

HUNTERS SAVE HER FROM DEATH

Aged Woman Narrowly Escapes Flames in Marin.

Passers-by Discover House on Fire and Rush to the Rescue.

Special Dispatch to The Call.
SAN RAFAEL, Nov. 30.—But for the timely assistance and the heroic efforts of Deputy County Clerk Frank Holland and City Attorney Joseph K. Hawkins, Mrs. W. P. Gray might have lost her life yesterday in a fire while the residence of O. H. Fernback, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Irwin street, was burning.

Ellery's Band Returns.

With eight additional musicians just arrived from the old country, Ellery's Royal Italian Band will begin a return engagement at the Alhambra next Sunday night, December 6. The repertoire of the band will embrace a great variety of styles of music and some fine special nights are being arranged. The opening night will be devoted mainly to compositions of the modern Italian composers, a magnificent selection from Puccini's "La Tosca," being one of the features. On Wednesday night a special Wagner programme will be given, when selections from "Die Walkure," "Tannhauser," etc., will be given. Another night will be devoted to French composers and each night during the engagement there will be special features, and soloists will appear at every concert. The Saturday night programme will be a popular "rag-time" smoker, and the numbers will include all the popular hits, such as "Prince of Pilsen," "King Dodo," "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," etc. This will be the first smoking concert given in this city, although in London they are quite the fad on Saturday night. The prices for this engagement will be popular and good reserved seats can be had as low as 25 cents. Matinees will be given on Saturday and Sunday. The sale of seats opens Wednesday at Sherman, Clay & Co's.

Californians in New York.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The following Californians are registered here: From San Francisco—C. W. Pike, at the Hoffman; W. A. Richardson, at the Navarre; W. J. Cox, at the Grand Union; J. C. Ferguson, at the Manhattan; L. C. Inen, at the Herald Square; M. J. Kaufman, at the Imperial; F. Kreiger, at the Union Square; K. M. Lundberg, at the Manhattan; L. H. Morse and wife, at the Holland; D. N. Moses, at the Herald Square; J. S. Potter and wife, at the Normandie; J. Powning, at the Holland House; D. P. Robertson, at the Hotel York; J. F. Seymour, M. Sommer, J. Steinberger, at the Imperial.

Santa Clara—L. L. Morse, at the Imperial.
Los Angeles—Mansie H. Reeves, at the Astor; W. M. Vandyke and wife, at the Navarre.

LANCASTER, Pa., Nov. 30.—P. Eckhart, slaymaker of this city and C. C. Kaufman of Columbia were today appointed receivers for the Susquehanna Iron and Steel Company, upon an application made some time ago by John Q. Denny of Columbia.

FARMERS SWING TRADE BALANCE

Secretary Wilson's Report Is Flattering to Producers.

Success Is Promised in Reclaiming Arid Lands.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—The annual report of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has been submitted to the President. Secretary Wilson reviews at length the production and exports of agricultural products. The increase of exports of farm products for the half-century ended in 1901 was from \$147,000,000 to \$552,000,000. The exports of farm products for the closing decade of the last century was more than \$700,000,000 and for 1903 more than \$878,000,000, an amount second only to that of 1901.

Discussing the balance of trade, the Secretary shows that the favorable balance to the credit of the country is due entirely to the farmers. The balance of trade in favor of farm products during the last fourteen years, no year excepted, aggregated \$4,806,000,000. In products other than of the farm during the same period the balance of trade was adverse to this country to the extent of \$885,000,000.

Secretary Wilson reports a great improvement of the best sugar industry. In 1896 19,260 tons of sugar were made and a year ago 220,000 tons. Careful estimates put the present crop at about 260,000 tons.

Examinations and reports dealing with technical problems in the forest reserves have been made for reserves in Utah; California, Oregon and New Mexico. Representatives of the bureau have, during the past summer, examined over 120,000 acres, proposed as forest reserves in the Rocky Mountains and Pacific Coast States.

