

TELLS OF ASSAULT ON GIRL

GRAHAM MEANT MERELY TO KISS HER, HE SAYS.

He and Becker in a scurrilous contest. Each accusing the other of the assault on Amelia Staffeldt—Police Don't Believe Either—Graham Held Without Bail.

The conflicting stories told by Leon Graham, who is under arrest for attacking Mary Luck, a five-year-old girl, at Corona yesterday, and Henry Becker, who is accused of having murdered Amelia Staffeldt at Elmhurst on Wednesday of last week, have convinced the authorities who have the cases in hand that no reliance can be placed on any of the statements of either prisoner.

When arraigned in court at Flushing yesterday Graham had no hesitation in acknowledging that he had attacked the child, but alleged that he only attempted to kiss her and that as a result of her struggles to free herself from his embrace both had fallen.

As Graham answered in a measure the description given by Mrs. Soperville of the man who with Becker washed his hands at the pump in her yard at Elmhurst on the day of the Staffeldt murder, the two prisoners were brought face to face in the county jail in Long Island City, but no sign of recognition was shown by either man. Then Warden Van Sise had Graham removed to a cell and Becker was taken into the warden's office, where the latter was told that Graham had made a confession in which he charged Becker with the murder of Amelia Staffeldt. Becker became excited on hearing this and denounced Graham as the real murderer of the girl, declaring that he had seen Graham stab the girl to death. It was Graham's turn next, and after Becker had been sent to his cell the other man was brought before the warden and told that he might as well own up, as Becker had told the whole story of how the murder had been committed and had accused Graham of the crime.

Graham protested his innocence, declaring that he had seen Becker knocking her down and then strike her with the knife with which she had been cutting dandelions. He told how he and Becker went to a pump and washed their hands, after which, according to his statement, they separated, going in different directions. The warden then examined the answers given by Graham and became satisfied from the answers he received that the man was familiar with the locality where the Staffeldt murder was committed, and that he had heard about the tragedy.

When Graham was arraigned before Magistrate Conorton on a charge of felonious assault on Mary Luck, a five-year-old girl, who was taken to the hospital, Graham was cool and collected and did not seem to mind his plight in the least. The paper charging him with the assault was read, and then Magistrate Conorton asked him if he was guilty or not guilty. He replied: "Well, I guess I'm guilty, sir." The Magistrate said he did not know whether he was or not, and then Graham said:

"I saw the little girl as I passed and I stopped alongside of her and put my hand on her head, and she said she was afraid about my business, as I should have done, I wouldn't be here to-day. But she looked so pretty to me that I could not resist the desire to kiss her, and I did so. She was the waist. She screamed and then I became determined that I would kiss her and I had a hard job to hold her as she began to kick and I got up and ran. She was running until I saw the policeman was near upon me and then I cut across the field, but he got me."

Magistrate Conorton held the man without bail for the Grand Jury. He said if Graham wanted to get out on bail he could apply to some higher court, but he would release him on his own recognizance. He then John Becker, whose son Henry is under arrest on suspicion of having murdered the Staffeldt girl, visited the Yorkville police court yesterday and reported information about his wife Mary, who is in the workhouse on Blackwell's Island.

The elder Becker said that he lived at Tarrytown and had been separated from his wife for three months. He said that he was inclined to drink, he said, and the son was "no good." He said that it was a matter of indifference to him what became of his wife, and that he would like to know how he could see his wife, when he explained that he would be willing to take her back home if her habits had improved. The Becker family is held in the workhouse on a charge of vagrancy in Tompkins Square Park on May 13. Magistrate Steiner committed both to the workhouse for three months. Mrs. Hirdanaky, one of the court probation officers, afterward got the Magistrate to let the son go on parole. He made promises of getting employment and supporting his wife, but nothing was heard from him at court after his discharge.

ADMITS TORTURE CHARGES.

Russian Minister Tells Duma That 42 Officers Will Be Prosecuted.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 30.—In the Duma today the Minister of Justice replied to an interpellation regarding official tortures inflicted upon prisoners at Riga, and although he admitted that some of the accusations were true and announced that forty-two officers would be prosecuted, he contended that the action was due to indignation at the brutal acts of terrorism committed by the revolutionists in the Baltic Provinces.

The statement did not satisfy any party in the House, although for different reasons, and eight different resolutions were formulated. All these were rejected owing to the antagonism between the different parties. But for this a condemnatory declaration might have been recorded.

Finally a colorless resolution, drawn up by the Law Commission, was adopted in connection with the Minister's reply and referring the matter to the Czar, was passed.

To Honor Lister and Crouser.

