

JURY CHOSEN TO TRY M'COMAS FOR MURDER

SLAYER OF MRS. NOYES HOPING FOR ACQUITTAL

SELF DEFENSE EXPECTED TO BE HIS PLEA

PROSECUTION ADMITS CASE WILL BE HARD TO WIN

Presentation of Evidence Against Accused Will Be Begun This Morning—Surprises Are Probable

JURORS WHO WILL TRY M'COMAS

Gustave M. Schutte, Santa Monica. J. A. Barrows, 236 West Jefferson street. James F. Lord, San Fernando. John W. Flint, 1109 Court street. Zachary Decker, South Pasadena. John N. Brown, Bufile and Santa Barbara avenues. R. D. Holbird, 116 East Fifth street. Charles M. Plummer, Santa Monica. James Quill, Downey. George L. Lansing, Palmdale. Walter Grace, Downey. Thomas J. Hutchison, Downey.

Shortly after 7 o'clock yesterday afternoon the last of the twelve men who are to try W. P. McComas, mining man, man-about-town and former rider of the range, for the murder of Mrs. Charlotte L. Noyes at her home at 671 South Little street early in the morning of February 28 last, was given the oath and then Judge W. P. James adjourned the session until this morning at 10 o'clock when the hearing of evidence for the prosecution will begin.

Despite the fact that Mrs. Noyes was a well dressed woman of the world, divorcee and fond of the race track and whippers, there was but one solitary woman present at yesterday's proceedings to listen to the technical questions put to each talsman as he took his seat at the box.

This solitary female was hidden behind several rows of men and had to stretch her neck to keep an eye on the defendant.

McComas himself arrived after his attorneys at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. He was carefully dressed and carried himself erect and with a debonaire air, showing no signs of levity and no signs of apprehension.

Just that grave, well mannered demeanor that indicated he realized the gravity of the charge against him, but was confident that he would get off scot free.

Hopes to Be Acquitted "I am hopeful that I will be acquitted," he said as he took his seat at the long table before the bench.

When the selection of a jury was begun Deputy District Attorney Fleming and G. Ray Horton were found in their places to prosecute the case for the state.

McComas was represented by Attorneys Earl Rogers and Paul Schenck, one of his attorneys, and State Senator W. W. Dodge of Omaha, an old friend of the defendant.

Although Attorney Rogers and his fellow counsel seem to be confident of victory, Deputy District Attorney Fleming is not so sure that the killing of the woman will not be avenged by the state. It is probable the struggle before the jury will hinge on the throwing of the acid.

Where was the acid bought? Who bought it? Did the woman deluge McComas' face with a flood of tissue-destroying liquid?

Or did the man kill the woman and then to provide a motive for the crime spatter his face and hands with the burning stuff and give the alarm at the Hotel Pepper?

Did Mrs. Noyes receive money from McComas? Or was McComas taking and spending money given him by the beautiful woman who had fallen in love with him and forgotten in his presence her old home at Newburyport, Mass.?

That there are surprises in store, perchance for both sides, there is little doubt. Letters are in the hands of the district attorney's office in regard to the financial relations between McComas and Mrs. Noyes. While these show light on the relations between man and woman they are not admissible as they are hearsay evidence merely.

Did a conviction seem probable? Deputy District Attorney Fleming was asked yesterday. "It is a hard case," he answered, as he passed his hand through his hair in a tired sort of way. "It is as tough a proposition as I ever tackled. We will do our best to get at the truth. That is all we can do."

Mining Engineer Who Killed Woman and Is on Trial in Superior Court



W. P. McCOMAS

AUTOPSY SHOWS CEREMONY MAY ONE WAS FEMALE STILL BE DELAYED

BODY FROM HOLE WHICH HELD COUNT BONI WOULD MAKE JENNIE OLSEN FUSS IS FEARED

Mrs. Guinness Supposed to Have Murdered Three in One Night. Stomachs Will Be Examined

LAPORTE, Ind., May 18.—The autopsy held today on the remains of the seven unidentified bodies exhumed from Mrs. Bella Guinness' private burial ground was completed this evening and revealed the fact that one of the seven was a female. This has aroused new interest in the story of Emil Greening of Oklahoma, who was employed by Mrs. Guinness in the fall of 1904.

Greening worked for Mrs. Guinness at the time that Jennie Olsen disappeared, and his story was to the effect that on a Friday in September a man and woman came to the house, and that night Mrs. Guinness asked Greening to sleep in the barn, as the couple, who she said were the professor and his wife from the Los Angeles college which Jennie was attending, would spend the night at the house and would require Greening's room.

In the morning Greening saw nothing of Jennie, nor the man and woman, and was informed by Mrs. Guinness that they left on an early train, taking Jennie along.

