

Forecast made at San Francisco for thirty hours ending midnight, November 29:

San Francisco and vicinity—Fair Tuesday; light north wind.

A. G. MOADIE, District Forecaster.

THE CALL

VOLUME XCVI—NO. 182.

SAN FRANCISCO, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TOKIO CLAIMS NOGI'S ATTACK IS SUCCEEDING

Capture of the Most Important of the Port Arthur Forts Is Imminent.

TOKIO, Nov. 29.—It is reported that the attack against 203-Meter Hill by the Japanese light artillery is succeeding. It is estimated that 90 per cent of the work of the complete occupation of Port Arthur will have been finished with this height in the possession of the Japanese. No part of the harbor of Port Arthur will then be concealed from the Japanese.

TOKIO, Nov. 28.—After twenty-four hours' desperate fighting the Japanese, at 2 o'clock yesterday morning, succeeded in scaling the escarpments of three forts at Port Arthur. The Russian defenders held the double parapets until they were overwhelmed. As fast as the parapets were occupied the Japanese brought up field and mountain guns and poured a fierce fire on the inner defenses, their sappers meanwhile constructing positions for the heavy guns.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Express writes: "A telegram received here to-day (Monday) from Chifu states that all attacks made on Port Arthur up to Sunday night were repulsed and that the Japanese sustained heavy losses." This statement is corroborated by other correspondents. Reports from Shanghai state that the storming of the Russian stronghold continues. According to the Daily Telegraph's dispatch from Chifu, very few of Admiral Togo's ships are now seen blocking Port Arthur.

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DENIED COIN, THEY WRECK THE TRAINS

Desperadoes at Work in the Canadian Northwest.

Bandits Demand a Hundred Thousand Dollars From Two Railways.

Failure of the Lines to Comply Is Followed by Series of Disasters and Holdups.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, Nov. 28.—

Foiled in an attempt to secure \$100,000 by blackmailing the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern railways, an organized gang of desperadoes is now fulfilling threats to blow up the various lines at different points throughout the Canadian Northwest. The police authorities also attribute several hold-ups and similar outrages which have been committed during the past two months to these men. So successful have they been and so completely have they hidden all trace of their identity that traveling by rail has now become dangerous, and the country is in a state of terror as to what desperate deed will next be attempted.

On August 4 G. J. Bury, general superintendent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and E. A. James, general manager of the Canadian Northern Railway here, both received the following letter. The words were printed in ink and the postmark was Winnipeg. It was unsigned:

"We are in need of \$100,000 and have decided to hold up the C. P. and C. N. to the tune of \$50,000 each. If you decide to treat with us you will place on your south train white markers instead of green."

EXTRA PRECAUTIONS TAKEN.

On receipt of the letters the executive agents of the two railways held a joint meeting. After a short discussion it was decided not to take any notice of the demand. However, extra precautions were taken and special service men were sent out with each train and a vigilant eye was kept on the tracks. On August 17 both railway officials again received similar communications. They read as follows:

"We have written you once before on this matter, but it seems that you are ignoring us. It seems that you are not aware of the fact that you are dealing with men who know their business, and as we take you to be a business man we will readily see our supremacy in this matter, and unless you agree to our terms trains will be interfered with."

Another conference between the officials of both railways resulted, and it was again decided to ignore the men's requests, and make an even more searching investigation into the matter. In the latter part of August a third letter was received.

FIVE KILLED IN WRECK.

Greater efforts than before were made to run down the gang, but although these have been continued ever since nothing has been effected, and wrecks and hold-ups of an endless number, some involving loss of life, but others not so serious, have been committed under the very noses of the detectives.

The first of these took place on September 1, when the train conveying Lord Minto, the late Governor General of Canada, and party was wrecked. Five persons were killed outright and many others were injured.

On September 11 the Canadian Pacific transcontinental train was held up by armed men at Mission Junction, B. C., and booty to the extent of several thousands of dollars was taken. This was the first train hold-up in the history of the Canadian railways.

Innumerable attempts, many of which have been withheld by the railway authorities, have been made to wreck different trains, but the watchout has been so sharp that many of these have been frustrated. For weeks when the disasters have been at their highest every bridge on the western line was watched, the railway companies fearing that they would be blown up. Bank hold-ups have been extraordinarily numerous during the past two months, and these are all attributed to the men who tried by threats to blackmail two great Canadian railways.

