

SAY LETTERS VANISHED DAY STOKES WAS SHOT

Counsel for Girls Hints at Prosecution for Person Who Took Them.

POLICE CLEARED SO FAR

Gleason Admits Keeping the Missives "Day or Two" Before Delivering Them to Ex-Judge Olcott.

Who got the eighteen letters W. E. D. Stokes wrote to Miss Lillian Graham, a chorus girl? Who gave them to A. H. Gleason, of counsel for the former? When were they taken from the Varuna apartment house? In whose possession were the letters between the time of their discovery and their delivery to some one in the employ of Mr. Stokes? And, finally, what has become of the missing nine? are five questions still unanswered, still shrouded in mystery, a police investigation yesterday and the testimony of the Ansonia house detective notwithstanding.

Robert M. Moore, counsel for Miss Graham and Miss Conrad, made this statement with emphasis last night:

"I am certain that the package of Mr. Stokes' letters to Miss Graham were not found in the girls' apartment on the afternoon of June 9, two days after the shooting, as James Cummins, Mr. Stokes' house detective, said. He swore he found those letters behind the trunk in the sitting room. As I told a representative of The Tribune on June 11, I went in person to the apartments on the morning of the 9th. I saw Mr. Bloom, the superintendent of the building, told him who I was and that I had come to search the apartments and asked him to come with me to see that I did not take anything away, to be a witness. He did so, and in his presence I made a thorough search.

"I moved the trunk behind which Cummins swore he found the letters out into the room, and I can take my oath there were no letters behind it and no Stokes letters in it."

Even more significant is what Mr. Moore said in addition, which follows:

"Taken Night of Shooting, He Says.

"I am morally certain that those letters were taken on the night of the shooting following the arrest of the defendants, and I am going to find out who took them before I get through. I am also certain that the letters produced by the District Attorney were by no means all of those turned over by some one at present unknown to some one also at present not certainly known in Mr. Stokes' employ. Of course, I believe the District Attorney produced at the magistrate's hearing every letter he had."

"I do not think that any of the letters would ever have reached the District Attorney's office at all had not their sudden and mysterious disappearance created such a stir and had not subsequent developments indicated that the defence had strong suspicions that they had reached an agent of Mr. Stokes."

"In regard to the question of who took the letters from Miss Graham's trunk for they were undoubtedly found in her trunk and not behind it—and gave them to a Stokes employe I may have my own theory. This I will say, that evidence which will be developed later will go far to furnish an answer. Incidentally I might add that the taking of letters or anything else from that apartment and not turning it over to the police or the county's prosecuting officer constitutes a crime and lays the guilty person open to prosecution. If my theory holds the person in question may be open to something else as well."

In connection with determining upon some particular person the act of taking and delivering the letters to a Stokes agent, the chronological order of happenings and arrivals at the Varuna apartment house on the night of June 7 is considered of prime importance. It is believed that once this order is logically established it will be a simple matter to place the get upon one of several pairs of masculine shoulders.

Magistrate Froschi, who has been conducting the hearings in the case, has been deeply interested in the testimony regarding the disappearance and reappearance of the letters. Of such importance did he consider it that he formally called it to the attention of the Police Commissioner, who immediately started an investigation of the part the detectives and police played. The magistrate is considering whether it is not his duty to take some action in regard to Mr. Cummins' testimony. Cummins swore that A. H. Gleason was with him when he took the letters, and, in fact, advised him to slip them into his pocket.

"It appears," Magistrate Froschi said, "that in this instance there was more than simple trespassing done. They had no more right to walk into that apartment and seize those letters than you or I."

It now seems certain that counsel for the defence do not intend making the Cummins testimony a basis for charges—not for the present. Future developments may change their attitude, however.

Police Exonerated So Far.

When Commissioner Waide's attention was called to the letter mystery he immediately ordered the fourth deputy police commissioner, Mr. Dillon, to start an investigation, and not to sleep until he had finished it. "If we find any connivance on the part of a detective permitting those letters to get in Mr. Stokes' possession," said the Police Commissioner, "the little iron ball will start rolling."

Mr. Dillon spent the day investigating and will report to the Commissioner on Monday. The result of his efforts failed to show any connivance on the part of the detectives or even to prove any particular negligence, so unless there be further developments the latter will get nice new coats of whitewash.

