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Weather Forecast: Colder Tonight; Monday Fair

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NEW SUSPECT ARRESTED IN SHOOTING CASE NEAR FT. MYER

ion of Nota McKinley, Will Be Held for the Present as a Vagrant.

Mrs. Meagher, Victim in Mysterious Affair, Shows Improvement and Is Expected to Recover.

Edward Meen, alleged boon companion of Nota McKinley, the Washington bricklayer who was arrested in connection with the shooting of Mrs. Constance Meagher, wife of Artilleryman John W. Meagher, of Fort Myer, last Thursday, was arrested early this morning by Sheriff Barbor and Deputy Sheriff Palmer, of Alexandria county, at his "shack" near Fort Myer Heights.

Meen is being held as a vagrant, and the Alexandria county authorities have been able to learn little from him concerning McKinley's movements on the night of the shooting. Meen declares he knows nothing about the affair himself, and was in no way connected with it.

Victim Much Improved. Mrs. Meagher, victim of the shooting, today was reported much improved by physicians at Georgetown University Hospital who are attending her. There is little doubt, they say, that she will recover, unless some unforeseen complication arises. Owing to Mrs. Meagher's rapid improvement, no attempt will be made at this time to remove the bullet which lodged in her spine after passing through her body. The patient is fully conscious, and Commonwealth Attorney Crandall Mackey expects to talk with her about the shooting this afternoon.

Alexandria county officers are searching the woods around the Meagher home on Chestnut street, near the railroad station, in the hope of finding the revolver with which the shooting was done. Search is also being made along the path that was followed by the county officers the night of the shooting in tracing the footprints in the snow from the Meagher home to Fort Myer. This ground has been gone over several times, but the searchers' only reward has been the discovery of four empty shells thrown out along the track, apparently by a patient visitor. The shells believed to match the calibre of the bullet which is now imbedded in Mrs. Meagher's spine.

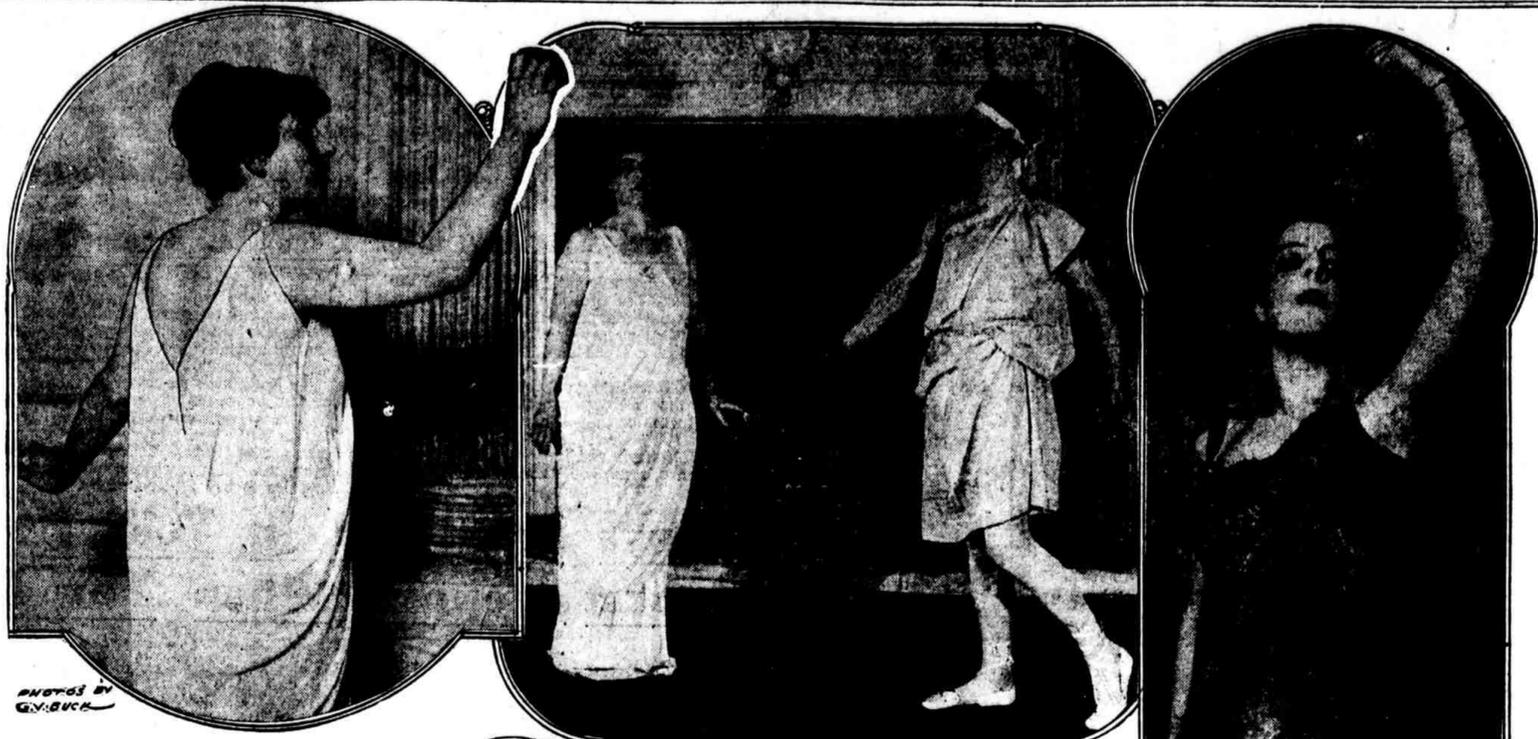
It is largely from the results of measurements of the footprints in the snow that Nota McKinley is being held in the county jail at Fort Myer as a suspect in the case. The county officers say that the measurements match those of McKinley's shoes, and that the shoes show a worn-out place on one toe that would make impressions similar to those discovered in the footprints on the night of the shooting.

