THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

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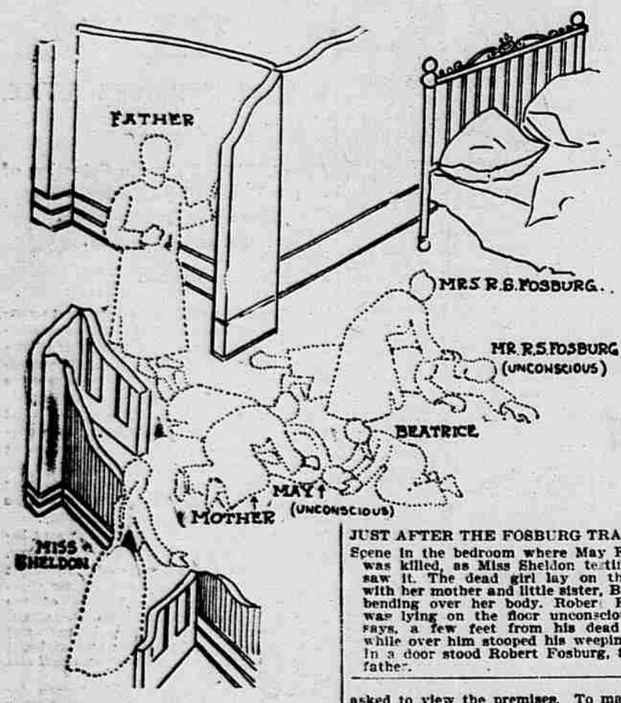
STATE OUTLINES ITS THEORY OF KILLING OF MAY FOSBURG.

Positively Declares No Burglars Were in the House on the Night of the Tragedy, and Expects to Prove That She Was Shot by Her Brother Robert, Who Was Quarreling With Their Father—Pistol Was Held Within a Foot of Her Breast—Her Torn and Powder-Burned Nightgown Shown in Court.

VULNERABLE POINTS IN THE DEFENSE ATTACKED BY THE STATE



JUST AFTER THE FOSBURG TRAGEDY.

Scene in the bedroom where May Fosburg was killed, as Miss Sheldon testified she saw it. The dead girl lay on the floor with her mother and little sister, Beatrice, bending over her body. Robert Fosburg was lying on the floor unconscious, she says, a few feet from his dead sister, while over him stooped his weeping wife. In a door stood Robert Fosburg, Sr., the father.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Pittsfield, Mass., July 18.—Sensations came early in the trial of Robert Stewart Fosburg, who is charged with having shot his sister to death.

The night robe of May Fosburg, blood-stained and powder-marked, was displayed in the courtroom this evening, while the gray-haired mother and the sweet-faced sisters of the dead girl, and of the defendant, wept in poignant grief.

The garment was draped about the shoulders of John C. Crosby, Special Prosecutor, while Doctor Frank K. Paddock, medical examiner for the County of Berkshire, described the wound, the course of the fatal bullet and the scenes in the Fosburg home the night of the tragedy.

It was not a pleasant incident, but, be it said to the credit of the prosecutors, Mr. Crosby and District Attorney Hammond, they made it as little objectionable as possible. The defendant paled perceptibly when the garment was introduced in evidence, but his ever faithful and loving wife, who was by his side, gave him courage by reaching out and giving him a firm hand grip. His father and his younger brother, James, showed their suffering and their sympathy at once.

STATE'S THEORY OF CASE DISCARDS BURGLAR STORY.

The courtroom was filled with people, women predominating, and many tears were shed while Doctor Paddock told of the suffering that had come under his observation. It is the contention of the State of Massachusetts that Robert Fosburg, while quarreling with his father, shot and accidentally killed his sister. It was all outlined this morning in the opening address to the jury, made by District Attorney John C. Hammond.

The theory that May Fosburg was murdered by burglars is utterly discarded by the prosecution.

Speaking for the State, District Attorney Hammond asserted with confidence that the crime will be fastened upon Robert Fosburg. He promised to prove to the satisfaction of the jury that no burglars were in the Fosburg home the night May was killed. He said it would be established that there had been a vicious quarrel between the defendant and his father; furniture was overturned and broken; the night robe of the defendant's wife was torn into shreds; the defendant's father was badly bruised.