During the past year the Bureau of Soils has been engaged in making alkaline reclamation demonstrations in the arid West. Referring to an extensive experiment located near Salt Lake, where an area of 75,000 acres is unproductive because of an excess of alkali, a tract of forty acres was secured and the work of reclamation in co-operation with the Utah experiment station was undertaken. At the beginning this tract was found to contain more than 2 1/2 per cent of salt, or a total of 650 tons in four feet of soil. Two-thirds of this quantity has now been removed by the simple method of under drainage and flooding. It is believed that the entire area will be sufficiently sweetened by the end of the present season to permit growing a crop.

Central.

The Central Theater's massive spectacular melodrama, "The Counterfeiters," which thrilled and fascinated an immense audience last night, gives full money value in stirring plot, sensational incidents and startling climaxes. At the conclusion of the third act enthusiasm ran riot and the actors were called before the curtain several times and given a thunderous ovation. The piece is replete with surprises, but the most amazing spectacle is realized in the raid on the counterfeiters' den in an abandoned tunnel.

Alcazar.

The comedy drama, "A Poor Relation," commenced its second and closing week at the Alcazar Theater last night to a crowded house.

California.

"At the Old Cross Roads" is still entertaining large audiences at the California.

ROME, Nov. 30.—The Pope today received in private audience Mar. Robert Seton of Newark, N. J., Titular Archbishop of Heliopolis.

GRAND RAPIDS OFFICIALS MAKE MERE CHATTERS OF PUBLIC PRIVILEGES

Former City Attorney Salsbury Gives an Astonishing Confession, Asserting That in the Recent Water Deal Valuable Rights Were to Be Bartered Away for a Song—He Implicates Ex-Mayor Perry and Many Aldermen

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Nov. 30.—The confession of ex-City Attorney Lant K. Salsbury regarding the notorious water scandal in this city was given for the first time today in court at the preliminary examination of State Senator David Burns, and it has created a tremendous sensation on account of the number of prominent persons it implicates. In addition to the seventeen officials and former officials who were arrested on bribery charges ten days ago, never once did Salsbury have to refer to notes, and he rendered his testimony readily, giving names, dates and occurrences as though the alleged events happened only last week instead of three years ago. The examination of Senator Burns was completely lost to view in the story of the conspiracy as related by Salsbury.

The persons implicated by Salsbury during his testimony against State Senator Burns and the amounts he alleged they received are as follows: George R. Perry, ex-Mayor, \$13,725; J. Clark Sproal, manager of the Grand Rapids Democrat, \$3,333; R. A. Cameron, New York, \$500; State Senator David E. Burns, \$200; Alderman McCool, \$500; Alderman Ellen, \$350; Alderman Depeagler, \$350; Alderman Muir, \$500; Alderman Kinney, \$350; Alderman Donovan, \$500; Alderman Phillips, \$1000; Alderman Johnson, \$350 and \$400; Alderman Stonehouse, \$350; Alderman Lozier, \$500; Alderman Shriver, \$350; Alderman Mol, \$350; Alderman Ghysels, \$350; Alderman Hodges, \$500; Alderman Slocum, \$500; Cory E. Bissell, \$500; J. Russell Thomson, reporter on Evening Press, \$500; Isaac Lamoreaux, ex-City Clerk, \$1500; State Representative Van Zoren, \$550; State Representative Vandercreek, \$60; E. D. Conger, manager Grand Rapids Herald, \$10,000; Thomas E. McGarry, a prominent attorney now in Florida, \$7500; C. S. Burch, manager of the Evening Press, \$5000.

MANY DEALS PENDING.

He also implicated in the deal S. E. Waters, ex-president of the Board of Public Works; Dr. Nilke Devries, ex-city physician; George Ellis, a local broker; Samuel M. Lemon, collector of internal revenue, and William H. Anderson, president of the Fourth National Bank.

Six separate water conspiracy deals were on in Grand Rapids at once, according to Salsbury's sworn testimony, each gigantic in its size, and all calling for the use of a boodle fund. In addition to the Henry Taylor \$100,000 Lake Michigan water deal, he testified that there were five other strings out, from each one of which thousands of dollars were hanging. Every one of these six sets of men who offered to advance a corruption fund were dupes, so Salsbury says, of himself, Perry, McGarry and Sproal.

