

THE WEATHER.
Forecast made at San Francisco for thirty hours ending midnight, February 20:
San Francisco and vicinity—Monday cloudy, with showers; fresh southwest wind.
G. H. WILLSON,
Local Forecaster.

THE CALL

SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1905.

THE THEATERS.
ALCAZAR—"The Merchant of Venice."
CALIFORNIA—"Uncle Tom's Cabin."
COLUMBIA—"The Earl of Pawtucket."
CENTRAL—"A Ride for Life."
CHUTES—Vaudeville.
FISCHER—"Vaudeville."
GRAND—"Mother Goose."
ORPHEUM—"Vaudeville."

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MOTHER'S LOVE FAILS IN THE END
Crazed Murderess Thrice Revives Her Babes.
Unable to Witness Their Suffering in Gas-Filled Chamber.
Herself Overcomes Before She Can Yield to Fourth Impulse to Save Their Lives

Special Dispatch to The Call.
NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 19.—"I bore my children no malice," was the statement today of Mrs. Alice Grover Loux, who deliberately killed her two beautiful little girls by gas asphyxiation in their home in Bloomfield a week ago. She is now physically restored by treatment in the Mountsides Hospital, whither she was taken unconscious from the room where her children lay dead.

Alienists will examine Mrs. Loux and meantime an investigation is being made of her antecedents, to ascertain if a taint of insanity afflicted the family. To those who have talked with her, her astounding confession relating to the murder of her children seems incredible. In her own words, it was her love for Minnie Augusta, aged four, and Elsie May, eighteen months, which impelled her to kill them. She is resigned to paying the death penalty for her crime.

Thrice she snatched the little ones from the very gates of death, but each time she returned to the self-applied sacrifice, impelled by what she had convinced herself was her awful duty. When the charge of murder was read to Mrs. Loux and the words "with malice" were pronounced, she interrupted: "I killed them, but it was not through ill-will. It was because I did not want them to live and suffer as I have suffered."

Mrs. Loux says she had long had in mind the death of her children. When her husband left her alone with the children to stay two days at Atlantic Highlands, she set out to accomplish her plan. She bathed the children and put them to bed and at 11 o'clock at night turned on the gas in their room. She declared that the sight of their suffering impelled her to repeatedly turn off the gas and open the windows.

Finally, "in order that the children might not suffer when I again turned on the gas, I gave to each a large dose of paregoric and they soon fell asleep," she said. "I turned the gas on full. I did not dare to glance at my darlings for some time for fear I might again falter. When the clock struck 11 I went to the crib, and I could see that my loved ones were dying. I was beside myself with grief, and a desire to take them up and save them overpowered me.

"That moment I became faint. I fell upon the bed and can remember staring at the ceiling, powerless because of the deadly gas fumes, to save my darlings. I knew nothing more until I awoke in the hospital."

PORT ARTHUR PRISONERS OF WAR COME TO THIS CITY

PAROLED RUSSIAN NAVAL OFFICERS ARE PASSENGERS ON THE LINER SIBERIA

PAROLED RUSSIAN NAVAL OFFICERS WHO WERE AMONG THE PORT ARTHUR CAPTIVES AND WHO ARE NOW ON WAY HOME UNDER PLEDGE NOT TO ENGAGE IN HOSTILITIES AGAINST JAPANESE.

CHAUFFEUR BEATEN BY PASSENGERS

Auto Driver Victim of Murderous Robbers.

Special Dispatch to The Call.
LOS ANGELES, Feb. 19.—O. C. Ish, a chauffeur in the employ of the Worthington garage, was the victim last night of a murderous assault by two robbers, who, believing they had killed their victim, made their escape.

Yesterday afternoon two well-dressed men entered the garage and engaged a public automobile. They were taken by Ish to the country south of the city, where they stopped at a roadhouse and pretended to transact some business. It was dark when they started to return. When five miles south of Los Angeles the man upon the rear seat struck Ish upon the head with a blackjack and a moment later the other man struck him with the heavy crank used to start the machine.

Realizing that he was about to be robbed and fearing that the men might rub away with the machine, Ish turned it into a ditch. He remembered no more until he regained consciousness long after midnight. The two men were gone and so were his watch and \$20 in cash. He made his way to a telephone and notified his employer, who went for him in another automobile.

Ish is now in a hospital. He will recover.

FATALLY HURT IN ATTEMPT TO JUMP ON A TRAIN

Santa Rosa Falls Beneath Wheels of Cars and Sustains a Fractured Skull.

SANTA ROSA, Feb. 19.—While attempting to board a train from which he had alighted, Michael Woods of this city fell and sustained a fracture of the skull and lost his left hand. He was taken to the Santa Rosa Sanitarium. The injured man is about 23 years of age.

Woods boarded the afternoon train to the metropolis, intending to ride to the yard limits. He alighted all right, but in an endeavor to board the train a second time fell beneath the wheels. Two coaches ran over his arm and the oil box on the wheel trucks struck him on the head.

