

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MARKED BY LITTLE LIFE

BALLOTING FOR SENATOR RESULTS IN BUT SLIGHT CHANGE—CARTER LEADS.

DUFFY CONTEST DROPPED

Resolutions Offered in House on Death of Late Charles M. Crutchfield—Vaughan of Sanders Gives Notice of Bill to Redistrict State—Law Department for University.

Helen, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—The senatorial contest was lifeless today. The people in the galleries looked as if they were attending a funeral, and legislators answered to their names in an indefinite sort of way.

The result of the ballot follows: Carter 34, Walsh 21, Conrad 18, and scattering 17.

The presence of one or two favorite sons changed the votes a little. Bell of Yellowstone gave Frank J. Arkins, editor of the Billings Gazette, a complimentary vote and the presiding officer and the clerk spoiled the happy turn by inquiry several times, "Who? Spell his name?" Arkins smiled through it all. Judge E. K. Cheadle of Lewistown got four votes and Judge L. L. Callaway of Virginia City two. There was no feature to the voting.

Blinnard of Silver Bow, the Brummed of the house, did cause a round of applause by saying, when his name was called: "I vote for Thomas J. Walsh—our next senator." Here the Walsh supporters showed signs of life.

Free Employment Offices.

The senate adopted the majority report on senate bill No. 25, providing for the establishment of free employment offices in towns. The minority report favored the creation of such offices upon the petition of 100 or more people. Senator Donlan spoke for the bill, saying that such offices could be conducted by city clerks or treasurers without additional expense.

The primary bill introduced by Everett will be printed. A motion to this effect passed the senate.

Senator Everett introduced a bill for a constitutional amendment relating to the taxation of mines and mining claims.

The senate committee on privileges and elections submitted a resolution, which was adopted, authorizing it to summon witnesses and take testimony in connection with the contest cases.

With the senate in committee of the whole, McCarthy presiding, senate bill No. 14, Donlan, relating to the examination of and commitment of insane persons, was favorably reported, as was S. B. No. 15, providing for an additional deputy boiler inspector.

Taxation of Mortgages.

S. B. No. 10, relating to the taxation of mortgages, provoked quite a discussion, the first debate of the session. Duncan doubted the constitutionality of it, Edwards touched it, that George favored it, and Myer and Everett preferred the present law. The bill was recommended for passage.

The house killed Johnson's anti-cigarette bill, and the bill providing traveling and living expenses for judges other than those in which they reside. The latter bill, it is argued, is unconstitutional.

Duffy Contest Dismissed.

The committee on privileges and elections dismissed the contest case against Duffy of Granite.

Speaker McDowell appointed a committee composed of C. H. of Silver Bow, Word of Lewis and Clark, and Storey of Gallatin, to act with a like committee from the senate to consider the advisability of purchasing the insane asylum at Warm Springs.

Johnson of Ravalli, Woody of Missoula and Whaley of Broadwater, offered resolutions to the membership of the late Charles M. Crutchfield.

Musselshell County.

The senate committee on counties and towns favorably reported the bill for Musselshell county, at the expense of Magier, Ferguson and Yellowstone. In the house notice was given of the following bills:

By Vaughan, Sanders—Providing for the redistricting of the state, the appointment of four additional state veterinary surgeons and for the testing, destruction and disposition, under the general supervision of the livestock board.

By Vaughan—To regulate common carriers, and provide for certain appliances conferring certain powers on the railroad commission.

By Grubb—Providing for the ac-

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A PLEA FOR THE FORESTS MADE BY PRESIDENT TAFT

Washington, Jan. 13.—Everything in the way of forest preservation must not be expected from the federal government, in the opinion of President Taft, who tonight addressed the annual banquet of the American Forestry association. He said he did not like "to secure the states" on their business because he had enough to do in attending to the affairs of the central government, but he expressed the belief that some states were not doing their duty to the forests.

BIG JUDGMENT ENTERED

Butte, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—Judge McClerman today gave judgment by default against the Basin Reduction company and in favor of the State Savings bank for \$158,920. It was on a note for \$145,000, given March 3, 1907, for money borrowed, and to bear interest at 8 per cent. The interest was paid to November 1, 1909, but not since. An attorney's fee of \$2,500 was allowed.

