

Rain Late Tonight and Sunday.

NUMBER 6282.

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 1909.

PRICE ONE CENT.

GOOD CLUE FOUND OF BILLY WHITLA IN ASHTABULA

Police Learn of Significant Message Written by Stranger.

ADDRESS GIVEN BEING TRACED

Same as Advertisement Inserted in Cleveland Newspaper.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 20.—The question as to the whereabouts of Billy Whitla or his kidnapers today turned the search in the direction of Ashtabula, sixty miles east of Cleveland, near the lake shore.

Albert S. Couture told the Cleveland police this morning that on Thursday night he lent a pencil to a mud-stained, headless man, and saw him write with it in a doorway on Prospect avenue the following message:

"Will leave for Ashtabula tonight. Can not make a lift here. Cleveland is like a live wire about it. Beware."

Couture also saw the beginning of the address the man wrote on the envelope into which he slipped the message. It was "A. A. —"

Couture thought no more about the matter until he saw the advertisement inserted in the Cleveland Press by Mr. Whitla, in accordance with the kidnapers' directions, addressed to A. A. This morning he told the police. Couture said the man who wrote the message was short and heavy, with a florid complexion and stubby mustache slightly sandy. He wore a mud-covered overcoat, and was dusty and unshaven.

Could Reach Point.

Billy Whitla's abductors would have had time to reach Cleveland by 5:30 p. m., the time this message was written, but not to change their clothes and remove the mud stains of hard riding or to shave.

Ashtabula harbor, where it is believed the writer of the mysterious letter intended to go, has a large foreign population. Its streets are full of children and abound in good hiding places.

The search was further stimulated today by a \$100 reward offered by the Scripps-McRae Cleveland News, of which the Cleveland Press is a member.

PHILADELPHIA SEES MYSTERIOUS WOMAN

Police Now Seeking Traveler Who Carried Boy Through Station.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—A general alarm was sent out today by the police here to search for a woman who arrived at Broad street station, late last night, on a train from Chambersburg, carrying a boy answering the description of Billy Whitla, the kidnaped lad. She is believed to be the woman declared to be in league with the abductors.

The woman was observed by Special Policeman Williams, of the Pennsylvania railroad, as she alighted from the train. Attracted by the size of the boy who appeared well able to walk, he followed her movements to the railroad cab stand where she inquired the quickest way to reach the southern section of the city. Williams then notified the police.

Captain of Detectives Gallagher has instructed every police station in the city to keep a close watch and detectives are working hard to locate the woman. If the woman is not in league with the kidnapers it is expected she will quickly come to the front and declare herself. Failure to hear from her will be taken by the police as an indication that they are on the right track.

Captain Gallagher is of the opinion that the letter directing the parents of the kidnaped boy to place advertisements in four papers in the middle West, were written by the woman in an opposite direction from that in which the boy has really taken.

PARENTS BROKEN BY LOSS OF SON

SHARON, Pa., March 20.—In the longest statement he has given out since his eight-year-old son Billy was kidnaped, James F. Whitla this morning (Continued on Second Page.)

WEATHER REPORT.

During the next thirty-six hours the center of the Arkansas depression will move eastward to the Atlantic coast, attended by general rains in the middle Eastern and Southeastern States. The winds along the middle Atlantic coast will be brisk northeasterly.

Steamers departing today for European ports will have moderate northerly, shifting to brisk northeasterly winds and partly cloudy weather to the Grand Banks.

FORECAST FOR DISTRICT.

For the District, rain late tonight and Sunday, winds shifting to brisk northeasterly.

TEMPERATURE.	
8 a. m.	43
9 a. m.	43
10 a. m.	43
11 a. m.	43
12 noon.	43
1 p. m.	43
2 p. m.	43

SUN TABLE.	
Sun rises.	6:05
Sun sets.	6:12

TIDE TABLE.	
Today—High tide, 6:49 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. Low tide, 1:14 a. m. and 1:17 p. m.	
Tomorrow—High tide, 7:40 a. m. and 8:06 p. m. Low tide, 1:48 a. m. and 2:10 p. m.	

WORLD-NEWS LIBEL SUITS TO SLUMBER

Wickersham Will Permit Dust of Ages to Collect on Indictments.