May Fosburg was shot and killed, and her death resulted from a wound inflicted by a bullet belonging to a revolver owned by her brother, Robert. Eliminating the burglars, Mr. Hammond said that he would prove the responsibility rests between the defendant and his father, both of whom, he said, were fully dressed when the tragedy occurred. Of the two, the defendant alone knew where his revolver was; his stories of the tragedy, Mr. Hammond said, have been filled with discrepancies.

In his opening address, the District Attorney at no time promised to lay upon the defendant, by direct evidence, responsibility for the tragedy.

UNUSUAL DISPATCH IN BEGINNING THE TRIAL.

There were no hypothetical questions asked when the jury box was being filled. It seemed to be the desire of Judge Stevens and of the counsel on both sides to obtain a jury without prejudice and at the earliest possible moment. This made it possible for the case to get into full swing before court closed to-day. How much progress for or against the defendant was made is, under the direct orders of the Court, left to the judgment of the reader and of the jury.

First, before the jury, District Attorney Hammond said that no evidence of a strange or sensational nature would be introduced by the prosecution. He expressed an intention to give a recurrence of the incidents, facts and occurrences tending to show the real nature of the case. Continuing, he said, in part:

"On August 20 this community was shocked by the announcement that May Fosburg was dead, dead in her own home, killed admittedly by a bullet from her brother's revolver, under circumstances demanding thorough investigation. The Police Department of this city, known throughout the Commonwealth for its ability and efficiency, with a Chief of sound judgment and unimpeachable integrity, devoted its attention to this case. It searched every foot of the ground, scoured the case thoroughly.

"In due time came an inquest; the Grand Jury presented an indictment against Fosburg, the defendant; the law in our old Commonwealth never hastens, never falters. The duly appointed officers gather facts, which are presented, as they are to you in this case. It is the duty and wish of the officers of the Commonwealth to ascertain the facts and the truth only. It might have been a great violation of duty if the Commonwealth had published broadcast the evidence it possesses.

SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE IN THE FOSBURG HOME.

"The Commonwealth has very properly refrained from publishing statements that might influence the public. The facts gathered by the able and discreet officers have been made ready for presentation to the court for the first time. You will carefully consider, observe, apply and weigh the evidence. The same duty which calls us calls the learned and able counsel for the defense. To defend is their duty and your duty is to the supreme decision, the supreme responsibility of saying what the truth is. To help you learn it you may be asked to view the premises. To make you familiar I will show you these plans of the place where five roads come together."

Taking a ruler in his hands, the District Attorney carefully indicated to the jurors the location of different rooms in the castle house. The rooms where members of the family slept, where Miss Sheldon was sleeping, and the balcony, which the District Attorney said would be an important factor in the case, were all carefully located in the plans.

Continuing, Mr. Hammond said that the Government would conclusively prove that Robert L. Fosburg killed his sister, May L. Fosburg.

"The State does not claim that Robert killed his sister for a purpose, but in a moment that was equally blamable. It will be the claim of the State that Robert had exceptional opportunity and could be the only one that could and did fire the fatal shot. If he wishes to state that it was an unavoidable accident he will tell you. The Commonwealth will show that it was he that did the shooting and need not show the motive.

"The Commonwealth will claim that he shot his sister with the 32-caliber revolver that he had just purchased for an unknown reason. Something happened in the house that night. We will show that there was no intruder, no burglars there; that Robert's wife had her night gown torn to shreds, torn from neck to the very hem of the garment; that furniture was overturned and displaced, that a castor of the elder Fosburg's bed was broken; that furniture was broken; that the screen in the window of the kitchen, bed room was cracked, and not displaced; that a lamp was overturned in the kitchen bedroom, and that articles of furniture bore marks of disturbance.

"Were the father and son fighting when the shot was fired? It is for you to answer.

"PISTOL WAS HELD CLOSE TO MAY FOSBURG'S BODY."

"This defendant told the officers that he saw two men jump from this balcony (indicating the location on the plan of the house), and another run down the back stairs and out of doors; they run across this field. The defendant has said he saw them running on the night of the killing of his sister.

"On that night there was a very heavy dew. Spiders' webs were weighted down with the density of the dew. The grass was wet with the moisture of the night. Everything in the field where the defendant saw these men run was wet with the dew, but the men left no track behind. Nothing about the condition of the field showed that they had crossed it. The evidence gathered by the Government will show that prior to the killing of May Fosburg there were no strangers in the house, no burglars there. No enemy had entered into it.

