

SURE OF SUICIDE.

Declare No Other Theory of Disappearance of Bank President Is Tenable.

HIS CONDUCT CAUSED REMARK.

Paced the Deck, Talked to Himself and Refused Food—His Traveling Companion Refuses to Discuss Case.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Galveston, Tex., Dec. 27.—That Granville W. Garth, president of the Mechanics' National Bank of New York, committed suicide by jumping from the saloon deck of the steamer Denver on the night of December 25 is the firm belief of Captain Evans and his officers.

Captain Evans says it was impossible for Mr. Garth to have gone below and concealed himself in the hold of the vessel. Considering the man's depressed condition when he boarded the Denver at New York and his peculiar actions up to the time of his sudden disappearance, no other conclusion is possible, they say, than that he committed suicide.

Thomas Lawson, with whom it was stated Mr. Garth was traveling, and the only person with whom he seemed at all familiar, was seen to-night. He represents Blair Brothers, bankers, of New York, and owners of the Thurber coal mines on the Texas Pacific. When asked for information concerning Mr. Garth, Mr. Lawson bluntly said he had nothing to say. Asked if Mr. Garth was not traveling with him, he said "No," that he had met Mr. Garth as he had met other passengers on the Denver and did not know him before he became a passenger on the steamer.

As to Mr. Garth's mental condition Mr. Lawson refused to speak, and as to his conduct on the vessel he referred to the officers of the Denver. He said he had not received telegrams concerning Mr. Garth's sudden disappearance, but he had been notified by his (Lawson's) house, but the telegrams were of a private nature and he did not concern himself with them. He already had all the information necessary. He declined to say anything more.

SAULBORG'S STATEMENT. Mr. Saulborg, who worked his way out in the steward's department of the Denver, when asked for a statement, said:

"Mr. Garth remained very much to himself after leaving New York, and until the vessel touched at Key West and took back but very few passengers. After the other passengers had retired from the dining saloon, he drank no intoxicating liquors, but he had a cup of tea. When the Denver touched at Key West, Mr. Garth, accompanied by Mr. Lawson, went to the deck and took a short walk uptown.

"After leaving Key West, Mr. Garth continued to walk about the deck in an apparently very nervous condition. His fingers were continually twitching, and he was often heard talking aloud to himself, and he almost wholly abstained from food. On Christmas Eve night the officers put up the chains separating the steerage and cabin spaces. Mr. Garth, hearing the rattling of the chains, excitedly exclaimed: 'They are going to put me in the hold.' My position was directly below him, and he came to the deck and asked if I had seen anything of him. I answered in the negative. The search was kept up for a couple of hours, but Mr. Garth was not seen.

"Mr. Lawson said that Mr. Garth had given him \$500 in a wallet during the afternoon of the day to him. I am content that Mr. Garth committed suicide. He was a man about 35 years of age, weighed 150 pounds, had a black mustache, black hair, blue eyes and was nearly 6 feet tall. He gave evidence of being a man of wealth, and was very liberal in his contributions to the welfare of his fellow men. He was a member of the Grand Lodge, No. 2, and never desisted from his charitable work.

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ROBBERS BLOW BANK BUILT WHILE FIRED BY POSSE.

Five Bandits Fight Pitched Battle With Fifty Citizens at Kiowa, I. T., for Half an Hour—Building Almost Wrecked by Bullets and Three Charges of Nitroglycerin, Which Shatter Safe in Thousand Pieces.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. South McAlester, I. T., Dec. 27.—A daring robbery of the Kiowa Bank, attended by a hot fight between a posse of citizens and the robbers, occurred at Kiowa, a small town, sixteen miles south of here, at 3 o'clock this morning.

Citizens who were aroused by the explosions rushed to the bank, only to be held at bay by the robbers. Intrenched as they were, they could not be dislodged, and they held off the posse by a constant fusillade, while their confederates blew the bank vault.

