

ST. LOUIS HAS MURDER MYSTERY

Francis D. Hirschberg a Millionaire Insurance Man and Prominent Citizen Shot in His Own Home This Morning.

A MURDER OR SUICIDE?

Weapon Which Accomplished His Death Was One Used by St. Louis Policeman Thirty Years Ago.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 8.—Francis D. Hirschberg, a millionaire insurance underwriter, ex-director in the World's Fair, and generally known as St. Louis "Ward McAllister," died today at a home from a bullet wound in the head. His death is shrouded in mystery and until a complete investigation is made the police refuse to voice an opinion whether it is murder or suicide. Members of the family declare Hirschberg is the victim of an assassin. The indications show that the millionaire was shot as he stood on the landing in the front stairway, and the bullet passed entirely through his head. No powder marks show where the bullet entered. Hirschberg was fully dressed for the day when shot. He spent the night at home. His wife was awakened when her husband walked through the room. Apparently the millionaire at that time was unable to speak because of the wound, although he was still able to walk. He made no reply to his wife's inquiries but passed into the bath room. His wife rushed to him, saw him striving to stop a flow of blood from a wound but was unable to offer an explanation. She hurried him to bed, a doctor was called but death soon followed. A revolver from which the shot was fired was found on the stairway, where Hirschberg stood when shot. It was an old fashioned weapon, a buldog style type, used by St. Louis policemen thirty years ago. Members of the household as the weapon did not belong to Hirschberg. As soon as the report was made to the police headquarters detectives were assigned, and the result of their investigation is not yet made public.

Finances Unsatisfactory.
Business associates today declare Hirschberg's finances are unsatisfactory. It is unknown whether Hirschberg was connected with the Fidelity Funding company but the police theory is, perhaps the losses are the result of the failure and affected his reason.

Positive It Was Suicide.
Basing an opinion on newly discovered evidence the police this afternoon asserted positively the death of Francis Hirschberg was suicide. The deputy coroner after a minute examination declared he had found powder marks around the bullet wound on the right jaw. It shows the weapon was held close to the head. Barrett Forst, a nephew of Hirschberg, identified the old revolver as one often seen in his uncle's possession. The statements by his business associates that Hirschberg declared his business unsatisfactory that he had been in ill health for some time, strengthened the suicide theory.

Fidelity Failure May Involve.
In the recent failure of the Fidelity Funding Company the police see the possible cause of suicide. It is unknown whether he was connected with the company, but as a prominent Catholic it is believed he may have been involved. The police idea is that the heavy loss in this failure may have prompted the suicide and are endeavoring to establish some connection between the death and the Fidelity failure. The murder theory is also under investigation. One theory is that Hirschberg was shot by a person with whom he had an engagement at his home. If Hirschberg admitted the assassin himself, it would account for the lack of evidence of a violent entrance.

LOCAL OPTION LAW CONSTITUTIONAL

Case in the Ohio Courts to Give Counties Voice on Prohibition Upheld.

FINDLAY, Ohio, Dec. 8.—The Rice law, under which since last October the voters of Ohio were able to call special elections to decide whether any county shall be wet or dry, was today declared constitutional. The decision was by Judge Duncan in a test case and dissolves the temporary injunction preventing the law taking effect in Hancock county after Dec. 15. The case will go to the highest courts.

Powder Explosion.
WEBB CITY, Mo., Dec. 8.—A nitroglycerine tank at the Independent Powder Works exploded today. One man was killed and several seriously injured. The explosion was felt for a radius of fifteen miles.

—Read The Daily Gate City.

TAFT URGES A CLOSER UNION

In a Notable Speech in New York He Suggests Suffrage Law to Prevent Domination of Ignorant Classes.

TAFT URGES A CLOSER UNION

As President He Promises to Leave Nothing Undone to Solve the Problems—Address at a Banquet.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—In a notable speech at the annual banquet of the North Carolina Society at the Hotel Astor last night, President-elect Taft declared in favor of an educational qualification for suffrage in the southern states in order to free them from the domination of ignorant classes, white or black. He insisted, however, that the law should be enforced alike against ignorant whites and blacks.