A. H. Gleason was one of the earliest arrivals at the 1st District Court yesterday.

Notice to Proverb Contestants

Complete list of prize winners in The New-York Tribune's Great Proverb Contest will be announced Thursday, July 13. Particulars on page 12.

Place an order for next Thursday's Tribune with your newsdealer to-day.

BOSTON COPS CATCH FLIES

Fifteen Hundred Policemen to Join Crusade Against Pest.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Boston, July 8.—The 1,500 policemen who compose Boston's efficient department were served with an ecycloper when orders were issued to them to engage in a fly killing crusade.

The Women's Municipal League of Boston has made the request for assistance in killing off the pests, and the officials decided to co-operate with them.

The league has issued circulars, one of which has been placed in every police station house in the city. The circular contains this, among other things: "During the summer one fly can produce 135,312,500,000,000,000 descendants."

AUTO RUNS INTO SOLDIERS

Three Brooklyn Militiamen Hurt Marching in Jersey.

Englewood, N. J., July 8.—Three members of Company B, 23d Regiment, of Brooklyn, were severely injured here tonight while on their way to Blauevelt, N. Y., when an automobile ran into them as they were marching down the steep Palisade avenue hill near the railroad station. In all about eight of the militiamen were knocked down by the automobile, but only three of them were injured enough to cause their removal to the Englewood Hospital.

They are Corporal James D. Christie, Private Robert Falkner and Frederick Trohan, all of Brooklyn.

There were about thirty members of Company B, under command of Captain M. G. Addison, "hiking" it to the new rifle range at Blauevelt. They were coming down Palisade avenue, when two automobiles, one owned by H. Wheeler, of Tenafly, and the other by E. S. Hallet, of No. 228 East 62d street, New York City, came down the hill behind them. Wheeler turned out to pass the other machine, and in some manner Hallet crowded him, and Wheeler's machine ran into the line of marching militiamen.

The soldiers took the two drivers to the police court, where Justice Huckin, after hearing the charges against them, decided the accident was unavoidable, and released them. The militiamen then continued on to Tenafly, where they went into camp for the night.

NEGRO FIRES ON PURSUERS

Shoots Detective After Wounding Girl and Her Mother.

Harlem's jungles were almost stamped by a race riot late last night, when Edward Armstead, a negro, of No. 15 West 133d street, ran through East 130th street with a drawn revolver, after having shot two women of his own race through their arms. When detectives from the East 126th street station chased the negro he fired at them, one of the bullets striking Detective Conroy in the index finger and thumb of his right hand.

As is the fashion in such cases, the negro had no sooner made his presence known by his shooting of the two women and the ensuing chase by the detectives than he was followed by a howling mob of white men, who hungered for his life and roared threats as they tried to keep up with the procession.

He had just shot Mrs. Susan Womack and her daughter, Josephine, who live in the same house which he calls home. He had not her and her mother on 130th street and opened fire, without delay.

After emptying his revolver at the detectives Armstead continued on his way and finally ran into a hallway at No. 1364 Park avenue, where he was cornered by the detectives, who soon carried him into submission. It was necessary for an ambulance surgeon from the Harlem Hospital to give Armstead medical attention, as well as Conroy and the two women. He was locked up on three separate charges of felonious assault.

ERIE HOLD-UP FRUSTRATED

Bandits Planned to Again Rob P. & E. Train.

Erie, Penn., July 8.—Pennsylvania Railroad detectives admitted to-night that another attempt was made last night to hold up train No. 41 on the Philadelphia & Erie branch. This is the same train that was held up with much display of firearms just a week previous. According to the detectives a hold-up last night was forestalled by holding the train at Belle Valley for forty minutes.

Shortly before 9 o'clock the railroad officials were notified by farmers that a gang of men were at work on the track near this city and Belle Valley. The train was ordered held at the latter place while a score of officers were rushed to the spot on a switching engine, the approach of which warned the outlaws, for none were found.

SHOT IDLE STEPFATHER

Song, "Everybody Works but Father," Led to Tragedy.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) New Orleans, July 8.—Andrew Galliber, aged nineteen, came home to-night and found his stepfather, Frank Artz, aged forty-seven, singing "Everybody works but father." A fight ensued and Artz was killed.

The youth has been the chief support of the family, and his mother, who witnessed the killing, has helped. Artz depended on the work several years and is believed to have repeatedly refused jobs, said to have repeatedly refused jobs, and when Galliber came in, tired, and heard his stepfather singing he upbraided him, according to statements made by the police, rushed at Galliber with a chair. The young man got his mother's pistol and shot six times, Artz falling riddled with bullets.

