THE POET BJORNSON DEAD

A LEADER IN NORWAY'S MOVEMENT FOR INDEPENDENCE.

He Called the Victor Hugo of the North—Noted in the Fields of Drama, Verse and Fiction—Attacked Monarchs, but Voted as a Republican for a King.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

[illegible] April 26.—Björnstjerne Björnson, Norwegian poet, dramatist and [illegible] died in this city last night.

Björnstjerne Björnson was known to [illegible] and English speaking world [illegible] writer, then he became better [illegible] a political leader; in turn his [illegible] in the political field made [illegible] works better known and [illegible] them to be more widely read. [illegible] is a matter of past years, and [illegible] time now Björnson has been [illegible] and thought of simply as one of [illegible] men of the Scandinavian lands. A [illegible] early called him the Hugo [illegible] North. Inevitably he was dis[illegible] in connection with Ibsen. In early [illegible] they were friends, then they drifted [illegible] apart as to be almost enemies; [illegible] there was a sufficient reconciliation [illegible] years or so ago and Björnson's [illegible] daughter married Ibsen's son.

In early life Björnson rebelled against books and gave himself to the study of nature. Then in his student days at Christiania he began all at once to write plays and plunged into journalism. He was a great champion of his race, of Norwegian genius and of the restoration of the native tongue in its integrity. He did not like Danish or German encroachments. He organized public lectures in furtherance of Norwegian art and he became manager of theatres in Bergen and Christiania. He accepted at first the theological views of Grundtvig's elementary Christianity, fought for religion and morality; later, after a tour of study in Denmark, Italy, France and Germany and acquainting himself with the thought of Darwin, Spencer, Mill, Taine and others through their works, his writings took a Darwinian and psychological tinge, and he entered politics as a social reformer, became prominent in the election campaigns, was eloquent in addressing the people, and in 1870 came out for a union of Norway with France. Later he led the National Radical party and once wanted Norway to become an independent republic. In 1905 he came out for the election of a king as a properly republican scheme of government. Whether in his early rural novels and heroic dramas or his later books, plays and songs, the critics found always grandeur, beauty and charm.

Bjornson was born in December, 1832, at Kvikne, Oesterdalen, Norway, where his father was pastor of a small church. When he was 6 years old, however, his father was transferred to Noesset in the Romsdal, a beautiful part of Norway. He was extremely fond of listening to Bible stories and to the legends of the country and was well grounded in the spirit and traditions of his native land when his real student days began.

Bjornson was a big, powerful man physically. He was devoted to music, although not a performer. He was a great traveller and in 1880 he visited America on a lecture tour and paid a visit to Ole Bull, who had been his early friend. It has been said of him: "His ballads and greater lyrical compositions, of which 'Bergliot' is the most exquisite, had the sparkle of the frost, the ring of the folking, while his songs of the fatherland have become national songs." His dramas covered questions of politics and religion, domestic relations and social conditions. He satirized the press in "The Editor," attacked the institution of monarchy in "The King," and exposed the paucity of honor in the financial world in "The Bankrupt." It is told of this latter play that the wife of a secret defaulter, when she saw on the stage the character of her husband fainted, and that a speculating banker was so wrought up by it that he announced his bankruptcy the next day.

In "A Glove" he spoke for an equality of standards in the morals of the sexes. He followed up a missionary tour of the villages where he lectured on chastity by stories exalting virtue and personal purity as a law of the heart and an institution of society, as in "Magnhild" and "In God's Paths." It was said that his lectures led to improved moral conditions in various places.

In later years some of his rugged edges of antagonism were less noticeable than in his early fighting days, with regard to some of his ultra positions, but he liked a combat always. Some years ago when it was reported that, tired of the political ferment for which he was largely responsible, he had determined to go and live in Munich, he wrote: "I shall live right here in Norway. I shall thrash and be thrashed in Norway. I shall win and die in Norway—of this you can be sure."

All the same, ever since 1882 he lived much in Paris, Rome and the Tyrol, spending his summers on his Norwegian farm, Aulestad. He spoke English, French, German and Italian. He received the Nobel prize for literature in 1903.

Among his works that have been put into English are "A Happy Boy," "The Bridal March," "The Fisher Lass," "Captain Mansana," "Magnhild," "In God's Paths," "The Heritage of the Kurts," "A Gauntlet," "Pastor Sang," "Paul Lange," "Synnove Solbakken" and "Arne."