"How, when and where was May Fosburg shot? She was shot when she was about to leave her own room. She fell backward and died without saying a word. She was shot by the defendant's revolver in the breast just above the nipple, the ball passing through the upper part of the heart through a rib and lodging just under the skin in the back.

"The pistol when the shot was fired was held less than a foot from her body. The Commonwealth will show to you as evidence the gown that the dead girl wore which is burned and marked by the powder from the shot. From persons who have an expert knowledge, the Commonwealth will show that the distance from the pistol to the girl was less than a foot. She was near her door, and her brother was standing just over the threshold of the door in the hall.

"The burning and the powder marks on the gown would not have been there if the shot had been fired six feet away, as the defendant has said over and over again.

"The younger sister, Beatrice, has told us, and she will tell us again, that she was somewhat behind May when she was shot. There was no light in the room. Later, after the shot, Beatrice turned on an electric light that hung suspended in the room. There is abundance of evidence that the night was pitch dark. Beatrice says that there was no man between her and May in the room, but that there was a man in front of May.

"BROTHER AND SISTER CONTRADICT EACH OTHER."

"Robert S. Fosburg has said that when his sister was shot he had left his room and was behind his sister, and that he caught her as she fell and laid her on the floor. Beatrice says that she was behind May, and that no one came between them. You will have to decide which one tells the truth, Robert or Beatrice.

"In the very next breath Robert says that he rushed at the assailant. He has said that it was so dark that when he caught May he did not know who it was, but immediately he says that he saw in the hallway an assailant. Robert says that it was so light that he saw three men, and that he was able to determine that one was a negro.

"The household gave no notice to the police until half an hour after the alleged entrance of the burglars. At first but two members of the family had any knowledge of the presence of strangers, except by hearing. The Commonwealth will show that at the time the elder Fosburg called for the police time enough had elapsed to allow James to come upstairs and view the remains of his sister and do various other things. He had time to get clothes fully on. Then, the police, he said, were finally called.

"James did not know of the burglar story until after he had returned from telephoning.

"Police Officer Chapman, who was at this time doing day duty, lived in the vicinity. He called as soon as aroused at the house to tender his services, but the defendant did not want him in the house and told him to walk out on the lawn and that they would let him in when the Chief of Police arrived."

DEFENSE'S POINTS WHICH STATE WILL ATTACK.

In outlining the Fosburg case to the jury, Prosecuting Attorney Hammond indicated the "weak points" in the defense, which the State will attack, as follows:

1. The Fosburg family claims the killing was committed by burglars; the State will prove there were no burglars in the house on the night May Fosburg was killed.

2. Robert Fosburg claims he saw three men in the hall, and that it was light enough to distinguish that one was a negro; his sister, Beatrice, testified it was so dark she could see nothing till she struck a match.

3. Robert Fosburg claims he saw one of the men running across the lawn; a heavy dew that night made everything wet with moisture, yet there was no evidence that any one had crossed the lawn on the night of the killing.

4. The defense asserts that the shot which killed May Fosburg was fired six feet or more away from her body; the powder marks on her night dress and breast show conclusively that the pistol was held not more than a foot away from her body.

5. The Fosburgs claim May Fosburg was killed by a burglar; yet the police were not notified of the killing until a half hour after it occurred, and James Fosburg, brother of the defendant, who notified the police, had not yet heard the burglar story.

DOCTOR PADDOCK PROVES MOST IMPORTANT WITNESS.

Judge Stevens then sent the jury to visit the scene of the tragedy and adjourned court until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

First to be called as witness was Arthur A. Forbes, City Engineer of Pittsfield. At the direction of John Nicholson, Chief of Police, he had prepared detailed floor and ground plans of the Fosburg home. He gave a description of the rooms, the position of the furniture, of the doors and the windows. He described the balcony, from which, it is said, the fleeing burglars jumped. Then he was taken in hand by Mr. Joyner for the defense, who persuaded the witness to say that some of the drawings were not his own, and that none of them were made until a week or more had elapsed after the tragedy.

Mr. Fobes said that he could not swear that the furniture had not been moved before he made his plans.

Doctor Paddock, the second, last, and, by far the most important witness, gave his testimony, laboring desperately. His health is in such poor condition that he was often compelled to halt in the middle of a sentence and regain his breath. Urged by Judge Stevens to be seated, he refused to avail himself of the privilege, and for two long hours stood before the jury.