MONOPLANE FLIES OVER HARLEM'S HOUSETOPS

Starts from Nassau Boulevard for Central Park, but Lands in Leonia, N. J., Marsh.

THE MACHINE CAPSIZES

Aviator Is Unhurt—Mrs. T. L. Woodruff and Commodore, Who Weighs 290 Pounds, Fly on Long Island.

Ladis Lekowicz, a member of the Belgian Aero Club, flew over New York City at 133th street yesterday afternoon, having started from Nassau Boulevard, Long Island, at 4:20 o'clock, and then dropped in a marsh at Leonia, near Englewood, N. J., without injury to himself, but wrecking his machine. After landing the framework ignited and all but the motor was destroyed.

Lekowicz telephoned his trouble and success to Nassau Boulevard, and an automobile truck was dispatched to carry the flying machine back to its shed for repairs.

Thousands of persons in Harlem and the Bronx saw, about 1:30 o'clock, a Bristol-monoplane flying westward at an altitude of about three thousand feet. The aviator came down in New Jersey when his gasoline was exhausted.

Before leaving Nassau Boulevard Lekowicz announced his intention to try to fly to the baseball grounds in Central Park. He twice circled the aerodrome and then flew out of sight in the direction of Floral Park, Jamaica, Richmond Hill and then, for some reason foregoing his Central Park plan, cut across at 133th street, and flew at great speed high over the Hudson River.

Automobiles filled with friends of the nifty aviator were stationed at the Long Island and the Manhattan ends of the Queensboro Bridge and at the ball grounds in the park. Police Headquarters were notified of the flight and two sergeants and two patrolmen from the Arsenal were sent to the ball grounds to disperse the crowd that had collected there during the afternoon.

The curious crowd was not told why the ball grounds had been cleared, and a throng of ten thousand persons stood about the edges of the field. The throng was kept back until after 7 o'clock, and after a while a balloon came into view, which was all the spectators saw, and made the crowd think a great deal of unnecessary hardship had been caused them during the afternoon.

A. L. Welch, of the Wright camp, took Commodore W. L. Candee, of Glen Cove, for several rounds of the field at Nassau Boulevard yesterday afternoon. Commodore Candee weighs 290 pounds. He wanted Mr. Welch to take him to Glen Cove, but the aviator was compelled to postpone that journey. He also carried Mrs. Timothy L. Woodruff, Tom Sop, and the English aviator, also flew.

JACK LONDON CATCHES TROUT WITH DIAMOND

Thereby Winning Bet of \$193 and Great Fame as Fisherman.

CAPTURED RARE SPECIMEN

At Least That's the Fish Story That Comes from a Washington Lake, Where Author Feels Call of Wild.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Lake Crescent, Wash., July 8.—Tucked snugly in the heart of the Olympic Mountains in Northwestern Washington, is Lake Crescent. The attraction at present is the author, Jack London. Just why Mr. London chose this region for an outing when the rugged mountains of the Sierra range are near the author's California home is because of a desire of his sporting blood to respond to a new call of the wild.

In Lake Crescent abound the renowned Beardslee trout, found nowhere else in the world. To feel the tug of one on the end of a casting line and to cuss its spotted sides, brought London here to spend five weeks.

He came here with the avowed intention of remaining until he had captured a Beardslee trout. For four days he went out in the morning and rowed back at night, ate his meals and retired to his tent. Not a word was said. Guests saw him bring in strings of fish speckled and dolly varden trout, but not a Beardslee.

Among the guests is Alexander Panatier, who learned of London's great desire and planned to play a little trick on the author. One morning he approached London at breakfast and offered to let \$193 against all the money London had in his pockets that he would not catch a good Beardslee trout during his stay.

London found \$3, and they left the money with the innkeeper. In the flat bottomed boat assigned to each guest London rowed across the lake fully five miles and fished all day. His boat was fairly swamped with various species of trout and some nice landlocked salmon. But in spite of forty-seven changes of flies and three hours of trolling not a Beardslee trout even made a strike at the hooks and spoons.