Obituary Notes.

John Graeme Purdon, for many years a merchant in China, is dead at Milton, Mass., aged 75. He was a native of Philadelphia and went to China when 17 years old in the company of Henry S. Grew, who died a few weeks ago, and remained there for [illegible] years. Returning to this country he led a retired life in Boston, taking up his residence in Milton a few years ago. While in China he held many offices of trust and for some time was the Mayor of Shanghai. He had the honor of welcoming Ulysses Grant when he made his world tour in 1879 and in 1890 he was deputed to extend the welcome to the Duke of Connaught when he began a tour of the British possessions. Mr. Purdon was married in 1885 to Miss Sarah P. Rogers of Boston, who died three years ago. Four children survive.

[illegible] L. Bannon, chief clerk in the [illegible] office in Brooklyn, died on Monday at his home, 272 St. Marks avenue, in his [illegible] year. He had long been [illegible] Democratic politics in the Tenth [illegible] district and was a delegate to the [illegible] committee. He was cashier in the [illegible] highways during the Van Wyck [illegible] and was a deputy sheriff for [illegible] He was not married.

William Wait Snow of Hillburn, [illegible] county, N. Y., founder and [illegible] of the Ramapo Iron Works of [illegible] the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry [illegible] Ramapo and other iron industries [illegible] died at his home yesterday [illegible] a short illness. He was 82 [illegible] a lifelong resident of the village.

[illegible] Diefendorf died at Fort [illegible] yesterday at the age of 94. [illegible] in Fort Plain all his life. He [illegible] grocery business for years. [illegible] by two daughters and two [illegible] one of the sons is John E. Diefendorf of Mount Vernon, assistant examiner in the State Insurance Department.

[illegible] Northrup, a pioneer glove manufacturer of Fulton county and founder of the Northrup Glove Company of Johnstown, died yesterday at Johnstown at the age of 88. He was born at Galway, Saratoga county. He retired from business in 1894. He is survived by a son, former Mayor James L. Northrup of Johnstown.

Girl Dies of Hemorrhage at Subway Station.

Ella Taylor, 21 years old, daughter of Frederick Taylor of 578 Washington avenue, was taken with a hemorrhage on Duffield street near Fulton, in Brooklyn, yesterday morning as she was about to go down to the subway station at that point. She died before an ambulance came. She had been a sufferer from lung trouble for some time.

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LANSDEN Electric Wagons and trucks, equipped with the perfected Edison Storage Battery, will do for you what they are doing each day for the foremost dry goods houses, department stores, express companies, hardware, piano, textile and machinery manufacturers in all parts of the country, that is, deliver your goods faithfully in less time, with less trouble and less cost than horse-drawn vehicles.

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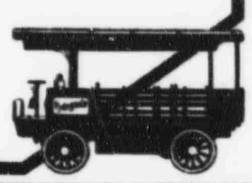

CRIME IN DEATH OF MISS REID.

Talk in Naples of Black Hand—Family Suspect Fishermen.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, April 26.—A despatch from Naples to the *Vita* says the death of Miss Estelle Reid is likely to prove to have been a Black Hand crime. Miss Reid had been heard talking about the Black Hand. The police will not confirm this rumor.

Miss Reid was a cousin of the Princess Rospigliosi. The Princess has been summoned by the police to identify the body before burial. She left Rome to-day for Naples.

Mrs. Bertha Reid Wells of 409 Riverside Drive, an elder sister of Miss Estelle Reid, who was found drowned in the Bay of Naples last week, cabled to the Princess Joseph Rospighosi yesterday and asked that she make arrangements to ship the body to this city. The Princess Rospighosi is a cousin of the dead girl. She was formerly Miss Marie Jennings Reid of New Orleans and Washington and was divorced from her first husband, Col. F. H. Parkhurst of Bangor, Me. The Princess is living in Rome, but sent word yesterday that she would go on to Naples to make the arrangements necessary for the shipment of her cousin's body to New York.