Complaints of Spain's Small Navy.

MADRID, Nov. 28.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, discussing the proposed naval reforms, former Minister of the Interior Moret complained of their insufficiency, contending that Spain ought to have a navy as large as that of Japan or Italy. Premier Maura, replying, maintained that the situation of the country forbade the expending of more than \$15,000,000 yearly on the navy and said that no previous government had done so much as that.

Religious Processions Are Tabooed.

HAVANA, Nov. 28.—The House to-day, by a vote of 37 to 10, passed the bill prohibiting religious processions in the streets.

BANK ROBBERY A TRIVIAL MATTER IN WEBER'S EYES

ACCUSED YOUTH MAKES MOST REMARKABLE STATEMENT



CHILDREN DISCOVER A MURDER

Are First to Learn Awful Fate of Mother.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—Mrs. Margaret Keeler, 36 years old, was murdered in her apartments at 82 East One Hundred and Fourteenth street to-day. Her 15-year-old son was the first to discover the body, lying where the assassin had left it.

The family consisted of Mrs. Keeler, her husband, her son and a little girl, Marie, 9 years old. Keeler is a clerk in the Simpson-Chawford Company's store, and went to his work about 7 o'clock in the morning.

When the little ones returned from school for their luncheon at noon they found the doors of the apartment locked and were unable to get any response to repeated knockings. Mrs. Peter Mundy, living on one of the lower floors, took in the children, believing their mother was out shopping, and after feeding them sent them back to school.

At 3 o'clock when they came home again the doors were still locked and the house was silent. The neighbors were attracted by the strange conditions, and little Jimmie was sent up to the apartments by the fire-escape. No sooner had he entered the kitchen than his screams struck terror to his little sister and to all the neighbors waiting in the hallway.

"Mamma's killed! Somebody has killed mamma! Come quick," he shrieked, and he then unlocked the door and ran into the hallway, his face livid with fright.

The neighbors entered and found the body of Mrs. Keeler lying on a bed, her skull crushed, her face lacerated and on the floor a large iron bolt with which she had been murdered.

A police captain says the police are close on the trail of the murderer. He says the assassin was 19 years old, broad shouldered and clean shaven, and had been annoying Mrs. Keeler for some time. There was no probability that robbery had been the motive for the crime.

About the same time Coroner Goldenkrantz arrived, and after investigating the case he said the murder was committed for the purpose of robbery and that \$200 in cash and \$1200 worth of jewelry had been taken.

Father Comes to Putney's Aid.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 28.—Stephen Putney Jr. left for St. Louis to-day and will return to Jefferson Barracks and remain there until his father can arrange for his discharge from the army. He had recovered all the jewelry pawned here save one ring. It was denied that young Putney had left St. Louis with an actress. His father is a wealthy manufacturer of Richmond, Va.

Words of Prisoner Furnish Sheriff New Theory.

AUBURN, Nov. 28.—"I know nothing about this bank robbery. It is too insignificant to talk about. If I did rob the bank I did it just to see how far I could go. By this I do not mean to say that I committed the robbery."

These are the words of young Adolph Weber, who rests under the charge that he murdered his father, mother, sister and brother, and under the further charge that in May last he robbed the Placer County Bank of a large sum of money. The bank robbery is indeed a trivial matter to this twenty-year-old youth. The charge that he murdered his parents, his sister and imbecile brother naturally is of more importance. Both charges are trivial to Weber, judging by his conduct since his arrest. He has been as cool as an iceberg at all times, even when the pistol which he was supposed to have used in his awful crime was suddenly placed before him; cool even when he was told the money he was supposed to have stolen from the bank was found on the property of his father, near where the bloody pistol that dealt death to Julius, Mary, Bertha and Earl Weber was found.

Sheriff Keena was therefore not greatly surprised to-day when he entered the youth's cell and learned from him that he considered the bank robbery a "trivial matter." But young Weber will learn that it is not such a trivial matter, for his carelessly uttered words have given the Sheriff a new theory to work upon.

"Did it to see how far I could go." These are the words that may mean much in the prosecution of Weber. They bear out the suspicion held by many since the arrest of Weber and the disclosure of his many queer ideas that a desire to "see how far he could go" prompted young Weber to commit the crimes he stands accused of. His love for gold is well known, and this love, by many, is looked upon as a motive for the crime.