WOMAN CONFESSES TO MURDER OF SON

MRS. EDITH MELBER, PRETTY YOUNG WIDOW, GAVE BOY POISON TO DRINK.

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 13.—Mrs. Edith Melber of Schenectady, a widow, who says she is 23 years old, confessed tonight, according to the Rochester police, that in a swamp near Albany last Friday afternoon she gave her 5-year-old son, George, carbolic acid, from the effects of which he died.

She was arrested in the New York Central railway station here and was locked up on a charge of murder in the first degree. She will be taken to Albany in the morning.

In explaining her crime, the police say Mrs. Melber says she has been a widow four years during which she has had a struggle to care for herself and child, and that this battle for an existence drove her to take the boy's life.

She is an unusually attractive woman and at the end of her examination was unwept and weeping hysterically.

The police were able to make the arrest this afternoon by keeping watch in the station over a trunk that had been checked from Schenectady, and was believed to be the property of Mrs. Melber. When the woman called to get it soon after 6 o'clock, she was arrested.

When she made her confession, according to the police, she said she gave the child acid when he asked for a drink.

Mrs. Melber says that she left Schenectady yesterday afternoon and came to Rochester to look for work. She stayed in the rooms of the Young Women's Christian association last night and says she was looking for work today. In the woman's trunk were her own clothing and that of the little boy.

Body Identified.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 13.—The body of the boy found dead in the woods near here a few days ago was identified today as George Melber. The identification was made by George Melber, a Schenectady blacksmith, the boy's grandfather, and Charles S. Smith of Schenectady, an uncle. On the strength of their story the police of Albany and Schenectady are searching for Mrs. Edith Melber, a prepossessing young woman of 27, the boy's supposed mother.

Mr. Smith said that there had been much friction between Mrs. Melber and the husband's family regarding the care of the child, and that in September, 1909, his mother placed him in the Schenectady Children's Home. She took a place as a domestic with a Schenectady family.

Unable to Pay Child's Board.

Recently the institution ordered Mrs. Melber to pay the arrears of the child's board or take him away. Last Thursday Mrs. Melber took the boy to the house where she was working. They spent Thursday night there. She left Schenectady with George last Friday afternoon for Albany. She returned to the place where she worked in the evening and remained there until last Wednesday. On Wednesday, when the story of the finding of a body appeared in the newspapers, Mrs. Melber told her employer she had been called to Syracuse. At the station there she bought a ticket to Rochester.

Relatives had suspected for some time that Mrs. Melber intended to marry and move to California. The authorities are trying to get the de-

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FIRST BREATH OF SCANDAL IN LAURA SCHENK'S TRIAL GIVEN BY PIANO DEALER

Man Friend Testifies to Having Taken Automobile Rides With the Accused Woman

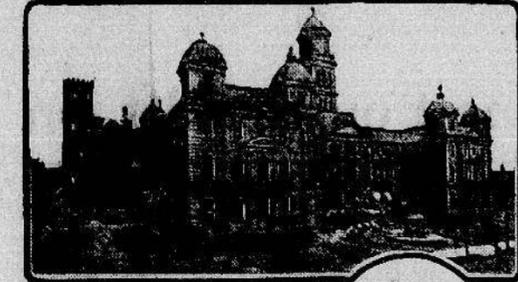
Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 13.—The tedium of hypothetical questions and technical testimony was suddenly ended in the Schenk case when the state, through a witness, brought into the court records the first intimation of scandal, in its prosecution of Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk, charged with administering poison to her husband, John O. Schenk.

Daniel Phillips, a piano salesman, whose name has been guarded from publicity, told of long automobile rides with the accused, at her invitation, for more than 18 months previous to her arrest. In the last year he said Mrs. Schenk had talked to him about plans to secure a divorce and later talked almost constantly of the strong probabilities of her husband's death.

Phillips admitted that Mrs. Schenk on various occasions had given him costly presents.

