



FRENCH PORTS TIED UP GREAT SEAMEN'S STRIKE.

Crews Leave Atlantic Liners and All Outgoing Trade Blocked. Paris, May 31.—A general strike of sailors and others belonging to the French Naval Reserve began at almost all the ports of France at day-light today, and threatens the complete paralysis of French commerce.

The Naval Reserve comprises nearly the entire maritime population engaged in seafaring life, and number about 117,000 men, of whom 25,000 are serving in the navy. In addition to practically all the sailors of the mercantile marine, most of the longshoremen belong to the reserve.

The strike was declared by the executive committee of the National Seamen's Union, because the government's bill, increasing pensions from \$40.80 to \$72.50 in the case of seamen, and from \$156 to \$200 in the case of captains, is regarded by the members of the union as inadequate.

The tie-up is almost complete at the Mediterranean, Atlantic and Channel ports, where the crews generally left their ships. The government commissioned transports, torpedo boats and destroyers to carry on the mail service with the colonies and with Mediterranean ports.

The French Transatlantic Steamship Company announced this evening that neither La Provence nor La Gasconne would be able to sail for New York to-morrow, all the men of both crews having abandoned their ships.

Many persons consider that the Seamen's Union acted with undue precipitation, and that it could have been arranged through a consultation with the authorities. The cabinet will hold a special meeting to-morrow to consider the situation.

Marseilles, May 31.—The sailors and other Naval Reserve men here responded to the strike call almost to a man. The crews of eight vessels of the Messageries Maritime Company shouldered their sea kits and disembarked amid the cheers of the longshoremen, and the crews of the steamers of the Transatlantique company followed their example after landing the fruit forming part of the cargoes.

The crews of the tugs at this port will strike to-morrow, so as to complete the movement. Even the fishermen have drawn up their nets. The vessels scheduled to sail to-day, including the Roma, bound for New York, got away on time.

Havre, May 31.—The maritime strike here is complete, the crews leaving both the ocean and coasting vessels. La Provence and La Gasconne, of the French Line, will not be able to sail for New York to-morrow. Several thousand emigrants are here awaiting transportation on La Gasconne.

Algiers, May 31.—The seamen of Algiers went on strike to-day, and the dockers and coolers went out in sympathy.

SAILING OF CLYDE LINERS DOUBTFUL. Glasgow, May 31.—The strike of the Clyde Seamen is still acute, and there is uncertainty whether the transatlantic liners will be able to get full crews. If they are unable to sail, the companies will be put to heavy expense for the maintenance of passengers.

MRS. HERMAN SULZER HURT BY CAR. It became known last night that Mrs. Herman Sulzer, of No. 1990 Seventh avenue, wife of the late Herman Sulzer, who built the Casino which bears his name at 127th street and Second avenue, and Mrs. Charles Campbell, of No. 222 West 131st street, were seriously injured on Memorial Day by being knocked out of their carriage at 131st street and Eighth avenue by a car. Both were taken unconscious to Mrs. Campbell's home, where they are now in a serious condition.

They were returning from Woodlawn Cemetery. As they turned into Eighth avenue from 131st street, a car struck the rear of their victoria and both women and the driver were hurled to the street. Both were badly cut and sustained internal injuries. Mrs. Sulzer's right shoulder was dislocated. Dr. D. W. Perkins, of No. 224 West 131st street, said he thought both would recover.

BROKER ARRESTED ON EXCHANGE. Threw Core of an Apple Into Street and Almost Hit Plainclothes Policeman. For the first time in its history a broker was seen under arrest on the floor of the Stock Exchange yesterday. The offense of Edingham Lawrence, senior member of the brokerage firm bearing his name, was not great. He threw the core of an apple which had constituted his midday luncheon into New street. James W. Lawson, a plainclothes man, dodged the core, and then told Mr. Lawrence that he might consider himself under arrest.

