

FATHERS HUNT AT UNREQUESTED LOVE OF BOAS

Belief That Electrician Planned His Own Death Prevails Despite Views of Family

Expert Kytka Says There is Doubt as to Handwriting in Fatal Letter

Investigations covering a period of 48 hours and more have failed to throw any positive light on the mystery surrounding the death of Harry J. Boas, or Bose, the young electrician who died at his home, 2816 Harrison street, Wednesday night after swallowing strychnine.

The police of this city and San Jose have expressed, with greater or less logic, the conviction that the deceased committed suicide by the circuitous route of mailing himself the fatal powder and pretending that they came from some one in San Jose named Charles M. Hawer. Miss Anna Kelliher, the only close woman friend that Boas seemed to have, and other friends of the dead insist that he committed suicide.

Wife Miss Kelliher's friends insist that that young woman was not trifling with Boas' affections, a letter was made public yesterday which was written by the girl to Boas Tuesday, December 1, the day before his death. It mentioned the diamond earrings which Boas gave her and anticipated the present of hand painted china, which he was to make Christmas.

SAYS SHE HAS A HEART The only suggestion of the fact that Boas' love for the girl was unrequited was contained in the passage, "If I lost my diamond" (earring) "I would have broken my heart, if I have such a thing. You say I have not. But I say I have."

In the letter Harry Boas is addressed as "Tony." On the whole, the note is more formal than affectionate. It does not appear to be in response to any passionate or desperate messages which Boas might have sent the girl.

It is declared that Miss Kelliher is now engaged to a man living in Portland, Ore., named Herbert.

Martin Bose, the dead man's brother, is positive that murder has been committed.

If he had killed himself knowingly and was about to face his Maker," declared the brother, "would he have said in his dying agonies, 'I wonder who sent me those powders?' He would have said, 'Why did I do it?'"

The most serious argument advanced to support the murder theory is that Boas permitted his business associate, Walter Wilson, to taste the strychnine after he opened the letter which recommended the drug as an indigestion remedy.

Coroner Leland will make a thorough investigation of the case. Detective Gallagher is investigating the poison records of drug stores to discover who purchased the strychnine.

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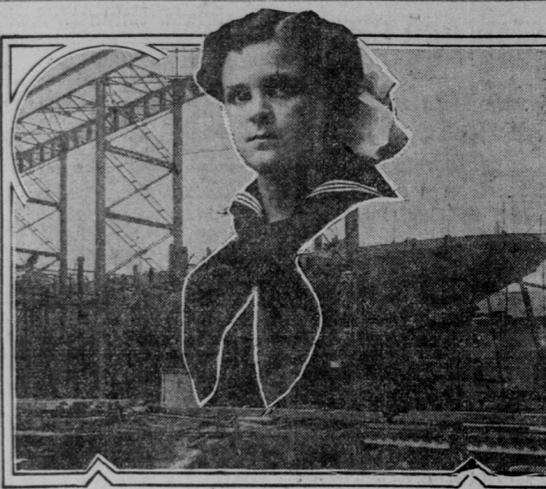
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Big Collier Is Ready For the Launching



Hull of the Prometheus and Miss Dollie Evans, who will christen the craft when it slides from the ways today.

WILL MARK ERA IN SHIP BUILDING

Government Built Prometheus to Be Launched at Mare Island This Morning

The first collier to be built by the government will take its initial plunge into the sea this morning, when the Prometheus is released from hidden moorings and slides down the ways at Mare Island navy yard.

A large crowd is expected to attend the launching of the mammoth collier. Excursions have been arranged to leave Clay street wharf at 7 o'clock, 7:30 and 8 o'clock, and hundreds of persons have signified their intention of attending the ceremony.

The Prometheus is a sister ship of the Vestal, under construction in the New York navy yard.

The Prometheus is 90 per cent completed, and only the final coat of paint, the stepping of the masts, which can not be done while the ship is in the ways, and the steam engineering work remain to make the vessel ready to join the fleet as an auxiliary ship in case of war.

The Prometheus will carry a complement of 11 officers and a crew of 182 men. Its cargo will be 6,500 tons of coal, beside ammunition and stores.

In length it will equal the flagship of Admiral Sperry, the Connecticut, which led the procession of the Evans fleet into the San Francisco harbor.

Its displacement is 12,500 tons, as great as the Ohio, Maine and Missouri.

COLLIER WILL BE SWIFT When loaded the Prometheus will have a draft of 26 feet greater than that of any vessel in the Atlantic fleet.