The battle continued for fully half an hour before the men loaded their booty, consisting of about \$2,000, on a hand car and escaped.

Five unidentified men stole a hand car and several crow bars from the section-house at Savanna, a near-by station, and rode to Kiowa. They gained entrance to the bank building through a rear window and immediately set off a load of nitroglycerin to the safe.

The discharge was ineffective, but the noise aroused residents of the town, and soon a posse of fifty men was congregated in the stock yards in the rear of the bank.

A volley of shots was sent at the building by the citizens, who feared to approach the building. It was at once returned by the sentinels secreted on the outside of the structure.

An almost incessant fire was kept up for half an hour.

In the meanwhile the robbers within the building continued in their efforts at the safe.

It required three discharges of the explosive to remove the door. The third explosion was terrific and almost completely demolished the safe as well as the interior of the bank. Paper money was blown into shreds and lay about the room in litter.

After looting the money drawer the robbers left the building from the front and backed off into the darkness, keeping up a fire on the posse secreted in the stock pens.

The men went in a southern direction and were followed quite a distance. It is thought that one of the robbers was injured.

STEAL MUTILATED MONEY. It is believed that the robbers carried off a quantity of mutilated money, and this may lead to their detection.

The bank officers place their loss of currency at \$200, while the damage to the fixtures and building will be nearly as much.

A posse of United States Marshals is in pursuit, with little chance of immediate results, as the men had several hours' start.

It is believed that the gang is composed of crooks who have been operating in this vicinity for several weeks past.

Last Monday the Post-Office safe at Krebs, near here, was blown in the same manner.

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ZIEGLER PUBLISHES BALDWIN LETTERS TO SHOW TREACHERY IN POLAR EXPEDITION.

These letters from the crew of the America declare that Baldwin was intoxicated at times; that he was false to Mr. Ziegler, in that he returned to Norway from Camp Ziegler without any apparent cause, instead of pushing on in quest of the pole, and that he abrogated the contract made between the members of the crew and Mr. Ziegler, compelling the members to sign a new contract, severing connection with the expedition under the auspices of the Baldwin-Ziegler polar expedition and agreeing to re-engage with Baldwin, or with his representatives, in continuing the search for the pole.

This contract was signed by seven Americans whom Baldwin left at Camp Ziegler, when he started to return to Norway in September, 1901, and just before doing so he reported that there was open water as far north as he could see. Just why Baldwin returned to Norway can only be known to himself, but these extracts from the contract are considered extremely significant.

EXTRACTS FROM CONTRACTS. "That the said does hereby sever his connection with the present Baldwin-Ziegler polar expedition and hereby re-engage with Evelyn B. Baldwin."

And again, "And I do re-engage myself with the said Evelyn B. Baldwin or the Baldwin-Ziegler polar expedition in case the said Baldwin-Ziegler polar expedition should effect a reorganization."

Mr. Ziegler's decision was amply re-confirmed by the voluntary statements of the men in regard to Baldwin and his conduct. Mr. Leffingwell, writing from Chicago, sums up the matter as follows:

LEFFINGWELL'S SUMMARY. "He was too small mentally, morally and physically, for his position. He failed in every way a man could after boasting that he did not see how he could have failed. The following points deserve emphasis."

"1. He could neither command the respect nor fear of his men.

"2. He cared more for his publication than for scientific results.

"3. He did not keep faith with us nor with Mr. Ziegler.

"4. He went North unprepared in several important respects.

"5. His treatment of us, and especially the Americans, was arbitrary and unkind.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Joplin, Mo., Dec. 27.—The discovery of a battery wire in the wreckage of the plant of the Independent Powder Company points toward malicious origin to the explosion of the works several weeks ago, when two men were killed and several others injured.

The company officers claim no battery wire was ever used by them, and its presence tends to confirm the story to the effect that the works were blown up by an enemy.

THIS MASCOT LOST PARENTS. Fred Howe Claims He Fought With the Army.