Suddenly the author was seized with an inspiration. Selecting a wondrously well made trolling spoon, London took his diamond stud and tied it to the gut leader an inch above the cluster of hooks, and then bent to the task of trolling the placid waters of the cove. Hardly had the hook touched the water when a strike and a tug of the line alerted the author that a fish was hooked. Fish and man fought a battle for fifteen minutes. In the end the man won. Soon in the stern of the boat lay a beautifully spotted trout, thirty-four inches long and weighing about nine pounds.

About dinner time London carried the prize to the veranda, where guests had assembled, and displayed it, remarking what a fine mounted specimen it would make. Then he walked to the clerk's counter and pocketed the \$193. It cost Panatier another \$50 to learn how the trout was caught, as the author told of the diamond display on his trolling spoon.

"And it's no nature fake," said London, "for there is the trout and here is the diamond stud."

WOMEN OBJECT TO SNAPSHOTS

Mrs. French Vanderbilt, Mrs. Whitney Warren and Mrs. Beach Protest.

EDITOR GOES TO JAIL

Buell G. Davis in Contempt for Ignoring Order of Court.

Hempstead, N. Y., July 8.—On an order for contempt signed by Justice Aspinwall, of Brooklyn, Buell G. Davis, editor of "The Glen Cove Examiner," a Republican organization paper, was committed to the Nassau County jail until such time as he returns \$15,000 from the estate of Mary E. King.

Davis was ordered to pay the amount on a judgment obtained by George W. Seward, administrator of the estate of William Z. King. He neglected to recognize the order and was declared in contempt.

PIRATES STEAL TROPHY

Black Motor Boat Seen Scudding Away After Yacht Club Theft.

The New Rochelle Yacht Club received a visit early yesterday morning from the black motor boat that is suspected of being concerned in several robberies around New Rochelle and along the north shore of Long Island Sound. When Benjamin R. Stoddard, formerly commodore of the club, returned to the locker house after midnight from a swim he found his locker broken open and his gold watch and chain and a considerable amount of money gone.

Mr. Stoddard and his friends ran in all directions along Harrison Island, the home of the yacht club, in a search for the thieves. Mr. Stoddard, as he arrived at the launch float, saw a long, low, black motor boat disappearing toward the Sound.

JAMES R. KEENE IMPROVING

Takes Long Walk in London and Is Recovering Rapidly.

London, July 8.—James R. Keene, concerning whose health alarming reports have been in circulation, said to-night that he had been ill for a considerable time, but that he is recovering rapidly.

Mr. Keene showed much annoyance over the alarm reports, and in order not to be troubled with inquiries he registered at his hotel under an assumed name. It is his intention to spend some time at Harrogate, a fashionable watering place in Yorkshire, before he returns to the United States.

JOHN W. GATES IMPROVING.

Paris, July 8.—The condition of John W. Gates has shown considerable improvement since yesterday, according to his physician, Dr. Edmond L. Gros.

NAN J. ASPINWALL, WHO RODE FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO NEW YORK.

She arrived at the City Hall yesterday with a letter from Mayor McCarthy of San Francisco to Mayor Gasnor. In the absence of the latter Borough President McAneny welcomed her on the steps of the City Hall.



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TEST VOTE SHOWS RECIPROCIITY IS SAFE

Defeat of Cummins Amendment Assures Passage Without Change.

AMPLE SENATE MAJORITY

Proposal to Put Meats on Canadian Free List Rejected, 32 to 14—More Votes To Be Taken Monday.

(From The Tribune Bureau.) Washington, July 8.—After defeating the first of the Cummins amendments to the reciprocity bill by a vote of 32 to 14, the Senate, in a calmer frame of mind than it was yesterday, agreed to-day to suspend further action until Monday, when the remaining amendments offered by the Senator from Iowa, with those along the same lines offered by Senator Simmons, will be disposed of.

Although there was a bare quorum present to-day, it was apparent, when the vote was taken on the first of the Cummins amendments adding meats and meat products to the Canadian free list, that the advocates of reciprocity have an ample majority to defeat all attempts to kill the agreement by amendment. At the same time it became clear that a majority of the Senate is anxious to dispose of the questions now before it and bring the discussion to an end. A motion to adjourn, made by Senator Bailey, was defeated by 28 to 19, and it was only by an agreement to vote on the Cummins and Simmons amendments on Monday that Senators demanding action were reconciled to the idea of adjournment to-day.