The morning that May Fosburg was shot he was called by telephone first about 15 minutes before 2 o'clock, a second time five minutes later. He hurried to the Fosburg house and there found Doctor Schofield O. Dalton ahead of him. The entire Fosburg family gathered about the body of May. The dead girl lay in the second room with her feet two feet from the hall door.

Doctor Paddock described the condition of the body in a manner too realistic for many who heard him. He said that the head and hands were cold, but rigor mortis had not elsewhere set in. Blood flowed from the nose, mouth and from the wound in the breast. Doctor Paddock saw Beatrice Fosburg and Mrs. Robert Stewart Fosburg lying together on a bed locked in each others' arms, moaning in sympathy each for the other. He said that the beds had been slept in.

ROBERT FOSBURG AND HIS FATHER TERRIBLY BRUISED.

Telling of his first conversation with Robert Fosburg, Doctor Paddock said that the defendant had showed him the back of his head and neck, on which were bruises, made, Mr. Fosburg said, by blows from a sand bag, wielded by one of the burglars.

"He told me," said the witness, "that he and his wife had been sleeping in the front part of the house; that they had heard a noise in the part of the house occupied by the others and that he had started for the place.

"As he went into his sister's room, he said a pistol shot was fired. It was dark in the room. His sister fell back in his arms and he laid her on the floor.

"At about this time Beatrice had turned on the electric light and he saw a man and grappled with him and got him down. Then came a blow on the back of his head and his man managed to get away from him.

"Paddock also examined the defendant's father. He was terribly beaten. His ear was nearly torn from his head, one eye was closed, and he was suffering from severe bruises about the body.

"Mr. Fosburg had told the witness he had awakened to find two burglars standing over him, one holding a revolver. He grappled with them and an appalling struggle ensued. His son came, and the burglars, jumping through a window into the balcony and thence to the ground, escaped. The witness said that the defendant told him that he believed the burglars shot his sister with his own pistol.

"Doctor Paddock said R. S. Fosburg showed him where his revolver had been kept under a quantity of clothing in a bureau drawer. The revolver, which was of 32-caliber, was then missing. He said that at the first examination no powder stains were found. This was because the night robe was so soaked in blood that the powder was hidden. After the garment had been thoroughly washed the powder appeared."

FOSBURG'S WIFE HOLDS HIS HAND DURING TRIAL.

The night robe was then produced—the first grewsome exhibit of the trial. Mrs. Fosburg, mother of the defendant, and her two daughters, Esther and Beatrice, wept silently as the witness explained in a graphic manner the wound and how he had found the body.

Mrs. Fosburg, wife of the defendant, sat with her face tensely drawn. Her suffering was deep, but her solicitation was for the man she loved, and she helped him with her affection, expressed in a hand-clasp.

Attempt was made by the prosecution to prove by the witness that the revolver from which sped the bullet that killed May Fosburg was held within a foot of her breast. Mr. Crosby assumed that the revolver was the one once owned by the defendant. The witness had made experiments with a similar revolver, shooting at a target made of a piece of cloth torn from the blood-stained night robe.

Judge Stevens excluded this testimony on the ground that it had not been proven that May Fosburg had been killed by such a revolver, and that no evidence had been introduced to show the character of the cartridge.

The day after the tragedy Doctor Paddock was called to prescribe for the wife of the defendant. She was hysterical and cried over and over again: "There, I saw the body of my husband lying dead in his blood. I will never get it out of my mind."

Neither the defendant's mother nor his wife told of the burglars to the witness.

Court adjourned for the day before cross-examination.

At the close, the opinion was expressed by District Attorney Hammond and by Mr. Crosby that the State's case will close Monday or Tuesday of next week.

IOWA AUTHORITIES STILL HOLD GERHARD AS SUSPECT.

Fort Madison Prisoner Convinces Mayor Reed of Ferguson That He Was Not in St. Louis County on Night of Pirie Tragedy—Was Willing to Return Without Requisition Papers.

OTTO H. GERHARD,
Suspect in the Pirie murder case, who is in jail at Fort Madison.

Mayor Fred A. Reid of Ferguson returned last night from Fort Madison, Ia., where he went to interview Otto H. Gerhard, who has been held a prisoner at that place since last Saturday by Sheriff George W. Tucker, who thought he answered the description of the assailant of Andrew H. Pirie.

