

MITCHELL SAYS DUTY WAS DONE

DECLARES HE KNEW THAYER HAD WRONGED SISTER

CERTAIN HE WAS CAUSE OF HER LEAVING DOOR OF HOPE

Shoots Man Without Indulging in Any Preliminaries—Officers Search Diligently for Missing Young Woman

"I only did the duty of a brother when I shot Cecil Thayer," said William Clinton Mitchell on being questioned yesterday as to his motive for killing the messenger boy who had been paying attention to his sister, Ethel Mitchell, for more than two years.

Mitchell would not make any statements as to his reasons for suspecting Thayer, but said he knew it was Thayer who had wronged her and was the cause of her leaving the Door of Hope, 2600 South Main street, where she was placed June 22 by her parents in order to get her where she might not communicate with her suitor.

The prisoner displayed no signs of remorse, but, on the contrary, seemed to think he had done his full duty. Ethel Mitchell and her two companions, who escaped from the Door of Hope Friday night, have not yet been located by the officers detailed to make the search.

Mitchell is 24 years of age and is the main support of his parents, with whom he resides at 301 Glass street. He came here recently from Arizona, where he was employed as a miner and cattle herder. He has been employed by the Baker iron works in this city as tool sharpener. His father suffers from asthma and is unable to work.

Attorney Earl Rogers will defend the prisoner. When Mitchell heard Friday night that his sister and her companions were missing from the Door of Hope he quietly took his revolver and, saying nothing, left the city and went directly to the home of George Coulter, 2123 East Fourth street, and asked for Thayer. Being informed that Coulter and Thayer had gone out to Hollenbeck park, Mitchell left the place, but met the two men he sought in front of 1924 East Fourth street.

His only preliminary was to ask "Is your name Cecil Thayer?" and being answered in the affirmative he drew his revolver and shot Thayer through the heart, subsequently emptying his weapon into the fallen body.

When Thayer began going with Ethel Mitchell he was 16 years of age and the girl was 14. Several officers ventured the suggestion yesterday that it was a case of childish love, that Thayer really cared for the girl and would have married her had her parents consented. Just what grounds young Mitchell had for suspecting anything to the contrary have not yet been learned. The location of the missing girl and her testimony may throw light on this obscure point.

Just how the officers are interested in ascertaining whether Mitchell really knew anything to justify him in his act, or whether he was brooding over a supposed wrong and had no real reason for suspecting Thayer.

REPORT GIVES DATA OF CRIMINAL TRIALS

COMPARES RECORD AND THAT OF SAN FRANCISCO

Los Angeles County, in Proportion to Population, Has Larger Percentage of Felony Charges and Convictions

According to the biennial report of the attorney general for the two years ended June 30 last, received yesterday, district attorneys throughout the state have brought charges during that time against 423 persons. Of these 2246 were sentenced to state institutions, 328 were dismissed and 371 were acquitted.

Speaking of the report, District Attorney J. D. Fredericks said: "The comparison of the county's work with that of San Francisco city and county is interesting. In the past two years there were 844 felony charges filed in this county, compared with 664 in San Francisco, showing that 27 per cent more cases in proportion to population were filed here than there.

"This county has 527 convictions to San Francisco's 402. The northern county, however, leads in the number of acquittals, having 75 to our 49. They are welcome to the honor.

"We have sent 415 persons to penal institutions, as compared with San Francisco's 208, nearly 40 per cent more being punished in Los Angeles than in San Francisco. Those fined and probated or otherwise disposed of are about the same in each jurisdiction."

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SHOWS NO EVIDENCE OF REMORSE FOR DEED

JUDGES IN CONTEST WITH STENOGRAPHERS

Secret Meeting of Judiciary Proves Fruitless, but Two Members of Bench Take Independent Action



WILLIAM CLINTON MITCHELL

It developed today that the principal purpose of the secret meeting held by the nine judges of the superior court in the chambers of Presiding Judge James Thursday was to consider the best method of expediting the hearing of cases where the services of stenographers are required. A great deal of complaint has resulted from delays in securing stenographers when wanted, in the frequent changing of men during the trial of a case, making it difficult to refer to testimony already rendered, and in the perfection of transcripts.

For a number of years the firm of Longley, Keith, Bagley & Co. has supplied stenographers to do the bulk of work in the superior court. Departments one, five and seven have their own reporters. The firm supplies the other six departments, and, it is claimed, because of its long connection with the courts and the political influence of some of its members, had gained a firm hold.

This hold was broken yesterday. While it was hoped that the judges would act unanimously in the secret meeting Thursday and declare a separation as between the courts and the Longley firm, all those present could not be persuaded to view the matter in the same light.