This body, which is now declared to be that of a woman, was taken from the same hole as was that of Jennie Olsen, and in that hole were also the bodies of Ole Budsberg of Iola, Wis., and the remains of a male person. All the bodies were dismembered, but the trunks of the four were such that it was possible to identify the bodies of Jennie Olsen and Budsberg, and it was also made possible by today's autopsies to determine that one of the other two was a female.

Killed Three at Once The theory now advanced is that Mrs. Guinness on the same night that Greening slept in the barn may have murdered not only Jennie Olsen, but also the man and woman.

To Coroner Mack, Sheriff Smutzer and Prosecutor Smith this seems almost inconceivable, but, considered in the light of recent developments, nothing appears impossible for this arch-murderer. The stomachs of the four victims in this hole have been removed and the contents will be analyzed for poison.

The disappearance of Jennie Olsen, as well as the couple, occurred in September, 1906, while Budsberg was disposed of in May, 1907.

The mystery surrounding the watch found on the person of Ray Lamphere when he was arrested was cleared today when J. G. Ramden of Manfred, N. D., who came here yesterday to investigate the disappearance of his half-brother, Joe Moe of Elbow Lake, Minn., identified the timepiece as the one owned by his brother when he left home.

The numbers of the watch corresponded with the numbers in Mr. Moe's possession. Lamphere said Mrs. Guinness gave him the watch.

The bodies of the seven unidentified dead will be buried tomorrow in the potter's field. Christian service will be conducted over them and a small stone will be erected with an inscription telling sense responsible for this movement.

DYNAMITE IS USED BY STRIKE SYMPATHIZERS

TWO CARS ARE PARTIALLY WRECKED

PASSENGERS IN PANIC RUSH FOR EXITS

Attempt of State Board of Arbitration to Bring About Peace in Cleveland Results in Failure

CLEVELAND, O., May 18.—A Broadway street car was partially destroyed by a dynamite torpedo tonight while twenty-five passengers were in the car, but no one was seriously hurt. A panic followed and a mad rush for the exits was made.

A Madison street car was also damaged by an explosion of powder on the track. The floor of the car was broken through and one woman was severely injured.

The first attempt by the members of the state board of arbitration today to bring about peace between the municipal traction company and the striking employees resulted in failure. President Dupont agreed to arbitrate some points but would not concede the one thing for which the men stand determinedly.

"In no case will I arbitrate the reinstatement of the men at the expense of those now employed," he said. "I shall stick for the seniority of runs, those now working getting the preference. President Dupont said he would arbitrate no point until the lawlessness had ceased.

Many Lawless Acts Many acts of lawlessness were committed in connection with the street car strike between midnight and dawn today. Trolley wires were cut, crews were driven from their cars, and in some instances non-union men were attacked by strike sympathizers.

The Municipal Traction company announced this morning that no further attempt would be made to operate cars in Lakewood until the authorities guaranteed protection for its men and cars. Because of alleged discrimination against Lakewood men by the traction company in the matter of fare, it is claimed that the authorities of the town make no effort to suppress lawless acts committed by strike sympathizers.

After a conference that continued almost throughout the night between officers, headed by President Mahon of the street car men's union, and members, Bishop and Owen of the state arbitration board, it was stated unofficially that formal proposition of arbitration would be made to President Dupont of the traction company by the arbitration board on behalf of the men.

There was a marked increase in the number of cars operated by the company today. Each car carried a policeman in the motorman's vestibule.

ARKANSAS LEGISLATURE IS FORCED TO GO HOME

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 18.—There was no quorum this afternoon when both branches of the legislature met. The senators met as individuals and passed resolutions that all return home, thus putting an end to the call of Allen Habbler.

The house wrangled without a quorum being present and will have to follow the action of the senate. So far Governor Findall and George W. Donaghy, Democratic nominee for governor, control the situation.

THE NEWS SUMMARY

FORECAST For Los Angeles and vicinity: Fair Tuesday; light northeast winds, changing to fresh west. Maximum temperature yesterday, 77 degrees; minimum, 52 degrees.

LOCAL Daring purse snatcher robs woman on crowded street. Man found unconscious in lot proves a mystery to physicians and police. Fast boosters promised fans at Naud Junction tonight. Lincoln-Roosevelt leaguers return from convention and give views on work accomplished. Self-defense plea of slayer of Mrs. Noyes.

School board decides to call bond election. Needs money for new buildings. Elevator men ask heavy damages of street car company. Alabama to make trans-Pacific race an annual event.

FOREIGN Japanese conservatives elect large majority to diet, according to complete returns. Bubonic plague is believed to be spreading in Venezuela. China withdraws her charges against France. Rebellion in China is assuming more serious proportions.

