

THREE SECTIONS—SECTION ONE.

THE EVENING WORLD
FINAL EXTRA

The

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World.

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"Circulation Books Open to All."

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To-Morrow's Weather—UNSETTLED.

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PRICE THREE CENTS

BULLETS NEW CLUE IN MOVIE MURDER

TRAPPED BY BLAZE IN HOME WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE DROPPED INTO POLICE ARMS

Three Men, Also in Nightclothes, Jump From Window to Roof of Extension Fifteen Feet Below.

Firemen Carry Third Family of Seven and a Dog Down Ladders—Blaze Had Got Off Stairway.

Wounded Man Dies in Blaze as He Tries to Grope Way Out—Another Occupant of Frame Dwelling Rescued.

One man lost his life and seven others were rescued early this morning in two Brooklyn fires.

The one who died was David McGrath, sixty-two years old, living on a second floor of the frame house No. 624 Metropolitan Avenue. A man who lived on the ground floor escaped, McGrath, apparently overcome by smoke as he tried to grope his way out, was found sprawling on a floor in his night clothes. He was a foreman for Austin Nichols & Co. grocers. The fire started from overheated stove in the kitchen.

In clearing up the wreckage in the second room firemen found part of a self which was the wall over the stove. Only enough of the shelf remained to support a small statuette of the Virgin Mary, which was entirely unharmed by the flames and only smudged with smoke. The remainder of the shelf had been burned away and pictures on the same wall.

Fourteen persons were rescued by firemen and firemen during a fire in the three-story former roadhouse 3347 Fulton Street, in the Cypress section of Brooklyn, at 1 A. M. A one-story extension made from an old roadhouse piazza into stores rounded the building. The fire started in a shoe store and had cut escape by the stairs before Fireman Matthias Kinnavy, a rookie of Classon Avenue Station, who was his way to his home, No. 327 East Avenue, discovered it. Members of the three families living over the stairs were in windows blowing police whistles, but were ordered not to jump.

Kinnavy was joined by Policeman Greenhouse of the Miller Avenue Station, and they tried unsuccessfully to get up the stairs through the smoke. The men, women and children had been driven from front to back windows when policemen returned to the street. Kinnavy and Greenhouse ran to the roof, smashed a fence and climbed to extension over which the terrified tenants of the top floor were clinging. They were Mrs. Esther Der, forty-one, a teacher in Public

school, and her two children, a boy and a girl, who were clinging to the edge of the roof. They were rescued by Fireman Kinnavy and Fireman Greenhouse.

The fire in the second room fire started from an overheated stove in the kitchen. McGrath, apparently overcome by smoke as he tried to grope his way out, was found sprawling on a floor in his night clothes. He was a foreman for Austin Nichols & Co. grocers. The fire started from overheated stove in the kitchen.

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BOOTLEGGER OR BONUS?

FAVOR TAXING WINES AND BEERS TO PAY THE BONUS

Majority of Veterans Believe Modification of Prohibition Will Solve Puzzle.

(From a Staff Correspondent of the Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Impetus has been given to the light wines and beer movement in Congress and out because of the situation created by the fruitless search for new sources of revenue to supply money for the soldier bonus.

Editor Houston, of Stars and Stripes, one of the best known organs of the ex-service men, said today that while there is division among the men on the subject, the same as among any other class of citizens, he believes a majority favor legalizing and taxing light wines and beer for bonus revenue purposes.

"I think a majority of the ex-service men favor light wines and beer," said Houston. "If you tie the bonus with this programme, I believe a great majority of the ex-service men would favor this modification of the Prohibition Law."

The Maryland Representative is urging his scheme on the Ways and Means Committee, and it is possible that after the sales tax proposal has been fought out and finally disposed of the committee may turn to the wines and beer proposal as an alternative.

Representative John Philip Hill of the Baltimore District, who is an ex-service man, has introduced a bill to have each Congressional district called a "Local Option District," and the people of the country vote whether they want a per cent. beer and a per cent. wines. The measure provides that those districts that vote for light

(Continued on Second Page.)

MAN IS SHOVED OFF SUBWAY PLATFORM IN FRONT OF TRAIN

Thomas Meinhardt, fifty-eight years old, of No. 908 East 154th Street, the Bronx, was pushed by a crowd of the northbound platform of the 14th Street Station of the east side subway at 1 o'clock this afternoon. He fell in front of an approaching train, which threw him from the track. Suffering from a fracture of the right leg and internal injuries, he was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

The accident created a panic in the station, which was jammed with workers from the factories around Union Square bound for their homes in Harlem and the Bronx. Although the platform in this station are protected by railings, there are open spaces giving access to the car doors. Meinhardt was standing on the edge of the platform at one of these open spaces, when the crowd behind surged forward as the train rolled into the station.