"Quit your kiddin', kid," said the broker, feeling the jovial effects of the May weather. "It's no kiddin'," said the plainclothes man. "You're going to take a walk with me." After telephoning to a friend to meet him at the Old Slip station with counsel, Mr. Lawrence went to the station, where he registered as "John Jones, of Far Rockaway," and then to the Tombs court.

A lot of his friends went with him, extending everything but sympathy. Magistrate Crane was not impressed favorably by Lawson's captives, even though the plainclothes man, Captain Hogan's right hand man, and discharged Mr. Lawrence. Then the entire party went out and told the story to "Big Tom" Foley, with appropriate ceremonies.

AFTER ALL, USHER'S THE SCOTCH that made the highball famous.—Adv.

VANDERBILT YACHT HIT.

Mrs. Alfred G. in Danger in Newport Harbor.

Newport, R. I., May 31.—While sailing about the outer harbor at Newport yesterday afternoon in her little yacht Caprice, Mrs. Alfred G. Vanderbilt had a narrow escape from being swamped and possibly drowned by being run down by a government launch. Mrs. Vanderbilt was viewing the foreign warships in the bay, and was approaching the German cruiser Bremen, when the launch, bearing Rear Admiral John P. Merrill, U. S. N., and several other officers from the naval training station, shot out from the gangway of the cruiser and made off directly for the little sloop. Before the latter could get out of the way the launch struck her amidships, and cut her from the gunwale to the waterline. Mrs. Vanderbilt took the matter coolly, and was not in the least frightened, and very calmly ordered Captain Knutson to return to Newport. The absence of any wind or sea saved the Caprice from filling.

DEATH MAY FOLLOW FALL.

Two Children Badly Hurt When Dog Chases Them.

Two children are lying in the North Hudson Hospital, Union Hill, N. J., suffering from injuries which it is thought will cause their death. Both have in addition to other hurts fractured skulls. With several other children they went after school yesterday afternoon to Hauxhurst Park to gather wild flowers. The property is allowed to run almost wild. In it there is a deep gully cutting into the Palisades. While the children were picking flowers a big dog, which, they say, was urged on by a man, chased them. In their flight several of the children broke through underbrush suddenly and fell into the gully. The drop is about fifteen feet, but at the bottom there are many jagged rocks. Bernardine Dierks, of No. 309 Union street, and William Zimmerman, of the same address, fell head first on the rocks. The girl sustained a fracture of the skull, a fracture of an elbow and her face was badly torn and lacerated. The boy, in addition to the fracture of his skull, had a piece of wood driven into his right eye in such a manner that it passed upward between the frontal bone and the skull and emerged at the top of his head.

JESSE JAMES, LAWYER.

Son of Notorious Bandit Takes High Rank at Graduation.

Kansas City, Mo., May 31.—At the graduating exercises of the Kansas City School of Law, held at the Shubert Theatre to-night, Jesse James, the son of the notorious bandit, received the highest grade for the year's work. James is about thirty years old, married, has two children, and has been a packing house employe, cigar stand keeper, pawnbroker and law student. He was tried for train robbery and acquitted eight years ago. The defense made a political issue out of the trial, and James went free through the establishment of an alibi.

AFRAID OF SEA; IN AUTO SMASH.

Boy Who Would Not Sail with Family May Die from Injuries.

Because he was afraid of being shipwrecked and drowned, Charles Piquet, the twelve-year-old son of the manager of Leon de Gisbert's estate, in the West Neck Road, near Huntington, Long Island, refused to sail to Europe on Wednesday with his mother and two sisters. Yesterday, while coasting on his bicycle down a hill near his home, he ran into an automobile. The chauffeur did his best to dodge the boy, but the bicycle struck one of the lamps of the car, tore it off and young Piquet went to the road. In the car was Mrs. J. S. Carvalho, of Lawrence, Long Island, with a party of young women. Mrs. Carvalho had the boy carried to a farmhouse near by and sent for a physician. When she learned the injuries were serious she held up an automobile belonging to Milton L'Etelus and carried the boy to the Nassau Hospital, at Mineola. There she found he was badly torn and bruised, his right arm and wrist were broken, the base of his skull was fractured and there seemed little hope for his recovery. The chauffeur was locked up on a purely technical charge. Mrs. Carvalho wished to be locked up with him, but the police would not permit it. The automobilist had missed their way just before the accident, and it was learned that Louis Piquet, the boy's father, had directed them to take the road in which they met his son.

