NEWS OF THE COUNTIES ABOUT THE BAY

POLICE CATCH BOLD THIEVES

Capture Four Burglars With Their Plunder Less Than an Hour After the Crime

WORK IN TWO PLACES

Daring Crooks Steal a Horse and Wagon in Oakland and Wire in Point Richmond

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—Within an hour after having received a report from Point Richmond that a gang of thieves had stolen a thousand pounds of copper wire from the station of the Bay Counties Power Company at that place early this morning, the Oakland police landed the guilty parties, together with the stolen wire, in the City Prison.

The men arrested were R. D. Renton, William Kelleher, Charles Nelson and Leonard Wallace, and this morning one of them confessed that they had stolen the horse from the Pumyea stable on Alice street, near Eighth, the wagon from the Club stables on Twelfth and Harrison streets and then drove to Richmond, where they stole the wire.

It was while on their way to Oakland that the quartet were arrested at the corner of Telegraph avenue and Thirtieth street by Sergeant Bock and Patrolman Hunley, who had been notified to keep a watch for the thieves. Although they had a shotgun, also stolen from the Club stables, in the wagon, the thieves made no trouble when ordered to halt and throw up their hands, but surrendered at once.

Henry Wilson and Westley Carter, also wire thieves, were arresjed last night at 619 Third street by Patrolman Jurgensen, with a sack of copper wire in their possession. They have so far refused to talk, and the police have not yet learned where the wire was stolen.

CLASS CONFIRMED BY ARCHBISHOP

Many Oakland Clergymen Attend Ceremony at St. Patrick's Church.

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—Archbishop Montgomery this morning confirmed a large class of children at St. Patrick's Church in West Oakland, being assisted by the Rev. Father J. B. McNally, pastor of the church, and a number of the members of the Catholic clergy of Oakland. The ceremony of confirmation lasted more than three hours, beginning with a solemn high mass conducted by the Rev. William O'Grady, the Rev. Father Edward Dempsey, the Rev. B. Bergaretti and the Rev. J. B. McNally. The attending members of the Oakland clergy were:

The Rev. Thomas McSweeney, the Rev. John Buttler, the Rev. A. Serda, the Rev. B. Bergaretti, the Rev. Edward Dempsey, the Rev. Dr. F. X. Morrison, the Rev. Robert Sampson, the Rev. Father Foley, the Rev. William O'Grady and the Rev. J. B. McNally.

The Rev. Father Robert Sampson and Brother Lucius, C. B., acted as prefects of discipline in the church, and the sponsers of the baptism of the children were Michael Hanley and Rose Walsh. Following are the members of the class confirmed by the Archbishop:

Charles S. Braun, Henry A. Moore, Frank R. Murday, James R. Devine, Thomas W. Goodwin, Henry A. Lydon, Oliver J. Hollis, James V. Braun, Fred A. Brown, Victor A. Bertrandes, Francis M. Cronin, Peter B. Cordana, Robert P. Carter, James A. Cullen, Arthur A. Conneliane, Frank J. Caesar, Louis J. Deluchi, George I. Enos, George R. Fannon, Richard M. Fenelon, William J. Fulcher, Walter A. Flannigan, Nicholas Kesavija, Howard T. Keller, Edward T. Mulligan, Bart J. McCarthy, John J. McCarthy, Bluefie J. Martin, Walum T. Martin, Edward M. Madden, John J. Niver, Frank J. Nolan, Thomas A. O'Brien, George M. O'Brien, James P. O'Brien, George A. Roeder, Thomas M. Scannell, Clarence Soanes, Henry G. Schmidbauer, Gregory Schmidbauer, William Francis Scully, Bertram A. Towne, Alfred P. Triplett, Harry J. Thompson, Louis A. Vierra, Joseph W. Devine, Edward J. Holmes, G. A. Bjorne, H. A. Cousse, J. J. Dermody, A. Demallo, W. J. Enos, J. J. Lutrice, D. Luttrell, Earle A. Smythe, Edna C. McAuliffe, Blanche F. St. Pierre, Mary E. Roderick, Anastasia M. Griffin, Margaret C. Caplice, Anna E. Bernard, Helen E. Kingston, Anna E. O'Mally, Pauline H. May, Mary G. McMannis, Caroline V. Valladao, Agnes E. Treacy, Gertrude V. Cunha, Anna C. May, Margaret M. Dick, Mary M. Gasper, Helen C. Kenney, Mary E. Fine, Grace R. Haehnlen, Aurelia E. Risi, Mary G. Riley, Mary C. Connelly, Caroline V. Ready, Marie A. Marshall, Margaret W. Barry, Florence C. McDonald, Anna M. Bannahan, Mildred C. Barnett, Annie M. Cumberlich, Mary E. Astrue, Carmel A. Fitzgerald, Hazel B. Gould, Annie C. Ward, Irene F. McKeegan, Elizabeth M. Tillman, Frances L. Tillman, Lillian M. Bertola, Rachel G. Bertola, Irene F. Nearly, Emma P. Hale, Mary E. Astrue, Mary E. Roach, Mary E. Davies, Gertrude L. Dermody, Virginia C. Valladao, Veronica L. Lefevre, Mary D. Rapose, Leonora D. Ritis, Sarah D. Shortt, Catherine H. Crosby, Lucille M. Steece, Anne B. Donahue, Bridget C. Barry, Helen B. Kelly, Helen B. McGrath, Mary E. Rogers, Josephine L. Spier, Delphine F. Enos, Mary Perry, Mary R. Devine, Mary B. King, Sarah E. Brown and Mrs. Catherine M. Killgallon.