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BUSINESS TAKES DECIDED UPTURN, HARDING ASSERTS

"Frozen Credits" Thawing Out and Export Trade Is Beginning Again.

FARM PRODUCTS HELPED

Figures of Comptroller and War Finance Director Confirm the President's Views.

By David Lawrence.

(Special Correspondent of the Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—(Copyright, 1922).—Business is better, President Harding says so and offers figures and statistics to confirm his optimistic view. Heretofore his expressions about the business situation have been general in character and tinged with a vague hopefulness that the depression must sooner or later come to an end. Now, however, with a smile of happiness on his face, the President takes occasion to analyze the latest data received by the Comptroller of the Currency.

The President explained that his purpose was neither political nor partisan. Mr. Harding is no more anxious to claim credit for the better turn in business affairs than was his Administration ready to take responsibility for the economic depression which became acute in the first six months of his term of office.

The day is passing when politicians are claiming that they are able by governmental effort to bring prosperity when at the same time it has been demonstrated that the policy of a government does not always bear a relationship to economic factors of world-wide extent. This doesn't prevent the partisans from making all sorts of claims, but the shrewd leaders no longer try to take credit for an upward turn in business conditions.

President Harding, however, has another object in making it plain to the American people that the data in possession of the Government showed a marked improvement in the credit situation. He wants to offset the apprehensions of the pessimist who can create a psychological situation that will hurt business. There are still many business men in America refraining from doing certain things that would benefit themselves and the country, but who hesitate on account of "the business outlook." For this reason the Government doesn't mind interpreting the outlook.

The Comptroller of the Currency, whose duty it is to issue regular calls for statements from the national banks of the country, has had nothing to boast about for many months. The improvement has been gradual and steady, but it never could be called pronounced. When he found at last

(Continued on Second Page.)

SUDAN WIFE COSTS 8 SPEARHEADS NOW; FOUR BEFORE WAR

Or Profiteers Will Take Seven Cows as Doubled Price for Dusky Bride.

LONDON, Feb. 18.

Lord Dewar, speaking at a meeting of the Leysian Mission here, said profiteering had spread everywhere since the war, even into the Sudan, where it had extended to the price of wives. "In the Sudan before the war," he said, "a wife could be got for four speareheads. Now the price has doubled; one has to pay eight speareheads. In the cattle country it used to be four cows; now the price is seven cows."

LONDON, Feb. 18.—An airplane laden with sufficient money to pay all depositors of the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company of El Dorado, Ark., is expected to arrive here today from Shreveport, La.

The plane was despatched following a run on the bank due to a false report that it was insolvent.

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LANDIS QUILTS BENCH TO DEVOTE WHOLE TIME TO BASEBALL

Judge Announces He Has Sent in Resignation in Effect on March 1.

DUTIES NOW TOO HEAVY

"Not Enough Hours in the Day," He Says, to Accomplish All He Has to Do.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—(Associated Press).—Federal Judge Kenesaw M. Landis announced today that he had resigned from the bench and would devote his entire time to his position of baseball commissioner.

The resignation is effective March 1. Announcement of it was made formally by the Judge as he took his place in court.

"There are not enough hours in the day for all of my activities," said the Judge. "Therefore, I have forwarded my resignation as Federal Judge to Washington, effective March 1."

He said he had mailed his resignation today, addressing it to President Harding.

The Judge then called the first case on his docket and refused to discuss the matter until court recess.

The son of a prominent Indiana family, Judge Landis was on the Federal bench for nearly seventeen years. He assumed the office on March 28, 1905. He first attracted attention when he fined the Standard Oil Company \$29,000,000. The fine, the largest ever imposed by any court of justice, was later remitted by the Supreme Court.

Judge Landis was appointed Baseball Commissioner over a year ago at a salary of \$42,500. A great deal of criticism was heard when he remained on the bench and also administered his baseball duties. It came to a climax with an effort to censure him in Congress.

Although he had intended to leave the bench eventually, he refused to quit under fire and remained long after he had planned to resign.

His most noted baseball decision was in the case of Babe Ruth, king of home run hitters, who had violated a rule by participating in a barnstorming tour after he had taken part in a World's Series. The Judge fined Ruth his share of the World's Series—more than \$3,000—and suspended him for more than a month of the coming playing season.