With a speed of 16 knots, she will outstrip any vessel of the auxiliary fleet which accompanied the battleships around the world, the fastest having been the Marcellus, which made 11 knots.

A force of 250 men will be employed at the launching this morning, and when the collier slides into the water it will be nearer completion than any other vessel that has been launched in the United States.

Gala Day at Mare Island MARE ISLAND NAVY YARD, Dec. 4. The Prometheus, whose big hull towers above the ways, was gayly dressed today with flags, pennants and streamers preliminary to its initial dip in the waters of the channel tomorrow.

All business houses in Vallejo will close from 10 o'clock in the morning until noon, and all business in the government offices and the navy yard will be suspended for several hours in honor of the event, which marks a new epoch in the ship building industry on the Pacific coast.

Preparations have been made at the yard to receive several thousand visitors, who are expected from San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and other bay cities.

The exercises will include addresses by Governor Gillett on "California's Interest in This Event"; Naval Constructor Holden A. Evans on "Ship Building in Navy Yards"; N. O. Harron, "San Francisco's Relation to Mare Island Navy Yard"; and Walter MacArthur, "Building of Ships."

Following the exercises the Merchants' association and the trade and labor council will serve luncheons in the navy yard to 3,000 guests.

DEFENDS CONDUCT OF ITALY IN BALKANS Foreign Minister Titoni Tells Why Nation Can Not Quit Triple Alliance

ROME, Dec. 4.—Foreign Minister Titoni made a speech in the chamber of deputies today in which he defended his conduct of the foreign policy of Italy during the recent trouble in the Balkans.

He said it was impossible for him to have done otherwise, for the simple reason that if Italy withdrew from the triple alliance she would not be able to find sufficient support in Europe to guarantee the integrity of the realm.

Titoni said that a rapprochement between Italy and Russia was an accomplished fact and that its importance would increase in the future.

Italian interests in the Balkans were merely economic and opposed to any territorial occupation.

ROFF'S CASE SET—Albert Roff, arrested for receiving a special delivery letter containing money and addressed to John S. Barry, was examined yesterday morning before United States Commissioner Heckock. His hearing was set for Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

LANGDON TELLS OF BITTERLY ATTACKS 'UNCLE JOE' CANNON

District Attorney Makes Opening Statement in Case of F. J. Murphy, Ruff's Counsel

E. A. S. Blake, Who Tried to Buy Venireman, Exchanges Icy Stares With Defendant

The trial of Frank J. Murphy, former associate of Henry Ach in the defense of Abe Ruef on the charge of having attempted to bribe John Martin Kelly, a salesman, began in earnest yesterday morning before Judge F. J. Murphy. After a succinct review of the charges, against Murphy by District Attorney William H. Langdon, the taking of record testimony was begun.

District Attorney Langdon said that important witnesses for the prosecution would be called to testify during the early stages of the case, as not determined by the district attorney's office.

INDICTMENT ATTACKED Slight differences arose between counsel over the question as to whether the indictment against Murphy should be admitted as evidence, Bert Schlesinger, attorney for Murphy, contending that the document was faultily drawn because it did not mention Calhoun and Cook.

Division of Crop Ends BURLEY TOBACCO WAR Independents Apportion 20,000,000 Pounds of Leaf and Plan Strong Organization

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—Practically the closing scene in the Burley war with the tobacco trust was witnessed here today, when representatives of independent factories apportioned the 20,000,000 pounds of tobacco secured by the Independent Manufacturers' association from the Equity society.

It is understood that steps will be taken to strengthen the independent manufacturers' association to resist any further encroachments of the so called tobacco trust.

It is also understood that the independents will co-operate with the tobacco planters who oppose the formation of another equity pool for the crop of 1909.

FRENCH SPAHIS FIGHT WITH BAND OF MOORS Heavy Losses Occur During a Severe Engagement in West Africa

PARIS, Dec. 4.—A telegram from French West Africa says that a detachment of French spahis have had a serious engagement with a band of Moors. The French lost in killed one lieutenant and 12 privates, while the enemy suffered heavy losses and were routed.

WITTMAN IS HIGHLY VALUED BY PINKERTONS Former Chief of Police Given Important Berth in Detective Agency

George W. Wittman is not an \$18 man, nor has he been engaged by us to patrol a beat along Market street. He has been appointed superintendent of our patrol, and in that position he will draw a salary of \$12,000 a year.

That statement was made yesterday by William H. Field, resident superintendent in refutation of the stories that had gone abroad that San Francisco's former chief of police had entered the service of the Pinkertons as an ordinary patrolman, would patrol Market street and receive the modest salary of \$18 a week.