LONDON, May 30.—The corporation of the City of London has decided to confer the freedom of the city upon Lord Lister, the noted surgeon-General Lord Crouser, late Agent and Consul-General in Egypt.

Furthest Bismarck New Moskva.

The latest addition to the Russian volunteer fleet, the twin screw steamship Moskva, arrived yesterday from Libau and Rotterdam. She was formerly the Hamburg-American liner Furthest Bismarck and was sold to the Russian Government during the Russo-Japanese War. She has been fitted with new boilers and can make about 18 knots. She was once a crack and held a transatlantic record.

Reformed Jews to Have a \$50,000 Temple in Brooklyn.

A new Reformed Jewish Congregation, to be known as the Temple Emanuel, is being organized in Brooklyn, and eighteen directors have been elected, with E. M. Meyerson as chairman, Lewis Levin treasurer and Emanuel Hertz secretary. It has been decided to erect a \$50,000 edifice either on the Eastern Parkway or the Boulevard.

Acid Factory Burned.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., May 30.—Early today the acid factory of the Luzern Chemical Company at Long Edly was totally destroyed by fire. The factory, which employed about 100 men, was one of the largest in the country.

KWANGTUNG REBELS BEATEN.

Hongkong Reports the Leader Captured by Provincial Troops.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. HONGKONG, May 30.—The Kwangtung provincial troops have inflicted a defeat upon the rebels, killing over 100 of them and capturing their leader.

WASHINGTON, May 30.—At the request of the State Department orders were despatched to-day to the gunboat Helena, at Fuchow, to proceed at once to Amoy and Swatow. The latter place is in the heart of the disturbed Chinese district.

While there is nothing in the reports from China which indicates that foreigners, especially Americans, are in any danger as a result of the present trouble, it has been deemed advisable to have an American warship in the vicinity.

It is believed that the action taken in ordering the Helena to Swatow was prompted by the despatch which the State Department received yesterday from United States Consul Paddock at Amoy, who said that there had been an outbreak about fifty miles from Amoy. Swatow is approximately that distance from Amoy. The despatch said that several officers had been killed and that the soldiers were in mutiny. While the Department is not alarmed over the situation, yet it has been regarded best to take precautionary steps.

The cruisers Galveston and Chattanooga and the gunboats Concord and Wilmington are at Shanghai, the Quires and Villaboa are patrolling the Yang-tze River, the Callao and Cincinnati are at Canton and the Raleigh is at Chetoo.

WELCOME THE ADRIATIC.

Mayor in His Roles and All Southampton Meet White Star Liner.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. SOUTHAMPTON, May 30.—The steamer Adriatic arrived here this evening, inaugurating the White Star Line's first use of this port in its transatlantic service. The townfolk turned out in thousands and gave the vessel a rousing welcome.

The Mayor and corporation officials, in their robes of office, on board a tug met the Adriatic and escorted her to her pier amid the blowing of sirens and whistles and the cheering of the crowds lining the dockside which, like the whole town, was a mass of fluttering bunting.

The steamer's passage from New York to Eddystone light was uneventful. She was wonderfully steady despite two days of the roughest weather. As she was leaving Cherbourg there was a slight mishap which delayed her arrival here for more than an hour. Her port cylinder cracked with a loud noise, startling the passengers, but otherwise the incident was harmless and the vessel was sent to Belfast for a new cylinder and the accident is not likely to delay the Adriatic's sailing next week.

Joseph H. Choate and some other prominent passengers did not land at Plymouth, and Mr. Choate received a personal welcome from the Mayor of Southampton.

CLYDE SEAMEN STRIKE.

Shipowners Refuse to Raise Wages and Rate Rise Against Socialism.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. GLASGOW, May 30.—The strike of the Clyde seamen has begun.

The shipowners have positively refused to gratify the men's demands or to recognize the union.

The seamen on the monthly boats are out and those on the weekly boats are now balloting as to whether to strike or not.

The owners have called a conference of "representatives of the various maritime countries," to meet in London and devise a scheme of defence against the unions. A prominent owner said to-day:

"We are pursued from port to port by Socialism and the time has arrived for erecting barriers to make the shipping trade of the world impregnable to Socialism."

The men met on May 26 and gave the owners three days in which to accede to their demand for an advance of wages, on pain of a strike. The strike includes the steamships and other vessels trading between Glasgow and the United States.

NO PAPAL ROAD TO THE SEA.

Vatican Would Not Consider the Idea of American Catholics.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. ROME, May 30.—The wild project which is being promoted by the Marchese Martin Maloney of Philadelphia and R. C. Kerens of St. Louis, under which a strip of land leading to the sea is to be presented to the Pope, thus solving the Roman question, is regarded by the Vatican as little short of aberration. This judgment is based on details cabled from America.