The state attempted several times to establish intimacy between the witness and the defendant, but to all questions Phillips refused an answer, on the ground that he would incriminate himself.

Phillips told of many automobile rides in which he was alone with Mrs. Schenk. The witness admitted that immediately after Mrs. Schenk's arrest he had called up prosecuting attorney



Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk, who is being tried for giving poison to her husband, John O. Schenk, and the courthouse in which the trial is being held.

Handlan and offered to make a clean breast of the affair.

Dr. J. T. Thornton, one of the chief witnesses for the state, was recalled to the stand. He conducted blood and other tests in effect to secure a correct diagnosis of the case. In answer to a hypothetical question by Prosecutor Handlan he said the symptoms alleged to have been shown by Schenk might have been due to lead poison and arsenic poison. On cross-examination he admitted that the same symptoms might be due to serious disorders of the stomach.



TO QUARANTINE GREAT WALL

Pekin, Jan. 13.—Owing to the spread of bubonic plague in Manchuria there was a conference today of physicians of the foreign legations and missions and several Chinese, who decided to recommend a five-days quarantine of first-class passengers at the great wall until observation camps can be established at Harbin, Mukden and Shanhiikwan.

EXPLOSION KILLS PASSENGER ON FERRY BOAT

JOHN NORBON, WELL-KNOWN MINING ENGINEER, MEETS INSTANT DEATH.

San Francisco, Jan. 13.—A bottle of a chemical compound dropped by or crushed in the pocket of John Norbon, a well-known mining engineer, is believed to have caused an explosion late today on the Southern Pacific ferryboat Berkeley, plying between this city and Oakland, which brought instant death to Norbon, seriously injured two other men, and created a panic among the 2,000 passengers crowding the vessel's decks. The explosion occurred in the lavatory, in which were four others besides Norbon. Norbon's body was blown into bits.

Roy L. Sampson and Edwin Hoffschneider were badly hurt, the latter perhaps fatally. A. C. Miller and Louis Saure were out and bruised in the wreck of the lavatory, but escaped serious injury. All the injured reside in Oakland.

Norbon was identified at the Oakland morgue by a letter in his pocket and a notebook which contained a list of explosive chemicals and which are thought to have been carried in a compound on Norbon's person.

The steaming report, which jarred the vessel from stem to stern, was followed by a stampede on both lower and upper decks. There was a rush to the side of the boat opposite to which the explosion occurred and several excited persons raised a cry that the boat was sinking.

It was thought at first that the explosion had occurred in the engine room.

Captain W. J. Jones, with his officers and men, managed with hard efforts to pacify the frightened passengers, and after a 10-minute delay, the boat proceeded to the Oakland mole.

Sampson and Hoffschneider were both taken to the Southern Pacific emergency hospital, and the remains of the victim were sent to the morgue.

SUSPEND BUSINESS DURING FUNERAL

PEOPLE OF COLORADO DO HONOR TO MEMORY OF SENATOR CHARLES J. HUGHES.

Denver, Jan. 13.—Tonight all that is mortal of United States Senator Charles J. Hughes, Jr., rests in the chapel at Fairmount cemetery, awaiting the construction of a mausoleum. Following the lying in state for two hours at the state capitol, the casket containing the body of Senator Hughes was carried to the home of the late senator, where a private funeral was held. Then the last cortege formed and the body was taken to Fairmount.

Both at the home and the cemetery the utmost simplicity prevailed in the ceremonies. From 2 to 3 o'clock, pursuant to a proclamation by Governor Shafer, business throughout the state practically was suspended, this being the hour of the private funeral ceremonies. All state, county and city offices were closed during the day as a mark of respect. The legislature was in session only long enough to adopt joint resolutions of sorrow over the death of Senator Hughes.

DRASTIC ANTI-TRUST LAW.

Boise, Idaho, Jan. 13.—Senator MacBeth, the minority floor leader, today introduced in the Idaho legislature a most drastic anti-trust bill. It is copied from Kansas law, that made the issue for Governor Stubbs. It provides a fine of \$100 for every day's violation and makes the guilt personal and not necessarily corporate.

"RUSSIAN LION" LOSES.