To Be Held As Vagrant. Meen was arrested just after he had returned to his shanty from Georgetown. He had walked across the bridge and up the hill at Fort Myer heights, and was hailed by the officers just as he was entering his home. Deputy Sheriff Palmer says Meen did not have a cent in his possession nor any visible means of support, and that he will be held indefinitely as a vagrant. Meen's return home early this morning rewarded a twenty-four-hour vigil that had been kept by the Alexandria county authorities at his place.

Nota McKinley still declares he is innocent, says he knows nothing whatever of the shooting, and was at his home in Georgetown on the night of the shooting. He has no money, and can learn he did not possess a revolver, and now has as yet been reported as missing or stolen.

Meen confirmed the statement that McKinley did not have a gun and that he himself possessed no such weapon. It is largely the circumstances that is securing the county authorities in their efforts to find the weapon which they believe Mrs. Meagher's assailant threw away after the shooting.

Found Dead at Mission. Leaves Letter to Wife. Thomas Holland, thirty-seven years old, of 1423 D street southeast, was found dead of carbolic acid poisoning in his bed in a room at the Central Union Mission this morning.



Miss Margery Davidson.

SOCIETY READY FOR SOIREE ARTISTIQUE

Re-enforced by Foreign Talent, Whole Smart Set Is Working for Event.

Re-enforcing its own talent with the best that Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York can offer in the way of amateur artists, Washington society today allied everything in the way of art and beauty at its command to make the "soiree artistique" at the New Willard, tomorrow and Tuesday nights for the benefit of the families of soldier-artists of France, the greatest affair of its kind ever held here.

Dowager and debutante, even the school girl who will not make her bow for several years to come and who ordinarily is compelled to hide her light beneath the bushel, have been impressed into the service of the charity, and are working tooth and nail to make the affair a success.

Everything presages that by far the most brilliant assemblage that has gathered in Washington for several years will greet the rise of the curtain. Drawing rooms, hotel corridors and lounges buzzed with nothing but chat-mousses this afternoon.

"LID" GOES ON TIGHT IN PRINCE GEORGE

Nothing But Milk, Ice, and Drugs Being Sold in County Today.

HYATTSVILLE, Md., Feb. 7.—The blue laws of Maryland have again been invoked in Prince George county, and with one exception all the places of business in this section in the habit of doing business on Sunday are closed. Following the receipt of a letter from Sheriff George W. Hardy, Deputy Sheriff Thomas H. Garrison notified all the shopkeepers in and around Hyattsville that they would be required to close up on Sunday.

The only exceptions made were for the selling of milk, ice, and drugs. Dr. S. William Ford, who owns the local drug store, and who now has a charge of violating the Sunday law against him, has issued strict orders to his employees not to sell anything except that which is necessary for the support of the community for the city and suburban electric railways, he has been granted permission to keep it open.

Eugene Burgess, who conducts the local newsstand, is paying no attention to the notification from the authorities, and is selling anything he may have on his shelves. Candy stores, bakeries, and lunch rooms in this section are closed.

Pastor and Son Charged With Robbing a House.