EASTERN Mae C. Wood gives some spicy evidence in her suit against Senator T. C. Platt. Finding of female body adds more horror and mystery to unfathomed Guinness case.

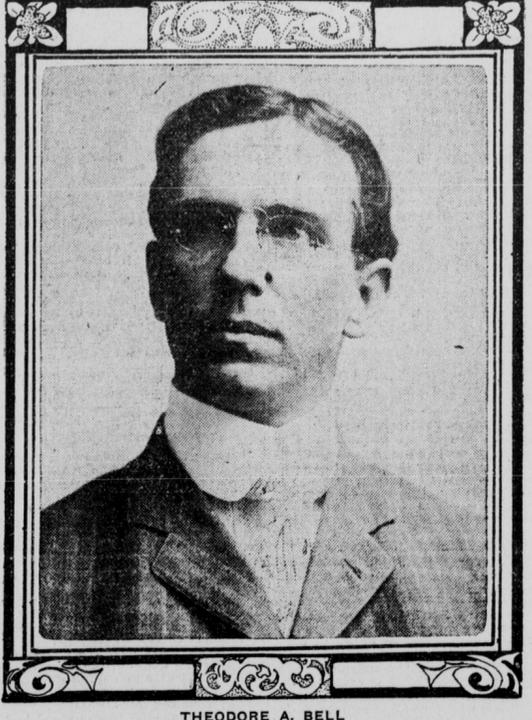
Report from Rome that Mme. Gould sought to have her marriage to Count Boni annulled by the Vatican are shortly.

CHINA WITHDRAWS PREVIOUS CHARGES AGAINST FRANCE

PEKING, May 18.—M. Bapst, the French minister to China, has received a dispatch from a Chinese source withdrawing the allegations made on the strength of a report from Viceroy Hsi-Liang that the Honking railroad, as well as certain French officers, was guilty of complicity in the recent revolutionary outbreaks in Yun Nan province. It is declared further that the government of Indo-China was in no sense responsible for this movement.

M'NAB FORCES GIVE UP: BELL CONTROLS

New Leader of California Democracy Who Wears No Yoke of Corporation



THEODORE A. BELL

FORGERY CHARGE AGAINST LAWYER SANDERS INSANE, DECLARES WIFE

ATTORNEY WILFRED M. PECK ACCUSED PHYSICIAN USER OF DRUGS

Complaint Issued Against Well Known Member of the Bar, Who is Taken to Santa Ana for Trial

Charged with issuing a fictitious check for \$300, Attorney Wilfred M. Peck, of the law firm of Peck & Palmer, was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Joe Sepulveda yesterday afternoon and last night was taken to Santa Ana, where the complaint was issued and where he will be arraigned today.

The warrant was brought to Los Angeles by Deputy Sheriff Wilson of Santa Ana. The arrest was made in Peck's offices, room 609 Citizens' National Bank building.

According to information received from Santa Ana last night, Peck six weeks ago cashed a check made payable to himself and signed with the name of Sam C. Raymond. The check was drawn on the Market and Produce bank of Los Angeles, and was cashed at the First National bank of Santa Ana.

Peck is said to have personally cashed the check and at the time to have explained to Cashier A. J. Crookshank that the check had been given him by a client in payment of a fee. Crookshank was acquainted with Peck and had no hesitancy in cashing the check.

A few days later the paper was returned to the bank with a notification that no such person as Sam C. Raymond had an account there.

Peck was communicated with, and is said to have agreed to make good the amount of the check, but so far had failed to do so. Every effort was made to settle the affair quietly, but yesterday it was decided to place the matter in the hands of the Pinkerton detectives, and it was at their suggestion the warrant was secured.

Attorney Peck formerly was well known as a practitioner at the bar in Riverside county, where he practiced several years. He removed to this city about three years ago and gained great prominence as the defendant of E. L. Hazard, who was said to have sent his son and the two young Rowland sisters north on the ill-fated Valencia of the county. All three were drowned. Hazard later was released. Attorney Peck also has figured in several other well known criminal trials in this county.

He refused to discuss the case after being arrested, beyond saying everything would be settled satisfactorily.

KIDNAPS HER CHILDREN BY WAY OF RETALIATION

SAN DIEGO, May 18.—Because Theresa Salgado left his abode and refused to live with him, Surappa Sylvania last night, it is alleged, stole her 15-year-old baby and 3-year-old child and took them to the home of Juanita Garcia in Old Town.

The Salgado woman was greatly excited when she went to the police station this morning and begged the police to restore her children to her. It was necessary for Sergeant McCarty to send the patrol wagon to bring the children back. An officer accompanied the mother to the Garcia home to get the children.