SEE NO CHANCE OF CONVICTION

Roosevelt Did Not Think Further Punishment Possible, It Is Said.

By JAMES HAY, JR.

Joseph Pulitzer, owner of the New York World, and Delavan Smith, part owner of the Indianapolis News, need no longer indulge in editorial fears about the subversion of the Constitution and the restriction of the right of free speech.

The high lights of the Department of Justice need not keep their monkey wrenches on their desks preparatory to making the laws fit the offenses of those editors who printed much about "scandals" in regard to the purchase of the Panama canal strip.

In other words, the libel suits, instituted against Pulitzer, Smith et al., at the solicitation of Theodore Roosevelt, will not be pushed by this Administration. They will be allowed to drop out of sight. The documents relating to the suits will be pushed far back into pigeon holes, there to collect the dust of ages.

Many Different Tasks.

George W. Wickersham, the present Attorney General, will have many different tasks to perform in this Administration, but they will not be added to the prosecution of gentlemen who are charged with libeling the United States Government and the progress of civilization in general.

From the beginning of the agitation about these prosecutions, there was much doubt in the minds of lawyers, who looked into the matter deeply, as to whether any convictions could be had. Since Mr. Taft became President, it has been freely said that he, with his thorough knowledge of the law, had no confidence in the ability of the Government to obtain any tangible results from such prosecutions.

Now comes the information from a highly authoritative source that all the lawyers connected with the new Administration are convinced that the most effective thing to do in connection with the suits is to allow them to go to sleep and let the dust of ages settle upon them. Mr. Roosevelt was pushed into the cases it was intimated that he himself hardly expected a successful outcome from them and was convinced by his belief that as much as could be done to punish the editors concerned should be done. When the indictments were secured, he thought the implied disgrace was a heavy penalty for them to pay.

Go by Board.

For this reason the decision of this Administration to let the suits go by the board cannot be construed as a step in direct opposition to the wishes of the Roosevelt Administration. As a matter of fact, the Government finds the opinion of the best legal talent is that they should not be prosecuted and that, if they were carried on, no tangible results could be obtained.

At the office of the Attorney General silence is maintained about the whole matter. This is in accord with the plan to give to the subject as little publicity as possible and to let the public mind forget that such action was ever contemplated.

Personally, Mr. Taft did not relish the publications any more than did Mr. Roosevelt. They brought serious charges against Charles F. Taft, the President's brother, as they did against Douglas Robinson, Roosevelt's brother-in-law, but Mr. Taft's attitude was described by his friends, is that it is little less than absurd to pursue the matter any further in the courts.

In some quarters it is said that a few preliminary steps may be taken in the cases to show that the Administration would pursue the matter if it thought any results could be obtained, but the best informed officials are of the opinion that nothing more will be done in connection with the prosecutions.

STAY-AT-HOME ORDER ISSUED BY BALLINGER

Territorial Governors Are Told by Secretary of Interior to Refrain From Roaming Away From Their Districts Unless Circumstances Are Extraordinary.

Richard A. Ballinger, Secretary of the Interior, will issue within the next few days an order that territorial officials shall remain in their territories unless called away by extraordinary circumstances.

This will affect the governors and minor officials of Alaska, Arizona, and New Mexico, and it is constructed as a direct blow at the practice of certain governors of territories coming to Washington and spending much time in lobby for Statehood bills and other matters.

Mr. Ballinger called at the White House today, and, after a conference with the President, it became known that the order commanding territorial officials to stay at home had been agreed upon.

Have Seen Wonders.

Governor Hoggatt, of Alaska, spent three months in this city during the past winter. Governor Curry, of New Mexico, put in several months here, and Governor Kibbey, of Arizona, also put in some time in the National Capital. Thomas Kane, the delegate from Alaska, let it be known at the time of Hoggatt's visit, that he objected to it. Other territorial delegates took the position

GIRL SLIPS AWAY TO HER WEDDING



MRS. EDNA CHRYSAL, Washington Girl Now Wife of San Franciscan.

Miss Edna Merrill Hayes Surprises Acquaintances by Marriage to C. C. Chrysal After Brief Romance.