Mrs. Wells, the sister of the dead girl, is the widow of Edward Wells, Jr., of Peekskill, N. Y. She has one son, Edward Bertrand Wells. She said yesterday that her sister Estelle was 32 years old and a graduate of Bryn Mawr, where she made a name for herself as a scholar. While in college she roomed with the daughter of Wayne MacVeagh, who was in Garfield's Cabinet, and she went to Italy with the MacVeaghs.

She owned extensive properties in California, Wisconsin and Texas and at Haverstraw, N. Y., the home of the Reid family. She travelled in this country and abroad and a year ago she went to Italy to study art. She had been in Naples for a month prior to her death, and two weeks ago she wrote to her sister in this city saying that she was well and in good spirits. Mrs. Wells says that her sister was devoted to all sorts of outdoor sports and was a daring swimmer and diver.

Mrs. Wells laughs at the idea that Miss Reid killed herself because of some secret love affair. She has a theory that Miss Reid was attacked by Naples fishermen for her money and that after the robbery her body was thrown overboard.

Miss Estelle Reid was a granddaughter of Capt. Samuel Chester Reid, who distinguished himself during the War of 1812 by defeating a squadron of English men-of-war off the neutral port of Fayal, in the Azores.

CHRISTIE'S NEGLIGENT.

But Jury Fails to Assess Damages in Dickins Art Sale Lawsuit.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26. The action brought by the executors of the late Charles I. Dickins, the Regent street dry goods merchant and well known collector of Sèvres and Dresden china, who died recently at the age of 81, against Christie, Manson & Woods, the auctioneers, holding them responsible for the authenticity of items in their catalogue, ended in the jury finding that there had been negligence on the part of Christie's in the preparation of the catalogues.

The jury reported, however, that the plaintiffs had not proved that monetary loss had been suffered thereby. The legal effect of the verdict will be argued to-morrow.

The suit was brought on April 12. The plaintiffs declared that after the sale of Mr. Dickins's collection they were astonished to find that articles for which he had paid thousands of pounds had been bought in or let go at small figures. Experts testified at the first hearing that thirty-eight of the pieces put up at auction were "mere fakes."

Counsel for the executors held that Christie's should never have allowed these spurious articles to be put up for sale to the detriment of the genuine articles. The plaintiffs also said that Christie's had been negligent in not giving them advice and also in the way they prepared the catalogue.

Christie's defence was that they were auctioneers, not experts.

The Weather.

April 27.—The centre of the storm was over southern Michigan yesterday morning, and the weather was generally fair in the Atlantic States south of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and in the Gulf States. Rain was falling in the middle Mississippi and Ohio valleys, the lake regions and New England, and there were a few thunderstorms in New York and Pennsylvania.

Over New England, the maritime provinces and the Gulf and South Atlantic States and between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains the pressure was high. Comparative depressions were over the Northwest and Southwest, but no disturbance resulted.

There was just a touch of freezing weather in central Missouri, and it was 2 to 6 degrees above freezing at several points in the Arkansas and Tennessee valleys. It was warmer in New England and New York and cooler in Virginia and south along the coast. Lower temperatures prevailed in in Pacific States. In the Gulf States and northward over the valleys and lake regions it was warmer.

In this city there was heavy rain in the early morning; fair all day thereafter; warmer; wind, fresh southeast; average humidity, 65 per cent.; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M., 29.99; 3 P. M., 29.96.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

	1910.	1909.		1910.	1909.
9 A. M.	59°	79°	6 P. M.	56°	74°
12 M.	63°	55°	9 P. M.	52°	50°
3 P. M.	61°	54°	12 Mid.	52°	46°

Highest temperature, 65°, at 11:40 A. M.

WASHINGTON AND LOCAL FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For eastern New York, showers to-day and probably to-morrow; cooler to-day; light to moderate variable winds.

For New England, showers to-day and probably to-morrow; cooler to-day in western portion; light to moderate east to south winds.

For eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, showers and cooler to-day; partly cloudy in southern, showers in northern portion to-morrow; light to moderate southwest to west winds.

For Delaware, showers to-day or to-night; fair to-morrow; light to moderate southwest to west winds.

For the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, showers to-day; fair to-morrow; light southwest to west winds.

For western New York, showers to-day and probably to-morrow; light to moderate variable winds.

WARMER IN BLIZZARD BELT

BUT MILD WEATHER CAME TOO LATE TO SAVE COTTON.