Ex-Chief Wittman's business career since he left the police department has been one of many vicissitudes, necessitating finally his acceptance of employment with the Pinkertons, the head of which is his intimate friend.

WILL RUSH WORK ON ELECTRIC ROAD Opposition to Line From Stockton to Modesto Overcome by Promoters

STOCKTON, Dec. 4.—Morris L. Brackett, the New York capitalist and interurban railroad promoter, announces that all opposition to the proposed interurban electric road between Stockton and Modesto has been overcome and that nothing prevails which in any way will delay the actual commencement of the work of construction.

DEATH SUMMONS AGED PIONEER SAN JOSE, Dec. 4.—W. B. Rogers, who resided in this city 67 years, died here this morning. He was a native of Crawford county, Ohio, and was nearly 83 years old. He leaves a widow, one son and five daughters, all well known here.

EVA BOOTH RECOVERING NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Commander Eva Booth of the Salvation Army, who has been ill several weeks, was reported to be well on the road to complete recovery today. She is preparing to fill all her engagements of the Christmas season.

JURY IN REY CASE LOCKED UP OAKLAND, Dec. 4.—The jury in the case of John Rey, keeper of the Albreca gun club at Alviso, charged with the murder of Karl Moller, was locked up at midnight after deliberating for 12 hours.

Of Course You Are Going to the Auto Races! Special train for Tanforan leaves 3d and Townsend sts. 1:30 p. m., Valencia st. 1:40 p. m., Saturday and Sunday, December 5th and 6th, returning after the races. Round trip 50c, one way either direction 30c. Particulars at ticket offices, 884 Market St., 14 Powell st., Third and Townsend sts.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY WILL CURE Your Cold. Try It

The uniform success that has attended the use of this remedy in the cure of bad colds has made it one of the most popular medicines in use. It can always be depended upon to effect a quick cure and is pleasant to take.

It contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given as confidently to a child as to an adult. Price 25 cents. Large size 50 cents.

FEDERAL CHURCH COUNCIL FAVORS ORGANIZED LABOR

Resolutions Adopted Urging Active Work in Behalf of Laboring Men

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—A clear conception of what the federal council of the churches of Christ in America hope to accomplish through church unity was conveyed through the actions of the body in session here today in adopting resolutions placing itself on record as favoring active work in the interest of the laboring man and organized labor, and also urging a better distribution of churches and the home missionary workers.

Rev. Charles Steizle of New York, superintendent of the department of church and labor of the Presbyterian church, declared that the relation of the laboring man to the church was one that dared not be ignored.

CATTLE DISEASE CONTROLLED WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Secretary Wilson said today that the suppression of the foot and mouth disease is well in hand, all the infected cattle being killed and buried and a house to house canvass in the two states affected will be made to ascertain whether by any chance it has been carried into other sections.

After attacking the speaker for his "gag rules," his domineering methods and his subservience to the trusts, the governor says: "The mills are stopping; the harbors are clogged, shipping is dropping by the wayside, and all of these things can be blamed alone to the man who let his jealousy of a president stifle his love of country."

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AN ITCHING PALM No Cure for It. Other Forms of Itching Preferable.

There is no cure for an itching palm—the money kind. Even psalm, the new skin discovery, cannot help it. But when it comes to eczema, the most annoying of itching skin troubles, psalm will stop the itching at once and cure the worst cases in a few days.

Psalm comes in two-dollar jars, but fifty cents' worth will answer in curing any of the diseases mentioned. It can be had of any druggist. The Owl Drug Co. makes a specialty of it.

That results are immediate will be amply demonstrated overnight by the use of the experimental sample which the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West Twenty-fifth Street, New York City, will send free by mail, in plain wrapper, to any one who will write for it sections.

Two Good Values for Today

Ladies' Shirt Waists

Net waists in white and ecru, short sleeves, wide lace and insertion trimmed; valenciennes lace cuff; values up to \$10 for \$5.65

India silk waists in black and white striped and solid black; high collar; pleated front and button trimmed; were \$4.50 and \$5; sale price today \$2.85

S. N. Wood & Co. Market and Fourth Fillmore and Ellis



The Burlingame Telegraphing Typewriter was operated Wednesday evening, December 2nd, for two hours over 165 miles of the telegraph company's wire. On Thursday, December 3rd, the Burlingame machines were operated over 426 miles of the telegraph company's wire.

Elmer Burlingame Inventor

HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS MARK TWAIN SAYS: Anne of Green Gables From Page's List

ARTS AND CRAFTS IN THE MIDDLE AGES THE ART OF THE NETH-ERLAND GALLERIES

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