Miss Edna Merrill Hayes, one of the prettiest and most popular girls of Capitol Hill, has given her friends a big surprise by slipping off to Rockville, where she became the bride of Carlton Clark Chrysal, of San Francisco. The marriage took place last Tuesday, the Rev. Thomas J. Packard, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, officiating.

The wedding of Miss Hayes and Mr. Chrysal was the culmination of a pretty romance which began five weeks ago. Mr. Chrysal came to Washington to visit relatives, whose home is just two doors from the Hayes residence at 1015 Fifth street northeast. The young people met, and from that time on there were all sorts of diversions of which they were a part.

To the friends of Miss Hayes and Mr. Chrysal it was plain that a strong friendship had sprung up between them. Miss Hayes, however, kept secret the fact that more than friendship had drawn them together and when the young people decided to be married they determined that few should know it.

Mrs. Hayes said this morning she had known of the intention of her daughter and Mr. Chrysal to be married last week. She said she realized that the young folk had definitely made up their minds to take the step, Mrs. Hayes withdrew her objection and the marriage followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Chrysal returned to the White House immediately after the ceremony last Tuesday and will remain there until their own apartment has been made ready for them.

DIPLOMATIC SLATE CONSIDERED TODAY

Now Seems Certain That Henry Clay Ide Will Go to Spain.

This afternoon President Taft and Secretary of State Knox will have a long conference about the diplomatic slate.

Although official announcements are conspicuous by their absence regarding the ambassadors, it seems certain that Henry Clay Ide, of New York, will go to Spain and that Richard Kereens, of Missouri, will go to Vienna.

It seems equally certain that J. G. A. Leishman will be transferred from Constantinople to Rome.

TAFT BACK HAPPY FROM YALE RALLY

President Cheered Vociferously at Big New York Banquet.

President Taft, a little tired but still very happy, reached Washington at 7:12 this morning, his train pulling into the Union Station exactly on time.

The President was up early after the great Yale banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York last night, and his car Constitution had no sooner come to stop in the train shed than the President was out on the platform and ready to go to the White House. Whenever he thought about that little affair last night when 1,500 Yale men went crazy temporarily, he smiled, at least, reprovers present "allowed" that he was smiling at the recollection.

Left New York Late.

The Constitution was attached to the regular Pennsylvania railroad train which left Jersey City a few minutes after midnight. The run to Washington was made without incident.

Among the few people about the big station when the President came in from the train shed, was United States Marshal Ashel Palmer, of the District, who is always on the receiving committee when a President returns to the Capital.

The marshal was the only official to greet Mr. Taft and in a few minutes the President was whirling up to the eastern branch of the Executive automobile.

Before he departed, however, a crowd of several hundred passengers who recognized the Chief Magistrate joined in a cheer.

"Greatest Banquet."

NEW YORK, March 20.—"The greatest banquet ever given anybody," say the Sons of Eli, who happen to be in New York today in referring to that little affair at the Waldorf, when President Taft met, addressed, and was most vociferously cheered by 1,500 members of the Yale Alumni Association.

And while New York as a rule doesn't (Continued on Second Page.)

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return

Saturdays and Sundays via Pennsylvania railroad. Tickets good returning until Sunday night. All regular trains except the "Congressional Limited."—Adv.

NEW SAVINGS BANK BEING ORGANIZED

Provident Institution Will Have Capital of Half a Million.

BRANCHES TO AID SERVING PATRONS

Daniel N. Morgan Is Expected to Be the First President.

Official announcement of the formation of the Provident Savings Bank of Washington is confidently expected in a few days.

The new bank will have a capital of \$500,000, will have its main office at Eighth and G streets, and will do a strictly savings banking business.

It is expected that Daniel Nash Morgan will be the first president of the Provident. Mr. Morgan was formerly treasurer of the United States, and at the organization of the United States Trust Company became its president. When he was succeeded by President Davidson he retired to his home in Bridgeport, Conn.

The Provident Savings Bank will, according to present plans, establish a number of branch institutions throughout the city, and in this way the volume of business will naturally be largely increased.

Not being eligible to membership in the Clearing House, the institution will clear through the National City Bank.