Mr. Reid said he was convinced that Gerhard had no connection with the killing. He questioned him for two hours Wednesday night and for an hour yesterday morning and used every effort to make him admit that he was in St. Louis County on June 29, but to no avail. Mr. Reid then refused to have anything further to do with the case, although Gerhard was willing to come to Missouri without requisition papers.

Sheriff Tucker and Chief of Police James Cumleh also took turns at questioning Gerhard, and both of them still declare their belief that he knows more than he is willing to tell. The vagrancy sentence under which Gerhard was being held expired yesterday, but the Chief preferred a new charge against him and he will be held until he can get communication with the Chief of Police of Murray, Ia., and find out more about Gerhard's record at that place.

Gerhard has made several conflicting statements since his arrest. He was asleep in the Burlington railroad yards last Friday when he was taken into custody by Deputy Marshal Schneir. He said he had had a $40 gold watch stolen from him by a comrade who was beating his way with him. From the description that Schneir got of the watch he concluded that it closely resembled the one advertised by the Ferguson officials as stolen from Casper H. Ronsiek of Florissant. To The Republic correspondent, Gerhard said he lost the watch and that it was only worth $1.50. When reminded of his former statement, he said he was drunk when he made it. Schneir says he was not drunk.

Gerhard said he left St. Louis June 13 under contract with a labor agency to work for J. P. Shortall, a railroad contractor. He said he had been in communication with his wife since then and she had written to him to come home. Mrs. Gerhard, who lives at No. 1409 South Second street, says her husband left home on June 27 and told her he was going to St. Louis County to look for work. Since then she has not heard from him.

Wednesday night Gerhard said he had been in trouble with the police but once in St. Louis. Yesterday morning he admitted that he had been locked up three times in as many months, twice at Seventh and Carr streets and once at Seventh and Soulard, but in each instance his wife refused to prosecute and he was released.

Gerhard said that he could prove an alibi by Mr. Shortall. A query was sent to the latter asking him if the man was there on June 29. Mr. Shortall wired The Republic correspondent yesterday at noon, saying that Gerhard left there June 13. Chief Cumleh will hold Gerhard until he can get more definite information from the people in Murray, Ia.

Gerhard said the marks on his back were caused by disease. Doctor T. A. Casey, who examined him, denies this, and says he is almost positive they were caused by birdshot. He says the man has apparently been shot twice, the last time about three weeks ago and the first possibly three or four months ago.

Gerhard cried when accused of the Pirie murder. He said he had gotten into a great deal of trouble by his quarrelsome disposition, but that he had always been honest, and that his gun, a 38-caliber revolver, which was the kind used in shooting Mr. Pirie, was always left with his wife. Before coming to this country, he said, he had served in the Prussian army.

Gerhard is 32 years old, five feet, seven inches tall, and weighs about 150 pounds. His face is slightly oval, with a low and somewhat contracted forehead, flat cheeks and a straggling light mustache. He is a muscular fellow and looks as if he could put up a stiff fight, if cornered. He has a wife and 16-year-old stepdaughter, both of whom support themselves. Gerhard has hardly earned enough since discharged from the Knapp-Stout Lumber Company, a year ago, to buy his clothes. He worked for a while at the Relay Depot, East St. Louis, and afterward for a farmer by the name of Hashback, near Brooklyn. In April he obtained employment at night at the gas works at the foot of Convent street. The first and only night he worked there he fell off a trestle and was injured. He did not do any work since then until he reached Murray. He says he got sick and had to quit the railroad job.

In Fort Madison a vagrant can only be sentenced for three days. Consequently several charges probably will be placed against Gerhard from time to time, as Sheriff Tucker and Chief Cumleh are so confident they have an important prisoner that they will hold him as long as possible.

Mayor Reid was considerably discouraged over the result of his trip, and says the prospect for the capture of the murderer seems to grow slimmer every day. Since it occurred he and Marshal Graf have devoted nearly all of their time to working on the case, to the exclusion of other business. They have had a number of clews, but none of them has developed. The latest was furnished by Chief Desmond, who asked him to send a man to Oklahoma for a suspect, but he says he will not do so until he has positive proof. Mr. Reed says it would be extremely difficult to convict a man, even after he was arrested, unless he confessed. There could be no positive evidence produced against any one, as neither George Cherbonnier or John Woolman, the only men who saw the assailant, were close enough to identify him if he were captured.