Three Democrats, eight insurgents and three regulars made up the fourteen who supported the Cummins amendment. The Democrats were Bailey, Simmons and Thornton, the insurgents were Borah, Bourne, Bristow, Clapp, Cummins, Dixon, Gronna and Kenyon, and the regular Republicans were Clark, O'Worming, Nelson and Sutherland. The amendment was opposed by twelve regular Republicans, nineteen Democrats and one insurgent.

The insurgents, who thought to have everything their own way in putting the advocates of reciprocity in a bad light by inserting their own views into the record, came off rather badly. On the one hand they were chided by the stanchest of the regulars for voting for free trade, and on the other for attempting to defeat the first measure proposed in the way of a tariff reduction since the passage of the Payne law. "It seems to me," said Senator Burton, "that the most ardent tariff reformer ought to take the greatest satisfaction in the opportunity offered by this bill, instead of endangering it."

"Why not have free flour, then?" interjected Senator Cummins, while the second of his amendments was under consideration. "I should be in favor of free flour," said Senator Burton. "But why not take up the question courageously in a separate bill and not try to tack it on to reciprocity as a rider?"

It became clear to-day that the four of anti-reciprocity oratory are rapidly running dry, and that no more prolonged speeches are likely to be made except by Senator La Follette, who will undoubtedly consume much time in launching his tariff revision plan at the last moment before the Senate is ready to vote on the bill. No one is willing to assume responsibility for delaying action in the Senate, and risk the charge of keeping the country in suspense with interminable pugny tariff revision in prospect.

"WATER WINGS" DROWN CHICAGO GRAIN MAN

James Pettit Loses His Life While Wife and Son Look On.

FROLIC TURNS TO TRAGEDY

"Wings" Slipping to Feet, President of Peavey Grain Company Drowns in Four Feet of Water.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Chicago, July 8.—Playing in the lake while his wife and son looked on from the veranda of the Hotel Moraine, at Highland Park, James Pettit, president of the Peavey Grain Company, was drowned in four feet of water at the hotel swimming beach to-day. Laughter of the wife and son at the antics of the husband and father was turned to horror when he disappeared beneath the surface. His swimming "wings" slipped to his feet, thus overbalancing him, and plunging his head under the water.

A warning cry from Mr. Pettit's chauffeur, who saw his employer's plight, was the first intimation that the water frolic had developed into a tragedy.

The cry attracted the attention of Mrs. Pettit, who ran to the water's edge, closely followed by her ten-year-old son. Aroused by the frantic screams of the wife, other persons found the body near the spot where Mr. Pettit had last been seen. A physician who soon reached the scene found no sign of life, but so insistent was Mrs. Pettit that her husband was not dead that four other physicians were summoned. They worked over the body for three hours in their efforts to revive Mr. Pettit, and when they finally told Mrs. Pettit her husband was dead she collapsed.

At the point where Mr. Pettit was drowned he could have stood in the water without danger. He was an enthusiastic novice in the art of swimming, and for a week had been going into the water daily to master it, generally in the morning, before the crowds arrived. LaFond, the chauffeur, had instructions to attend Mr. Pettit while he was swimming, but he was away when the grain man started for the beach to-day.

The "water wings" which caused Mr. Pettit's death were bought on Friday night. They consist of a pair of inflated rubber and silk bags, attached by a double strand of canvas. The canvas is placed across the chest of the swimmer and the two inflated bags come under the arms. The air in the bags is enough to support the weight of the average man.

Mr. Pettit had been a member of the Board of Trade several years, and was well known in social and business circles. Since 1901 he had been president and general manager of the Peavey Grain Company. He was a member of many clubs. His home was at No. 23 Cedar street, which contains one of the finest libraries in the city. He was born in Alliance, Ohio, forty-two years ago. In 1893 he married Miss Sadie Elizabeth Prescott.

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HIGH PRICES IN 1910

Average 4 Per Cent Above Figures for 1909.

Washington, July 8.—An investigation of the Bureau of Labor of the prices of commodities in 1910 shows that wholesale prices in that year were 4 per cent higher than in 1909 and 1.5 per cent above the average of 1907, which was the year of highest prices since 1880. In view of the fact that the prices of the commodities of farm products were 7.5 per cent higher in 1910 than in 1909.

Wholesale prices in 1910 were 12.1 per cent higher than in 1909, 4.7 per cent higher than in 1907 (which was the year of low prices between 1880 and 1910), 15.6 per cent higher than in 1906 and 23.6 per cent higher than the average high prices between 1880 and 1909.