BELLEVUE QUAKE BEGINS.

Dr. Tilton Asked to Resign Following Investigation.

The first tremor of the shaking up which Bellevue fears is coming was felt yesterday when Dr. Benjamin T. Tilton was asked to resign, following the investigation of some practices of the visiting physicians. Dr. Tilton is assistant visiting physician to Dr. Frederick Guyer, head of the second surgical division. He has been with Bellevue as interne and visiting physician for five years or so. Charges have been made and sustained that physicians at Bellevue have used their positions there to better their private practice. Some have sent patients to the hospital to be operated on, using the hospital staff of physicians and nurses and the hospital instruments, but charging the patient for a private operation. Dr. Salvatore Magnoli, one of whose patients prompted the investigation, admits that he accepted pay from a patient at the hospital, and that he considered he had not been guilty of any unprofessional conduct in so doing. One of the strictest services of the institution is that no one in its service shall accept any sort of fee for work at the hospital.

MAGISTRATE WHITMAN ROBBED.

While looking for a desirable room a well-dressed thief yesterday thoroughly ransacked the boarding house kept by Miss Fannie Moynan at No. 15 East 45th street. Among his victims were Magistrate Whitman and his father, the Rev. John S. Whitman, a retired Presbyterian clergyman, who live on the second floor. A young man applied for a room to Miss Moynan Thursday night and found one he said he liked. Yesterday he called at the house and asked the maid if his baggage had come. He returned in the afternoon and the Jutler let him in. Apparently he spent the next hour hunting up everything small and valuable. Miss Moynan and Miss Constance, on the third floor, lost all their jewelry, and the Magistrate and his father lost jewelry valued at more than \$1,000.

AMERICAN A SUICIDE AT LIMA.

Lima, Peru, May 31.—Henry Guyer, an American, committed suicide here to-day by blowing out his brains with a revolver. He was one of the founders of the Casa Palca Smelting Works.

SIX EXPERTS' BIG FEES.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL.

Got \$187,008 in Three Years—Metz Investigating.

Controller Metz reported to Corporation Counsel Ellison yesterday that the city in 1904, 1905 and 1906 had paid in fees to six real estate experts who appraised property for the city at the request of the Corporation Counsel's office the sum of \$187,008.50. Two of these experts, Samuel Smyth and C. A. Berrian, each received more in the three years stated than was paid in the same time in salaries either to the Mayor, the Controller or the Corporation Counsel. Mr. Smyth received in the three years \$60,180.50 and Mr. Berrian \$52,235. Mr. Smyth's compensation averaged more than \$20,000 a year. The Mayor, Controller and Corporation Counsel receive \$15,000 a year each.

The "Big Six" experts with the money paid them are as follows:

Table listing names and fees: Samuel Smyth \$60,180.50; C. A. Berrian \$52,235.00; Herbert C. Bliss \$7,960.00; Thomas E. Smith \$19,150.00; John M. Thompson \$15,350.00; Merritt J. Jacoby \$2,850.00.

The city has paid in the years mentioned \$242,015.50 for expert services in acquiring real estate.

"I am going to try to discover whether these six gentlemen who seemed to have a sort of monopoly of the appraisal work really earned their fees," said Controller Metz last night. "In fact, I have only scratched the surface of this condemnation business. The further I dig into this matter the more am I astonished at the liberality of the city in paying for expert work. It may be that these gentlemen gave practically all of their time to appraising the value of certain realty needed for the city. It may be, on the other hand, that they gave only a few hours now and then to the work. I propose to find out whether they earned the very handsome compensation allowed them by the city. If they did not earn it they won't get it. Some of the bills are still unpaid. The Mayor, Controller and Corporation Counsel of this city give practically all of their time to their official duties, and they get \$15,000 a year.