The promoters of the new fiscal institution are not giving out much information regarding it at this time, but it is known that some of the leading men in the Columbia Building and Loan men in the National Association are largely interested in the effort to secure subscriptions to the capital stock of the new venture.

W. F. GUDE MAKES A NEW ALLIANCE

Chamber of Commerce Head Now Director of National Metropolitan Bank.

W. F. Gude, president of the Chamber of Commerce, has been elected a member of the board of directors of the National Metropolitan Bank. He will at once qualify and assume the duties of his new position.

While making this new banking alliance, Mr. Gude will still hold his position as director of the Lincoln National Bank, in which he is largely interested, but he will give much of his time and influence to advancing the interest of the National Metropolitan.

He is also treasurer of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, and the Washington Florists' Club, as well as receiver for the Anacostia Brick Company.

With his diversified interests the election of Mr. Gude to the directorship of the National Metropolitan Bank should mean much to that institution.

MOORE A DIRECTOR.

Edward S. Moore, a Government purchasing agent, has been elected a director of the Citizens' Savings Bank, succeeding W. E. Bennett, resigned.

SHAH'S TROOPS LOSE HEAVILY IN BATTLE

LONDON, March 20.—A telegram received today from Tabriz, Persia, says that the liberals, or revolutionists, have defeated the troops of the Shah in a battle near Tabriz and that the loss of life was very heavy.

RIDES WITH WHITES; SUES FOR DAMAGES

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 20.—Professing to have been humiliated by being forced to ride in the same compartment on a street car with white women, Carrie Conley, a negro, today sued the Central Kentucky Traction Company for \$3,000.

HEAD OF WORKMAN SEVERED FROM BODY

Hugo Haas Loses Life in Peculiar Accident Near Anacostia Bridge—Was Working in Pit Under Car. Raises as Current Is Turned On.

Hugo Haas, thirty years old, of 505 Morton street, northward, a pitman, employed by the Anacostia and Potomac river railway, was instantly killed about 10:30 o'clock this morning by a city-bound car of that line near the south end of the Anacostia bridge over the eastern branch of the Potomac.

Haas, with Harry Hammerdinger, was working in the pit just beyond the city limits where the "plov" which makes the necessary contact for the underground "trolley," is substituted for the overhead trolley which is permitted beyond the limits.

Were in Pit.

When a car in charge of Motorman John A. Randall and Conductor William H. Redman came along, both men were in the pit, which is between the rails and underneath the car. The car city-bound wanted the "plov" fitted to the proper "contact," and Haas, according to Hammerdinger, made the connection, something he has done thousands of times before.

COOPERS GUILTY; GIVEN SENTENCE OF TWENTY YEARS

Jury Finally Reaches Agreement on Verdict of Murder in the Second Degree, and Maximum Penalty Is Imposed Upon Carmack's Slayers.

BAIL FIXED AT \$25,000; TO TAKE APPEAL

Defense Bases Claims on Contention That Judge Coerced Jury Into Reaching an Agreement—One Juror Held Out Almost to Last for Acquittal.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 20.—Col. Duncan B. Cooper and his son, Robin, were today found guilty of murder in the second degree, for killing of former Senator Edward Ward Carmack, in this city on November 9 last.

They were immediately sentenced to twenty years in the State penitentiary. The verdict will be appealed from at once.

Bail was fixed at \$25,000, and was immediately furnished the Coopers leaving court at once.

Attorneys Anderson and Washington paved the way for this action yesterday, when they compelled Judge Hart to record the exact words of the jury in reporting the verdict of acquittal in the case of Sheriff Sharp. By order of the court, Clerk Haley entered the words:

"We, the jury, find John D. Sharp not guilty, as charged in the indictment, but as to the two defendants Cooper, we report that we are hopelessly tied."

WHITE HOUSE OPEN TO GENERAL MILES

Makes First Visit in Eight Years to Pay Respects to Taft.

Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, retired, made a visit to the White House today after an absence of about eight years. General Miles is believed to have been the charter member of the Roosevelt In-Bad Club.

His last visit being one New Year Day when President Roosevelt, as Dooley said at the time, "threw him out the window and buried a coal scuttle on top of him."

"I just called to pay my respects," said General Miles, as he left the President's office.

"You haven't done it of late years," someone said.

