

AWARD OF MEDALS FOR LIFE-SAVING MEN

Minute Investigation of Action Warranting the Honor.

GENERALLY TAKES A YEAR

Opinion That These Tokens Are Too Costly, and Should Be Made Simply of Bronze or Iron.

"To the rank outsider," said a prominent official of the Life-Saving Service, "the long interval between a heroic deed, and the award of the life-saving medal, is a constant source of surprise. It seldom happens that we make the award within a year after the action. The general public thinks that we keep a wholesale supply of medals on hand and have only to hear of a case of life-saving, stamp a medal, and make the award."

"We have good reason, however, for the apparent delay. In the first place, it is absolutely essential that we obtain reliable proofs of the action. To do this, we require sworn affidavits of eyewitnesses. Next these affidavits must be filed."

All Details Called For.

"We require all the details; we must know whether the action took place on a dark night or in broad daylight; whether the water was smooth, or surf breaking heavily. It is only by the details that we can judge whether or not the action was pre-eminent among heroic deeds. And it is only for such deeds that medals are awarded. In the past twenty-six years the Secretary of the Treasury, who is commander-in-chief of the Life-Saving Service, has awarded less than 500 Life-Saving Service medals, and there have been hundreds of other cases of life-saving and self-sacrifice presented to the office in this time and thousands of lives rescued in this country."

"It has always been the endeavor of the Secretary to make the award of a medal a rare honor, and therefore a great honor."

Intrinsic Value Too Great.

"There is one objection to the medals presented by the Life-Saving Service—their intrinsic value is too great. Two classes of medals are given, gold and silver. The gold medals are worth about \$70 and silver \$15. How much better it would be to have the medals of one class, difficult to win, and of iron or bronze. The Victoria Cross, the English honor medal, presented for distinguished bravery, is plain bronze, yet the honor attached to it makes its value greater than if it were made of gold and precious stones. The Iron Cross of Prussia is another medal that reminds us that simplicity is good taste."

"There is one feature of the award of a Life-Saving medal that is especially prized—the letter that always accompanies it. The details of heroic service are here set down in black and white, never to be forgotten, and a copy of the letter placed in the files of the department."

COUNSEL ADVERSE TO BENNING SAFETY GATES

The District Commission's have referred to the Police Department for consideration a request made by Charles H. Keyser and others, that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company be required to place safety gates at the grade crossing of the branch of the road running through the village of Benning.

A. L. Thomas, of the Engineer Department in reporting upon the matter said that in his opinion the gates were not needed, as the company runs only about four freight trains a day over the road, and these always at a low rate of speed.

COL. LIVINGSTON'S REMAINS INTERRED AT ARLINGTON

The funeral of Col. La Rnett L. Livingston, U. S. A., retired, who died at his home, 1717 Oregon Avenue, Thursday evening, was held this morning from St. Margaret's Church. The services were conducted by the Rev. Herbert S. Smith, pastor of the church. Following these ceremonies, the body was interred at Arlington Cemetery with military honors. The honorary pallbearers were Generals Sinclair, Randolph, Miller, Frank, Vincent and Gibson; Colonels Ennis and Warner, retired, and Major Chester.

RUMORED RECALL OF BRAZILIAN MINISTER

In diplomatic circles it is reported that Senator J. T. de Assis-Braun, the Brazilian minister to the United States, will shortly leave Washington on an extended leave of absence and it is probable that he will not return. He will go to Rio de Janeiro in about two months. Report is that he will be succeeded by Senator Salvador de Mendonca, at present the Brazilian minister to Portugal, who was stationed in Washington ten years ago. Senator Mendonca's wife was an American girl and was popular here.

SPIRITUALISTS OBSERVE FIFTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY

The First Association of Spiritualists celebrated the fifty-ninth anniversary of modern spiritualism last night by special exercises held in Masonic Temple, Ninth and F Streets northwest. The Rev. Dr. Frederick L. H. Willis offered a prayer opening the ceremonies, which included a song service, an anniversary address by Miss Anita Trueman, and benediction offered by Miss Trueman.

Dr. J. C. Norwood will be informed by the District Commissioners that sidewalk can be laid on Superior Street, between Champlain Avenue and Sixteenth Street, northwest, on the written application of a majority of the property holders affected.

AMNESTY FOR ONE HUNDRED PRISONERS

President's Decree Lessened Terms of Imprisonment for U. S. Convicts Confined Near Atlanta.

The President has issued a general order in the nature of an amnesty toward a certain class of prisoners which will affect more than a hundred prisoners confined in the new United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.

In the early part of 1902, upon the completion of the Atlanta penitentiary a number of United States prisoners incarcerated in penitentiaries in Ohio and New York were transferred to the United States penitentiary at Atlanta. This transfer was made by authority of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1901.