Texas the Only State That Reports Less Damage From Frost Than Was Expected—Snow and Rain Predicted Again for Missouri and the Southwest.

ST. LOUIS, April 26.—Although the weather moderated to-day at St. Louis and throughout Missouri the storm has not yet passed, more rain or snow being forecasted for this State to-morrow.

The heavy losses of cotton planters in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia were verified to-day. There was another heavy frost in the South, east of the Mississippi River, last night. Frosts were general in the Southwest last night, but it was warmer there to-day.

CHICAGO, April 26. From twelve States came the news to-day of nearly a billion dollars loss from the storm. The fruit crop in the middle West is completely ruined.

In Chicago parks every effort is being made to save the vegetation, plants, trees, flowers and bushes. Coverings have been constructed and placed above the shrubbery.

Transportation, surface and elevated, was retarded as a result of the snow and sleet during the early rush. Life was endangered by the blinding snow that obscured the busy thoroughfares.

NEW ORLEANS, April 26. Although the weather turned warmer to-day the estimate of the crop damage was increased. The freeze extended over more than half of Louisiana and Mississippi. It is estimated that 75 per cent. of the cotton in north Louisiana and north Mississippi was killed and 50 per cent. in the Yazoo Delta. A great deal of this will be replanted, but not all, because there is not enough seed.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 26. Assurances were received by the State Department of Agriculture to-day from all parts of Texas that no damage of great consequence was done to fruit and growing crops by the cool weather. It is estimated that the tomato crop was damaged 20 per cent. The peach crop, which promised to be a record breaker, was slightly injured, but the trees still retain all the fruit they can bear.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., April 26. Last night's snowstorm over the central South has been followed by rain and warmer which, predictions say, will continue to-night and to-morrow.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 26. Reports received at Raleigh to-day and to-night from all over North Carolina make it certain the cotton crop in eastern North Carolina has not been seriously damaged by frost. North Carolina produces more than 600,000 bales of cotton annually. As to truck vegetables and fruit, especially berries, the damage is slight.

EXCITED OVER COTTON CROP.

Reports of Damage by Storm Worry Liverpool, but Don't Affect Prices.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LIVERPOOL, April 26. There was considerable excitement in the cotton market to-day owing to reports of extensive damage to the American crop through the storms in the South. There was no great movement in prices, however, and the reports are regarded as being exaggerated. There are large buying orders for the new crop.

The market closed easy at one point down on the day and one point up for the current month's crop and from 3½ to 4½ points up on next month's crop. The frost reports yesterday and to-day caused a total rise of 25 points, which is equivalent to an advance of half a cent a pound.

The principal operators to-night are more than ever convinced that the frost reports are exaggerated, especially regarding the probable loss in the crop. There is tendency in some quarters to treat the reports as amusing rather than alarming.

"Why," said one broker, "even to-day they have been selling on the other side the very crops to which these stories refer."

OBJECTS TO THIS CONDEMNER.

Mr. Watson Reminds Justice FitzGerald That Pollock Was in Hunt's Point Case.

Corporation Counsel Watson, who is paying some attention to the appointments of condemnation commissioners, wrote to Justice FitzGerald yesterday concerning the naming of Francis W. Pollock in the matter of Throgg's Neck boulevard. He drew Justice FitzGerald's attention to the fact that Pollock was one of the commissioners in the Hunt's Point proceeding and said that "in the minds of many good citizens the Hunt's Point proceeding is to-day regarded as typical of some of the worst evils into which our condemnation system has fallen in recent years."

Gov. Hughes, wrote Mr. Watson, considered the case one of the serious official delinquencies of former Borough President Haffen because he stood by while the proceedings were put through. Mr Watson suggested that the responsibility of the sworn officers of the court was more direct than Haffen's "even though their error he regarded as one of judgment and discretion alone."

Mr. Watson said he didn't intend to impugn Mr. Pollock's character, but felt "that a decent regard for enlightened public opinion, which is arousing to a cognizance of such matters, justifies me in objecting, for the reason expressed, to this particular appointment at this time."

After reading the letter Justice FitzGerald said he didn't care to comment on it at present.

Republicans Gain in Port Chester.