"There are a good many others," reported the general as he rolled away in his automobile.

WAR TALK ENDED IN SERBIA'S CABINET

Russia Withholds Support and Advises Yielding to Austria's Demands.

BELGRADE, Serbia, March 20.—A peaceful settlement of the Serbian-Austrian controversy is believed here to be a matter of hours only. War talk from the cabinet and in official circles has suddenly stopped.

While no definite announcement has been made, it is believed the Russian ambassador has convinced the King and cabinet that war with Austria at this time would be suicidal and that Serbia will yield disputed points.

Serbia has been counting on the active support of Russia in case she went to war and the supposition is that Russia has informed the cabinet that she is not in a position to interfere at this time.

HEAD OF WORKMAN SEVERED FROM BODY

Hugo Haas Loses Life in Peculiar Accident Near Anacostia Bridge—Was Working in Pit Under Car. Raises as Current Is Turned On.

After the plov was properly in place, Haas, according to Hammerdinger, signalled to the motorman of the car, which was just over his head, to "go ahead." Each pit is equipped with a bell, which is supposed to be rung twice to signify "all right," and give the motorman the right to move forward. Haas, Hammerdinger said, gave this signal, and the car moved.

Head Is Severed.

Haas stuck his head up just at that instant, Hammerdinger said, and in a second the car was rolling out into the clear street, and Haas' headless body was at the bottom of the pit. The head was carried several yards by the track which had severed it.

Policeman C. R. Brown, of the Anacostia precinct, arrested Randall and Redman, and they are being held at the Anacostia station house for the action of the coroner's jury.

Haas is said to be married and is reported to have come recently from Philadelphia.

Not a Verdict.

With this as a text, the appeal will be taken. The defense will also hold that the judge erred in not at that time discharging the jury. They will argue to the higher courts that sending the jury back after such a report, with an admonition that they would have to agree, was coercion, and that this denied the accused the right of a free trial guaranteed by the Constitution.

Immediate application was made by the attorneys for the father and son to have them admitted to bail, and Judge Hart fixed the figure at \$35,000 in each case.

First, however, he peremptorily denied the motion of attorneys for the defense to set aside the verdict on the ground that it interfered with the verdict rendered yesterday at the time Sharp was acquitted, when the foreman declared that it "was hopelessly tied up as to Coopers."

"That was not a verdict, today's is," testily snapped Judge Hart. "Your motion is overruled."

The motion to fix bail pending an appeal from the verdict was then made and was not opposed by State's Attorney McCann, who said he had no objection so long as the surety demanded was acceptable to him, and this was an easy matter for the defense.

The verdict was reported soon after court convened this morning. It had been ready ever since last night, but a Judge Hart refused to reconvene court to receive it, the jury were permitted to go to bed and wait until today. But the news of the verdict had leaked some way, as the attorneys for the Coopers seemed to have knowledge of it prior to coming into court.

No Demonstration.

There was absolutely no demonstration, neither was there any feeling manifested when the verdict was returned. The great excitement of the past few months had seemingly died overnight. The courtroom was not half filled when Judge Hart ascended the rostrum and nodded to the sheriff to bring in the jury.

So soon as they had settled themselves comfortably in their seats, Colonel Cooper and his son were escorted into the courtroom.

"Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon your verdict?" asked Judge Hart, after Clerk Haley had polled them.

"We have," declared Foreman Burke. "We find the defendants, Duncan and Robin Cooper, guilty of murder in the second degree, and fix their punishment at twenty years' imprisonment."

Both Coopers sat quietly in their seats. They seemed the most uninterested parties in the room. It was not a hanging matter and they knew that there was little chance of them being compelled to remain in jail until their appeal was decided. There was also a distinct lassitude among the spectators, who sat quietly in their places and there was nothing for the special deputies and policemen to do.

Stands It Bravely.

Mrs. Burch, daughter of Colonel Cooper, seemed to flinch for a second and looked as though she would break down, but quickly regained her self control and sat back in her chair watching her brother intently.

Judge Anderson was on his feet at once and so soon as his motion to set aside the verdict had been denied, nodded to the two prisoners who stood on their feet while Judge Hart pronounced the sentence as fixed by the jury.