Pat Flynn of New York he names as one of those at the head of one conspiracy. The men interested in the Hydraulic Water Company are named as the backers of another deal in Chicago. Then there was a Milwaukee deal, in which he said Contractor Loss of Chicago was interested; the Omaha deal, in which the Barton millionaires are said to have put up \$50,000, and the Gillespie deal. On top of all these Salsbury implicates Revenue Collector Samuel Lemon with a deal, charging Lemon with coming to him with a proposition to buy the Council after having bought the Mayor for \$10,000. D. N. Crow of Grand Rapids and Moses Crow of New York are also mentioned in connection with one of the deals.

Salsbury testified that he offered Burns \$200 in addition to \$100 which



MICHIGAN STATE SENATOR WHO FIGURES PROMINENTLY IN A SENSATIONAL BOODLING CASE.

and came to his office saying that he had paid the Mayor \$10,000 and wanted to know how much it would take to get the Council. Salsbury added:

I told him that it would take \$200,000. He wanted me to come down, but I told him that he and Anderson wanted \$100,000 without doing anything.

Salsbury also implicated Dudley E. Waters, a member of the Board of Public Works; Eugene D. Conger, manager of the Grand Rapids Herald, and J. R. Thomson, municipal reporter of the Evening Press. He said that he sounded Waters and that Waters told him he had enough money, but would not stand in the way of the water deal, either voting favorably or staying away. Salsbury testified:

Later I learned that he had negotiated with the New York parties directly. One night after a Council meeting Thomson came to me and asked me to get the deal through. I took him in and offered him \$1000 cash and \$5000 in bonds. After McLeod and myself took what money we needed out of the \$25,000 boodle fund there was \$18,000 left. I carried that until after election. The day of election I awakened suspicion among some of the city officials that I had the boodle by betting heavily on election results. They asked me then for their money. I gave \$13,725 to Mayor Perry and to the Democrat \$13,750. I gave to George E. Bissell of the Board of Public Works and some to J. Thomson and to E. D. Conger \$10,000. I paid \$350 each to Depeagler, Kinney, Sproal, Mol, Stonehouse and MacLachlan, \$500 each to Bissell, Thomson and Alderman McCool, before they were arrested. I gave \$1500 to Isaac Lamoreaux I paid \$1200.

BOGUS CHECKS USED.

Lamoreaux was City Clerk and was supposed to have confessed to the prosecuting attorney, although he has not yet been arrested.

The connection of E. D. Conger with the deal Salsbury explained by telling of the discovery that bogus checks were being put in with the bids that went in for the contracts with the city, he said. Continuing, Salsbury said:

As soon as Perry heard of the bogus checks he told me. We decided that if there was anything bad we had better be the ones to expose it rather than any one else. I did not suppose that McGarry would put up bogus \$100,000 checks. Perry's message making the exposure was prepared by Frank W. Ball, who was under pay by the Indianapolis-Fullerton scheme, and I revised it. It was a letter to the Council, signed by McGarry and Conger \$10,000 after the checks were shown in the air. I knew we had to have some more men about town to put the deal through, so I went to George Ellis, a local broker, and had him go to see Conger and offer him \$20,000 in bonds. Ellis was a local broker and had \$10,000 in cash. Then an adverse article came out in the Herald and I saw that he would sell the whole thing. I called him up to the City Hall and told him about the deal. He had bidders in the deal as I did. He demanded the money after admitting having the talk with Ellis. The next day he came to me, having an article written already for publication exposing the whole deal. He said he wanted \$10,000 or he would expose the whole thing. I finally had to give it to him.

ALL BIDDERS WERE VICTIMS.

We had bidders on the string from all sides and our first plan was to get them to put up all the money possible with us as bribe money for the water deal. We had to get the money with the statement that it was sent here to bribe us and then keep it. This was before the water deal was planned and our first plan would have gone through but for my arrest in Chicago, which scared some of them out. We had bidders in Milwaukee, Omaha, Chicago and other places, and were just getting them warmed up when my arrest in Chicago upset all the plans.