Chicago, Jan. 13.—Georgé Hackenschmidt lost a handicap wrestling match to Charles Cutler here tonight, when he failed to throw Cutler within an hour.

PROGRESSIVE CLAUSES BOOSTED BY SENATORS

Globe, Ariz., Jan. 13.—President Hunt of the recent constitutional convention gave out today a telegram he received last night from Washington, signed by United States Senators La Follette, Bristow, Camp, Cummins, Dixon and Brown, saying they would join Senator Bourne in the struggle to obtain approval for the Arizona constitution. The telegram reads: "The undersigned wish to assure you that the popular government features of the Arizona constitution, particularly the initiative, referendum and recall, will receive our hearty support. (Signed) La Follette, Wisconsin; Cummins, Iowa; Bristow, Kansas; Camp, Minnesota; Dixon, Montana and Brown, Nebraska."

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN IS ALLEGED

FEDERAL OFFICERS ARREST MAN AND WIFE OF BURKE ON SERIOUS CHARGE.

Wallace, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—United States Marshal Green of Moscow, Idaho, accompanied by an immigration inspector from Seattle, today arrested Nels Paulsen and wife of Burke on a charge of interstate trafficking in "white slaves." It is alleged that Mrs. Paulsen procured three girls in Seattle and paid their fares to Burke so they could enter the Owl saloon dance hall. Information was first given the authorities by the husband of one of the three women who had refused to give further financial aid to his wife. Investigations made in Burke by the marshal are said to have developed confirmation of the charge that Mrs. Paulsen purchased tickets for the girls and promised them good wages. The prisoners were taken to St. Maries for examination before the United States commissioner, the Wallace commissioner being out of town.

WORST STORM IN YEARS IN ROCKIES AND SIERRAS

EARTHQUAKE KILLS HUNDREDS

St. Petersburg, Jan. 13.—A dispatch received today from Vyrny, capital of the territory of Semiratschenok, Asiatic Russia, says that a violent earthquake occurred last night in Kobery. In the Pishpek district of the territory, and that the bodies of 204 Kirghiz have been taken from the ruins of fallen buildings.

THREE OF GREAT NORTHERN'S TRAINS ARE STALLED IN NORTHERN MONTANA.

PASSENGERS ARE SAFE

Traffic Is Tied Up on Western and Southern Pacific Roads in California, Nevada and Utah—Over Six Feet of Snow Has Fallen in Nevada and More Is Falling.

Whitefish, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—The storm which has been raging in the Rockies since last Sunday has subsided, and it is hoped that within the next 24 hours the trains which have been imprisoned along the line of the Great Northern between Midvale and Summit will be able to proceed. No. 27, carrying baggage and express; No. 28, fast mail, and No. 2, west-bound passenger, are the ill-fated trains that have been caught in snowdrifts and drifts and have laid there since Monday. No. 3 carried the dining car and it is believed that it is supplied with ample food and fuel so that none of the passengers or crew has suffered. Nothing definite has been learned as to the condition of No. 27, as railroad men and those in authority are very reticent about the matter. However, it is claimed that No. 28 was carrying a car of fish and in case of emergency crews could exist on that diet for an indefinite time. It is said to be very cold, with the mercury hovering around 25 and 30 degrees below, but unless the wind rises the rescue crew will soon release them. Some of the laborers in snow-shoveling gangs have had their faces, hands and feet badly frost bitten, and Dr. H. E. Houston was sent from here to give all possible medical attention.

SENATE MUST FACE DIRECT VOTE QUESTION

SENATOR BORAH IS ACTIVE IN PRESSING FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

Washington, Jan. 13.—That the senate at this session must face the question whether the constitution shall be amended so as to require the election of senators by direct vote of the people was made apparent today. A vote, which many senators considered a test of sentiment, resulted largely in favor of the proposition.

The matter came up in the senate in connection with the joint resolution for the amendment of the constitution recently from the committee on judiciary.

When that resolution was reached on the calendar Mr. Keen was ready with an objection which prevented immediate consideration under the order of business.

Mr. Gallinger appealed to Mr. Keen to withdraw his objection. He consented, and the senate election resolution was launched upon its legislative voyage.