"I do not know why it is that the Law Department is obliged to pay such compensation for appraisal work. It is somewhat amusing to me that when I have need of real estate appraisers I can get them for \$4,000 a year. Last year, if I remember the figures correctly, the city bought between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000 worth of real estate on the appraisals of men paid \$4,000 a year. The work done by them seems to be entirely satisfactory. If their work is satisfactory, I do not for the life of me see why we should be compelled to pay real estate experts engaged by the Law Department fees to the extent of more than \$20,000 a year."

The Controller wrote a letter to the Corporation Counsel yesterday embodying his views on condemnation proceedings and containing the names of the six real estate experts engaged by the Law Department. He asked Mr. Ellison to furnish proof that the experts had done the work charged for.

About a week ago the Controller, in a speech before the real estate men in Manhattan, was reported as saying that he knew of an assistant to the Corporation Counsel who made \$10,000 a year "playing both ends of the scheme." Mr. Ellison saw the report of the speech, and wrote the Controller a letter asking him to name the man. Mr. Metz told Mr. Ellison that he had not been exactly quoted, although the spirit of his remarks was essentially true as reported. He promised to send Mr. Ellison some surprising data on the cost of real estate proceedings incurred by the city's law department, and yesterday he turned in about thirty pages of typewritten matter covering such expenditures. The list of experts given does not include the name of the man the Controller had in mind when he made his speech to the real estate dealers.

The Controller said yesterday that inasmuch as naming the man for publication might give the impression that the transaction was illegal and that the man had defrauded the city, he would not make it public. He said that the man had perhaps acted within his legal rights and should not be held up as being guilty of fraudulent practices.

There has been severe criticism of the methods of condemnation commissioners and the payments to them and to experts for testifying in this class of business. Many have urged a special set of commissioners for doing this kind of work altogether, making their work a department of the city administration or a branch of the Finance Law Department. Experts' fees have at times caused outcries of "graft" and "favoritism," but no definite improvement or change has ever been made.

The latest criticism of the methods of condemnation proceedings commissioners was caused by the assessments of property in Riverside Drive, which brought out the meeting at which Controller Metz made his criticism. The city is adding 40 feet to the 60-foot drive from 158th street north. Awards were made at the rate of \$33,000 a lot in some instances, and meetings of indignant citizens were held and Controller Metz was asked to have the awards set aside.

At the office of the Corporation Counsel the fees were not thought to be extraordinary. It was said that the maximum rate for expert services was \$5 a day, or, if they wished, the experts could claim a certain sum for each lot, which, it was said, would not exceed \$18 or \$20 a day. It was admitted that some of the experts may have held extra sessions. It was also said that payment of the bills of some of the "big six" was withheld, pending an investigation.

EXPULSED FOR HAZING.

Quaker Students Must Also Face Charges of Assault.

Richmond, Ind., May 31.—Because of recent hazings at Earlham College, the Quaker institution here, six students were expelled to-day. Charges of assault and battery have also been brought against them, and they will be tried to-morrow in the city court. Nothing in recent years has stirred Earlham as greatly as this, and the college body is in a state of great excitement.

THRILLS OF A MINIATURE NERO.

"I did it because I like to see the engines a-steam'n' down the road," a ten-year-old boy named George Harbort explained to the police last night as he confessed to setting fire to an abandoned house at No. 1414 West Farms Road, The Bronx. The little fellow was found hiding in a clump of bushes by several firemen after they had put out the fire. No. 1414 West Farms Road has been set on fire twenty-seven times, and until last night the police and firemen were at a loss to know how these fires originated. The house has been vacant for years, and, according to the police, nobody in the neighborhood knows who owns it. "I only did it the twenty-seventh time," the boy repeatedly told the police. He will be arraigned in the Children's Court this morning.

SUBWAY FOR BROOKLYN.

GROANS TURN TO CHEERS.

Wild Joy When R. T. Board Votes for Fourth Ave. Route.