The next plan was to get the city to buy the hydraulic water plant. It was practically worthless so far as competition was concerned, but could be made to appear good. In order to get the deal through it was necessary to have the city charter amended and for this purpose we had to arrange with Senators Burns and Thomson to back the scheme and to put up \$60,000 as a starter. Willard Kinney of this city acted for them. Of this amount we were to give \$10,000 to Editor Conger, \$5000 to Senator Burns, \$30,000 to go to carry the Legislature for the bill and the balance of \$15,000 was to be divided between Mayor Perry, Editor Sproal, George Ellis and myself. This plan fell through, however, when a referendum clause was attached to the bill and we had to give it up and go on with the Lake Michigan deal.

C. S. Burch, manager of the Evening Post, denies the charges made by Salsbury. CONGER MAKES DENIAL. In a signed statement E. D. Conger,

"I O U" WINS QUICK FAVOR

Brusie-Stewart Effort Takes With Crowd at Fischer's.

"Way Down East" Excellently Produced at the Columbia.

The Greek Theater at Berkeley has put all kinds of queer notions into the Californian head. Possibly "I O U" is one of them. It has been determined by the Berkeley enthusiasts that the Greek Theater shall be the cradle of the national drama. Last night Fischer's offered a home-made burlesque in "I O U" that Gotham may be glad to import.

In the intervals of being a secretary of Railroad Commissions and things and things and things, it is said that Judson C. Brusie has found time to write the burlesque. Dr. H. J. Stewart has made the music and the piece is staged by Charles H. Jones, and if the sputter of laughs that greeted it last night be anything to go by "I O U" goes! Mr. Brusie knows his Fischer's. Mr. Brusie knows also his audience. The fun and situations of the burlesque are all of the minute and fitted to every rib of the Fischer folk. Nor has Dr. Stewart done his part less effectively. The music is bright, viv, and suited to the piece and people. And the burlesque is excellently staged. It went almost without a hitch.

The pivot of the fun is the labor union, with trusts and hotel-keeping as side issues, and the author has achieved a Gilbertian touch in their handling. Here is his definition of a corporation: A corporation is an aggregation of men sanctioned by law to do what individuals wouldn't dare to do." Of trusts he says: "Corporations eat up companies, Companies eat up co-partnerships, Co-partnerships eat up individuals, And trusts eat up the whole cheese."

But Mr. Brusie is at his funniest when dealing with the eccentricities of unionism. Kolb, Dill and Bernard become partners in a hotel-keeping enterprise, after a delightfully tangled contract. Help is short, and the partners turn to and do everything from clerking to barkeeping. The walking delegate, very humorously exaggerated by Ben T. Dillon, then comes along and persuades them forcibly to join eight unions apiece, in their several capacities. He then informs them of a labor parade to be held the following day, for which they are fined \$50 by every union which they fail to represent. Truly Gilbert! Then Dill, objecting that his partners have opened the shop two seconds before time, and closed it four seconds after hours, strikes. Kolb explains that as laundryman Dill unreasonably objects to washing anything but union suits! But the short man goes away and returns inside a sandwich with the inscription: "Boycott This House!" His march in front of the Dew Break Inn, chanting "This is an unfair house!" is the kind of climax called screaming.

Miss Amber as a circus lass and Mr. Blake as a gentlemanly circus proprietor gone gray take care of most of the lyrics. "Here's to the boys and girls," sung by Blake, set the feet stamping, and Miss Amber has a fetching tune in "Am I Dreaming?" The fun trust has three songs, and the chorus has some excellent numbers, notably the finale of the first act, the opening chorus and closing ensemble of the second act. There is a little variety lacking in the lyrics, but the whole setting is of much higher than usual caliber, and is eminently popular vein. Both author and musician have struck every the popular vein. There is an occasional slip in the interest with both, but by comparison with the store-made article "I O U" stands proudly forward. It is original in marked degree, pure burlesque and singularly timely. It is besides excellently done, and the best thing the Fischer boards have seen for these many days.