PORT CHESTER, April 26.—The village election to-day resulted in the election of Dr. Norton J. Sands, Republican, as village president by 81 plurality. The Republican candidates for trustees, George S. Railie and William P. Clark, were elected by pluralities of 154 and 211 respectively. Thomas F. Connally, Democrat, was elected treasurer, defeating his Republican opponent by 31 votes. The Democrats retain control of the village board, as they have several holdovers.

ENGLAND NEAR REVOLUTION

BALFOUR DEFENDS THE LORDS BY EXAMPLE OF THE U. S.

Combine in the Commons Not to Carry On the Government but to Wreck the Constitution—Safeguard Against Gusts Needed—Primrose League Speech.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26.—The Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, presided at the meeting of the Primrose League to-day. In his opening address the former Prime Minister said:

"We are threatened with a revolution. The more the present situation is examined the more grave do the issues appear to be. Whether the country is fully alive to the magnitude of those issues I do not know, but they are plainly apparent to every man who looks with an impartial eye upon the strange manœuvres and sinister combinations and joining of forces not to carry on the business of the country but to destroy its immemorial constitution."

Continuing, Mr. Balfour said that the new method of arranging the relations between the two houses, while it utterly destroyed the House of Lords as a second chamber, a function which had as its guardianship the fundamental basis of the constitution, left it with many of its other powers practically augmented.

The Government, Mr. Balfour said, really desired once and for all that the majority in the House of Commons, however produced, should be the absolute master of the whole constitution of the country from the sovereign down to every essential, important element of which the constitution consisted.

Mr. Balfour asked those who had made even the most superficial study of the constitution to consider whether any nation but Great Britain would be mad enough to assent to a revolution like that. The United States and the French republic, he said, which were democratic by profession and democratic in fact, had taken care to fence and safeguard their constitutions so that they should be removed as far as possible from the effects of those temporary gusts and hurricanes of popular passion.

Their whole system in theory and in practice depended upon the people, but they knew that under any system of representative government those who were for the moment entrusted with representative authority did not necessarily represent the certain convictions of a great nation.

"The present Government," added Mr. Balfour, "thinks that while there is only one chamber they will have a chance of getting these ulterior revolutions from which a second chamber would preserve us."

BRIAND, HOST OF ROOSEVELT.

Premier Gives a Restaurant Luncheon—Peace Talk by Leon Bourgeois.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, April 26.—Col. Roosevelt took luncheon with Premier Briand to-day at a restaurant in the Bois de Boulogne. Afterward the Colonel received delegations at the American Embassy.

The first was a delegation from the interparliamentary peace conference. When M. Bourgeois in his speech reminded the former President of the part he had taken in securing the second Hague peace conference and added, "Now we want some one to move for a third conference" the Colonel interrupted and said:

"Remember, I am only a private citizen."

"So am I," replied M. Bourgeois, "but every one must do his best."

The next delegation was headed by M. Hanotaux, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs. The subject discussed was the friendship between France and America.

Another caller on the Colonel was his Highness the Maharajah of Kapurthala, who visited New York some years ago and who has astonished even Paris by the magnificence of his entertainments and his extravagances.

After the dinner at the embassy to-night there was a large reception, which, from the point of the people attending, was in many ways the most important function of Mr. Roosevelt's tour thus far. All the Ambassadors at present in Paris were present. Ambassador Bacon nominally received the guests, but the whole company made Mr. Roosevelt the actual receiver. The embassy was crowded until a late hour, when the few who remained used the excellent band in attendance for a little dance.

It was plain to every one that the wind made aviation impossible to-day, but Mr. Roosevelt went in an automobile to the Issy les Moulineaux military aviation field, arriving there at 5 o'clock. There was a large crowd outside the field, but very few inside. Du Bonnet essayed a flight, but found it impossible. After an hour's talk about aeroplanes Mr. Roosevelt left the field.

DEAD MAN ON THE BOILERS.

Stowaway From New York Found on Cleanup of the St. Louis.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SOUTHAMPTON, April 26.—While the boilers of the American Line steamship St. Louis were being cleaned to-day the workmen found the body of a man on top of one of the auxiliary boilers. It is believed that the body is that of a stowaway who boarded the vessel at New York, before she sailed on April 16.

ASK MONEY FOR IRISH CAUSE.