GRAND JURORS DRAWN.

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—The following thirty names were drawn to-day from which nineteen grand jurors will be selected next Friday: Thomas A. Crellin, Howard Oversacker Sr., O. B. Palmer, H. S. Anderson, Fred Becker, Horace H. Miller, A. de Camp, John Cushing, P. A. Auseon, Walter P. Woolsey, Jacob Mueller, Charles H. Schween, Patrick Cahill, John Leutgen, H. J. Derby, Jefferson Gilliam, Frank Denis, L. Leimert, James Moir, E. B. H. Hass, Julius Seulberger, James A. Smilie, F. E. Brigham, James Henneberry, C. A. James, Harry E. Smyth, George Roeth, Cochran McCarron, Fritz Worner, H. Schlueter.

MERCHANTS CASH BOGUS CHECKS.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—A man giving the name of James Burns swindled two San Pablo-avenue merchants yesterday by means of worthless checks. At the grocery of Gething & Greaney, 1720 San Pablo avenue, he cashed a check for $10 on a San Francisco bank, and at the store of the Regal Shoe Company, 22 San Pablo avenue, he passed a worthless draft on the First National Bank of Oakland for $24. The last check was signed "T. B. Boucher Boiler Works." Both were made payable to James Burns.

POSTUM CEREAL.

Simple Joy

Mighty good to be free from COFFEE AILS.

POSTUM

10 days is the sure proof.

HODGKINS TO RETIRE FROM THE CHIEFSHIP

Will Resign and Take Appointment as Detective.

Captain Wilson Slated to Become His Successor.

Changes Impending in the Oakland Police Department.

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—After twenty years of service in the Police Department in every position from special policeman to its head, Chief of Police St. Clair Hodgkins has announced that he will give up that office within a short time. For some months Chief Hodgkins has contemplated retirement on account of ill health, which has caused him much physical suffering, but he declared to-day that he would not voluntarily withdraw so long as any charges remained hanging over his head. In short, he would not step down under fire.

With his record clean before the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners, Chief Hodgkins has concluded that the time has arrived when he should request the Commissioners to recognize his long service by relieving him of the burdens and responsibilities of Chief. In that connection it is on the cards that the board will accept the resignation and place Hodgkins on the detective force.

WILSON TO SUCCEED.

The successor to Chief Hodgkins will be Captain of Police Adelbert Wilson, a veteran in the department, who is nearing the age of retirement. Captain Wilson, who has had the day watch for many years, will be succeeded by Captain W. J. Petersen. Detective George J. D. Kyte has been named by the insiders as in line for promotion to a captaincy in the night watch.

While no definite time has been set for the changes contingent upon Chief Hodgins' resignation, it is fairly settled that they will be made at the meeting of the Commissioners on December 13. The Chief's resignation will probably be effective January 1. Captain Wilson will serve at least a year as Chief in order to qualify for retirement on Chief's half-pay, $87 50 a month.