CLERGYMAN MAKES OIL HIS THEME

Preaches to Junior Rockefeller's Class.

Special Dispatch to The Call.
NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The pupils of John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s Bible class in the Fifth-avenue Baptist Church today learned from Rev. R. P. Johnson, pastor of the church, something about the value of oil, the minister taking for his text the parable of the foolish virgins. His references to oil led to considerable suppressed mirth.

"In this class," said the minister, "we try to teach spiritual truths by business and commercial examples, and, taking this parable as a lesson for every day business life, you must bear in mind that a man should have some oil in his lamp. The man who has no oil is not ready. You may have your own views about what oil means in this parable. There is no favoritism about this—it is natural law. So I implore you all to get ready if you are not now so, and, like the five wise virgins, have enough oil in your lamps so that they will be ready for use when the time comes."

There were present 137 members of the class. A letter from John D. Rockefeller Jr., dated "Cannes, France, January 29," was read, in which the writer praised a sermon he had heard in a French church. The minister urged his hearers to attach themselves to Christ.

"If you attach yourselves to Christ," wrote young Rockefeller, "belief will inevitably follow."

Guns and Men From the Warships Prolong Defense of Fortress.

Fifteen Russian navy officers who shared in the defense of Port Arthur and who left that stronghold as prisoners of the little brown men they once despised as foes unworthy of Russian lead and steel, arrived here yesterday on the liner Siberia. They are under parole and may take no further part in the present war, but, thanks to the gracious courtesy of the Japanese Emperor, they are going home as officers and gentlemen, well fed and wearing their swords. That is, they have the swords to wear should occasion arise. They are traveling, of course, in civilian clothes, with which only concealed weapons go. With the baggage of each officer, however, in a chamois leather cover, is the sword that General Nogi, under orders from the Mikado, refrained from taking.

According to the dispatches Russian officers on their way home by other routes have been free to place the blame for the surrender of Port Arthur. Army men are criticizing the navy and the man-of-war's men are passing the buck to the army; Stoessel has fault to find with the admirals and the admirals hope to see Stoessel stamped as unworthy by the verdict of the court-martial which will try the former commander of Port Arthur.

The officers who arrived here yesterday appear either to have left their hamper behind or to be saving them for an anvil chorus in St. Petersburg.

The reported comments of their brother officers they decline to discuss and for the criticism of the navy by the army, they have only smiles.

There were three Russian captains and a dozen lieutenants on the Siberia and the name of the liner did not seem to have depressed the spirits of any of them. The other passengers found the Russians delightful shipmates and between the Czar's officers and a number of prominent Japanese the greatest cordiality developed.

The Russians brought on board the liner a plentiful supply of vodka. "And they just bathed in it," volunteered a fellow passenger. "The thirstiest man I ever met," said another. "I never knew Russians could be so decent." "But the prince of them all," said a passenger, "is Captain von Essen."

Captain N. O. von Essen brings with him a reputation for daring that won the admiration of the Japanese. He commanded the battleship Sevastopol and was the only commander who, up to the time his vessel was disabled, ventured outside within range of the Japanese war ships. The Japanese soon took particular notice of the Sevastopol and on several occasions, instead of throwing shells at her, she

PERTURBED OVER LOSS OF A CENT

Senator Clark Has Bout With Slot Machine.

Special Dispatch to The Call.
NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—United States Senator W. A. Clark of Montana won a victory over a stubborn penny-in-the-slot machine at the Fourth street station of the Subway this afternoon. Senator Clark was first noticed at the station when he was trying to jam a nickel into the machine. The nickel would not go, of course, and an alert station attendant informed him of the fact, adding:

"You can get pennies at the window, Senator."

The man called "Senator" went at once to the ticket window, procured the necessary coppers and returned to the slot machine. A few minutes later an angry protest came from him.

"This thing is a swindle," he complained to the guard. "I have put in my penny and it does not work. It is out of order. It is not right to have such things here."

The guard ran to another guard, who told a special policeman, who informed one of the ticket office men. In another moment the four men were anxiously working the little drawer, shaking the entire mechanism and trying to kick the post out of plumb. All the time the Senator stood to one side, declaring it was an outrage. One northbound train after another passed, but the Senator heeded not. At last, after ten minutes, the machine was induced to disgorge one attenuated piece of gum, which Senator Clark received with great satisfaction.

PRESIDENT HARPER TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

To Undergo Operation on Wednesday From Which He Does Not Expect to Recover.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—President William R. Harper of the University of Chicago was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital to-day where he will be prepared for the operation to be performed on him next Wednesday. According to the statement of the President's physicians, Dr. Harper's condition remains unchanged. At a conference of the professors of the university to-day before his removal to the hospital, Dr. Harper said he believed he was the victim of cancer and that his chances of recovery were slight.

EIGHT BIG BUILDINGS DESTROYED

Fire in Indianapolis Causes Loss of \$1,500,000.