The situation was such as to arouse the immediate interest of the senators. Mr. Sutherland was prompt in obtaining the attention of the chair. He wanted to amend the resolution so as to strike out the provision giving the state legislatures supervision of elections, and making other changes.

Mr. Rayner, a staunch advocate of the committee resolution, suggested that as the amendment went to the heart of the question there should be time for consideration.

Mr. Rayner did not press his point, but his plea was taken up by Senator Hale of Maine, whose position on the merits of the measure is diametrically opposite. He was sure that the resolution could be acted upon without protracted debate. He urged deliberate movement and precipitately moved an adjournment. The first vote was viva voce.

"The eyes appear to have it," announced the chair.

"Never," exclaimed a half dozen senators. "Let us have the eyes and hands."

Accordingly a roll call was ordered, with the result that 43 out of 66 senators present voted against adjournment. Of the 43 negative votes 23 were cast by republicans.

Borah Is Vigorous.

Encouraged by this, Senator Borah prepared to press consideration vigorously. He did not desire to prevent debate, he said, and added he would not do so if he could obtain the consent of the senate to name a day for a vote on the resolution and all amendments. He suggested Tuesday, January 24.

For probably 10 minutes the members of the senate discussed the details of the proposition. Even Senator Hale appeared to fall in with the request. Mr. Borah's colleague, Senator Hayden, had not said a word up to this time, but when the chair put the request for unanimous consent, he said "No," and spotted the entire plan.

Mr. Borah seemed displeased and proceeded to discuss the situation, saying the Sutherland amendment had been offered in committee and was perfectly understood, as was the general proposition.

Mr. Carter did not agree. He wanted time for consideration and for the digestion of the Sutherland and other amendments, which by this time had

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Engines Collide.

Kallispell, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—With eight engines and three rotaries dead between Essex and the summit of the mountains, the Great Northern was today nearly hand-tied in the face of the snow blockade which has closed the road east since Monday morning.

Large equipment was called from Leavenworth, Wash., and Mine, N. D., and was on its way early today, but the wrecking of engine No. 1012, on the Kootenai river this afternoon, which was bringing equipment, will delay the work from this side. The wind subsided enough today so that progress could be made against the drifts, and it was thought that a train might be put through some time tomorrow, though this was doubtful. Supplies are said to be holding out and no hardships stacking the passengers. A slight collision at Essex this afternoon hurt four men and damaged a live engine and a "dozer," but it is believed not seriously.

Worst in 20 Years.

Salt Lake City, Jan. 13.—Reports received at the railroad offices here inspire the declaration that the 48 hours ending at noon today witnessed the worst snowstorm known in 20 years in the Sierra Nevada range. It tied up traffic on the Western Pacific and the Southern Pacific. On the first, four passenger trains, and on the latter, 10 trains have been at a standstill.

All Wires Down.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 13.—With all telegraph and telephone wires into the Sierras down, the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific offices here can obtain but meager reports of the extent of the snowstorm that is raging in the mountains. All overland traffic has been tied up, while both companies have hundreds of men and several snow plows and rotaries removing the blockade.

Westbound Western Pacific trains are held at Portola and the eastbound overland at Beiden. The eastbound Southern Pacific overlands, which left here last night, are stalled at Colfax and Emigrant Gap, Cal., while those

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COLONEL ROOSEVELT WANTS EVOLUTION IN INDUSTRIES

New York, Jan. 13.—Nine out of 10 strikes are due to employers' assistants, not to any question of the money involved, is the opinion of Andrew Carnegie, who today addressed the delegates to the National Civic federation.

"The more capital does for labor, the more profit the employer makes," said Mr. Carnegie. "I have not had any strikes in 26 years. I have not let anyone have anything to say about labor but myself."

Mr. Carnegie thought the working-man's compensation act was a step in the right direction.

"I want to see this movement take the form of evolution rather than revolution," said Mr. Roosevelt, referring to the purpose of the federation. "I wish to see labor legislation always enacted after conferences between wise leaders of labor and those men who are interested in labor for the best interests of the country."