Three months ago Chief Hodgkins was accused by a "Dr." L. M. Harrison, a West Oakland midwife, of accepting a bribe of $1000 from her in return for official favors when she was arrested under suspicion of causing Mrs. Jennie Biroth's death. The Commissioners invited Mrs. Harrison to substantiate her accusations, and set a time for hearing, at which the woman agreed to be present. She did not appear, and made no explanations. The board exonerated the Chief. At that time the story was current that he would be retired. But no move was made. It was said that Mayor Mott was willing to accept Hodgkins' resignation, that Commissioner Turner was favorable to the Chief, and that Commissioner McElroy was neutral, waiting for a move elsewhere. Hodgkins insisted he was in a false position, and would not resign while any suspicion attached to him. He was then in poor health, and for months has been under the constant attention of Dr. William S. Porter.

CAN ASK FOR RELIEF.

But the clouds have blown away now and with his physical condition pressing upon him the Chief thinks he can with good grace ask for relief from his duties. Yesterday was the twentieth anniversary of Chief Hodgkins' service in the Oakland Police Department. He began as a special policeman under Chief W. R. Thomas, was advanced to the regular force under Chief Peter Pumyea after two or three years. He served as clerk and court bailiff under Chief of Police John W. Tompkins; was promoted to sergeant by Chief Louis Schaffer; became a detective by recommendation of Chief C. E. Lloyd, and served also in that department under Chief W. F. Fletcher, whom he succeeded when Fletcher was retired. Hodgkins was appointed Chief June 7, 1899. He has occupied that post under the administrations of Mayors Snow, Barstow, Olney and Mott, a record never before equaled in the Police Department.

BROKE UP GOLD BRICK GANG.

Among his largest pieces of work was the breaking up and arrests of the "Big Foot" Gordon-Root gold brick gang, which operated with Oakland as headquarters and cleaned up more than $125,000. Hodgkins also sent to prison the gang of thugs headed by Tommy Fonte, who murdered Thomas, a West Oakland saloon man; shot Robert Vincent, a butcher; robbed the Alameda and the Grove-street power houses and a dozen places of business in Oakland. In the gang were Scott, McCoy, James Downing and "Red" Lynch. Hodgkins is accounted one of the cleverest police detectives on the Pacific Coast. One of his strong points is "sweating" of prisoners, a process which enabled him to work successfully the Fonte case. Three years ago, while arresting a gang of tramp burglare at the foot of Madison street, Hodgkins was injured by jumping from a roof into the yard where the gang was in hiding. He did not recover. In that crowd were Courtney and "Leadville" Jim, who were members of the gang that killed Policeman Robinson in San Francisco.

Concerning his resignation, Chief Hodgkins said to-day:

I have had the subject in mind for months. My health is poor and I have been under intense physical suffering for a long time. But so long as any false charges were hanging over me I would not think of asking the Commissioners to relieve me. The time has come now when I can do that and within a short period I shall step down. It has been in my mind to request the board to place me in the detective department. My request will be wholly voluntary and will be solely on the ground of ill health.

HALF-HOUR OF MUSIC.

BERKELEY, Dec. 8.—A half-hour of music, free to the public, will be given at 4 p. m., December 10, in the Greek Theater of the University of California, or in case of rain, in Hearst Hall, by Miss Clara V. Rauhut, pianist. The programme will be as follows: (a) Fantaisie C minor, Bach; (b) adagio from sonata, Op. 110, Beethoven; (c) finale from Concertstuck, Weber; (a) prelude, Op. 28, No. 15, Chopin; (b) Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 12, Liszt.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Dec. 8.—The University of Michigan Athletic Association netted $25,000 profit on the 1905 football season.

HEAD OF OAKLAND'S POLICE DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL RESIGN IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FORCE WHO WILL BE ADVANCED AS A RESULT OF THE VACANCY.

HUNT'S WIFE SAYS HE POISONED HER

Spouse of Southern California Capitalist Asks for a Divorce.

William M. Hunt of Avalon, whose wife, Ella E., says he owns $100,000 worth of realty on Catalina Island, was made the defendant in a suit for divorce yesterday. Mrs. Hunt charges cruelty and her allegations are somewhat sensational. She asserts that he drove her from their home at Avalon and defeated her every effort to return. When they were living together, she says, and she asked him for money for household expenses, he threw the same at her.

Finally, she asserts, he forced her to take some medicine that poisoned her system, with the result that she was under the care of a physician for several months. But she stood all of this, she says, until he threatened to get rid of her by sending her to the insane asylum and then, fearing that he might carry his threat into execution, she left him. She asks that her husband be compelled to pay her $100 a month alimony.