The custom among the judges of declaring any proposition less unless agreed to unanimously prevailed Thursday. Two judges, however, acted independently yesterday. These were Judges W. P. James and Charles Monroe. The former appointed N. H. Peterson as stenographer in department four at the same time notifying A. E. Bagley, a member of the Longley firm, that his services in the department were ended. Judge Monroe appointed W. N. Tivnan, both Peterson and Tivnan have been employed by the Longley firm for some time, and, to prove that the break between these two departments and the firm is a clean one, it was demanded of each of the men before his appointment was announced that he leave the firm and give his entire services to court work.

While Judge Houser of department three also took independent action, he was not as insistent that the firm's representation in his court should end. He gave instructions, however, to M. H. Conlee, employed by the Longley firm, to establish an office in the court house building where he can be reached at any time.

It is expected that Judge Frank B. Willis, when he takes his seat in department one Monday, will reappoint B. N. Smith as reporter in that department.

Divorce Suits Filed

The following suits for divorce were filed in the superior court yesterday: Ada E. Reeves against Frederick J. Reeves; Janie Sikes against Berry W. Sikes; Lena E. Jones against Edward George Jones; Anita V. Rivera against Pedro Rivera; and Emma Gordon against George Gordon.

Gives Worthless Check

The man who gave his name as H. G. Gee, arrested Thursday while trying to cash a supposed worthless draft, was arrested before Justice Selph yesterday and pleaded not guilty. He refused to tell the court his correct name. Preliminary examination was set for January 22 at 10 o'clock.

AUDITOR DOW PREPARES TO FIGHT AUTO CHARGES

H. G. Dow, county auditor, is making preparations to meet the legal proceedings instituted by the Los Angeles Motor Car company, which seeks to compel the county official to pay the bill for Coroner Hartwell's automobile and "fixings."

Auditor Dow was served with an order yesterday to appear before Judge Monroe at 2 o'clock, January 8, to show cause why he should not pay the bill. Pending that date he will, it is said, investigate the cost of automobiles and attachments.

The auditor first held up the bill because it included coats, caps, goggles, etc. Later he determined not to pay any part of the amount, falling to understand why the coroner should have an automobile.

BROADWAY DEPARTMENT TO HOLD FIRE SALVAGE SALE

The fire in the Van Nuys block on Christmas eve was more disastrous to the Broadway department store than was at first supposed. Its insurance losses have been adjusted, and the figures are set at \$2,500. The terms of the insurance company were promptly accepted by Arthur Letts. The reserve stock in various departments represented there sustained losses of shoes, \$21,100; on house furnishings, hardware, enamelware, baskets, trunks, bags, woodenware, etc., \$22,500 on beds and mattresses, \$3200; on soap and washing powder, \$3000; and on domestics, \$2200.

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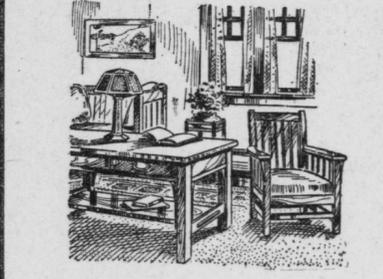
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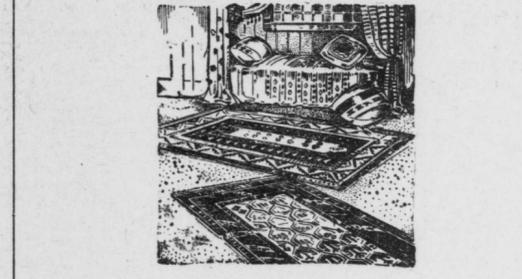
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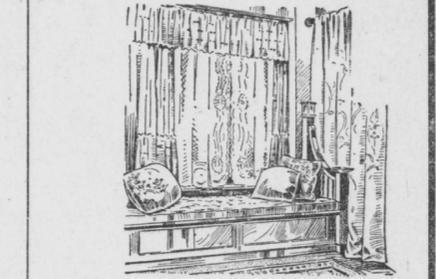
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- and all grades in between from smallest cost to most expensive;
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- we send buyers and experts East every season for newest goods and latest ideas;
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HELL NO LONGER REGARDED IN LITERAL SENSE

Thinking People Cannot Be Induced to Regard Blind Faith as a Virtue, Says Boston Writer

The prophecy of Emerson that the religion of the future must necessarily be a scientific one has found its fulfillment with a rapidity he himself perhaps hardly contemplated. The dogmas which confronted him in the early days of his ministry in Boston have been supplanted one after another by scientific thinking. Except in an ever narrowing theological circle, no one ever dreams of regarding the devil as a person with horns and a tail, capable of appearing at one moment to St. Anthony as a beautiful woman and the next to St. Dunstan in propria persona. Nor does any one longer regard hell as a sulphurous and subterranean cavern, fitted with ovens and caldrons, as in the pictures of the otherwise gentlemanly Brother Angelo. Even on the very question which caused Emerson to sever his connection with the Unitarian church in Boston, the world is beginning to waver. The fact is that the time has gone when thinking people can any longer be induced to regard faith as the virtue of believing something you do not understand.