Cheers in place of reproaches, plaudits instead of oburgations, bouquets rather than "lemons" were the portion of the Rapid Transit Commissioners yesterday afternoon. The board took a decisive step toward building a subway down Fourth avenue to Fort Hamilton and Coney Island, crossing the new Manhattan Bridge. The action so pleased two hundred Brooklynites who jammed the rooms of the commission yesterday afternoon that they cut loose with cheers and handclapping. The hitherto cast down taxpayers from Bath Beach and Bensonhurst clung about President Orr and told him he was the finest man they ever met. They followed him to his carriage, waving his surly scented vrbage. They hailed William S. Hurley, the new member, who said last week that the commission was composed of old fogies, as a hero, and their wide, clapping gratitude took in Controller Metz, Vice-President Starin, Commissioner Smith and Patrick F. McGowan, who represented the Mayor. It was a rare day for the strap hangers from South Brooklyn and to the commissioners a gratifying break in the monotony of fault finding.

President Orr, who has been ill since January, made the journey to Manhattan from his home on Brooklyn Heights for the express purpose of putting through a resolution that the preliminary steps for the new tri-borough route be taken at once, without reference to the fact that the commission will go out of power on July 1, when the Public Utilities Commission will take up the work.

When President Orr stepped into the room every one seemed glad to see him again, and there was a great hand clapping. Before the calendar was half finished Commissioner Smith moved an executive session, and the room was crowded with difficulty. The Brooklynites, anxious for action on the Fourth avenue subway matter, went into the hallway and waited. This was done because Mr. Orr was still a sick man, and it was felt that too much excitement might affect him unfavorably.

The committee on plans and contracts considered the Fourth avenue, Coney Island and Fort Hamilton subway proposition last Tuesday, and agreed to report back to the full board without recommendation. The executive session lasted half an hour. Then Controller Metz and his friend, William S. Hurley, came out of the meeting, followed by Mr. McGowan, and all had to fight their way through the crowd of eager Brooklynites who were anxious to know the fate of their pet scheme.

The leader of the Brooklyn delegation was Daniel Moynahan. As the escaping commissioners forged through the crowd, each with five or six questioning men hanging on him, the commissioners shouted in answer to their inquiries that by a unanimous vote the board had authorized the Fourth avenue subway route, and had passed a resolution asking the Board of Estimate to approve the same.

No sooner was the news announced than the building resounded with the heartiest cheers in its history. The noise was so great that the stenographers and typewriters on the upper floors rushed out to see what was the matter. Commissioner Hurley was the first board member out, and the crowd rushed at him and shouted, "Three cheers for Hurley!" Next came Controller Metz, who has fought for Brooklyn subways, and the crowd cheered him for several minutes. Then came Mr. McGowan, and the crowd almost carried him into the elevator.

But the ovation of the day was given to President Orr, for he was cheered and cheered until he reached his carriage. "We are cheering for you, Mr. Orr," said one of the shouters. "You have always done your best for us, and we appreciate your work to-day." "I am very glad," said Mr. Orr, "even at this late day in our official existence, to do something for South Brooklyn people."

After the route has been fully indorsed it will take two weeks to advertise the form of contract, and after that the Board of Estimate will have to approve of the form of the contracts, and then three weeks will have to be spent in advertising for bidders for the contracts.

It is proposed to advertise for construction only, and operation and equipment after. The proposed subway will cost about \$23,000,000. The city has a debt margin of \$30,000,000, to which on July 1, when the 1907 taxes become due, a fixed financial quantity, about \$45,000,000, will be added.

George S. Rice, the Rapid Transit Board's chief engineer, said he "hoped" that trains would be running from Manhattan to Brooklyn Borough Hall under the East River from the Battery by September 1. His statement was brought out in connection with his report in reference to the extension of time for the completion of the tunnel route in Brooklyn from the Borough Hall to the Flatbush avenue station of the Long Island Railroad. In this latter connection Mr. Rice recommended an extension of time for the work to May 1, 1908, because of the change from the two-track roadbed originally contracted for to a four-track proposition. Mr. Rice contended that the extension asked for was just under the circumstances, and it was granted.