T. P. O'Connor, M. P., Says a Delegation Will Come Here in the Fall.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26.—T. P. O'Connor, M. P., informed the correspondent of THE SUN to-day that it was practically certain that representatives of the Irish Nationalist party would visit the United States in the autumn for the purpose of appealing for financial assistance.

Mr. O'Connor was not certain whether he would be one of the delegation.

Cadell—Bentzoni.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26.—The marriage of Charles Cadell and Mrs. Bentzoni of Los Angeles, Cal., took place to-day in the Royal Chapel, Savoy. Only intimate friends of the two families attended.

Hamburg-American Chairman Dies.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, April 26.—Herr Gustave Tietjens, chairman of the board of directors of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company, died to-day.

Citizens Ticket Wins in South Orange.

SOUTH ORANGE, N. J., April 26.—The village election to-day, the only one held in the State, resulted in the choice of the Citizens candidates for trustees by small majorities in a total of vote 1,025. The result of the election gives the control of village affairs to the Citizens party, in which are most of the wealthier residents.

Martele Silver
(Hand-Wrought)

The Count de Laborde, in his authoritative work on industrial art, says concerning the two great processes by which metals are treated,

"*The foundry and the chisel have their limits. The hammer has none.*"

Ever since Homer's marvelous description of the shield of Achilles, the most exquisite creations have been formed from metal under the skilful hand of the hammerer.

In our warerooms we offer pieces of hammered silver, each one as individual as a vase of Benvenuto's or a statue of Rodin's.
The possessor of such a piece has a creation without blemish; a work of art full of personality, of which no duplicate exists.
Hundreds of pieces are here on exhibition, since our efforts in this branch of industrial art are now recognized and eagerly sought from Maine to California.

The Gorham Co.
Silversmiths
5th Avenue & 36th Street
17 and 19 Maiden Lane

GROCERIES SHORT WEIGHT.

Everything From Flour to Whiskey, Says a Cost of Living Witness.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Short weight packages and secret agreements between wholesalers and retailers are responsible in large measure for the increased cost of living, according to the testimony given to-day before the House Committee on the District of Columbia by Dr. William C. Woodward, Health Officer of the District, and Col. William C. Haskell, superintendent of weights and measures.

"Every one of the 300,000 barrels of flour sold in the District annually," said Col. Haskell, "is short at least four pounds. This would amount to about 1,200,000 pounds in a year, and with the average price of flour at 2½ cents a pound the people of the District are annually paying about $42,000 for flour they do not receive.

"There should be national legislation to prohibit this sort of thing. Selling by packages should be subject to prosecution unless the packages show the weight of the contents."

Col. Haskell said that practically every package sold in grocery stores is from one to four ounces short of the weight which the purchaser believes he is paying for.

"Would it be practicable to label each package with the weight of the contents?" asked Mr. Moore, chairman of the investigating committee.

"Such action," replied Col. Haskell, "would not only be in the interest of the public but also in the interest of the retailer. The retailer has to take what he gets from the manufacturer just as the public has to take what it gets from the retailer. The source of the trouble is with the manufacturer."

"Do these short weight packages account for the increased cost of living?" asked Mr. Moore.

"Perhaps not entirely," replied Col. Haskell, "but in a large measure."

Col. Haskell said that only rarely do purchasers of whiskey get full pints, half pints and quarts. The pint bottles, he said, are usually two ounces short and the quarts are ordinarily three and four ounces short.

SECRET SERVICE MAN HELD.

Must Answer Charge of Assault and Battery in Hoboken.

United States Secret Service Agent Thomas J. Callaghan, who was arrested in Hoboken on Monday evening after a mixup in Mayor George Gonzales's hotel restaurant in River street, was held for the Grand Jury on a charge of atrocious assault and battery by Recorder John Joseph McGovern yesterday afternoon. He was paroled in the custody of Assistant United States District Attorney Harrison P. Lindabury of 738 Broad street, Newark.

Callaghan went to the restaurant with a bad fifty cent piece which he said he had received in change there earlier in the day, and Michael Whelan, the Mayor's brother-in-law and hotel manager, gave him two quarters for it, but refused to return the bogus coin. The real trouble began when the secret service man started behind the bar to get the counterfeit piece and ended after Frank V. Gonzales, the Mayor's son, and Police Commissioner Tom Foley, one of the Mayor's appointees, had punched him.