Miss Georgia O'Ramey must not be forgotten in a clever and piquant specialty as a Japanese girl and other things. The tipsy lady might be omitted with advantage. Clever as it is, it is not so successful in athletic dances, and pretty Gertrude Emerson and Flossie Hope sat in front and cheered them.

BLANCHE PAINTINGTON.

Columbia.

"Way Down East," the beautiful pastoral play, began a return engagement at the Columbia Theater last night under favorable auspices. The home-like scenes with which the play abounds and the more or less familiar characters peculiar to farm life appeal strongly to human sentiment. The members of the company are equal to the dramatic requirements of their several parts and achieve success in a quiet and natural manner. The part of the manager of the Grand Rapids Herald, denies Salsbury's charges as follows:

The statement of Lant K. Salsbury that he ever paid me any money or offered to do so, or that I ever had any conversation with him whatever regarding the matter, is an unqualified falsehood. The Herald from the inception of this plot, has steadfastly opposed its consummation, and with untiring zeal sought to unmask the criminals. The Herald was the first paper in Chicago and was the first to demand the jury investigation. The Herald continued to urge called, and was relentless in demanding the full exposure of the plot and the punishment of the conspirators. The arch conspirator has been convicted and now turns upon me as owner of this paper for revenge.

BOY MURDERERS SHOW BRAVADO

Chicago Bandits Talk of Their Fate on the Gallows.

Four Criminals Are Arraigned and One Pleads Guilty.

CHICAGO, Nov. 30.—The youthful self-confessed murderers and train robbers, Peter Neidermeier, Harvey Vandine, Gustav Marx and Emil Roelski, were arraigned in court today. Marx pleaded guilty to all the charges against him, but his three accomplices pleaded not guilty. During the afternoon the prisoners were removed from the Harrison-street Police Station to the County Jail, where they will remain until brought to trial.

Neidermeier admitted to the police that he and Vandine had made an attempt to kill Marx. Roelski also admitted that he had narrowly escaped murder at the hands of his accomplices.

"We will all walk to the scaffold without a tremor," was the statement made to-day by Marx, Vandine, Neidermeier and Roelski as they discussed their probable fate.

of Anna Moore is in the capable hands of Ruby Bridges, whose emotional talents are kept within bounds, but are none the less effective. She prepossessing in appearance, and her enunciation is clear and distinct. Charles H. Riegel plays the hard-hearted squire, who afterward repents, with intelligence. Probably the best bit of acting is that done by Imogene Hyams, who plays Louisa Bartlett, the squire's wife, in a way to win the heart of every one. She is just the sort of motherly woman whom none of us can help admiring, and her faith in her son David, who follows the woman he loves, is that which only a good mother could have. Edward J. Heron is capital as Hi Holler, the chore boy, and his laughing over the jokes in the funny paper is positively infectious. William Lamp gives a capital impersonation of Lennox Sanderson, the city man; Midge Douglas was charming as Kato Brewster, and Loyola O'Connor is perfectly at home as Martha Perkins, the village gossip. Charles A. Burke created no end of amusement by his quaint portrayal of the Town of Chicago, and his "All Bound Round With a Woolen String" was cleverly sung. Philip Yale Drew acted well the part of David Bartlett, and H. H. Forsman was amusing as the summer boarder. The village choir, consisting of Adam W. Warren, Harry Maitland, Caroline Forsman and Pearl Sanford, sang some of the old songs delightfully.

CHUTES.

Conley and Klein, singing and dancing comedians, one of whom is a clever pianist; the La Moines, wonderful musicians; Flood and Hayes, wonderful barrel jumpers; and Stanley and Carlisle, who present an amusing skit entitled "Mrs. O'Grady's Wash Day," were new at the Chutes yesterday and all made hits. Carberry and Stanton, the "two country kids"; Mabel Lamson, the popular contralto, in new illustrated songs; Little Helene, the clever juvenile performer, and the animatroscope, in a charge of moving pictures, completed an unusually interesting programme. The amateurs will appear on Thursday night.

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Grand Rapids

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