Baseball circles in New York were generally pleased with the resignation of Judge Landis.

"Every one connected with the game should be congratulated that Judge Landis has decided to confine his future to baseball," said John A. Heydler, President of the National League.

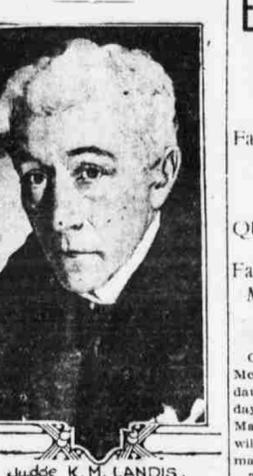
Judge Landis already has done a lot of big things for baseball and he should be able to do even more when he has no other interests to demand his time."

The same sentiments were expressed at the offices of the three Metropolitan Major League clubs.

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JURIST WHO QUILTS BENCH TO BE REAL CZAR OF BASEBALL



Judge K. M. LANDIS.

LIMERICK BRIGADE REVOLTS AGAINST IRISH FREE STATE

Refuses to Recognize Present Army Officers, Declaring for a Republic.

LIMERICK, Ireland, Feb. 18.—(Associated Press).—A proclamation was issued today on behalf of the mid-Limerick brigade of the Irish Republican Army, refusing to recognize the present heads of the Army of the Provisional Government, and pledging allegiance to the existing Republic.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—(Associated Press).—The Joint Liaison Commission may begin to function over the weekend. It is unofficially stated, thus giving a fair prospect for prevention of the dreaded clash between the rival forces lined up along the Southern Ulster border.

Peace seems for the moment to have again descended over Northern Ireland, the release of the remaining imprisoned Unionists, announced yesterday, tending to ease the tension. Nevertheless, both sides still hold prisoners, and it is understood the South is determined not to release the special constables captured at Clones until the Monaghan football players are freed by the Ulster authorities, the South contending that if the latter were guilty because they carried arms the Clones captives are equally guilty.

Moreover, there is the question of the four Sinn Feiners held at Rathfriland, charged with "tumultuous assembly," this growing out of disorders in connection with a Republican funeral two weeks ago, and also that of the arrest of the three Irish Republican Army officers at Newry. Notwithstanding the repeated Northern assertions that the footballers will be held unless they apply for bail, there is a rumor that they may be liberated as an "act of grace" within a few hours.

The friendship between Oser and Miss Mathilde, according to close friends of the family, began when she was a child of eight, in Switzerland under treatment for throat and lung trouble. She became very friendly with Miss Julia Mangold, an employee of Oser, and brought her to this country as a companion. Oser is described as well read and regarded highly in Zurich as a man of considerable wealth and unquestioned integrity.

Mr. McCormack and his daughter Muriel are on their way to Chicago today. The accepted report among their friends here is that Miss Mathilde will settle her course largely by the advice of her grandfather, John D. Rockefeller, of whom she is very fond and who has been very indulgent with her.

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M'CORMICK GIRL ENGAGES PASSAGE FOR SWITZERLAND

Family Confers on Betrothal of Heiress, 16, to Horseman, 48.

QUARREL LOOKED FOR

Father Resigned, but Sister and Mother May Prove Hostile to Marriage.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Miss Mathilde McCormick, sixteen-year-old granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller, today arranged passage for Europe in May, tending to confirm reports she will marry Max Oser, Zurich riding master, three times her age.

The girl will be accompanied on the return trip by Miss Julia Mangold, who was Oser's bookkeeper and who came to this country with Miss McCormick last fall.

Miss Mathilde played indoor golf at the old Cyrus McCormick home on Chicago's Gold Coast today, while awaiting the arrival of her father, Harold F. McCormick, President of the International Harvester Company and her sister, Muriel, from New York. She expected them yesterday and was disappointed when she heard they had postponed leaving New York a day. They will arrive to-night.

Mathilde's chief concern, according to close friends, was not what her grandfather, the world's richest man, or her mother might say.

"I wonder what Muriel will say?" was the only question in her mind, according to these associates.

There didn't seem to be much doubt in Mathilde's mind what Muriel would say. She was pretty certain that her older sister would say plenty. Muriel issued a statement in New York denying the reported engagement and saying it was ridiculous.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—(Associated Press).—No statement regarding publication reports that she is engaged to marry Max Oser, Zurich, Switzerland, riding master, was forthcoming today from Miss Mathilde McCormick, sixteen-year-old daughter of Harold F. McCormick, and granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller. Miss McCormick was said to be awaiting the arrival to-day from New York of her father before having anything to say.