"The Excursion," wrote of One in whom persuasion and belief had ripened into faith, and faith become a passionate intuition. People often talk of Christian Science as if it were a sort of mammoth dispensary, whereas the truth probably is that the proportion of people coming to Christian Science simply for physical healing is decreasing every day. What actually is attracting peo-

ple to Christian Science is the sight of an ever-increasing army of men and women experiencing in their ordinary every-day lives a peace, joy and contentment, with a corresponding absence of fear, worry and excitement, which is impossible to attribute to anything less fundamental than a profound mental revolution.

This revolution has been achieved by shifting their mental basis from a belief in a physical to a belief in spiritual causation, and as science in the words of Professor Huxley, "consists of the answers which mankind has been able to give to inquiry, What I know that change in their health which so astonishes the doctors, and in their lives which so amazes the clergy, is the scientific reply which they are making to the questions, What do we know, through the help of this new understanding of God, that was hidden from us before? They are beginning to understand what law really is, and so to comprehend for the first time that wonderful saying of the psalmist, "Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them."

But faith, the world is beginning to realize, has a more scientific basis than this, and that basis has been perfectly expressed by Mrs. Eddy, in a passage of Science and Health: "It is a chrysalis state of human thought, in which spiritual evidence, contradicting the testimony of material sense, begins to appear, and Truth, the ever-present, is becoming understood." Just as our knowledge of the multiplication table gives us faith in our ability to work out the problems of higher mathematics, so the Christian Scientists' perception of spiritual causation constitutes his faith in his ability to gain an understanding of Divine Principle through which he whom Mrs. Eddy has described as "the most scientific man that ever trod the globe," demonstrated by means of the miracle or object lesson the omnipotence of divine law.

The ordinary idea of law is something which can be broken with varying degrees of impunity; even the unalterable laws of the Medes and the Persians were abrogated by the simple process of a fresh enactment. Law, however, defined in the terms of science, is simply the uniform recurrence of phenomena in which no variation has been observed, and no definition could accord better with the words in which

POLICE STATION CROWDED BY NEW YEAR'S REVELERS

More than fifty New Year's revelers paid the penalty of overindulgence in liquid cheer on the first by being given a free ride to the police station, where they tried to explain to the police officials just how it happened. It was a very sober bunch that meekly filed out of the jail yesterday morning, each having taken the pledge never to touch another drop.

BRACKETT PICTURE SHOW WILL BANISH POST-HOLIDAY GROUCH

THE BRACKETT moving picture show in Spring street, for which The Herald offers daily free passes, is proving one of the most attractive of the downtown entertainments. The attendance has shown that it is appreciated and with the increasing patronage Mr. Brackett is steadily improving the bill. The pictures now offered include travel, educational and adventure features, making up a bill which, in its entirety never has been excelled in the city. There are plenty of humorous numbers and if you feel the symptoms of a post-holiday grouch there is no better way to ward it off than to drop into the Brackett theater for an hour. It takes a little less than an hour to see the show, but there are some numbers that you may want to see more than once. All you have to do is clip the coupon.

The men taken in were from every station in life and every calling and profession. They were not the ordinary bunch of drunks, who pay their perfunctory respects to the police station.

Free Admission

(Good Only on Date of Issue.)
THIS coupon entitles the bearer to one Free Admission to the famous Brackett Show at 423 South Spring street, between the hours 12 o'clock noon and 6 o'clock p. m. It presented no later than the date at the bottom of this coupon. The BRACKETT SHOWS are guaranteed to The Herald in writing by Mr. Brackett to be HIGH CLASS, CLEAN AND EDUCATIONAL in character. This is in keeping with The Herald policy wherein nothing morbid, no horrors or monstrosities may be presented to its readers. (Charges of Los Angeles Herald.) A very ordinance prohibits children less than fourteen years old from entering any place of amusement unless accompanied by an older person.
Sunday, January 3, 1909.