Suits for divorce were also filed yesterday by George K. against Rose Fleming for desertion, Emma J. against Jacob Nuckolls for failure to provide, Susie against Samuel G. Evans for cruelty and infidelity, and Rebecca against August B. A. Grummet for intemperance and cruelty.

Decrees of divorce were granted to Rosie from Edward Lancaster for cruelty and failure to provide, and Marie L. from C. H. Evans on the ground that her husband had been convicted of bigamy and sent to the penitentiary.

STRUGGLE FOR PIECES OF $800,000 ESTATE BEGINS

Public Administrators of Tulare and Fresno Counties Fight for Control of Jane Davis Property.

A document filed in the Supreme Court yesterday indicates that T. M. Dungan, Public Administrator of Tulare County, and R. D. Chittenden, Public Administrator of Fresno County, will meet in a fierce legal battle for the right to administer the $800,000 estate left by Jane Davis. Mary G. Stone, a grandniece of the decedent, who is declared the only heir by Dungan, is joined with him in the fight.

The Superior Court of Fresno County recognizes Chittenden's jurisdiction and the Supreme Court is requested to prohibit the lower tribunal from taking further action in the matter. Chief Justice Beatty has granted an alternative writ returnable January 2, at which time both parties to the contest will have an opportunity to present arguments.

Miss Davis died at Saratoga, N. Y., on September 19, 1904. She was never married and her nearest relatives are grandnieces. These heirs will fight among themselves, it is expected, over the division of the estate. A large sum will revert to the State through the operation of the collateral inheritance tax law and the Public Administrator will also fare well.

Royal Arcanum Elections.

Argonaut Council, Royal Arcanum, has elected the following as officers for the ensuing term: J. I. Macks, regent; Dr. W. C. Bailey, vice regent; John Robinson, orator; Dr. T. S. Stealey, chaplain; J. W. Moore, guide; E. J. Ensign, treasurer; M. S. de Roco, secretary; Frederick Head, collector; T. C. Hinsch, head warden; J. J. Silvey, sentry; George Y. Derning, L. Straub and Daniel O'Connell, trustees. Golden West Council has elected: George W. Van Buren, regent; W. Trusson, vice regent; Dr. F. J. Kergan, orator; H. B. Langille, chaplain; H. J. Hutt, guide; W. M. Young, treasurer; T. G. Hodgkins, secretary; S. B. Russell, collector; P. C. Abrams, head warden; Dr. J. F. C. Kergan, sentry.

JAMES NAGLE LOSES OFFICE OF TRUST

Judge Coffey Removes Him as Executor of Mrs. Boyne's Will.

Stubborn to the last, James Nagle, declared guilty of sharp practice as executor of the will of the late Elizabeth Boyne, refused to resign his trust when given the opportunity yesterday, so he was removed by Judge Coffey. The court, not wishing that Nagle should rest under the odium of adverse judgment, gave him every opportunity to avoid the same by resigning. But Nagle wanted no kindness shown him by the court, with the result that his wish was gratified, and he was peremptorily removed.

Nagle was accused, and the accusations, the court held, were sustained by proof. It was shown that he entered into a collusive suit with his brother, Charles G. Nagle, to enable the stripping of the estate on an alleged unjust claim, and also that he included in his account as executor a bill for $500 for funeral expenses, when the undertaker's books show that he only paid $388 in full settlement of the bill.

When the judgment of the court was pronounced against Nagle he asserted that he would appeal from it, "because," he said, "he had done nothing that could be deemed wrong by any man."

DAYLIGHT BURGLARS PLY THEIR VOCATION IN CITY

Two Residences, a Store and Stable Entered and Jewelry and Other Articles Stolen.

Daylight burglars continue their operations throughout the city. Tracey Cummings, 1114 Pine street, reported to the police yesterday that his house was entered on Wednesday afternoon during the absence of the family. A window in the rear had been left open. Two silver bracelets, valued at $40; a green jade bracelet, valued at $20; a gold buckle, valued at $10, and a gold coffee spoon, valued at $5, were stolen.

Asa Franco, 513 Potrero avenue, reported that his residence had been entered on Thursday afternoon and an open-face nickel watch and a revolver stolen.