EARL ROE, AMMY, N. Y., Feb. 7.—The Earl Roe, N. Y., has been found in \$500 bond by Magistrate Miller on a charge of burglary. A similar charge was made against Clinton Norton, the pastor's son.

Soiree Artistique Will Be Given for Benefit of Families of the Soldier Artists of France



Above—Miss Margery Davidson and Milton Bryan. Below—Miss Schmidt, Miss Dorothy Keene and Miss Consuelo Hawkes.

Society Folks As They Will Appear at the Beaux Arts Ball at the New Willard

FIND ENOUGH POISON TO KILL THOUSAND

Grand Jury to Take Up Porter's Story of Killing Eight Inmates of I. O. O. F. Home.

YONKERS, N. Y., Feb. 7.—Two indictments for murder probably will be asked for as the result of new details of the shocking story of Frederic Moore, porter in the German Old Fellows' Home, who confessed he assisted in killing at least eight aged inmates of the place.

In the "medicine closet" in the home, the police found "sufficient poison to exterminate a thousand persons."

Moore is in the psychopathic ward at Bellevue Hospital in New York. Adam Hanger, superintendent of the home, is in the Westchester county jail at White Plains, with Max Ring, Fritz Reibehel and Franz Schmitt, porters. All are held as material witnesses.

According to Coroner Dunn, there is sufficient testimony and corroborative evidence to show that a system of flagrant graft prevailed and that its continuance depended upon the death of the aged men and women of the institution.

When Frank J. Fuchs, president of the association, learned the facts he declined even to see Hanger and the three porters.

"I cannot understand, I can hardly believe it," he said. "All I can do now is to help the police clear the horrible mystery."

The police found in the raised closet with the poison a score of pamphlets dealing with medical diagnosis and treatment. Other pamphlets contained treatises on poisons—their effects, methods of administration and antidotes.

The passages dealing with morphine, strychnine, cyanide of potassium, strychnine, cyanide of potassium, mercury, ether and chloroform, were heavily printed in text and index.

ASKS U. S. LAW TO HIT FOOD GAMBLERS

New York State Commissioner Requests President Wilson to Recommend Action.

Wheat speculators are held responsible for the present high price of bread in a telegram received today by President Wilson from John J. Dillon, commissioner of foods and markets for New York State, in which he says the people of his State would welcome a Federal law making gambling in foodstuffs illegal.

Telegrams were also received today by Secretary of Agriculture Houston, Secretary of Commerce Redfield, and Attorney General Gregory from Joseph Hartigan, commissioner of weights and measures for New York city, inquiring as to the supply of wheat on hand, the advisability of an embargo on wheat, and the probability of the prosecution of wheat speculators.

A representative of one of the largest baking concerns in the United States has announced that his firm will raise the price of its bread next Saturday unless there is a drop in the price of wheat, in the meantime conditions in this respect are similar in every large city in the country.

Have Sold At Loss. Commissioner Dillon's telegram to President Wilson reads:

"The bakers of this State complain that they have been selling bread at a loss for some time, and unless relief is possible within a few days a material increase in the price of bread is inevitable. Investigation by this department indicates that the principal cause are outside the jurisdiction of this State.

Spanish War Showed United States the Folly Of Being Unprepared

Oscar King Davis Declares Army Was in Woeful Condition and Nation Won Only Because, "Compared With No War at All, It Was a Whale of a War"—Militia Failed.

By OSCAR KING DAVIS.

This article is written with the honest intention of presenting a plain and wholly truthful account of the way in which the United States handled their part of the war with Spain. It is written by one who, after sharing to some extent in the events of the hurried and exciting summer of 1898, and feeling the glamour and thrill that come from participation in the stirring adventure of war, has now made painstaking re-examination of those events in the much calmer and less hectic atmosphere of seventeen years after.

This is a peculiarly fitting occasion for a review of the performances of the "nation in arms" in 1898. The lapse of years has softened our prejudices and given us better perspective and a wider view. At the same time the martial cataclysm that is devastating Europe has sobered the thought of the people and turned it with deep concern to renewed realization of the responsibilities devolving upon us as a result of the war with Spain, and to serious consideration of the question of what provision we have made against whatever emergency may arise from those responsibilities.

SPANISH WAR ONLY A SKIRMISH.

From the point of view of mere slaughter of men and destruction of property our contest with Spain was not much of a war. Compared with the European war of today, or even with the Russo-Japanese conflict of ten years ago, the Spanish war was hardly a respectable before-or-greatest skirmish. But, to paraphrase a borrowed epigram, "compared with no war at all it was a whale of a war."