Mr. Reid and Fred Zeibig, who were appointed to see Governor Dockery, will call on him in a few days and ask that he offer an additional $500 reward.

LEADING TOPICS —IN— TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

THE SUN RISES THIS MORNING AT 4:49 AND SETS THIS EVENING AT 7:22.

TO-DAY'S WEATHER INDICATIONS.

For St. Louis and Vicinity—Continued warm and threatening showers. Thunderstorms very probable to-night or Saturday.

For Missouri—Fair; continued warm Friday and Saturday.

For Illinois—Fair Friday and Saturday; warmer Saturday near the lake; light northeast to east winds.

For Arkansas—Showers Friday, and warmer in central portion. Saturday fair; warmer; variable winds.

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SENATOR VEST STANDS HEAT WELL,

He Is Improved in Health Despite the Discomfiture of the Torrid Weather.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Sweet Springs, Mo., July 18.—When a Republic correspondent called at the beautiful summer cottage of Senator Vest this afternoon he found him sitting in the front room, fanning himself and very cheerful.

On inquiry regarding the rumor sent out from Sedalia recently, the Senator said:

"There is nothing in the report that my health is bad. In fact, I am astonished that I have stood the heat so well. My health is much better this summer than last. Of course, I suffered from the heat like any one else, but suppose I get along as well as the rest. The thermometer there on my porch has been as high as 112 in the last few days. I amuse myself fanning, bathing my face in cold water and occasionally taking a bath. But water is scarce, and I am afraid to use much of it.

"This weather is almost as bad as the drought of 1854, the year I came to Missouri. I think the drought that year lasted from April until November. I had some depositions to take to Georgetown, Henry County, and thought several times I was not going to be able to make it.

"It was fearful; the ground popped open, people had to haul water; many abandoned their farms and it was dangerous to travel then."

Then reverting to the Sedalia telegram published a few days ago, he said:

"No, sir, I can't imagine how that story got out, unless my daughter, Mrs. George P. Jackson, who visited her uncle, Captain Sneed, who lived on a farm near Sedalia, and who has been seriously ill with heart trouble recently, was misunderstood by some newspaper man, thus starting this story. It is very annoying to have reports like these started, and I don't see why these reporters do not find out the facts before they send away items for publication."

"Well, Senator, how about this 'third party' question?"

"I don't want to talk about it at all. It is an issue that I do not take any interest in."

ORGANIZING SALARIED FORCE FOR WORLD'S FAIR.

Director General Buchanan of the Pan-American May Be Selected as South American Representative of Louisiana Purchase Exposition—St. Louisan for Director General—Lesueur Mentioned for Auditor—Appeal to Architects to Duly Consider Mural Painting.

The organization of the extensive salaried force that will build the Louisiana Purchase Exposition is progressing with vigor.

Dispatches from Buffalo carry the information that negotiations are in progress between the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company and Director General William I. Buchanan of the Pan-American Exposition to secure his services as the representative of the company among the States of Central and South America.

Director General Buchanan is well equipped to perform such a service for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Before he became connected with the Pan-American Exposition he was American Minister to the Argentine Republic. In that capacity he settled a boundary dispute of long standing between the Argentine Republic and Uruguay so diplomatically that both countries sent him testimonials. His service as director general of an all-American exposition brought him into still closer relations with the States of South and Central America.

SOUTH AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE OF EXPOSITION COMPANY.

Director General Buchanan has on numerous occasions expressed his disinclination to resume the wearing labors of chief executive of an exposition. The work he has just completed at Buffalo has used some eighteen hours a day for the last three years, and he has refused to take up again the burden he is now about to lay down. Director General Buchanan could prosecute the first stages of his work for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition while completing his work at the Pan-American. The New York Life Insurance Company, appreciating his value as a diplomatic agent, has bespoken his services as its diplomatic agent to South and Central America.

President Francis yesterday afternoon discussed the report that Frederick W. Lehmann was in Buffalo negotiating with Director General Buchanan to secure his services as Director General of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

"I did not know until very lately that Mr. Lehmann was in Buffalo," he said. "I am quite certain he is not negotiating with Mr. Buchanan for the position of Director General. Mr. Buchanan, I understood months ago, was unwilling to resume in St. Louis the work he has performed for Buffalo. That work is very wearing, and when a man has completed it, with so marked a degree of success as Mr. Buchanan has achieved in Buffalo, he is usually unwilling to get back into the traces immediately."