E. L. Brandested, 608 Larkin street, reported that his store had been entered on Thursday afternoon and 250 stamps taken from his collection, which he had in a side room.

S. G. Lineer, 1210 Laguna street, reported that he left his horse and wagon in a stable at 623 Grove street on Wednesday night and when he went there on Thursday morning he discovered that an overcoat, two suits of underwear and other articles of the value of $30 had been stolen.

Branch Postoffice Unprotected.

Policeman Madden found the door of the branch postoffice, Station E, on Townsend street, near Fourth, open about 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning. He notified the main office and he and Policeman Kruger made a thorough search of the premises, but found nothing disturbed. A man was sent from the main office to take charge of the place. The policemen in their report said that almost every window was unfastened and it would prove an easy mark for burglars.

LATE SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

OUTSIDE BOUND IN—MIDNIGHT.
Schr San Buenaventura and Fr ship Desaix.
DOMESTIC PORT.
FORT BRAGG—Sailed Dec 8—Stmr National City, for San Francisco.
Arrived Dec 8—Stmr Phoenix, hence Dec 7.
FOREIGN PORT.
VICTORIA—Sailed Dec 8—Br stmr Aorangi, for Sydney.
OCEAN STEAMERS.
NEW YORK—Arrived Dec 8—Stmr Furnessia, from Glasgow; stmr Kroonland, from Antwerp; stmr Baltic, from Liverpool.

DEATH MYSTERY IS NOT SOLVED

Police Search in Vain for Clews to Clear Up the Latest Oakland Puzzle

HAT AND GUN MISSING

Detectives Begin to Accept Theory That Man's Wounds Were Not Self-Inflicted

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—More than twenty-four hours have elapsed since the body of an unidentified man, who had been killed by a gunshot wound in the head, was found on the rocks of the broad gauge mole, but the police are no nearer a solution of the mystery than they were when the body was found. All to-day the detectives have divided their time between trying to establish the man's identity and finding his hat and the 32-caliber pistol with which his life was brought to a close.

Slowly the police, who at first advanced the theory of suicide, are accepting the theory of Dr. O. D. Hamlin, the autopsy surgeon, that they are called upon to unravel a murder case of deepest mystery. Detectives are still divided on their theories, but Detective Kyte, who has done the principal work on the case, admitted tonight that the theory of murder seemed more tenable than that of suicide.

To Detective Kyte was given the task of finding the dead man's hat and the missing revolver. He found neither, although he spent several hours at the point where the body was found and along the rocks of the mole. He was also unable to find any trace of blood on the rocks.

MANY VIEW BODY.

All day long callers who thought they might identify the dead man visited the Morgue and scores of persons viewed the features without results. It was thought by the police that the victim might have been a racehorse man and a number of racing men were taken to the Morgue. Not one could identify the dead person as any one who had ever been seen around the track at Emeryville. Besides these men and women with missing relatives called at the Morgue, with similar results. The police have no report of any missing man whose description tallies with that of the one lying on a slab at the Morgue.

One reason why the police thought the dead man might have come from the race track was that there was a mark on one of his low cut shoes. The footgear had formerly been of tan, but had been blackened and on one shoe the blacking had been worn away. A theory was advanced that he might have been a trainer at the track and that the mark on the shoe was caused by frequent contact with a stirrup. But it was shown that if such were the case both sides of the shoe and both shoes would have been worn in that manner. It is more likely, the police now say, that the shoe was worn by contact with the rocks on which the body was found.

Dr. W. S. Porter, who made a careful examination of the shoe, has a theory that the man was the driver of a delivery or other wagon, and that the mark on the right side of the right shoe was made by constant contact with the wagon brake. While Dr. Porter and Dr. Hamlin differ on minor details they are agreed that the man whose body lies at the Morgue was the victim of a foul murder. Drs. Curdts and Reinle, who assisted Dr. Hamlin at the autopsy, are of the same opinion. Dr. Porter said:

I believe with Dr. Hamlin that the absence of powder marks on the dead man's forehead indicates that murder has been done. From the condition of the body I would say that it had been in the water about thirty-six hours. The fact that the nose was broken, that an eye was bruised and that there was an ante-mortem contusion over the left ear lead me to believe that the man was engaged in a fist fight and that he was probably shot by one of the friends of his opponent. While this is merely a matter of conjecture, there seems to me no reasonable doubt that the man was murdered.