Fred L. Howe, Jr., 17 years old, arrived in St. Louis last night on his way to New Orleans, where he says he is endeavoring to go for the winter, as he is still suffering from effects of wounds that he claims to have sustained while following General Funston and McArthur's troops in the Philippines and China wars.

While Howe assumes United States army uniform and cartridge belt, he says that he was never enlisted in the service, but simply followed the fortunes of the Twentieth Kansas Regiment, for the love of adventure.

He was wounded several times, both by bullets and bolts, which resulted in the partial loss of his hearing and power of speech.

Howe says that he formerly lived in Maysville, Ky., but when he returned from China he was unable to find his old home, and he has been searching for them all over the West.

"General Funston and the Kansas boys," says Howe, "did much to help me, but I cannot get a pension, for I did not enlist at Jefferson Barracks."

UNIDENTIFIED MAN MAY DIE. Police Believe That Laborer Was Struck by Fourth Street Car.

An unidentified man was found at the corner of Fourth and Spruce streets last night at 10:45 with his skull fractured. He was hurried to the City Hospital, where the doctors say his wound may prove fatal.

It is not known who rang for the ambulance, nor if there were any witnesses to the accident. It is supposed that he was struck by a street car, but if this is the case, the car did not stop. His appearance indicates that he had been struck and rolled on the street.

No papers nor letters were found in his pockets by which he could be identified, nor were there any marks on his clothing. Nothing was found in his pockets except cold pipes and some tobacco.

WOMAN ALMOST CAPTURED OFFICE.

Miss Bertie Green Lacked Few Votes of Being Vice President of Trades and Labor Union.

Had Miss Bertie Green, the business agent of the Waitresses' Union, received a few more votes yesterday the Central Trades and Labor Union would have established a precedent by electing a woman to an important office.

Miss Green is the delegate of the Waitresses' Union to the Central Trades and Labor Union. Officers were elected yesterday. When nominations were in order for vice president, Miss Green, who is popular, was nominated.

The voting commenced with three candidates in the field. On the first ballot C. W. Wiseman, business agent of Waiters' Union No. 20, who was finally elected, received 106 votes. Miss Green received ninety-eight.

On the next ballot Wiseman received barely enough to elect him. Miss Green was a close second. If Miss Green had been elected she would have been the first of her sex to hold office in a large governing body like the Central Trades and Labor Union.

The election yesterday was spirited, and many ballots were taken for each office. Miss Bennett, who for years has been identified with the Central Trades and Labor Union, was unanimously re-elected corresponding secretary and business agent.

Officers elected yesterday were: Frank Wade, Brass Workers' Union, president; C. W. Wiseman, Waiters' Union, No. 20, vice president; David Kreling, corresponding secretary and business agent; Augustus Buhde, Granite Workers, No. 672, treasurer. Three trustees were also elected.

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This brief statement by Anthony Flala, the leader of the second Ziegler expedition, partly explains what view the party left at Camp Ziegler took of the new contract.

On September 27, 1901, when the America left Camp Ziegler for her return trip toward Norway, and just before the anchor was raised, Doctor Vermer and Mr. Leffingwell came to me and told me that they had signed contracts with Mr. Baldwin, and that they would not be held by the crookedness of Mr. Baldwin's part.

"They could not let me see it, as they had given their word to keep it secret; but they wished me to see Mr. Ziegler on my return to New York, and if Mr. Baldwin did not turn out true, to tell Mr. Ziegler that if authorized by him they would hold supplies against all comers and that they recognized Mr. Ziegler in the expedition until instructed by him to the contrary."

"October 17, 1902. Mr. Ziegler's decision was amply re-confirmed by the voluntary statements of the men in regard to Baldwin and his conduct. Mr. Leffingwell, writing from Chicago, sums up the matter as follows:

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REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Omaha, Neb., Dec. 27.—General L. W. Colby, formerly Adjutant General of Nebraska and at one time Assistant Attorney General of the United States, who was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury a few days ago on the charge of embezzling approximately \$3,000 of Government funds, is well known in the West as a criminal lawyer.