Several prelates, when approached on the subject, refused to discuss even the possibility of the project. Cardinal Satolli denies countenancing the scheme, which he characterizes as a dream.

WANTS NO OCEAN WAR, BUT—

North German Lloyd Co. Puts It Up to the Cunard to Make Concessions.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. BREMEN, May 30.—Dr. Wiegand, director of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, was questioned to-day regarding the rumors of a rate war arising from recent developments in the transatlantic trade. He said that his company had not the slightest occasion or inclination to enter into such a contest with the Cunard or any other company, either on the Atlantic or other routes.

The existing difficulties with the Cunard line, he said, could be removed by negotiation if both sides were willing to make concessions. The German companies were certainly willing, but if there was no sign of concession from the other side they were prepared for a conflict.

POPE ON NEW THEOLOGY.

Congratulates Man Who Called Campbell a Silly Blasphemer.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, May 30.—According to the Catholic Herald the Archbishop of Glasgow, who is in Rome, brought to the attention of the Pope the denunciation of the New Theology and its apostle, the Rev. Dr. R. J. Campbell, pastor of the City Temple, London, by Canon Mackintosh, in which the Canon referred to Campbell as "a silly blasphemer."

The Pope directed that his congratulations should be conveyed to Canon Mackintosh.

ACCOMMODATING THEIF.

Stole Mrs. C. F. Morgan's Money, but Wouldn't Delay Her Trip.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, May 30.—An amusing thief stole a letter of credit belonging to Mrs. C. F. Morgan of Chicago from her trunk in a hotel here, and in attempting to cash it at Cook's was detected and arrested.

He waived the formality of Mrs. Morgan's evidence at his trial and she departed for Florence after the restitution of the stolen property.

SHOW ME, SAYS DOCTOR SHAW

WHO CAN PROVE WALL STREET GOT MY MAG. ON TUESDAY?

Intimates That It Is More Reasonable to Suspect Daily Newspapers of Leaking Confidential Matters—But It Was Copies of the Magazine the Brokers Had.

Dr. Albert Shaw, whose spy little monthly the Review of Reviews has been the whole country this week by printing the President's Indianapolis speech before it was delivered, seemed rather unwilling yesterday to believe that Wall Street got its advance tip on the speech from the magazine.

Dr. Shaw lives in Hastings-on-Hudson summer and winter. On the lawn south of his back stoop Roachbeard stood and shelled such British men-o-war as nosed the spot whence Washington ducked across the New York Central tracks and paddled away on his boat to Yorktown. It was to Hastings the doctor reported in the Review of Reviews office on Wednesday morning, before the story broke. He didn't get the morning papers yesterday and knew nothing of the fuss that had been raised until a SUN reporter carried the word to him.

He had only returned from Europe a week ago, he explained. The June number of the magazine had been prepared by other members of the staff. It was aware that one of the features would be a considerable extract from the President's speech, but hadn't seen the copy himself and only knew that the proper precautions would be taken to see that no Review got into the open before the President got a chance to make his speech public.

"Who are the Wall Street people who are supposed to have had this speech? Do the papers name any of them?" Dr. Shaw had to be admitted that no names had been mentioned, although the fact was real enough. Whereupon the doctor remarked:

"Well, I haven't seen any copies abroad. I only got one myself, and had to work pretty hard to do that. It may be true, but until the Review of Reviews shows it doesn't appear necessary to look for any defence. It seems more reasonable to me that the speech leaked from some of the dailies themselves, or from the copy of the papers they owned right in Wall Street, you know, and I guess if anybody down there wanted the news very badly he wouldn't come to the Review of Reviews for it. That's the way they would look. It has been pretty well known for some time that Mr. Roosevelt was going to say something about the fact that at Indianapolis the Review of Reviews didn't tell anybody that. There have been leaks before from the newspaper offices."

Dr. Shaw said, though, that he would of course look into the matter. He believed with Mr. Stone, the circulation manager, that if the abstract that was wired around the country by a Wall Street syndicate came from the magazine the break occurred after the edition had left the publication office.

"Do you think the President will get after the Review of Reviews," Dr. Shaw was asked. "The President," was his reply, "is a considerate, level headed man, and will be sure to act in any considerate, level headed man would act."

President Roosevelt and Albert Shaw are old friends, but that is not the reason, Dr. Shaw explained, why the Review of Reviews has printed so many nice things about the Executive.

"I am a cool and judicial minded man," he said. "I have never indulged in adulation, my praise is never fulsome. I have complimented Mr. Roosevelt because he is clean, strong, wise and brave. He's a great President."