SEARCHING FOR CLEWS.

Early this morning Detective Kyte, to whom Chief of Police Hodgkins detailed the handling of the case, took M. B. Maurice and A. Pivor, the boys who made the grewsome find while fishing from the mole, to the point about 1000 feet from Bay street, where the body was found, but the tide was still too high for a systematic search. Kyte returned to the scene this afternoon, but was not rewarded for his efforts. Kyte says:

The boys said there was blood upon the rocks, but I could find no trace of it. Still, it might have been washed away by the waves. That should have happened, however, before the boys found the body, because Dr. Hamlin is of the opinion that it had been in the water for at least forty-eight hours. This would lead to the belief that the man was not murdered on the rocks, but was washed ashore.

In the absence of any identification a theory has been advanced that the dead man may have been one of a gang that came from San Francisco to do some crooked work; that he was shot either by his intended victim or his pals, and his body was thrown into the bay. Until the body is identified, however, that theory is about as valuable as the others that have been advanced.

Of one thing I feel sure—that if it is a case of murder, the object was not robbery. The pockets had not been turned inside out, and a robber would have left in them some article such as a knife or a pencil. Another thing that deepens the mystery is the absence of powder marks, either on the forehead or inside the wound. The fact that the bullet entered the center of the forehead and took an upward course to the right tends to prove little. The wound may have been self-inflicted or inflicted by another.

The laundry mark on the victim's collar, which was T 423X, was responsible for a rumor this afternoon to the effect that the victim might have been E. C. Morrison, a railroad man of Tracy, who is well known in Oakland. Such a laundry mark was registered to Morrison in a San Francisco laundry office, and it was learned that Morrison was in West Oakland Wednesday, but an investigation proved that Morrison is alive and attending to his railroad duties at Tracy.

The efforts of the police are now directed toward establishing the dead man's identity.

IROQUOIS CLUB NOMINATES OFFICERS FOR NEXT TERM

New Members Are Initiated Into the Society and Take Part in the Election.

The Iroquois Club nominated and elected officers for the ensuing year at its regular meeting in B'nai B'rith Hall, 121 Eddy street, last evening. Three new members were nominated and initiated during the early part of the evening and took part in the election which followed.

The following were elected without opposition: Charles Edelman, president; A. H. Barendt, first vice president; H. G. Davis, second vice president; E. R. Zion, recording secretary, and M. L. Bienfield, corresponding secretary.

SEEKING LARGE TRACT OF LAND

Demand for Alameda Property Results in an Offer for Realty on the Tidal Canal

MORE RAILROAD TALK

City Trustees May Be Asked for Franchise for Track to Run on Pacific Avenue

ALAMEDA, Dec. 8.—Close upon the application made by W. J. Morgan and former Attorney General W. H. H. Hart for a franchise to install a double track standard gauge railroad on Santa Clara avenue from San Leandro Bay to San Francisco Bay, to connect with a projected ferry system, comes the announcement that a large offer has been made for the magnificent tract of land at the northeastern section of the city owned by Mrs. Emilie G. Cohen, widow of the late A. A. Cohen, and which contains over 100 acres. The identity of the persons seeking to purchase the land, which fronts on the tidal canal, has not been made known and who they are acting for is likewise a secret. It is understood that the offer made by the would-be buyers of the Cohen property was not satisfactory to the owner. The tract is one of the largest unent areas in the city. It is also rumored that if the land could be secured by the people now seeking it, the City Trustees would be asked for a franchise to lay a railroad track on Pacific avenue from San Francisco Bay to Park street and thence through private property to the Cohen tract.

City Trustee W. M. Bowers has expressed himself as having but little confidence in the Morgan-Hart project and has also stated that in an interview he had with a prominent official of the Western Pacific he was told the Western Pacific would soon ask for a railroad franchise in Alameda.

ALAMEDA COUNTY NEWS

MRS. PEDERSEN GETS DIVORCE.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—A final decree of divorce was granted Matilda Pedersen from Henry N. Pedersen on the ground of cruelty.

CLOSE OF PEMBROKE TRIAL.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—After two days of argument the trial of Percy Pembroke, charged with the murder of Thomas Cook, was finished this evening with the exception of the charge to the jury, which will take place the first thing to-morrow morning.

COUNTY WINS SUIT.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—A decision handed down by Judge Ellsworth to-day confirms the title of Alameda County to the extension of Broadway, which the Berkeley Rock Company has attempted to appropriate.