ST. LOUISAN FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERALSHIP.

The Committee on Organization has been paying considerable attention to the director generalship recently, and one of its members declares that a name for the place probably will be reported at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. There is every likelihood that a St. Louisan will be chosen for the place, especially if, as reported, negotiations are in progress to secure the services of William I. Buchanan in another capacity. The name of Howard Elliott, general manager of the Burlington, is most often mentioned for the place, although all concerned decline to discuss the probabilities.

CAPTAIN LESUEUR MENTIONED AS AUDITOR.

Captain Alexander A. Lesueur, who served for twelve years as Secretary of State of Missouri, is being spoken of as Auditor of the Exposition Company. At the completion of his last term as Secretary of State last January, he became editor of the Kansas City Times. He relinquished that place about three months ago. Captain Lesueur has been in St. Louis about a week, and has held a number of conferences since then with officials of the Exposition Company. Yesterday afternoon a conference lasting almost an hour was held between President Francis and Captain Lesueur in the World's Fair offices.

Major Tom Park, who, until the retirement of Secretary Lesueur from office, was chief clerk in the office of Secretary of State, has been appointed on the staff of Secretary Stevens of the Exposition Company.

The Committee on Electricity and Electrical Exhibits met yesterday afternoon at the World's Fair offices. Chairman J. E. Smith, S. M. Dodd, August Gehner, Clark H. Sampson and President Francis were present. The committee discussed the advisability of appointing a subcommittee of electrical experts from among the stockholders of the Exposition to assist the committee without salary and to have charge of certain portions of the committee's work. The committee also discussed the chief of the electrical exhibits department and canvassed the corps now serving at Buffalo for available men. Among those mentioned were: L. R. Stirrenger, Henry Rustin and George Sever, all of whom helped to make the electrical display at Buffalo.

WOMAN'S BUILDING TO BE ESTABLISHED.

A strong delegation representing the Federation of Women's Clubs, headed by Mrs. Edwin Harrison and Miss Mary E. Perry, called on President Francis yesterday to recommend the establishment at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of a building to be used for the entertainment of distinguished women visitors to the Fair. President Francis assured the delegation that such a building would be forthcoming.

APPOINTMENT POSSIBILITIES THAT ARE MUCH SPOKEN OF.

For Director General—Howard Elliott, general manager of the Burlington.

For Representative of the Exposition Company in South and Central America—William I. Buchanan, director general of the Pan-American Exposition.

For Auditor—Alexander A. Lesueur, recently Secretary of State.

For Chief of the Department of Electricity—L. R. Stirrenger, chief of the same division at the Pan-American Exposition.

It is likely that the details of this building will be placed under the direction of the Board of Lady Managers, for which the Federal act recognizing the Fair provides. This board has not yet been appointed. It is not unlikely that some action toward its appointment will be taken in conjunction with the Exposition Company by the Government Board at its next meeting.

Yesterday the Publicity Committee received word from the Fehlig Bros.' Box Manufacturing Company that it was stamping on every box sent out of its factory in big, black letters the injunction: "Visit the St. Louis World's Fair, 1903."

Stamps inscribed: "What? When? Where? World's Fair, St. Louis, 1903," will in a few days be issued to all who can show a use for them.

They are to be pasted on letters, express packages, checks, drafts and on all documents and packages where recently a revenue stamp was needed.

The St. Louis members of the Committee of Architects, which, representing the Commission of Architects, has been working during the week in the East, will return to St. Louis this morning. On their report will depend the time of the next meeting of the commission. It is expected that they will bring back digested plans for the criticism of the commission.

WANTS MURAL PAINTING TO BE CONSIDERED.

Joseph Lauber, chairman of the National Society of Mural Painters of New York, has written to President Francis attracting his attention to the opportunity which is open to St. Louis to produce the first exposition in which Mural painting has had a decorative application. He says:

"The World's Fair at Chicago dazzled by its whiteness; the arts of architecture and sculpture had a magnificent opportunity to unfold themselves; the art of mural painting was considered only as an afterthought, and as the buildings were, in most part, instances designed without reference to the mural figure painter's art, such work in most instances seemed ill placed.