FRENCH SEAMEN TO STRIKE.

Today's Ships May Sail, but None After Government Provides for Mails.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PARIS, May 31.—The defence committee of the Seafarers' Union, at a meeting at Marseilles last night, voted for a general strike of the men employed in maritime navigation, to commence at 8 o'clock this morning. If the strike becomes effective, as it threatens to do, it will tie up the French merchant service entirely, as it is the outcome of long agitation among the naval reserves for better pay.

The men, on whom the merchant service depends, after five years' service in the navy become reservists and receive a minimum pension of 780 francs, or \$154, annually for captains and 204 francs, or \$40.80, for the men. The Minister of Marine recently proposed to increase these pensions to \$200 and \$77, respectively, but after months of deliberation the men decided to reject the offer as insufficient.

The decision of the captains has not been made public, but it is believed that they also are dissatisfied with the offer, which would receive \$240. The non-reservist sailors' union, although satisfied with the Minister's proposals in regard to themselves, voted in favor of a sympathetic strike.

Vessels scheduled to sail to-day will be allowed to depart, but all others will be deserted. The strike feeling is strong at Toulon, L'Orient, Dunkirk, Cette and Havre. The reservists at Nantes were willing to accept the terms of the Minister of Marine, but decided to strike in support of their comrades.

Preparations are being made to insure certain services, like the transportation of the mails to Algeria, by using warships. The Government has ordered four transports at Marseilles to be provisioned and held in readiness. Torpedo boats and destroyers will also be employed in the mail service.

MAY BE LOST FRAGONARD.

English Tradesman Thinks He Has Companion Piece to \$27,600 Picture.

LONDON, May 30.—There is some reason for supposing that Fragonard's "Sleeping Venus," the companion picture of "The Awakening of Venus," which realized \$27,600 at the Sodeimeyer sale in Paris a few days ago, has been found in possession of a tradesman at High Wycombe.

The tradesman bought the picture, which is that of a nude, recumbent female, from a local dealer for a small sum, and although it was labelled "Fragonard," he attributed no special value to it. It is stated that he has already refused an offer of \$5,000 for the picture.

FLOWERS FOR THE SEA'S DEAD.

Boats Laden With Sweet Memorials Launched at Philadelphia and Omaha.

PHILADELPHIA, May 30.—One of the most picturesque ceremonies of Memorial Day was held under the auspices of the Naval Veterans, who, following the custom of years, launch boats of flowers on the Delaware as a tribute to the men who lost their lives at sea in the nation's service.

OMAHA, May 30.—In honor of warriors buried at the battle of Gettysburg, a number of boats laden with flowers and bearing a card asking all to keep it on its course, was to-day launched on the Missouri River, and sent on toward the Gulf.

The custom of the flower boat originated in Omaha in memory of George Geddes, the first American soldier buried at sea in the Spanish war. Geddes, Nebraska, was the son of the Senator in the Pacific, and his remains were taken to Florence after the restitution of the stolen property.

EX-BLUEBOAT HESS'S ORDEAL

JERRED IN THE STATION BY HIS FORMER COMPANIONS

And Held Up by McCafferty as One Who Had Brought Disgrace Upon the Uniform and Force—Grady Girl in Court—Bail Fixed at \$4,000—May Be Third Charge.

Former Mounted Policeman Hess, who used to be attached to the West 132d street station, was subjected yesterday to the bitterest humiliation a policeman can know. After running the gantlet of jeering bluecoats in his home station and at Police Headquarters, where he was finally photographed just after a negro petty thief, he was taken to the Harlem police court and held in \$4,000 bail on charges of kidnapping and assault. He was confronted on the bridge by Lizzie Grady, the fourteen-year-old girl he had persuaded to go away with him. She was pale and downcast and seemed ashamed. She never lifted her eyes to look at him. The girl came in only to swear to an affidavit made out by Gerry Agent Frank Barkley narrating Hess's intimacy with her and their elopement.

Hess was handcuffed to Lieut. Becker of the Central Office and led from the cell he had been occupying in the West 152d street station. Three or four of his former companions were lounging in the reserve room as he passed through and they jeered him. When he was taken to Police Headquarters two dozen policemen who had gathered to see him enter gave him more of the same thing. Hess was greatly changed in appearance. He has lost about twenty pounds since he left the force and ran away.

He was taken to the inspection room, where he had to line up with the riffraff of crooks who had been brought in the night. When Capt. McCafferty read off his name Hess raised his hand like the others to indicate his identity.