The prosecution in the case is conducted by the Federal Grand Jury, who are assisting in the prosecution of the famous Dewey murder case in Western Kansas.

Years ago General Colby was engaged in defending an old man named Morse, charged with the murder of his young wife. The prosecution in the case is conducted by the Federal Grand Jury, who are assisting in the prosecution of the famous Dewey murder case in Western Kansas.

DRANK POISON BEFORE THE JURY TO SAVE CLIENT FROM THE GALLOW. General L. W. Colby, Former Assistant Attorney General of the United States, Tells How He Was Hard Pushed for Evidence in a Murder Case Several Years Ago—Demonstration Caused Him Much Uneasiness, but Did Not Gain Him a Verdict.

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CUBAN OFFICIAL TO REMAIN HERE.

Albert Fuentes, Secretary of the World's Fair Commission, Is at the Planters.

WILL OPEN HEADQUARTERS.

Believes That Government May Double Present Appropriation—Says Island Republic Is Prosperous.

Albert Fuentes, member of the Department of Agriculture of Cuba, and Secretary of the Cuban Commission to the World's Fair, is at the Planters and will remain in St. Louis until the opening of the Exposition.

"Cuba has appropriated \$50,000 for the Fair," said Senator Fuentes, "and I think it is probable that that amount will be doubled. Several commissions are to be added to the board as soon as the body grasps the situation. I think that the Government can be induced to increase the Exposition appropriation."

"Hundreds of Americans are going to Cuba, and the island is enjoying a season of prosperity unprecedented in its history. The Americans have found that oranges and hemp can be cultivated to advantage, and thousands of acres are being utilized for the purpose. In the cultivation of oranges it has been found that Cuba has all the advantages of Florida and California and none of the disadvantages of those States."

"Cotton, too, is becoming one of the leading articles of Cuba and I predict a record-breaking crop for 1904. Senator Fuentes was sent to Havana three years ago by the United States Government, and he is one of the few officials to be retained by the reorganized Cuban Government."

FIRE IN LABORATORY OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Valuable Topographical Maps Are Burned, but Those Intended for the World's Fair Are Saved.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Three alarms were sounded for a fire to-night in the photographic laboratory of the United States Geological Survey, located on the top story of the Hoe building, on F street, near Fourteenth street. The combustible character of the material stored in the laboratory caused the flames rapidly to eat their way through the roof, but prompt service by the firemen confined the fire to the immediate section in which the laboratory is located.

The loss to the survey, which probably will aggregate about \$5,000, is from the destruction of photographic blue prints and chemicals in the laboratory and from the ruin of some topographical papers in the topographical section on the floor below. The damage to the building probably will not exceed \$3,000. The origin of the fire, it is believed, was from an electrical connection.

A set of topographic maps for the St. Louis Exposition was saved from destruction, though some of the models were slightly damaged.

DOWIE BIDS FAREWELL TO CHICAGO FOLLOWERS.

Denounces Report That His Wife Took \$7,000,000 to Australia—Who Will Take Only Spending Money.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Preparatory to leaving for Australia, John Alexander Dowie bids farewell to his Chicago adherents at a meeting in the Auditorium to-day. Standing-room was at a premium.

After an all-night "watch meeting" in Zion City, New Year's Eve, Dowie will leave for New Orleans, and will travel to San Francisco via the Southwestern route, stopping at various large cities en route. He intends to sail from the latter port January 21, and counts on being back in Chicago next June.

"I am going to leave everything in Zion City and not steal away with either the lace works or the temple," said Dowie. "That was a malicious lie about my wife taking away \$7,000,000, but I'm foolish enough to deny it again. I will only take \$200,000, enough cash for spending money."