"Buffalo, on the other hand, started out to vary from Chicago, and give her fair a festive and joyous appearance; one full of color and richness; therefore it was expected that the art of the mural painter would be requisitioned to enhance the buildings by historical and allegorical treatment. But this art, in which America is beginning to excel, is about as absent from that fair as though it never existed—if we except the application of tints by house painters under the direction of an artist. The reason of this omission, as given us, was two-fold. First, that mural painting had not been considered in the first place, and that, in consequence, the buildings were not designed to receive such treatment; secondly, that in consequence of such omission in the original scheme, no appropriation had been made for it, although something like $350,000 was appropriated for sculpture.

"You will, therefore, see that neither of our recent expositions have made any adequate use of this great art, and the opportunity is all your own, especially as the event to be commemorated is replete with historical incident. In order to do this, however, it must be taken into consideration when the buildings are designed, and should be considered as an integral part of the design. Color decoration of this sort need not be restricted to the interior of buildings, but can be used on the exterior as well. It need not be expensive, but can be treated in simple masses, painted right on the plaster, with backgrounds of glass mosaic, set in the plaster or laquerial aluminum leaf, by way of variety, or paint entirely. Painted friezes under overhanging eaves, in combination with sculptural relief in a single color, can be made a delight to the eye. A rich color note in the shape of a figure decoration in the vestibule or entrance hall of a building will leave a decided impression, even if the rest of the building must go without such decoration.

"You will see from the foregoing that if mural figure painting is to be considered at all, the subject matter of such decorations, and the selection of artists can be attended to later, but when your committee and the Board of Architects have decided to make such decorations, one of the chief features of the Exposition, the buildings, will, of course, be designed with that fact well considered, and your Finance Committee will also have the opportunity to consider an appropriation for that purpose before it is too late."

MAY BE ASKED TO GIVE CUTICLE.

Epworth Leaguers Injured Will Probably Undergo Skin-Grafting Process.

Kansas City, July 18.—Epworth Leaguers over the country will be appealed to to furnish enough cuticle for grafting over the burns of two victims of the recent Chicago and Alton wreck.

To-day it was announced that the burns of Miss Julia M. Hayslip, the 24-year-old daughter of a wealthy Chenoa, Ill., farmer, had not responded to the treatment as expected, and that to save her from carrying a hideous scar all her life new skin must be grafted.

Yesterday it was stated that a similar effort would be necessary in the case of Miss Zola Harry, 15 years of age, of Hoopeston, Ill.

Miss Hayslip and Miss Harry were en route to San Francisco to attend the National Convention of the Epworth League in that city, when caught in the wreck near Norton, Mo., and scalded so badly that their lives were despaired of for several days.

The operation of grafting must be performed within a week, and it has been decided to appeal to the leaguers, who will return home through Kansas City from the Pacific Coast about that time, to furnish the required cuticle.

O. D. Sanborn, a banker of Chenoa, Ill., another victim of the wreck, who was not expected to survive the night, is still holding his own.

SLIGHT CHANCE OF RECOVERY.

Change for Worse in Mr. Wayman McCreery's Condition.

The condition of Wayman C. McCreery, who is ill at his home, No. 3541 Westminster place, was reported much worse early this morning. Doctor J. Leland Boogher, who is attending Mr. McCreery, thought his patient's condition very alarming at 2:30 a. m., and said that the end might come at any time. He had not entirely given up hope, however, and said that there was a very slight chance of recovery.

Doctor Boogher, when he called at the McCreery residence yesterday in the forenoon thought Mr. McCreery's condition condition slightly improved. By night there was a relapse and at midnight the patient was in a semiconscious condition, unable to recognize friends and relatives.

Mr. McCreery has been suffering for the last two months from the effects of a stroke of paralysis, and had almost recovered when he became ill nine days ago with stomach trouble.

Several Fires in Marshall.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Marshall, Mo., July 18.—A house in the west part of Marshall, occupied by Mrs. Keller, burned last night, value $1,200; insurance, $800.

Yesterday John Finnegan, west of Marshall, lost thirty acres wheat, valued at $650; C. C. Ruff, thirty-five acres meadow valued $625. These were set on fire by passing trains.

Mr. Mason's dwelling in North Marshall, valued at $600, was burned yesterday morning.