"There is no statement," Miss Lois Gladys Philbrick, Mr. McCormick's secretary said. "Miss Mathilde has nothing to say until her father arrives. But she hopes that Miss Muriel won't come home with her father," she says. "Miss Muriel will raise Old Ned."

Miss Philbrick yesterday said that Miss Mathilde and Miss Julia Mangold, who formerly was Oser's bookkeeper and who came to America with Miss McCormick, plan to return to Switzerland early in the spring. "I think they have arranged for passage in May, although it may be earlier or later," she said.

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SLUGS LIKE THE ODD ONE THAT KILLED TAYLOR FOUND IN TAXI DRIVER'S ROOM

WIFE'S BODY LOST, GETS \$2,500 AWARD AGAINST CEMETERY

Mrs. Siegrist Had Been Buried During the Epidemic With 79 Others.

Justice Tierney in the Bronx Supreme Court opened today a sealed verdict reached by a jury last night awarding to Charles Siegrist of No. 1822 Amsterdam Avenue \$2,500 damages against the trustees of St. Raymond's Cemetery in the Bronx for losing the body of Siegrist's wife. The court took under advisement a motion by counsel for the trustees to set the verdict aside.

Mrs. Siegrist died on Oct. 18, 1918, in the height of the influenza epidemic. Owing to a shortage of labor and a pending strike of gravediggers, her body was placed in a receiving vault in the cemetery with seventy-nine others.

Dr. Arthur J. O'Leary, Health Commissioner of the Bronx, issued an order requiring the cemetery authorities to bury these bodies within twenty-four hours. A steam shovel was procured and trenches were dug and the coffins were deposited therein. In the hurry and confusion records were lost and nothing could be found to show where Mrs. Siegrist was buried. On the demand of the husband twenty-five coffins were exhumed and opened. No one knows where her body lies.

The damage suit was tried before Justice Tierney on Thursday and yesterday. The court instructed the jury that a husband has a right to know where the body of his wife is buried.

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Police Hunt Chauffeur Who Knew W. D. Taylor and Had Taken Him Many Times in Auto to Los Angeles Houses.

Man Disappeared From Usual Haunts at Hollywood on Feb. 2.—Warrant For Arrest to Be Asked For To-day.

Terms Offered to Valet Sands on Old Charge If He Will Appear and Tell What He Knows of Late Employer.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 18.—Police today sought a taxicab driver, missing since Feb. 2, whom they now believe to have been a hired assassin in the William Desmond Taylor mystery.

The man knew Taylor, Edward F. Sands and others mentioned in connection with the case, having been employed numerous times by each of them.

Police found several bullets, the exact duplicates of the odd .32-caliber slug that killed Taylor, in the driver's room. He is said to have removed an old fashioned revolver which had lain for months on his bureau on the afternoon preceding the tragedy. A warrant will probably be issued today, the police said.

A letter purporting to be from the missing valet, Sands, who says he is in Los Angeles, was received today by the police. In it the writer says he knows who murdered Taylor, and is ready to surrender and "untangle this murder mystery" if guaranteed his freedom on establishing his own innocence.

District Attorney Woolwine, in issuing an open reply agreeing to the terms, explained he called a conference of the investigators and it was unanimously decided it would be best to answer the letter on the chance that it was genuine and might result in solving the mystery.

That the "Sands" letter may be genuine is believed by Earl Tiffany, Taylor's former chauffeur. He came voluntarily to the District Attorney's office to say he saw a man he is certain was Sands in Los Angeles two days before the murder.

A verbatim copy of the letter purporting to have been written by Sands, was made public by Mr. Woolwine, as follows:

"Dear Sir: This letter will probably surprise you when you read it. I am taking this liberty to write you to make matters more easy for you. In the first place, I am Mr. Sands, although a friend of mine is writing this letter under my dictation.

"Mr. Woolwine, you need not look all over the world for me, for I am living right here in Los Angeles and am reading the papers every day concerning the Taylor murder. I will be frank with you, Mr. Woolwine; I haven't had any peace of mind since the murder, and I have come to the conclusion that the quicker this thing is settled, the better off we will all be.

"Now, Mr. Woolwine, in the first place, I did not murder Taylor, but I know who did it. But what assurance have I from you to know that you will accept my story? Now:

"Therefore I will guarantee from you that if I write an avowal in your hands and if I establish my innocence of the crime you will set me free.

"If you will do this, Mr. Woolwine,

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