J. FLETCHER SIMS' FUNERAL.—Berkeley, Dec. 8.—Funeral services for J. F. Sims, the capitalist, who was fatally injured in an automobile accident recently, were held this morning at the home of Mrs. Sims, 2421 Warring street. Rev. W. R. Dille officiated. The body was incinerated at an Oakland establishment.

McNULTY GIVES INCREASED BAIL.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—The father and brother of former Deputy County Clerk Lester McNulty appeared before Judge Waste at his home in Berkeley at an early hour this morning and qualified for the $6000 bond necessary to keep him out of jail and he was released from custody.

MOTHER CAUSES ARREST.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—Roy Tempest Johnston was arrested this afternoon on complaint of Mrs. Minnie Reinhardt of Salinas, who accuses the young man of enticing her daughter, Minnie, aged 20 years, away from her home. The young couple have been living at 460½ Seventh street. Johnston will be taken back to Salinas.

HUSBAND WAS FICKLE.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—Bertha C. Moore was granted an interlocutory decree of divorce from A. V. Moore this morning by Judge Waste and she was also awarded the custody of their child and $150 a month alimony. It was shown that Moore had another sweetheart on whom he lavished his affections.

TWO DIE AT SAME MOMENT.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—According to the record at the Morgue David Ringgold, a mulatto, aged 60 years, who dropped dead while at work at Taylor's coal yard at the foot of Franklin street, and Mrs. Mattie Vegar, also a mulatto, aged 36 years, who dropped dead at the corner of Ninth and Clay streets, died at the same moment. The time of death is given in each case at 11:55 a. m. Heart disease is believed to have been the cause of both deaths.

CONFERENCE PLANNED.—Berkeley, Dec. 8.—The Chamber of Commerce directors have asked their standing committee on advertising to confer with the Southern Pacific Company officials to prove if possible a better representation for Berkeley in the advertising literature distributed by the corporation. The railway committee reported that it has under consideration plans for a proposed union railroad depot in the center of Berkeley, which the Southern Pacific and the Key route company will be asked to provide their patrons.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.—Oakland, Dec. 8.—The following marriage licenses were issued by the County Clerk to-day: Elam Miller, 24, San Francisco, and Thyrza H. Kinnell, 19, Berkeley; Jose E. Brazill, 32, and Perpetua A. Louize, 18, both of Oakland; Clarence Stambaugh, 25, and May Woerner, 27, both of San Francisco; Arthur A. Barber, 25, Fruitvale, and Helen E. Fowler, 24, Alameda; Frederick G. Delker, 25, Oakland, and Ethel V. Crane, 19, San Francisco; Edward A. Reynolds, 38, Oakland, and Margaret M. Shields, 23, Fields Landing; Thomas Christian, 22, and Victoria Navano, 19, both of Livermore.

ELLIS WANTS MONEY.

OAKLAND, Dec. 8.—William C. Ellis, the Australian horseman, victim of the savage assault made upon him by Milton F. Andrews and his companion, Nulda P. Olivia, appeared in the probate department of the Superior Court this morning as a witness for the Public Administrator and testified that he had seen both of his assailants dead after the tragic ending in a McAllister-street flat in San Francisco, when Andrews shot his companion and then himself when about to be taken by the police.

The matter came up on a petition for letters of administration filed by Public Administrator George Gray and he had Ellis as a witness to prove the death of the pair. The letters were issued to him and he will proceed to take charge of the effects of both. Ellis has retained a lawyer and will file claims aggregating $1500 against their estates. He says his hospital bill is $400 and $500 they robbed him of and $600 is for borrowed money. He has not yet thoroughly recovered from his experience, but says that he is slowly getting over the terrible shock to his system.

Tuberculosis Ends Her Life.

The many friends of Frank H. Norman, clerk to the Chief of Police, were sorry to learn yesterday of the death of his wife, Katherine Elsie, at the family residence, 346 San Carlos avenue, which occurred shortly before 11 o'clock yesterday morning. She had been ailing for some time and a few weeks ago her attending physician informed her that tuberculosis had developed. Mrs. Norman was a native of Wisconsin, aged 41 years.

