to Havana to conduct operations from here. But, gentlemen, I was disheartened at the thought that I had fallen under your displeasure. But upon arriving here I saw that I was assured of your unconditional support, which brought me ease of mind. I am, therefore, compelled to persevere, as I have always done, in the love of my country."

Gen. Campos was acclaimed in and outside the palace, and had to make his appearance on the balconies, while the spectators were frantically shouting "Viva Espana! Viva Campos."

In returning his thanks to the people Gen. Campos said: "Your demonstration in my honor is a proof of your love toward Spain and a protest against the vandal deeds of those who, in the name of liberty and independence, aim to desolate this beautiful and wealthy island, which is not even the land where they were born. In the presence of this glorious demonstration I feel proud that I was president of the council by which liberty to the negroes was sanctioned, because that law equalizes all who are brought up under the glorious Castilian banner. Thanks to you in the name of Spain, of our virtuous Queen and of the King."

This address was followed by more shouts of "Viva Espana" and great and prolonged cheering. The different party leaders all signed a message which was sent to Senor Canovas Del Castillo, the Spanish Premier, giving a description of the successful meeting and demonstration.

**Actively Fortifying Havana.**

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 29.—Passengers arriving from Cuba to-night report active operations around the fortifications in Havana commanding the harbor entrance. Passengers saw four immense eighty-ton improved guns, with many smaller ones, which are soon to be placed in position on the railroad from Havana to San Antonio. Explorers, or freight trains, precede all passenger trains. It is very difficult to man these bomb-hunting freight trains. Gen. Calaxto Garcia arrived from New York to-night.

**Campos Solid at Court.**

MADRID, Dec. 29.—The Cabinet council has decided to send Captain General Campos a telegram of confidence and congratulations.

## AN ANGRY BISHOP.

**Insulting Language to the Pastor of a California Episcopal Church.**

PLACERVILLE, Cal., Dec. 29.—Great excitement prevails here among all classes of people over the abusive language used by Bishop Wingfield, of the Northern Diocese of California, in criticising Rev. C. C. Pierce, rector and for over thirty years pastor of the Episcopal Church in this city. Bishop Wingfield, during the morning service, called a meeting of the vestry to determine whether this is a parish or a mission. Then pointing contemptuously to the pastor, he said: "If it is a mission we are going to put this man out. He is not worthy of his position."

He further more denounced Mr. Pierce as an unmitigated liar. The women comprising the congregation surrounded the pastor within the chancel, crying and attesting their allegiance to him. Excited crowds thronged the streets during the meeting of the vestry and threatened personal violence on the Bishop should his threatened removal of Mr. Piecre be accomplished.

# FALSE PATRIOTISM

**GOMPERS SAYS PEOPLE HOWLING FOR WAR ARE HYPOCRITES.**

**Speech of the New Federation President Before Leaving New York for This City.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Before leaving for Indianapolis, the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers made a farewell speech to the Central Labor Union to-day, in which he denounced a policy looking to war between the United States and England. He said: "Those who are stirring up this war scare are covering themselves with a mask of patriotism, behind which is hidden nothing but bluster and pomposity. Around, below and beneath this so-called patriotism is a scheme to enlarge the army and the navy. The true patriot is not looking for war. He wants peace. The workers of our country have no quarrel with the workers of other countries. They will not be swayed by political schemers."

**Tailors' Co-operative Movement.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The executive committee of the Brotherhood of Tailors has not yet decided definitely as to the location of the two co-operative shops which it proposes opening in a few days, and for which $1,000 has been appropriated from the funds of the brotherhood at the suggestion of Meyer Schoenfeld. Schoenfeld is sanguine that the proposed plan will prove successful and will eventually lead to the total extinction of the contractors. He claims that a large number of manufacturers have already asked for estimates from the tailors, and at the same time have given assurances of dealing directly with the tailors in preference to the contractors. Meyer Schoenfeld has engaged sewing machines and other apparatus for the equipment of the new shops, which he expects to be running on Wednesday next.

A mass meeting of the locked-out tailors took place to-day in Wallhalla Hall. Speeches were delivered by leaders Schoenfeld, Schweitzer, Robinson and White, of the Brotherhood of Tailors.

**Engineers Opposed to a Strike.**

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 29.—Chief Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, had further interviews to-day with the committees representing the engineers on the Plant system. General Superintendent Dunham has referred the matter of contracts to President H. B. Plant. No advices have yet been received from him. It is expected that Mr. Plant will either wire instructions to-morrow or come in person. It is the impression that President Plant will indorse the position his several superintendents have taken in opposition to written contracts. The engineers and firemen are said to be standing together and will act in unison. If there be a strike it will be made general, covering the system from Charleston, S. C., to Tampa, Fla., and as far west as Montgomery, Ala. The employes are averse to such a step and believe some satisfactory solution will be reached.

**Hebrew Social Labor Party Meets.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The seventh annual convention of the Hebrew branch of the Social Labor party convened here to-day. The session was taken up with the work of the credentials committee. The convention, as finally assembled, consists of sixty delegates, representing thirty organizations from the larger cities of the United States. The convention will continue throughout the week.

## FRANK ROGERS'S REVENGE.

**Shot a Wayward Girl and Then Committed Suicide.**

SISTERVILLE, W. Va., Dec. 29.—At Cochransville, two miles below here, last evening Frank Rogers, twenty years old, while drunk shot Alice McClelland, formerly of Pittsburg, through the right breast and left wrist, and then, turning the pistol on himself, fired two bullets through his heart. Miss McClelland was an inmate of one of the disreputable houseboats which are numerous along the river, both above and below this city. Last night Rogers tried to induce her to leave the boat and marry him. The girl refused. There was a scuffle, and finally Rogers pushed a revolver into her face and fired. The girl held the weapon aside and got the ball through the wrist. His second shot entered the right breast.

Rogers, thinking the girl dead, fired two bullets into his own breast, one just above and the other directly through the heart. The girl is in a serious condition, the pistol being .38 calibre and the bullet making a terrible hole in her breast.

## MRS. PURSELL CAN SHOOT.

**Killed a Would-Be Lover Who Broke Down the Door.**

CIRCLEVILLE, O., Dec. 29.—Edward Miller was shot and killed last night by Mrs. Josephine Pursell, wife of a farmer living near here. Miller had been paying attention to Mrs. Pursell for some time, much against her will. Last night Miller went to the Pursell house in an intoxicated condition in the absence of Pursell. Being refused admittance, he broke down the door. The woman armed herself with a revolver and warned him to leave. She did not intend to shoot, she says, but the pistol was accidentally discharged and Miller fell dead with a bullet in his brain. Mrs. Pursell came here to-day and gave herself up.

**The Mob to Blame.**

BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—An inquest over the victims of the Front-street Theater disaster was held to-day and the coroner's jury found that no one was to blame, except the people in the audience who lost their heads and brought on the panic.

# SCANDAL IN PULPIT

**SAN FRANCISCO PREACHER ADMITS PAYING BLACKMAIL.**

**Rev. C. O. Brown, Leading Congregational Minister, Causes the Arrest of Mrs. Mary A. Davidson.**

## $10,000 ASKED FOR SILENCE

**PAID $500 DOWN AND THE REST TO BE IN INSTALLMENTS.**

**Questionable Features of the Woman's Story That Reflect on the Rev. Brown's Reputation.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Mary A. Davidson has been arrested on the charge of extortion preferred by Rev. C. O. Brown, pastor of the First Congregational Church. Dr. Brown charges her with blackmail and says he paid her $500 to secure her silence in regard to his alleged relations with Miss Overman, a young woman from Tacoma, who visited at his house.

The First Congregational Church is the largest and most fashionable of that denomination in the city. Mrs. Davidson, who is a woman about sixty years old, came here during the midwinter fair as representative of a Boston corset firm and lately conducted a corset store of her own here. She has attended Dr. Brown's church for about a year and has taken great interest in church matters. Miss Overman came here from Tacoma for her health and visited at the house of Dr. Brown, whose family she knew in Tacoma. After a stay of several months, during which time she became acquainted with Mrs. Davidson, Miss Overman returned to Tacoma, but came back to San Francisco, when Mrs. Davidson promised to secure employment for her.

According to Dr. Brown, Mrs. Davidson came to him last November at the time when there was intense excitement in the city over the exposure of several old men who had been debauching young girls, and told him she had been commissioned by Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Baddin, a lodging house keeper, to demand $2,000 down and $100 a month for ten years if he did not want his intimacy with Miss Overman exposed. Mrs. Davidson said that Miss Overman had confided in her and would testify against him and that Mrs. Baddin knew that he had occupied a room in a lodging house with an unknown woman. Mrs. Davidson pointed out to him that owing to the state of public feeling almost anything that witnesses would swear to would be believed, and advised him to settle at once.