PARENTS HELD FOR BOY'S DEATH.

Used Only Christian Science Prayers to Save from Meningitis.

Mount Holly, N. J., May 31.—An inquest was held at Moorestown to-day concerning the death of George N. Watson, seven years old, who died on May 29 from meningitis, superinduced by pneumonia. The testimony showed that had the child received proper medical treatment it would probably have recovered. For permitting the little patient to die without such attention, the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin M. Watson, were declared criminally liable, and Coroner Janney held them under bail. During the seven days' illness of the boy nothing was done for him but the offering of prayers by Mrs. Watson, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Ida Stroud, of Camden. While not found guilty, these women were censured by the coroner's jury. It was declared by the Christian Scientists, who testified that physicians were no good, that medicine would not heal those ailments, and that sickness was a sin, which could be cured only by following God's teachings.

MR. ROOT RETURNS YALE LECTURE FEE.

New Haven, May 31.—Elliott Root returned to Yale to-day the check for \$1,200 sent to him for delivering the William Earl Dodge lectures a fortnight ago. He wrote that the hospitality of President Hadley, Secretary Stokes and Judge William K. Townsend, who had charge of his entertainment while here, more than repaid him for his efforts. The sum sent to him was the income of the Dodge foundation for the annual lecture course.

OLDEST MASON DEAD IN VIRGINIA.

Richmond, Va., May 31.—Robert Ambler Bruce, 107 years old, who is said to have been the oldest Mason in the world, died in the city almshouse here to-day. Bruce, who was born in Virginia, had travelled much. He was a veteran of several wars, and boasted of having seen Napoleon Bonaparte in 1817, alleging that Napoleon presented to him a cross of honor at St. Helena.

STOWAWAY ON HIS TRAIN.

Incidents of the President's Trip Back from Lansing.

Hillsdale, Mich., May 31.—The President's trip southward from Lansing this afternoon and evening was enlivened by uproarious greetings at the way stations, music from the village bands and hearty college yells. At Springfield the train paused three minutes to give the President an opportunity to shake hands with Robert McClellan, who once out West cooked several meals for him and gave up his bed that Mr. Roosevelt might rest after an exhausting round-up and search for lost ponies. The President remembered McClellan perfectly, and placed him in the seventh heaven of joy by telling the members of his party about him.

At Albion the housewife, Congressman Gardner, just as the train was pulling out, a stowaway was found in the President's car. He was crawling under the gate at the rear end of the coach when the Secret Service detectives seized him and dragged him out. "What do you want?" demanded the detectives. "I want to see the President," replied the culprit.

"After close cross-questioning the stowaway was found to be Herbert Lynce, six years old, of Albion. When searched for weapons the detectives found that Lynce carried with him a perfectly appalling array. Thirteen marbles of various kinds and colors, a knife, two pennies and a pair of mittens constituted his outfit. Detective Sloan attempted to extort a confession of some sort from him, but without success.

"I'll see that he goes back to his mother," Mr. President agreed. Mr. Gardner, and he led Herbert out of the dining room still weeping, and next station below, and given into the care of the station agent, who promised to see that he was sent home on the first train going north. When last seen the stowaway was struggling to escape from the station agent in order to go over to the grandstand, where the band was playing "Hail to the Chief."

Hillsdale was reached thirty-five minutes late, in order that the President might be spared the fatigue of a fifty minute handshake and talk while his car was shunted to the main line. As it was, he devoted fifteen minutes to the thriving village and its people. When the President reached Hillsdale he received a telegram from the agent at Condit conveying the news that Herbert Lynce had been found by his grandmother, who was a resident of that town, and that all was well.

President Roosevelt, in speaking to Harvard men at Lansing, is reported by one of the latter to have said: "In one year and eleven months I expect to be an active member of the original Michigan State University. The crowd at Albion awaited dangerously near the car, but was warned back by the President, who said: "We don't want to lose any young Michiganders."