Meanwhile Sylvania was arrested on a charge of child-stealing and if the woman will prosecute he probably will serve a term.

DEMOCRATS AT FRESNO SPURN YOKE OF S. P.

RAILROAD COHORTS ARE COMPLETELY ROUTED

HARPER WITHDRAWS FROM RACE FOR DELEGATE

Probable Ticket Includes Theodore A. Bell, R. M. Fitzgerald, Edward Bush and Nathan Cole—Strong Opposition

BY W. R. WILLIAMS Special to The Herald.

FRESNO, May 18.—Theodore A. Bell is dominating the Democracy of California just as Bryan is dominating the Democracy of the nation, and in the state convention here today was in absolute control.

His control means uncompromising declaration against corporate domination and machine politics, an instructed delegation to Denver and a new state organization secure from manipulation from either Gavin McNab or corporate influence. It was an inspiring personal victory for the young advocate of political cleanliness.

The defeat of Gavin McNab, the San Francisco "boss," who threatened the night before to drive Bell from the convention, proved to be utter rout. McNab's last stand was with the Los Angeles "push" delegation, with Mayor Harper as his candidate for chairman of the convention.

At noon McNab threw up the sponge and Harper declared himself out of the race.

McNab Plays Last Card When conference failed to move Bell from his support of Senator Sanford of Ukiah for chairman, McNab played his last card by threatening to drive Bell out of the convention and keep him off the list of delegates at large. He was then led to believe by Nathan Cole, Mayor Harper and others, it is said, that the southern Democracy would be a practical unit behind the mayor.

At midnight he had full confidence or at least asserted it, but when the Eighth congressional district, embracing all Southern California except Los Angeles county, met and voted to deliver its solid vote, seventy-eight, to Sanford, and when the same votes were pledged to J. H. West of Needles as a candidate for delegate at large and against Harper or Cole, McNab saw the end and quit.

He found additional reason in the delegates from the interior who arrived this morning. Nearly all came loaded with support for Bell and Sanford, and they could not be induced to join the Harper forces.

Los Angeles Revolts One of the biggest causes of the rout were the Los Angeles delegates themselves. When it became certain that Harper and Cole were helping McNab hold his grip on the state, there was a revolt.

Not only the delegates elected by the Democratic party but the other delegates revolted. Martin Betkouski and County Chairman Schwamm pleaded to get Harper out of candidacy so long as McNab was his supporter.

Betkouski's plea was supported against him on the ground that no alliance of any kind with McNab was tolerable. While this was going on among the delegates, Judge A. M. Stephens was elected on Democratic league ticket in the Seventy-fifth district, was organizing and pleading with the delegates to elect Harper. Stephens defeated "Ed" Morris.

By strange contrast, Morris reached Fresno this morning, and learning the state of things went to work vigorously for Bell. He held that the delegation from Los Angeles could not ally itself with any other than Bell. His work told. Shortly before noon it was found that twenty-three of the Los Angeles delegates were in support of Bell and McNab-Harper program. But even if they had, the country districts were so overwhelmingly for Bell and his anti-Southern Pacific that the battle was ended.

When making her affidavit of insanity yesterday Mrs. Sanders, who is staying with wealthy friends in the northwest section of the city, declared her husband recently had been in the habit of drawing checks on banks where he had no account and often giving these checks to persons that he did not know at all.

"He has been in the habit of taking all kinds of drugs, and I believe they have unsettled his mind," she said. "What kind of drugs did he use?" she was asked. "Oh," she answered, with a pitiful flutter of her hands, "all kinds."

"Did he use morphine or cocaine or any of the drugs that are known to have a degenerating influence on the mind?" "He used cocaine," she said with a sob. "I am told that he used cocaine constantly. I do not believe that he was conscious of what he had been doing in his business relations."

Sanders has been in trouble before, having been charged with a peculiar business transaction by Mrs. Alice Hudson of Santa Monica. The charge never was pressed and finally was dismissed.

HUSBAND AND FATHER CHARGED WITH MURDER

Schoolmaster Accused of Killing Girl to Be Rid of Her Attention. Crime Was a Brutal One

By Associated Press. IOLA, Kas., May 18.—Samuel Whitlow, a schoolmaster, married and the father of a family, was placed on trial here today for the murder, September 27 last, of Miss May Sapp, a daughter of J. N. Sapp, a rich retired farmer of 2500, Kas., near here.

The murder of Miss Sapp was one of the most brutal in the history of Kansas crimes. The girl's throat was cut from ear to ear with a razor. The state charges that Whitlow met Miss Sapp by appointment and murdered her to end attentions which the girl had forced upon him.