WORDS SUPPLY THEORY.

To these same people his statement, "I did it to see how far I could go," also supplies a motive, for it is known that young Weber has prided himself upon his ability to trace the movements of people, he having on more than one occasion wagered that he could discover the perpetrators of practical jokes played upon his friends. Might he not also, it is figured, have a pride in seeing how far he could go in crime before others, who, according to his views, are less acute than himself, could detect him?

This idea will be worked on by Sheriff Keena and his assistants. They are already convinced of Weber's guilt, but they are still working to provide a motive. Everything advanced will be well threshed out before it is dropped.

The finding of the money stolen from the Placer County Bank was the all-absorbing topic in the Weber case to-day. Groups of men were on every street corner this morning and every Dependence and Monaghan, who discovered the coin, were the center of attraction. Crowds followed them wherever they went.

District Attorney Robinson is expected home to-night from San Francisco, where he has been in consultation with the experts who examined the blood-stained trousers. Sheriff Keena had several interviews with Weber, who practically admitted that he robbed the bank.

"This is not bothering me, however," said Weber. "It's the other case that I am thinking about."

WEBER MAKES RETORT.

Weber has a habit of answering a question by asking another. To-day Under Sheriff May asked him if he ever owned a pistol. Weber replied "No." "Did you ever see this one?" asked May, exhibiting the weapon the bank robber left behind. "I never did," was the reply. "How much did you pay for it, anyway, Adolph?" said May. "How much did you pay for it, Billy?" was the quick retort. Young Weber called for paper and candles as Jailer Fulton was closing up to-night. He writes a good many letters and is receiving many missives from women. Yesterday he received a bouquet and a letter from a Miss May Weber of Ashland, Or. Miss Weber wrote that there must be some relationship between them. Weber answered the note, thanking her for the flowers and asking her to send him the date of her birth, so that he could read her life. The money found on the Weber place has been counted and it has been ascertained that it is a few hundred dollars short of the amount claimed to have been stolen, \$6365. The shortage was expected, as it is known that Weber has been spending a little money now and then and that when he was in San Francisco last June he indulged in several luxuries. For instance, it is known that he and young Fowler of Oakland

ASYLUM PHYSICIAN IS INSANE

Doctor's Mind Weakened by Study of Lunacy.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SAN JOSE, Nov. 28.—Dr. James R. Curnow, one of the most prominent physicians in this city and formerly president of the board of managers of the Agnews Insane Asylum, has become hopelessly insane. Saturday morning he was taken to Dr. Robinson's private asylum at Livermore. He is suffering from paresis, brought on by nervous depression. No hope is held out for his recovery. For some time Dr. Curnow has not been himself and recently his friends and family found it necessary to have him restrained of his liberty. At times he is wild and incoherent and is considered dangerous to be at large. Frequently he made threats against some of his friends.

For four years Dr. Curnow was a member of the Agnews Insane Asylum board. He is also well known among the medical practitioners of the State. While connected with the asylum he began a study of the insane and he has since continued researches along that line. This, with other studies, is believed to have broken his health and impaired his mind. His practice was one of the largest in this county.

Dr. Curnow is about 50 years of age. He studied medicine in Europe for several years. His family consists of a wife and three children. For about sixteen years he practiced medicine in this city.

EUROPEAN DRESS ADOPTED FOR CHINESE SOLDIERS

Movement to Cut Off Queues of Troops Also Being Put Into Effect.

MUKDEN, Nov. 28.—The Viceroy of the Chinese province of Honan is the first to carry out the instructions of the Dowager Empress of China in clothing his soldiers in European dress and cutting off their queues.

Coroner Shepard will not divulge the present whereabouts of the land can of gold dug up in the Weber barn. It is intimated that the sealed package is in the Placer County Bank vault, and it is also known that Coroner Shepard has been to Sacramento since the money was found. The Grand Jury meets tomorrow, and it is now certain that they will take up the bank robbery case before they adjourn.

The District Attorney may ask the jury to bring in indictments charging Weber with the murder of his father, his sister and his brother. The charge on which he is now held is for the murder of his mother, Mary F. Weber.