By reason of the transfer of these prisoners their terms of imprisonment were very materially increased—in some cases to the extent of three or four years. Ohio and New York laws relating to the diminution of sentences for good conduct, which by the Federal statutes were made applicable to United States prisoners, were very much more liberal than the Federal statutes under which such diminution of sentences is permitted in Federal institutions.

The last Congress repealed the Federal statutes making State laws applicable to United States prisoners and enacted a very liberal commutation law applicable to all United States prisoners wherever confined. On account of the great injustice done to the prisoners transferred to Atlanta in extending their sentences beyond the terms intended by the courts in imposing sentences and in order to remedy this injustice the President has issued this general order. After reciting the law and facts in the case, the order concludes as follows:

"Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, divers other good and sufficient reasons thereunto moving, do hereby order that each and every United States prisoner who was or hereafter shall be transferred from a State institution to the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., under sentence imposed on or before the 20th day of July, 1902, be discharged by the warden of the said United States penitentiary upon the day when he would have been discharged had he continued to be confined in the State prison or penitentiary from which he was transferred; upon condition that his conduct in the said institution and in the said United States penitentiary has been such as to entitle him to the deductions hereby granted and allowed."

The President has denied fifteen applications for executive clemency, and has exercised clemency in nine cases, as follows:

W. H. has commuted to imprisonment for twenty years the sentence of Thomas Thurber, convicted in Kansas of murder,

and sentenced in 1888 to be hanged. President Cleveland commuted this sentence to imprisonment for life.

Several Attorneys General have examined the case and made reports to the President, stating that it was not a proper case for pardon, but that the facts showed it to be a case of murder in the second degree, the maximum penalty for which in most States is twenty years. At the time of conviction in this case no degree of murder were defined by the United States statutes.

Attorney General Knox, after an examination of the papers, has taken the same view as his predecessors, and recommended a commutation to imprisonment for twenty years. The prisoner has served nearly twenty years in prison and this commutation will operate to release him within the near future, provided he earns by good conduct all the commutation allowed by law.

Johnston is indicted for the murder of his father, Alfred Johnson, on December 24 last. They had been working together, and quarreled over the division of the money received. Words led to blows and the son threw a brick, which struck his father on the head, killing him almost instantly.

The accused is represented by Attorneys Tindall and Sullivan, and will make a plea of self-defense in behalf of his client. The Government is represented by Assistant District Attorney Taylor.

WATER TO BE TURNED OFF AT ROBERT FLEMING'S HOME

Robert I. Fleming, by vote of the Commissioners, will be informed that the water must be turned off from his premises known as "Mount Alto," and not turned on again until an acceptable sewage system is submitted, accepted, and installed.

The question of the proper drainage of these premises has been much discussed by the Commissioners. It appears some time ago permission was given to install plumbing fixtures in the house, but there was a distinct understanding that they were not to be used until a proper sewage disposal system was installed on the premises.

TREATY OF PARIS HIS "LIFE'S GREATEST HONOR"

President Montero Rios Claims Credit and Arouses Antagonism.

MADRID, March 30.—Senator Montero Rios, president of the senate, has brought upon himself the condemnation of the Spanish press by a speech he made at Campostella, Galicia, yesterday.

In the course of his remarks, the president of the senate referred to his work as president of the Spanish commission sent to Paris in 1898 to conclude a treaty of peace with the United States. He said in part:

"Though I have been the object of much violent criticism, I consider the treaty of Paris to be my life's greatest honor. We lost our colonies, but we did not lose any part of our national territory. I was able to save the integrity of our peninsula. I was also able to avoid the payment of the war's indemnity, in spite of the menace of the North American commission, which demanded \$250,000,000 from Spain. Therefore I think I deserve my country's gratitude."

EACH HOSPITAL WARD HAD "LAUGH ON REILLY"

Doctors Unable to Work and Inebriates Cured of All Remorse.

NEW YORK, March 30.—If all the laughs heard in Bellevue Hospital for a year rippled out in one continuous "ha ha" they wouldn't equal in length or mirthfulness William Reilly's laugh. It filled Roosevelt Hospital last Wednesday and was still bubbling over last night when Reilly was transferred to Bellevue. In all that time it hasn't stopped.

All the physicians who have tried to diagnose it got as far as deciding that hysteria was responsible, and then had to leave off in fits of laughter. They say it's a wonder for contagious properties. When Reilly laughs other patients in his ward laugh, and the orderlies who come to restore quiet laugh, and the physicians go away with their sides shaking.

Reilly was shouting as if he had just heard the father of all jokes when he was brought to Roosevelt Hospital on Wednesday. They asked him his name and age for the record book. Reilly's reply was a howl of glee that ran up and down and all around the gamut of laughter. The entry clerk knocked over the inkstand after "catching" the laugh.