Several times in the course of his remarks Dowie spoke in a friendly manner of President Roosevelt, and in his prayer asked that Mr. Roosevelt's enemies be circumvented and foiled in "carrying out their mischievous plans."

TWO HURT IN COLLISION CAUSED BY OPEN SWITCH.

Motorman S. S. Darnell and George Post, Musicians, Thrown to Street From Cherokee Car.

In a collision caused by a misplaced switch at Parnell street and St. Louis avenue, at noon yesterday, Steve S. Darnell, motorman on Cherokee car No. 118, and George Post, a passenger, were thrown to the street and seriously injured. The Cherokee car and a construction car into which it crashed were badly damaged.

The Cherokee car was running west on St. Louis avenue when Motorman Darnell turned it into the open switch leading to Parnell street. The car ran around the curve, throwing Darnell from the front platform. Post was standing on the rear platform and was hurled twenty feet, alighting on his shoulders.

Doctor Krebs of No. 2219 North Fourteenth street was a passenger on the car and attended Darnell. Doctor Hirsch of No. 2217 St. Louis avenue was called to treat Post. Both the injured men were conveyed to St. John's Hospital.

Post is a musician and lives at No. 2318 Missouri avenue. Darnell lives at No. 2317 South Jefferson avenue.

CHRISTMAS TREE IN PRISON.

Lutheran Mission Provides Treat for City Jail Inmates.

Two hundred and seventy-four prisoners in the city jail were entertained yesterday by the Evangelical Lutheran Mission, members of which provided a Christmas tree and hundreds of presents for the inmates.

The Reverend F. W. Herzberger and Professor L. Fuerbringer were in charge of the entertainment. Cigars, tobacco and cakes were also provided. A religious service conducted by the Reverend Mr. Herzberger.

The prisoners were allowed the freedom of the jail yard from 3 until 4:30 o'clock. A large tree stood in the center of the court, fronting the cells.

MINERS ORDERED TO DECAMP.

Company May Attempt to Evict Strikers From Homes.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 27.—H. P. Douglas, superintendent of the Merchants' Coal Company mines at Bonwell, to-day announced that notices had been posted directing the 500 striking miners to vacate the company houses next Tuesday.

A severe blizzard prevails in this section, and if the company carries out its programme, there will be great suffering. "The notices are up and up the men," said Douglas. "They will have to be sent out."

The miners are very orderly. There is a firm conviction, however, that when Tuesday comes the company, if it attempts eviction, will have trouble.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 27.—After a journey of nearly 4,000 miles, which was to have had its termination at the nuptial altar, Miss Lillian Bennett of Wednesday, England, to-day stood in the presence of the remains of her betrothed, Ambrose Good, who was killed in the wreck of the Duquesne limited last Wednesday evening.

The scene in the little decorated parlor of the home of Thomas R. Good, a brother of Ambrose, was pathetic. Just across the street from the home of the bride, the remains of her betrothed, Miss Bennett's intended husband had furnished for her.

It was to have been the last funeral. Miss Bennett's profuse in her gratitude for the kindness of the Ellis Island officials and others, but refrains the statement that she is without friends. She says she will likely remain in America.

Fight in Poolroom. In a fight that originated in a dispute as to who should pay for a game of pool, Earl L. O'Hara, 19 years old, was seriously injured by William Deschow, of the same age, in front of No. 2401 Meramec street yesterday morning. O'Hara was out in the lower left side. In the left cheek and over the eye. His wounds were dressed by Doctor John McDean of No. 2581 Broadway street, and he later moved to his home, No. 3436 Chipmunk street, Deschow, who lives at No. 2977 Arsenal street, was arrested.

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Accidentally Sets Fire to Her Home. In attempting to thaw a frozen water-pipe by means of a lighted rag, Mrs. Lizzie Young accidentally set fire to her home, No. 133 Wash street, Saturday evening. The building and furniture suffered damage estimated at \$10. Mrs. Young was not injured.

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