Young Gonzales testified that he did not "whang" Callaghan until the Government sleuth pulled a .44 calibre revolver. He said he thought the stranger intended to jab him in the stomach with it. The Police Commissioner admitted "pitching in," and all hands, including the manager, said they didn't think that Callaghan was really what he represented himself to be.

The Recorder ruled that a prima facie case had been established, and the defendant made no statement in court.

WESTON NEARS SCHENECTADY.

Fort Plain Evangelist Strikes the Pedestrian at the Wrong Time.

FORT PLAIN, N. Y., April 26.—Weston passed through here at 11:35 this morning at a strong pace and apparently in good condition. He was accosted here by a local evangelist, John Henry Gremps, who tried to force tracts on him and told him that a coast to coast walk was nothing compared with walking on the sea of Galilee.

The sturdy pedestrian said "Great guns, man, do you expect me to stop and listen to a sermon? What I am interested in now is strength, not salvation."

Weston hoped to make Schenectady, forty-two miles from here, to-night.

To Join Her Sister Midwife in State Prison

Lena Keller, a midwife, convicted last week of manslaughter in bringing about the death of Mary Ellen Taylor at 1095 Second avenue, was sentenced yesterday by Justice Marcus in the Supreme Court to not less than nine years nor more than fifteen years and three months in Auburn Prison. She has a sister in State prison who was in the same business.

CONDITION OF THE MINNEHAHA

Water in Four of Her Holds—Rigging Up Salvage Pumps Forward.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26.—Divers report that the forepart of the steamer Minnehaha, wrecked last week on the Seal Rocks, Scilly Islands, while bound from New York for London, is on the rocks as far aft as No. 3 hold.

There is much water in the three forward holds and some in the fourth hold, but abaft the forward stokehold all is tight. There is deep water under the stern. The engine room is dry.

Salvage pumps are being fixed in the forward hatches.

INDOOR SOCIALIST MAY DAY.

Meetings Will Demand Universal Suffrage—"Vorwaerts" Scolds Prussia.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, April 26.—The Socialist executive committee has decided that there will be no outdoor demonstrations by the party on May Day, but meetings will be held in the largest halls on behalf of universal suffrage.

"Prussian reaction," says the *Vorwaerts* in announcing the programme, "continues to weigh like an incubus on the whole of Germany. The voice of the people is ignored by the throne and altar, while the parliamentary bloc of junkers and priests treats the outlawed citizen with contumely."

A. G. VANDERBILT'S TRIAL RUN.

Tools the Venture Over New Route From London to Brighton—Cheers.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 26.—Alfred G. Vanderbilt made a trial trip to-day with his coach Venture over the new route from London to Brighton. He received a hearty welcome in every town and village through which he passed the inhabitants cheering him.

All his horses were extremely fit.

PLEA FOR MURDER COUNTESS.

Fate of Mme. Tarnowski and Her Accomplices Soon to Be Decided.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

VENICE, April 26.—The famous Komarowski murder trial reached its closing stages to-day, when the public prosecutor and counsel for the defence made their addresses.

The defendants in the case are the Countess Tarnowski, two of her lovers, Dr. Naumoff and Lawyer Prilukoff, and her maid, Elise Perrier. The Countess, whose first husband divorced her because of an affair with an officer, a relative of his, and who afterward eloped with her attorney, Prilukoff, who deserted his family, agreed to marry Count Komarowski if he would take out an insurance policy of $100,000 in her favor. The Count did so, whereupon, it is charged, the Countess arranged for Prilukoff to kill him. Dr. Naumoff, however, it is alleged, did the shooting.

The public prosecutor in his address told the jury that the charges they should sustain were that Dr. Naumoff was guilty of premeditated homicide, that the Countess and Prilukoff between them instigated the crime and that the maid, Elise Perrier, was guilty of necessary complicity in the murder.

Counsel for Naumoff and Prilukoff asked the jury to accept the expert view that they were irresponsible for their actions because they were completely under the fascinating influence of the Countess.

The attorneys for Countess Tarnowski urged that her serious physical condition must be taken into account and furthermore that the part played by her in the tragedy was a subordinate one. It was also argued that there was a possibility that the treatment of Count Komarowski's wounds by the hospital doctors might have been the cause of death.

For the maid a plea of absolute innocence was put in.

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