Three Hotels Included in Structures Razed by the Flames.
Brands Carried by Wind Threaten the Entire Business District of the City.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 19.—For four hours to-night the wholesale district bounded by Georgia and Meridian streets, Jackson place and the Union Depot sheds was menaced by a fire which started in the wholesale warehouses of the Fahney & McCrea Millinery Company. At 9:30 o'clock three general alarms brought into action every department in the city and suburbs.

When the fire was brought under control eight buildings, among which were three hotels, had been destroyed, causing a loss estimated at \$1,500,000. One fireman was hurt by falling walls. Fire brands fell in showers upon the business portion of the city. On every building were stationed companies of men with fire-fighting apparatus and this precaution prevented a general conflagration.

In the A. Kiefer Drug Company's warehouses, where many barrels of oil and other explosives were stored, and in the Delmerch Company's wholesale warehouse, where a seasoned stock of fireworks was located, several serious explosions occurred.

The west wall of the Fahney & McCrea Millinery house, which faces on Jackson place across from the Union station, fell within thirty minutes after the fire started. One fireman received a broken leg and in the rush to escape from their perilous position near the falling walls hundreds of spectators who thronged the space of the Union Depot square narrowly escaped death or serious injury.

Within a few minutes the east wall fell across Meridian street, completely blocking traffic, but no one was hurt.

The first intimation of a fire was received when a watchman saw the windows on the second and third floors of the east front of Fahney & McCrea's building burst open, allowing sheets of flame to escape into Meridian street. A general alarm was turned in, followed by two others in rapid succession, and by the time the first company reached the scene the millinery house was almost completely ruined and the flames had spread to the Kiefer Drug Company's building.

The occupants of the St. Nicholas Hotel, many of whom had not retreated without injury.

Repeated explosions in the burning section sent clouds of burning embers into the retail district, where they fell, still burning, upon the roofs of the principal business houses.

Within forty-five minutes eight buildings in the threatened district had been totally destroyed, and the efforts of the firemen centered in an endeavor to prevent the spread of the flames to the warehouses of W. E. Thompson & Co., manufacturers of surgical instruments.

A spark from the fire in the wholesale district set fire to the roof of the Grand Hotel, several blocks away, after the main blaze had been brought under control. The alarm again summoned all available departments. All of the guests were aroused, and because of the damage by water, were compelled to seek other lodgings. The damage to the hotel was slight.

The principal losers are: Fahney & McCrea building \$125,000; stock \$280,000; A. Kiefer Drug Company building \$70,000; stock \$225,000; Griffiths Bros. building \$50,000; stock \$150,000; C. C. Stewart building \$50,000; stock \$40,000; Sherman House building \$45,000; stock \$10,000; Savoy Hotel, \$30,000; St. Charles Hotel, \$22,000.

NARROW ESCAPE OF TRAVELERS

Train Is Backed Off Bridge a Few Minutes Before the Structure Is Washed Away
TRAFFIC IS DELAYED

Floods in Arizona Cause Twenty-Four Hours' Tie-Up of Crowd of Easterners

Special Dispatch to The Call.
TUCSON, Ariz., Feb. 19.—Seven Southern Pacific trains carrying all told fifteen hundred persons, among them John W. Gates and party, who are en route to San Francisco, were delayed here twenty-four hours by a washout which carried away the bridge across the Rillito River just west of the city. Three trains succeeded in crossing on cribbing Saturday, but the bridge showed signs of giving away with a fourth, which was backed off just in time to prevent a disaster, as the cribbing was swept away by the flood a few minutes later. All trains succeeded in crossing by 8 o'clock to-night, relieving the serious blockade of traffic.

STEALS MARCH ON PRESIDENT

Maxine Elliott Secures the First Ticket to the Inaugural Ball for Next Month

Special Dispatch to The Call.
CALL BUREAU, POST BUILDING, WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Maxine Elliott has just secured ticket No. 1 for the inaugural ball. The first of those pastebards to be issued and stamped No. 1 awaits her at the National Theater, where she will play during the inauguration week. In previous years the first ticket has always gone to the incoming President as a souvenir. Mr. Roosevelt did not ask for it in time. Miss Elliott did, and so she gets it. Manager Rapley, who is holding the ticket for her, received six offers for it as soon as the fact became known that he had secured it instead of the President.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The material for Mrs. Roosevelt's inaugural gown is being woven at the William Strange Silk Mill at Paterson, N. J. It is of an entirely new design and new shade. Mrs. Roosevelt suggested the new design and shade, and it will be called "Alice blue," in honor of the President's daughter.

While admiring the new shade, which comes near to an electric blue, Mrs. Roosevelt conceived the idea that if doves were woven into the goods it would make a handsome gown for the inauguration reception. When the design was completed according to her ideas it represented a flock of doves flying diagonally across a blue background. The largest dove is a little larger than two inches from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. They decrease in size until the smallest is very minute. The doves are woven in gold tinsel, in such a manner that as the goods is held up to the light and slowly turned, the doves seem to sink into the background and slowly disappear. The work of weaving the goods was begun three weeks ago.

Continued on Page 3, Column 2.