The travelers are scheduled to arrive at Auburn Junction, Ind., about 9 a. m., when the President's car will be transferred from the Lake Shore to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, over which the remainder of the run to Washington will be made. President Benjamin Ide Wheeler of the University of California joined the party at Lansing, and will continue to Pittsburg. The President thoroughly enjoyed his ride through the state. The train was run slowly and stops were made at every town, which kept the President constantly appearing on the platform. There was a greeting to the people at every place, but at the large towns the President made brief speeches. The best crops the people raised in the state, he said at one of the stops, were the men and women, and he expressed special admiration for the care which had been shown in training the children.

Garret, Ind., May 31.—The President's train passed through here at 9:15 p. m. At Angola the President appeared on the platform, although he had not finished his dinner. He was heartily greeted by the people who had gathered at the station.

MR. RIPLEY SARCASTIC.

Chicago, May 31.—President E. P. Ripley of the Santa Fe system, in a scathing criticism of Roosevelt's Indianapolis speech, said to-night: "It is like a piece of breakfast bacon, a streak of fat and a streak of lean—a statement to the inventor that he need not fear for the safety of his investment, coupled with the assurance to the users of the railroads that they will have the best of it if both sides can be got to believe it. It is a sure thing that the railroad men have the idea, that railroad men are not all thieves. It had come to be generally understood, not that the President had said so, but most of those worshiping his shrine wanted to have the idea there. There a certificate of character, or, rather, a statement that a railroad man may be respectable, comes as a grateful antidote to what we daily read."

FOUND DEAD AT DESK.

Head of New York Auto Transfer Co. a Suicide, It Is Thought.

M. B. Beckman, head of the New York Auto Transfer Company, which makes a business of running automobiles on sightseeing trips about the city, was found dead in his office in the Childs Building, No. 108 West 34th street, early last evening. His son, Arthur M. Beckman, secretary of the concern, thought that his father had committed suicide because of business troubles. Beckman was found dead in a chair at 7:30 o'clock by a scrub woman, who informed the police. Sergeant Floyd Pitts, who hurried to the office, said he found a black bottle and a glass on a desk near Beckman. There was a note on the desk, and near it a card on which was written Beckman's home address, No. 1 West 92d street. The body was removed to the morgue. Coroner Dooley examined the body late last night and said Beckman had taken prussic acid. The son of the coroner thought that there was a mortgage due on the property and that his father was worried because he could not meet it. A member of the family said last night that Mr. Beckman had been ill last year, and again two weeks ago, and that in the last week he had seemed despondent. Besides his son, his wife, an invalid mother-in-law and a daughter survive him.

SECRETARY TAFT AT COLUMBUS.

Columbus, Ohio, June 1.—William H. Taft, Secretary of War, arrived at midnight from St. Louis. He will meet Governor Harris and other state officers this morning and will make an official visit to the United States army post. In the afternoon he will visit his mother, who came from Cincinnati to meet him, and who will accompany him to-night on his return to Washington. Charles F. Taft, of Cincinnati, arrived last night from Cincinnati to confer with his brother regarding politics, and there will probably be some informal conferences to-day.

BOSTON MAN DEAD IN THE DESERT?

San Bernardino, Cal., May 31.—James Benton, a prospector, reports that while making his way across the desert by an unfrequented route he discovered the bleached bones of a man and a horse. The sun and rain and the desert coyotes had wiped out every means of identification. Near the bones was a faded coat in the pockets of which were letters that were nearly unintelligible, but which had evidently been written from Boston, and commenced "Dear Harry" and "Dear Brother."

PRESIDENT AT LANSING.

WELCOMED BY MICHIGAN.

Mr. Roosevelt Makes Three Addresses to Enthusiastic Crowds.