Pleading for closer union of north and south, Judge Taft said: "During the last decade, in common with all lovers of our country, I have watched with delight and thanksgiving the bond of union between the two sections grow firmer. I pray that it may be given to me to strengthen this movement, to obliterate all sectional lines and leave nothing of difference between the north and south save a friendly emulation for the benefit of our common country."

Mr. Taft followed up the advantages of his trip through the south during the recent campaign, and urged again that the voters of that section break away from the outworn sectional traditions of their past political affiliations and cast their ballots in accordance with their economic and real political beliefs. At the conclusion of practically every one of his pointed sentences Mr. Taft was interrupted or applauded and cheered.

Five hundred members and guests of the city filled the brilliantly decorated banquet hall, which was replete of the pines of the Tar Heel state.

Extracts from Address.
I come at once to the present condition of things stated from a constitutional and political standpoint, and that is this: That in all southern states it is possible, by election or by prescribing proper qualifications for the suffrage, which square with the fifteenth amendment and which shall be equally administered as between the black and white races, to prevent entirely the possibility of a domination of southern state, county or municipal government by an ignorant electorate, white or black.

I pray that it may be given to me to strengthen this movement to obliterate all sectional lines and leave nothing of difference between the north and the south save a friendly emulation for the benefit of our common country.

There was in the last campaign—and there is today—throughout the south among its most intelligent citizens an irritation, a nervousness and a restlessness in voting for one ticket and in rejoicing in the success of another.

I believe the movement away from political solidarity has started and ought to be encouraged, and I think one way to encourage it is to have the south understand that the attitude of the north and the republican party is one of hostility or criticism or opposition, political or otherwise; and that the north yearns for closer association with the south.

IS CHARGED WITH ARSON

Defense of Woman is that Mind is Unbalanced.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Iowa, Dec. 8.—The trial of Mrs. Anna Myers on the charge of arson came before the district court this afternoon for hearing. It will be hotly contested.

Mrs. Myers, it is charged, attempted to burn a house in which the Livesay family was sleeping last July, north of here. It was thought her motive was spite work. The fire was discovered before serious damage was done.

Mrs. Myers has been in Dr. Hill's sanitarium in Des Moines for several months and underwent a serious operation. She was in apparently good health when she appeared in the court room today. Her sole defense will be insanity. Dr. Hill will appear as a witness. The jury was selected Monday afternoon.

Davis Evidence Finished.

OMAHA, Dec. 8.—Evidence was completed in the Davis trial today. The expected sensation today failed to develop. The argument was begun and is expected to be finished tomorrow and the case go to the jury on the afternoon of Wednesday. The judge refused to limit the time of arguments.

Race Track Gambling Doomed.

DALLAS, Texas, Dec. 8.—Race track gambling in Texas, one of the few remaining strongholds of the sporting fraternity, seems doomed. A fight against the sport is now being organized.



Santa Claus—"Walk right in! Glad to see you here." The holiday trade promises to be very great this year.—News Item.

CASHIER USED BANK FUNDS

E. S. Rowland of a California Bank Admits to Examiner That He Speculated With Bank's Money.

BOUGHT MINING STOCK

Used One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Dollars and Put it Into Worthless Mining Ventures—Arrested.

HEALDSBURG, Cal., Dec. 8.—E. S. Rowland, a cashier of a bank here, confessed today to Bank Commissioner Watson that he had invested a hundred and twenty thousand of the bank's funds in worthless mining stock. The speculations have covered several years. He had looted the banks and vaults. On an order to protect the depositors from loss, the Farmers' and Merchants' bank assumed the liabilities. Criminal proceedings will be begun against Rowland.

MORLEY'S MEASURE IS UNSATISFACTORY

Temporizing With the Seditious Population in India is Not Approved.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 8.—A clash between Lord Morley, secretary of state, in India, and the Anglo-Indian element of the population, is imminent as a result of the former's plan of suppressing a wave of sedition by liberalizing the colonial government, which the secretary officially announced would occur Monday. The Anglo-Indians believe sedition ultimately will be crushed only by military strength and are opposed to temporizing measures.

FLOOD CONDITIONS AT PINE BLUFF

Breaking of the Government Dyke Exposes the Resident Part of the City.

PINE BLUFF, Dec. 8.—Flood conditions, notwithstanding the recession of the Arkansas river prevail today, following the breaking of the government dyke, protecting the eastern end of the city. A large portion of the resident section is now exposed and a heavy loss is feared.

ROBBERY OF A PORTLAND BANK

Men Escaped With Over Sixteen Thousand at the Close of Business.

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—The East Side bank, located at East Washing Street and Grand avenue, was robbed last evening by three masked men, who held up the president of the bank, Henry H. Newhall, and his son Roger Newhall. They were just closing the day's business. It is understood the robbers secured \$16,500.

CONSERVATION CONFERENCE ON

Governors Representatives, Senators and Other Distinguished Men Present at the National Conservation Meeting.

ROOSEVELT AND TAFT BUT HIS MEMORY FAILED

Put on the Program for Addresses at the Afternoon Meeting—Deaneen and Johnson Present.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The governors of many states of the union arrived here to participate in the general conservation conference held this afternoon in which the governors, representatives of the house and senate and delegates of the national and state and commission members of the national rivers and harbors congress, southern commercial congress and other commercial bodies, now in session at Washington, will be present. An informal session was held at the New Willard Hotel this morning, attended by the visiting governors and other distinguished men. The general meeting will convene this afternoon at 4:15. Roosevelt, Taft and Gov. Chamberlain of Oregon, are the speakers. Gov. Johnson of Minnesota, is here as a delegation to attend both the conservation conference and the rivers and harbors congress. Gov. Deaneen of Illinois, is expected with a delegation of thirty men of his state.

Favors Federal Control.

A new policy of giving the federal government absolute control over the streams and forests and mineral resources of the United States by the creation of an inter-state conservation commission was advocated by Governor Chamberlain before the conservation congress. He spoke in behalf of the government. He asked the governors east, north and south to join the movement, promising the co-operation of the west. He declared the question of conservation policy to be adopted by the future was the paramount issue in congress. The power of congress over the forests, streams and mines, he said, was recognized by the supreme court. Therefore he believed the government policy of conservation more practicable than the state.

"It would not be understood as claiming congress has the purpose of disturbing rights which have been established through national or state rights but on the contrary insist that such rights be promoted by the courts here suggested."

Chicago and Alton Orders Engines.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Dec. 8.—Announcement was made Saturday that the Chicago and Alton has placed an order with the American Locomotive works for the construction of ten consolidated freight engines, five Pacific type passenger engines and five of the heaviest class switch engines, to cost \$350,000. Delivery will be early in March.

—Read The Daily Gate City.

TILFORD HAS A POOR MEMORY

Had a Contract of the California Standard Co., With the Union Oil Co. in His Pocket.

BUT HIS MEMORY FAILED

Rosenthal Announces That Wm. Rockefeller and James Moffitt Would Not be Put on the Stand.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—It was announced today by Rosenthal in the Standard suit that Wm. Rockefeller and James A. Moffitt, President of the Indiana Standard, would not be put on the stand for the defense. I have covered the field of the other witnesses, it was explained. He said he intended to cover the field with an expert witness in various lines to show the company was an economic institution with college professors and eminent critics among them.

H. M. Tilford was on the stand today. Kellogg questioned him regarding the contract by which the California Standard obliterated the Union Oil Company. Notwithstanding the copy of a contract in his possession over night Tilford seemed unable to remember the greater part. His memory was vague under the examination of the government. "Why can't you remember this contract when you know so much concerning the affairs of the Pacific Coast Oil Company, the predecessor of your company?" Kellogg asked.

Tilford was unable to suggest a reason and his counsel began an argument attacking the general line of the inquiry.

Continuing the examination Kellogg asked if the Standard of California sold 53 per cent of the oil consumed on the Pacific coast territory. Tilford evaded a direct answer. The witness admitted 15 cents a barrel was the price paid for several million barrels of crude oil which the previous witness declared was bought in 1904-5-6 when there was no market. "Oil is now worth 50 cents isn't it," asked Kellogg.

"I guess so," said Tilford. Kellogg asked if at the termination of the contract with the Union Oil Co. the Standard did not reduce the price to Los Angeles consumers so the Union could not compete through the marketing branch of the Puerta company. Tilford could not remember but promised to refresh his memory. In response to Rosenthal's off-hand question what the government was attempting to prove by the witness Kellogg remarked: "I can't see what you presented him for but maybe we'll find out if we keep at him long enough. Rosenthal took Tilford for a redirect examination and then Kellogg resumed the cross questioning. Tilford winced occasionally under the severe fire. The examination concluded, he was excused, and the hearing adjourned until tomorrow.

—Do your Christmas shopping with Keokuk merchants.

STATEMENT MADE FOR KIERNAN

Denies the Rumor That His Client is Missing and That He Will be On Hand When Necessary.

LESLIE SHAW INVOLVED

Former Secretary of the Treasury Holds Notes For a \$60,000 Loan. Fidelity Operations Unique.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Bainbridge Colby, counsel for P. J. Kiernan, former head of the failed Fidelity Funding Company, declared to the report that P. J. Kiernan was missing is unfounded. Kiernan is endeavoring to straighten out his own affairs, declared Colby and thus has been unable to give Receiver Gilroy any aid in getting an insight into the affairs of the Fidelity. He will be on hand when necessary he said. Despite this statement Receiver Gilroy is still unable to get the tangle cleared. The report of criminal proceedings started against some persons involved in the crash is denied by Gilroy. The fact that former secretary of the treasury Shaw, is a creditor in the Fidelity company of sixty thousand, does not mean he will lose this sum. He has apparently valid notes, supported by collateral for fifty thousand. For the other ten thousand he has stock in the Fidelity company. The methods which the Fidelity worked are unique, according to Gilroy.

Nauvoo Academy Bankrupt.

Reiterating the allegation the affairs of the Fidelity Funding Co. are involved the creditors will probably recover nothing and that the St. Mary's Academy at Nauvoo, Ill., is hopelessly bankrupt as a result of the dealings of the concern, that Kiernan does not dare to return to New York and submit to an examination of his operation, Thomas F. Gilroy, receiver, today at his office here exhibited an order of the supreme court for an examination of Kiernan, who is now in Washington. He declared the Kiernan statement that the company was solvent is a "lie" and said an examination of the accounts would show a million and a half dollars unaccounted for on the books in his possession. It was revealed today by the creditors of the Fidelity, Columbia Construction Company and Federal construction, that Kiernan personally signed the power of attorney for the firm of Sullivan and Cromwell and W. Nelson Cromwell personally had the right to settle all claims as the receiver in a manner deemed best.

Copies of this power of attorney were sent to Gilroy who declined a statement. Gilroy cited an example of a deal alleging that a bonus of fifty thousand was paid for the accommodation of one hundred and thirty-five thousand. The bank paid the Fidelity \$155,000, and accepting a note of \$15,000 plus interest. This amount, with similar sums, Gilroy will not try to recover by process of law. Some listed assets of the company, Gilroy says, will bring only a small part of the face value, while many bonds, the only value will be old paper. He said Keiran had a personal book and had not turned them over which would help straighten out the affairs. When told Keiran said he had given all the books Gilroy said, "He is a liar."

Creates Great Excitement.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 8.—The financial condition of the Fidelity Funding Company excited great interest here because the effect it may have on the credit of the Catholic institutions throughout the country. It is reported today a mortgage on which \$300,000 loan was secured by St. Vincent's college was raised, is said to have been sold twice in New York. This, however, can in no way involve the college except the possible impairment of its credit. The Fidelity company had a dealing with the Mutual bank here. It is said to have loaned \$50,000 to Keiran on a certificate of deposit issued by the Euclid Avenue Trust company of Cleveland. An officer of the Mutual declared he had ample security for the loan, and had instituted a suit some time ago, so as to protect the claim.

Nauvoo Schools Will Not Close.