LECTURES ON SOLDIERS.—An interesting lecture on "The Soldier's Life" was given in the South Park Settlement Club rooms last evening by the eminent blind orator, C. Bisbee Taylor. The speaker told many thrilling stories and personal encounters of the Civil War, during which time he was only a youth hardly out of his teens, but serving as a private in the Union Army. The speaker told an interesting story of a supposed spy who was captured and placed under his charge. The spy persuaded him to carry a message which finally established his innocence and saved his life.

POLICE CATCH ONE STUDENT

Cox of Stanford Football Team Arrested for Taking Part in "Rough House"

DEMANDS JURY TRIAL

Authorities Declare They Will Jail Rioters as Fast as Their Names Are Learned

Special Dispatch to The Call.

PALO ALTO, Dec. 8.—A. B. Cox, a junior of Stanford University registering from Telluride, Colo., was arrested to-day charged with participating in the "rough house" at Mullen's Hall Tuesday night. Justice of the Peace S. W. Charles released Cox on his own recognizance. Cox will be tried by a jury Tuesday morning. Many of the other students who engaged in the affair are hiding from the police.

Cox is working his way through college by waiting in the New York Restaurant, 547 Emerson street. He was compelled to appear on the street to-day at noon, and the police promptly arrested him.

Backed by friends, Cox intends to make a hard fight. He was a promising athlete, having made the football squad this year, and is well known. The sympathy of his fellow students was freely extended to-day.

Constable Grider intends to bring the remaining participants to justice, he says, and will make arrests as fast as the names of the students can be procured. Cox said to-night:

I was not engaged in the fight against the police. I went to that show and came away without fighting a single officer. If I am brought to trial I will demand a jury. Those who caused the commotion were not students, and because we happened to be there is no reason why we should be blamed.

DEVOUT OBSERVE THE FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Father Prendergast Preaches at St. Mary's Cathedral and Father Sasia at St. Francis Church.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was observed yesterday in all the Roman Catholic churches of this city. At St. Mary's Cathedral the celebrant of the mass was the Rev. Father Jerome B. Hannigan, assisted by the Rev. Father Charles A. Ramm, deacon; the Rev. Father William T. Sullivan, sub-deacon, and the Very Rev. Father Prendergast, vicar general, master of ceremonies. In the evening Father Prendergast preached the sermon on the immaculate conception.

At St. Francis Church the Rev. Father William E. McGough was celebrant of the mass, the Rev. Father Terence Caraher was deacon and the Rev. Father William Cleary sub-deacon. In the evening the Rosary was recited and then a number of hymns to the Blessed Virgin were sung. The sermon on the immaculate conception was preached by the Rev. Father Joseph Sasia, S. J., of St. Ignatius Church.

Father Sasia said that while Catholics of every age believed in the immaculate conception of the Virgin, yet it was only fifty-one years ago that this belief was made an article of faith by Pius IX.

He proceeded to say that they are just as much obliged to-day to believe in that article of faith as in the existence of hell or heaven, or the resurrection of the dead.

SHIPBUILDING CORPORATION FILES INSOLVENCY PETITION

Famous Alameda Concern Finds It Cannot Make Money After Death of Its Two Founders.

A petition of insolvency was filed with the County Clerk yesterday by the Hay & Wright Shipbuilding Company of Alameda Point. The corporation will be able to pay about 50 per cent of its indebtedness. It was quietly going out of business and paying off its indebtedness when the attachment of a creditor named Henrix forced the petition as a protection to the other creditors.

The firm of Hay & Wright, under which name it was formerly known, was one of the oldest shipbuilding firms on the coast. In 1902 Wright died suddenly, and the next year Hay followed. The firm had been made a corporation shortly before, and it attempted to continue the business after the two founders had died. The corporation was unsuccessful, and decided to go out of business. The yards have been sold to the Pacific Shipyard and Ways Company.

State Floral Society Lecture.

The California State Floral Society held its monthly meeting yesterday in Elks' Hall, the chief interest lying in a talk by Mrs. W. D. O'Brien, who gave personal experiences and observations in the jungle of the Malay states. Her descriptions were filled with instructive matter of an unusual nature, dealing with the people in their primitive ways and speaking of the flora, including the wonderful cocoanut groves. The latitude of that country, lying only a few degrees north of the equator, produces a constant tangle of growth, but the gardeners are of superior intelligence, keeping verdure controlled and trimmed to a perfect degree of beauty. Mrs. O'Brien spoke at length, holding the most fixed attention to the end.

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