"Men," declared McCafferty, looking up from his desk. "That is Hess, the policeman who is charged with abduction and assault. He has brought disgrace upon our uniform and our force. I sincerely trust he will get the limit of the law for his crimes. Lieut. Becker, take this man upstairs and have him photographed. Hess was taken to the Harlem court. The Grady girl had been waiting there in a room of the court room, still dressed in the cheap skirt, waist, hat and raincoat of brown in which Hess's mother dressed her for a disguise to hide her youth. The girl fell sobbing into her father's arms when he came in. He had seen her for the first time earlier in the day at the Gerry society's rooms.

Hess pleaded not guilty. He refused to give his residence and was backward about answering questions as to his pedigree.

It is understood that a third charge may be made against Hess as a result of the girl's story. However, he can be sent to prison for fifteen years if found guilty on the first charge, and for a number of years more on the assault allegation.

Andrew Grady, the girl's father, said that he believed his daughter was afflicted with some mental trouble at the time of her elopement and that her mind is still clouded.

THE TORRENS SYSTEM

Registration of Land Titles Works Well in Massachusetts.

It is well known that an examination of title, either by an attorney or by a title company, is not considered so onerous as it was in Moody's Magazine, is obliged to accept such an opinion.

On each occasion when a mortgage loan may be obtained upon the premises, or when a sale is made, the title has to be reexamined and the work may be done all over again.

But there is a system which is best suited to bring about the results, as to estates in land, of security of possession and quickness, ease and cheapness of transfer. This system, which is generally known as the Torrens system of land transfer, had its origin in the colony of South Australia, and was introduced by the late Sir Robert Torrens, something more than fifty years ago, and has been adopted in other of the Australian colonies, in New Zealand, in British Columbia, in parts of Canada, and also in some of the States of the Union.

The system was established in Massachusetts in the year 1898. A court called the Court of Registration was then established, the name of which was afterward changed to Court of Land Registration and has since been simplified to Land Court.

An owner of land files an application in court describing the land desired to be bought under the act, setting forth any existing incumbrances, names of abutting owners, names of persons who may have any adverse claim and sundry other particulars. He is also required to furnish a plan of the land.

The title to his estate is then examined by an examiner appointed by the court who makes a report, furnishing an abstract of title setting forth all existing incumbrances and such questions or defects as may exist in relation to it and giving the court his opinion as to the state of the title. Thereupon notice is issued, special notice being given to all persons who may appear to have any interest and to abutting owners and general notice by publication to all the world. Any person appears and files an adverse claim there is a hearing and proper trial and, if necessary, issues are framed for a jury and the matter is sent to the Superior Court for trial.

After the filing of an application, if the title is clear, the deed is registered on transaction can be made or adverse right acquired affecting it, unless the instrument or paper is brought to the Land Court and registered. The man charged with the certificate book. The owner is also required to bring in his duplicate certificate that a like entry may be made upon that.

In appropriate phrase the books are kept posted up to date. Therefore the state of the title to a piece of registered land can at any time be seen at a glance by looking into the books and the proper entry can be made at the original certificate in a court.

The court has two Judges and a recorder at the principal office in Boston. Many of the below are registered in each county and registry district is an office an assistant recorder of the Land Court and applications for registration can be filed with him and papers of registered land in his county or district are filed with him and there registered. The Judges hold court in any part of the State according to the convenience of the parties.

OBITUARY

Funeral services for Mrs. Robert Vanderbergh McKim will be held this morning at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in West Forty-third street. Mrs. McKim, who was the wife of a retired physician, died of apoplexy on Monday last at her home in New York, which was carrying her and members of her family to Europe for the summer. She was 62 at the time of her death, and leaves a daughter, Mrs. Robert McKim, who is the wife of the late Robert McKim, and a son, Mr. Robert McKim, who was born in New York. Mrs. McKim, who was born Mary Schroeder Albert of Baltimore, had been for more than 40 years a member of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

Word was received in Newton, N. J., yesterday of the death in the State of Dr. William H. Howland, a prominent resident of Newton. Mr. Howland was 82 years of age and had been a member of the Newton Record, which paper recently suspended publication. He was 42 years of age and had been in the Dayton home for about two years. The body probably will be brought to Newton for interment.

Miss Adaline Smith, 45 years old, prominent as an artist, composer and philanthropist, died suddenly of apoplexy at her home in New York, as a result of overwork in the writing of the libretto for an opera to be produced at the Metropolitan Opera House. She was a close friend of the Sixth family, was to have written the music, is believed to have been in the city for some time.

A cable dispatch from Shanghai announces the death of the Rev. Young J. Allen of the Methodist Episcopal church in China. He was 80 years of age and had been in the hands of the Woman's Relief Corps.

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