From papers found in his pockets it was decided that he was William Reilly, aged about twenty-three, of 79 Eleventh Avenue. He was assigned to a ward, and soon everyone in the room was joining in a chorus of laughter led by Reilly. The superintendent had him transferred. The laugh went with him. It attacked each ward in which he was placed. Up to yesterday afternoon every ward in Roosevelt Hospital had had a laugh "on Reilly." So he was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

The laugh was innocuous and robust as ever. It sent one ward into tantrums before Reilly was hurried to the alcoholic ward. After half an hour there every case of r-e-m-o-r-s-e was cured. The physicians say Reilly's laugh may hang on for a week longer. It's the best specimen of "the-laugh-that-won't-come-off" ever observed at Bellevue.

VIRGINIA POSTMASTER

George T. Morgan has been appointed postmaster at Kelson, Bedford county, Va.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S TRIP

LONDON, March 29.—Queen Alexandra left London for Copenhagen today.

JURY IMPANELED TO TRY LANDOUS JOHNSON

Remarkable Expedition in Trial for Patricide.

In less than an hour after Justice Anderson took his place on the bench this morning in Criminal Court No. 1 the jury was empaneled in the case of Landous Johnson, a negro, accused of the murder of his father. This was remarkably quick work.

Another notable circumstance in connection with the drawing of the jury is that it was filled out of the regular panel serving in that branch of the Supreme Court of the District. It is said that this is the first time in the history of the court that the jury in a homicide case has been filled from the regular panel of jurors.

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BISHOP CONATY TO DINE WITH HIS SUCCESSOR

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CANTON MAKES BID FOR DIVORCE BUSINESS

South Dakota City Calls Attention to "Unequaled Advantages."

CANTON, S. D., March 30.—Canton citizens held a mass meeting a few days ago and decided to go into the divorce business. Hereafter the attention of fashionable wives who would change husbands, or wealthy husbands who have tired of their wives, will be called to Canton and its unequalled advantages. Canton will be advertised as any commercial center and its specialty will be divorces.

The people of this place have looked with some covetousness upon the profits of other cities in the State which enjoy a lucrative divorce business, and they will dispute the claim that Sioux Falls is the headquarters of the divorce industry of South Dakota. As proof of their embarkation in the business of unmaking marriages they point to the arrival of five Easterners within a fortnight. Canton promises to treat these divorcees so well that they will bring an army of others.

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FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DISCUSSES ART

Mrs. M. L. Schneider Reads a Paper on "Leonardo da Vinci."

The District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs held its monthly meeting Saturday evening at 522 Sixth Street northwest. Art, in its several branches, was the topic under discussion and many interesting points were brought out by members of the organization.

Mrs. Martha L. Schneider, president of the Columbia Heights Art Club, read a paper on the life and work of Leonardo da Vinci. In the discussion which followed, Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Main declared that the reason for good teachers, not only of art, but in other educational branches, abandoning Washington, was owing to the poor salaries paid here for tuition.

Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mussey's discussion on "The Artistic in Dress" proved highly entertaining. Mrs. Mussey affirmed her belief that every woman should possess a full length mirror that she might be enabled to give as much attention to the appearance of her skirts, as to the dressing of her hair.

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The Store That Saves You Money. Money Saving Values



\$3.95 for handsome White Enamelled Bed, brass trimmed, brass rails and spindles; actual value \$6.

\$1.45 for heavy White Enamelled Bed; actual value \$3.

CREX Grass Carpet

TRADE MARK

Matting

9c for Fancy China Matting.

15c for excellent Fancy Matting.

20c for Heavy Quality China Matting.

22c for very Fine China Matting.

25c for Carpet Patterns in Jap Matting.

Liberal discount on all carpet size rugs.

Floor covering put on floor without cost.

CREDIT AND EASY PAYMENTS.

The Hub Furniture Co. Cor. 7th and D Sts. N. W.



ALL WOOL FABRICS

Styles the latest—fabrics the newest—prices the most reasonable. Easter Suits to order, \$15 to \$25.

J. C. WINEMAN & CO., "Know-How Tailors," 914 F St.

Chris. Heurich Brewing Co.

Always Ask for Heurich Beers

by their names and you'll get a Beer that skill can make as near perfect as possible.

Maerzen, 8 months Old.

Senale, 10 months old.

Lager, 4 months old.

'Phone West 34 for a Case.

Baltimore and Ohio RAILROAD.

THE "ROYAL LIMITED" TO NEW YORK.

ALL PARLOR CARS. No Excess Fare.

Leaves Washington... 2:00 p. m. Arrives New York... 8:00 p. m. DAILY.

UNDERTAKERS.

J. WILLIAM LEE, UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY, 222 Penn. Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

SPECIAL MEETING of Journeymen Plasterers' Association MONDAY, MARCH 30, 8 p. m. By order, L. A. REARDON, President.

Mason, plumber, Footman, clerk, Cook or waitress—Out of work? Here's the paper. Small the price. "Try an ad."

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