Dr. Brown was horrified at the nature of the charges brought against him and saw no means of escape. He succeeded, however, in reducing the figures to $500 down and $35 a month for five years. He paid Mrs. Davidson $500, for which she signed a receipt. After paying the money Dr. Brown attempted to find Mrs. Baddin, but without success. Finally he met Miss Overman, who was shopping with Mrs. Davidson, and reproached her with her perfidy. She indignantly denied that she had made any charges and when confronted with Mrs. Davidson denounced the woman as infamous. Miss Overmann immediately left Mrs. Davidson's house and went to the home of Dr. Brown, where she is now under the protection of his wife. Then the minister consulted with the deacons of the church and the result is the arrest of Mrs. Davidson. Both the minister and Miss Overman deny that there is the slightest foundation for the charges.

Mrs. Davidson, when seen after her arrest, said Dr. Brown called on her several months ago and voluntarily confessed his love for Miss Overman. He asked her advice and she told him to sever his relations with the girl at once. Miss Overman, she says, confessed her love for Dr. Brown, and that he had promised to pay her $35 a month. A few days after this Mrs. Davidson says Dr. Brown handed her $35 to give to Miss Overman, saying he had promised to pay her that amount for ten months. Some time ago a strange woman, who called herself Mrs. Baddin, called on Mrs. Davidson and said she knew of Dr. Brown's intimacy with Miss Overman, and demanded $10,000 as the price of her silence. About six weeks ago she sent for Dr. Brown and told him of Mrs. Baddin's demands. She says he replied: "It is all true, and more too."

Mrs. Davidson continued: "He refused to see the woman, and asked me to handle the business for him. He said: 'You have our hearts' secrets,' and told me everything. Dr. Brown said he could not pay her $10,000, but would pay $5,000, with $500 down and the rest at the rate of $35 a month. Dr. Brown said he would leave San Francisco within three months, as he had calls from churches in Brooklyn and Philadelphia."

Next day, she says, she paid the $500 to Mrs. Baddin, who said she was going to leave town, but would return each month for the $35. Mrs. Davidson says Dr. Brown has paid $35 for Miss Overman in August and September, November and December. She concluded her statement by saying: "I have kept this secret for the sake of the church; for the sake of Miss Overman and Dr. Brown, but the truth must be told and I am sorry I am obliged to divulge these things."

The Chronicle says: "Miss Overman is a tall young woman with red hair and blue eyes. She is said to be a divorced woman. Mattie Overman is her maiden name. Some months ago she came to the Chronicle and offered a story on a prominent man for $1,000. She is not particularly good looking, but is an interesting talker."

So far the police have failed to find any trace of Mrs. Baddin or the lodging house which she is said to have kept.

The First Congregational Church was crowded this morning as the result of the exposure of the alleged blackmailing attempt on Dr. Brown. The minister appeared as usual, and in his sermon referred indirectly to the attack on his reputation. One of the deacons also spoke and corroborated Dr. Brown's statement that he had consulted with the officers of the church before causing the arrest of Mrs. Davidson. After the church services a number of the congregation shook hands with Dr. Brown and expressed confidence in him.

## TWIN ROBBERIES.

**Mrs. Barnes Lost $10,000 in Jewels the Night Burden Was Robbed.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—In addition to the robbery of the $65,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry from the Madison-square mansion of I. Townsend Burden Friday night, it now transpires that another robbery similar in its mode of execution was committed the same evening in the house of Mrs. Francis N. Barnes, at 239 Central Park West, at about the same hour at which the Burden house was robbed. The loss in the case of Mrs. Barnes, however, was considerably less than that of the Burden, aggregating not more than $10,000. Mrs. Barnes had been at dinner with her son in the dining room and discovered that she had been robbed when she returned to her own apartment. Her diamonds and jewelry were in a pasteboard box in a drawer in her dressing case and she found that the top of the box had been torn off and its contents stolen while she had been at her dinner. It is supposed that the thief or thieves entered the premises by a window from the rear.

Acting Captain O'Brien said to-day that he is working on both the Burden and Barnes cases with all the ability of the department, but that nothing of importance had developed and that no arrests had been made thus far.