[Special to The Gate City.]
NAUVOO, Ill., Dec. 8.—Sister Mary, in charge of St. Mary's academy and Spaulding institute, said this afternoon that the failure of the Fidelity Funding company would not affect either of the two schools here and that there were no preparations being made to close down the educational institutions as is rumored. But little information will be given out from those in charge excepting a firm denial that the schools will be affected to an extent large enough to cause a closing of the schools. St. Mary's academy for girls has a larger enrollment than ever before and Spaulding institute for boys has about fifty boys enrolled for this, its first year.

BODY GUARD FOR "BILLY" SUNDAY

Attempts Against the Life of the Well Known Evangelist in Service at Muscatine Are Made.

THREATENED TO SHOOT

Lights Turned Out as Tabernacle Meeting Starts—Panic Narrowly Averted—Five Thousand Attend.

MUSCATINE, Iowa, Dec. 8.—Despite sensational efforts made to stop Rev. William A. Sunday's meeting here last night by cutting the electric light wires five minutes before the meeting commenced, four thousand people heard the evangelist. Mr. Sunday's life was threatened last night and he had a big force guarding him. Sunday threatens to shoot any man who touches him. The lights were extinguished just as services started. Several lamps were placed upon the platform and the choir and an orchestra sang for about thirty minutes until the wires were repaired. As soon as Sunday heard the cause of the darkness, he arose and in terms vituperative arraigned the element that presented the opposition.

"This is the work of those whiskey-soaked, white-livered, degenerate scoundrels that I fight, men who have no respect for the laws of man or God. It is the dirtiest bunch this side of hell. My life was threatened several times today and I have a permit from your mayor to carry a gun, and the first man who lays his hands on me will be pumped full of lead."

Jeers Mincled With Applause.
Deafening applause greeted his speech. Those in charge of the meeting, however, feared developments. From the rear of the building came jeers from the enemies of the man who closed the saloons here.

When the lights went out a panic was narrowly averted, for many thought the occurrence but the fore-runner of a dastardly plot and started for the exits. They were quieted to a certain extent but on account of the darkness they feared a crime might have easily been accomplished. The exact cause of the trouble was not ascertained. One of the wires was down but it was near the entrance and for an enemy to have attempted it would have been dangerous. No one witnessed the deed.

About five thousand people heard the address. The tabernacle was filled at 6:30. As an attempt was made to assault Sunday on his arrival, a large body guard of friends guarded him at the station when he departed.

Depot Burns at La Plata.
LA PLATA, Mo., Dec. 8.—The Wash depot was burned last night. The tickets, a large amount of express and several pouches of mail were destroyed. Damage to the building is placed at \$3,000.

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri Wired from Chicago.

For Keokuk and Vicinity: Fair tonight and Wednesday.
For Illinois: Fair except snow flurries in the extreme north portion this afternoon or tonight; warmer tonight; Wednesday fair.
For Iowa and Missouri: Fair tonight and Wednesday.

Weather Conditions.
The barometer is high from the Rockies to the Atlantic over the southern portion of the country, and low along the entire northern boundary, with the greatest depressions in New England and Oregon.

Clearing, colder weather has followed rains in the eastern portion of the country, and it is warmer from the Mississippi valley westward. There have been light snow flurries in the Upper Mississippi valley and the upper lake region and it is raining in Oregon.

Fair, moderately cold weather is indicated in this section tonight and Wednesday.

River Bulletin.

St. Paul	La Crosse	Davenport	Galland	Keokuk	St. Louis
.14	.12	.15	.13	.12	.15
.14	.12	.15	.13	.12	.15
.14	.12	.15	.13	.12	.15
.14	.12	.15	.13	.12	.15

Local Observations.

Dec. 7, 7 p.m. ... 20.25 18.8 Clear
8, 7 a.m. ... 30.25 22.5 SW Clear
River below low water of 1864, 5 tenths; change in 24 hours, fall 1 foot, tenths.
Mean temperature, 12.
Maximum temperature, 21.
Minimum temperature, 3.
FRED Z. GOSWISCH, Observer.

C. B. & Q. Bridge, Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 7.—The present stage of the river is 1 foot, 1/4 inch above low water mark; a fall of 3 inches since last report.