GERMAN DEFENSE IN WEST WEAKENS

Allies' Offensive Succeeding in Aisne, Champagne, and Flanders Regions.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The war office reports today the success of spirited British and French attacks along the Aisne river and in the Champagne district. These assaults are a part of the new offensive undertaken by the allies, and which has been progressing several days.

The war office also announces that the new British field guns are doing enormous damage to the German fortifications in Belgium, especially near the sea coast.

The French are driving the Germans northward in the Argonne region, where the German defense is perceptibly weakening under the French offensive. Convoys of the enemy have been dispersed by cannonades, outposts driven back, and now the German center is yielding to fierce pressure. Notwithstanding that the French advances in the Champagne district between the Argonne and Rheims are relatively small, they possess great strategic value, and are significant of the weakening of the enemy's endurance.

BERLIN, (via wireless), Feb. 7.—Important developments on the eastern battle front are looked for within the next few days. A success, of the nature which marked the advance of von Kluck's army in front of Soissons, is confidently expected at general staff headquarters. This was intimated following the announcement that the Kaiser had come to the front via Czestochowa and is now at the headquarters of General von Hindenburg.

The forces of General von Hindenburg, heavily reinforced, continue to gain ground slowly, but surely along the eastern front. The claims made by the Russian general staff of sweeping gains against the German forces are squarely controverted by headquarters here. The opposite is declared to be the case.

U. S. PROBING ENGLAND'S USE OF FLAG; MAY MAKE PROTEST

No Formal Action Taken as Yet But Officials Understand That Nation Will Allow No Violation of Rights.

Reported Case Puts New Aspect on Germany's Edict Making "New War Zone." Many Think Act Justified.

Inquiries were set on foot by the State Department today regarding the cabled reports of the use of the American flag by the Cunard liner Lusitania in crossing the Irish Sea yesterday. Action, however, will be withheld until official confirmation of the incident is received, it was declared.

While the Administration is proceeding with great care and with all effort to avoid offense, it may be stated as coming from the highest authority that none of the nations at war will be permitted to disregard the rights of American citizens in the peaceable pursuit of their trade relations with Europe—except in so far as such interference comes within the scope of acts permissible under international law.

The immediate effect of the Lusitania's misuse of the Stars and Stripes was to cause officials of this Government to view with graver concern the proclaimed intention of the German government to include the waters around the British Isles as a "war zone" after February 18.

New Light on Question. Where inclination had been shown by officials to treat the German decree as a "bluff," and where doubts had been expressed as to the accuracy of the charge made by Count von Bernstorff yesterday that "British ships are employing neutral flags, according to secret instructions now known to have been issued by the British government," the Lusitania incident threw a new light on the situation.

Justification for Germany's declaration of a war zone was seen, and it was brought home to officials that vessels of other neutral nations were placed in greater danger by the assumption of the German naval commanders to verify the real character of vessels flying neutral flags before subjecting them to attack.

Official efforts will be made by this Government to gain assurances from Germany that attempts will be made by German naval commanders to verify the real character of vessels flying neutral flags before subjecting them to attack.

The Secretary of State Lansing, in making public the text of the German proclamation declaring waters around Great Britain a zone of war, and directing earlier cabled reports that routes north of Shetland Islands, the eastern part of the North sea and a strip along the Dutch coast, were included in the restricted area, said he had been advised a full explanation of Germany's intentions would be forthcoming. The German foreign office, he said, is sending to the United States, through Ambassador Page, a detailed explanation of the German admiralty's proclamation.

Will Explain Steps. The statement, it is understood, will explain in length just what steps the German government will take in its efforts to avoid injury to American ships bound for England. It is expected, too, that it will point to the Lusitania's use of the American flag as justification for his position.

The Lusitania incident was discussed to the exclusion of almost every other topic by officials today. Acting Secretary of State Lansing maintained silence. John E. Osborne, first assistant secretary of state, declined to discuss the question of whether a breach of international law is involved in the Lusitania captain's action.

TWO MISSISSIPPI TOWNS INUNDATED

Pascagoula River Overflows Its Banks, Making Hundred Families Homeless.

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 7.—Reports were received here today from Merrill and Lueddale, Miss., that the two towns are nearly under water as a result of the Pascagoula river overflowing its banks. More than 100 families in the two places are homeless, and merchants have had to desert their stores and leave their stocks at the mercy of the flood.

The heaviest reports received here indicate that the flood damage will be heavy. The water is still rising rapidly and all indications are that the Pascagoula will make a new high water record before night.