Lansing, Mich., May 31.—An old fashioned Western welcome greeted President Roosevelt in Michigan to-day. His car, which had been sidetracked three miles outside of Fort Wayne, Ind., over night, was attached to the regular 5:30 a. m. train for Lansing, and before this city was reached the President had appeared on the rear platform of the Magnet eighteen times to respond to emphatic demands for his presence. His first bow to the public was made in partial dishabille shortly before 6 a. m. His last was just before he turned in, pretty tired, but in splendid spirits, not long before midnight.

The programme at Lansing went "with the snap and go of a first class continuous theatrical performance. The star of the occasion was not allowed to waste any time between appearances on the stage, and in order that every minute should count he was whisked from place to place at a 30-mile clip in automobiles. The managers of the entertainment succeeded in getting more work out of the star than his contract called for. According to the original plan the President was to make only one address at the Capitol before proceeding to the Agricultural College. This was to be in the House chamber. A few days ago Secretary Loeb received a request, backed by Governor Warner and a number of other prominent men, that the President speak from the front balcony of the Capitol, where 30,000 or 35,000 people could hear and see him, instead of the 800 or 900 that could crowd into the limited space of the House of Representatives. The President thought this an excellent plan, and it was so arranged; but when he reached the Capitol the President found every member of the Legislature indignant. They had invited their relatives and friends to hear the President in the House chamber, had given them seats, and now, if the programme was to be changed, they would never be able to hold up their heads again in their communities. Secretary Loeb took the matter under advisement, referred it to the President, and the upshot was that the President spoke from the balcony and the House rostrum, too.

CROWDS IN MICHIGAN'S CAPITAL.

After a strenuous six hours, in which he made three addresses and held a reception at the Capitol, President Roosevelt left Lansing at 4:20 this afternoon for Washington on the Lake Shore Railroad. No untoward incident happened to mar his visit, and nothing occurred which in any way excited the suspicions of the scores of police officers in the city.

At the Agricultural College this afternoon he spoke to about twenty-five thousand persons from a stand erected on a little knoll at the head of the campus. The weather had been cloudy and cool in the forenoon, but just as he began his address the sun came out and shone throughout the hour and ten minutes that he spoke. Seated on benches before the stand were students of the college and hundreds of alumni, who have been attending the semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the institution, and standing behind them were thousands of people from this city and other places in Michigan. More than a score of crowded excursion trains were run into the city in the morning. At the close of his addresses at the Capitol, the college campus was the Mecca toward which practically all the thousands of visitors journeyed. The college is three miles from the city, and every conceivable kind of vehicle was pressed into service to convey them. Hay wagons were fitted with seats and benches, and construction and freight cars were rigged up with extemporized plank seats to accommodate the thousands.

The President closed his second address in his Capitol at 11:15 a. m., and was driven with his party to the college, where President Snyder entertained them at luncheon. Before going to the platform to deliver his address, the President planted a young maple tree on the knoll in Mr. Snyder's yard. The great crowd before the stand was held in check by a regiment of the National Guard, which did police duty throughout the day, both in the city and at the college grounds.

Among those seated on the platform with the President were Senators Burrows and Smith, Secretary Wilson, J. B. Angell, president of the University of Michigan, Secretary Loeb, Representatives Loud, Smith and Gardner, G. J. Diekmann, Charles A. Townsend and Gifford Pinchot, of the United States Forestry Service. The members of the graduating class of the college jumped to their feet as the President entered the stand and gave three rousing "rahs," to which he responded with a laughing shout of "Touchdown!" which brought more applause from the students. The great assemblage rose and sang "America," after which President Snyder introduced Mr. Roosevelt.

An outburst of applause followed.

THE MAN WHO WORKS WITH HIS HANDS.

The President's address was heard with close attention, and was frequently interrupted by applause. He interjected informal remarks and advice at several points, bringing a round of laughter and cheers when he turned toward a dozen young women in the graduating class and said: "I believe that you young ladies will make first class farmers' wives, and I heartily congratulate the farmers of the future on the unexampled prospects before them." The President also made a plea for proper respect for manual labor. "I shall be mightily disappointed in you boys here," he said to the graduating class, "if you can't work with your hands and are afraid to have your working clothes look as though you do work." His address follows: