

### XMAS WEDDING CONVERTED INTO AWFUL TRAGEDY

#### Illinois Carpenter Shoots Mother in Law and Battles With Taylorville Police

### SLAYER IS CORNERED AND CAUGHT BY RUSE

#### After Disturber Is Put in Hospital Guests Reassemble for Ceremony

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 25.—A Christmas wedding ceremony at Taylorville, Ill., 36 miles east of here, today, was converted into a tragedy, and two persons are at the point of death.

John Belder, a carpenter, to avenge some grievance he is said to have entertained against his wife, shot his mother in law, Mrs. Emma Fisher, 68 years old, and battled with the Taylorville police. He was cornered and caught by ruse. When captured it was found that Belder had been shot near the heart by one of the officers. Mrs. Fisher and Belder will die.

Belder, said to have been drinking, went to the home of Mrs. Fisher in the residence district of Taylorville, where relatives had gathered for the wedding of his stepdaughter, Miss Elsie Bates, to Ora Redfern.

### FRIGHTENED GUESTS RETREAT

He followed the pastor, Rev. M. G. Coleman of the Taylorville Methodist church, into the house, where a revolver and began firing at his wife. She ran out of the back door, followed by her husband.

Going to the room occupied by Mrs. Fisher, Belder fired six times through the door. The first bullet took effect in the abdomen. She finally managed to crawl out of the window and escaped to the home of Dr. A. F. Turner. She was taken to one of the Taylorville hospitals. After the shooting of Mrs. Fisher he went to the room in which Miss Bates and Redfern had taken refuge and fired five shots, none of which took effect.

### POLICE BEGIN ATTACK

In the meantime the police were notified and rushed to the scene. Chief of Police Steven Link, Officer Charles Ceaf and Deputies Ben Davis and Lee Taylor began the attack. Belder came to the door and fired five shots at the officers, but none was effective. Deputy Ceaf returned the fire, seemingly without effect.

The bride couple climbed out of the window and retreated to the home of a neighbor. While they were retreating from the house Belder reappeared at the door and reopened fire on the officers. Deputy Davis retaliated by firing at him with a shotgun, and Officer Ceaf fired again with his revolver.

### STRUCK NEAR HEART

One of the bullets fired during this part of the fight struck Belder near the heart.

Kearns effected a capture by pretending that he had come to assist Belder. The latter was then taken to a hospital.

After the excitement the wedding guests reassembled and Redfern and Miss Bates were married.

## Miss Morrow Engaged Betrothal Is Announced

Miss Arabella Morrow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hulbert Morrow, whose betrothal was announced last night at Christmas dinner.



Popular Grand Daughter of Federal Jurist Will Become the Bride of Harold Mann

The engagement of Miss Arabella Morrow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hulbert Morrow and grand-daughter of Judge William W. Morrow, to Harold Mann, which was announced last night at a Christmas dinner given by the young woman's parents in their apartments at the

## LACK OF CHEER IN CHRISTMAS FOR THIS WIDOW

#### Husband Perishes on Ship Bearing Trees and Chicagoans Forget His Family

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—In the gladness of Christmas time Chicagoans forgot the family of Captain Herman Schuene-mann who, with his crew of 20 men, went to the bottom of Lake Michigan a few weeks ago while returning from northern Michigan with a cargo of trees for the Yuletide.

After it was established that the captain and his crew had perished, the wife and daughters of the master of the Christmas ship attempted to fortify themselves against want by bringing a new cargo of trees to the city. They were set up for sale down on the river bank, and every day the widow and her children worked hard making wreaths and arranging other stock.

Many old customers came and bought, but not nearly all of the "regulars" remembered to buy. And only a few new customers came. So tonight, when darkness fell and the last hope of another sale had passed, the family found itself still in possession of a considerable amount of unsold stock. But the widow was plucky.

"I don't want charity," she said. "I'll fight it out. Next year we'll sell trees again, and maybe business will be better."

Prisoners at the county jail were disappointed, too, when the singers from the grand opera company failed to give a concert which had been planned. Jailer Davies, however, went into the rooming house district of North Clark street and managed to gather several acrobats, jugglers and other performers who have been showing at nickel theaters and other small houses for a performance. A dinner followed.

Eighteen hundred men and boys in the House of correction sang "The Star Spangled Banner" while a band played the tune. These prisoners also were given a feast.

### WOMAN SAYS SHE WAS ASSAULTED

Asserting that she met a man Tuesday night in a Market street restaurant who paid for her meal and bought her several drinks, after which she remembered nothing until she woke up yesterday morning in a lodging house at 69 Columbus avenue, a woman giving her name as Mrs. Kate Cloud, 23 years old, living at the Potter hotel, Ninth and Mission streets, complained to the police yesterday that she had been assaulted. Detective Louis La Place arrested Gus Nelson, a legless mendicant, on suspicion that he was connected with the affair. The woman says that Nelson is not the man who paid for her meal.

Keystone, comes as a surprise to society, although the most intimate friends of the couple suspected their betrothal for some time.

Miss Morrow is one of San Francisco's most popular society girls and has been in attendance at most of the functions of the fall season. Her family is well known about the bay.

Mann is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry R. Mann. The couple have known each other since childhood.

## Relief Home Is Cheered Enjoys The Call's Treat

#### Incidents Both Pathetic and Amusing Occur While Entertainers Do Their Part

Bright and cheery touches of the outside world, in the form of songs and dances and comedy, interspersed with bits of sentiment, made the Christmas day entertainment at the Relief home an event long to be remembered by those present. Bohemian gaiety invaded the secluded green hollow where the home lies, and the climax of the occasion was reached when Mayor Rolph joined the entertainers in their last chorus and march around the hall, amid the waving of canes and crutches and the continued cheers of the aged men and women who crowded the room.

Watching the stage with an intensity seldom shown by the ordinary audience, the 1,300 persons gathered in the assembly hall of the home applauded enthusiastically every number on the program, laughed with simple enjoyment at the humorous touches and showed evidence of sentimental feeling at the pathetic songs.

The entertainment was arranged for their benefit by The Call and some 20 entertainers from downtown cafes gave their services for the occasion.

### MAYOR GIVES GREETINGS

The mayor appeared near the end of the program and extended Christmas greetings to the audience, saying that he wished them all a happy holiday along with the rest of San Francisco.

At the close of his talk Harold Woltenberg, the 8 year old son of Superintendent C. M. Wollenberg, mounted the stage, carrying in his hand a bundle wrapped in a red bandanna handkerchief, which he presented to Rolph. It was a present the same as those given to all the men at the relief home's Christmas tree the evening before, and the mayor thus became the possessor of a handanna, necktie, candy and nuts, a cornucopia, smoking tobacco and a plug of chewing tobacco.

The first number on the program, an opening chorus by the entire company, was stopped while one lame old lady, in a faded blue dress and a red shawl around her neck hobbled on to the platform, and straightened out a string of popcorn which had fallen from one of the Christmas trees.

### TEXAS TOMMY TICKLES HER

Humorous yet pathetic touches of this kind enlivened the afternoon, from the startled glances of the men when one performer passed through their midst pulling dollars from the pockets of their coats, to the lifting of shoulders and the swinging of arms by the Texas Tommy who was performed to the tune of "Everybody's Doin' It."

Applause in this case, as in every other where enthusiasm was shown, was manifested by the crippled women who sat on the front benches banging their crutches energetically on the floor. The men were less demonstrative, but nevertheless clapped heartily at the end of every number and banged their canes on the floor when the occasion seemed to demand it.

A comic farmer who had to go home "because the butter wasn't churned and the hay not pitched," and a train hopped up scene, where the passengers covered behind the chairs which represented care while a brother performer searched their pockets, seemed to be particularly pleasing to the audience.

Those who appeared were Miss Bella Grant, James Kessler, Charles Cohn, Sid Stewart and Mrs. Mary Stewart, Darby Kelly, Miss Nellie Harding, Phil Price, Harry O'Day, Ben Davis,

## STRANGER ASKS \$1,000 BE GIVEN TO UNFORTUNATES

#### Man Who Hides Identity Gives It to Policeman Who Distributes It to Those in Need

"I want you to take this \$1,000 and have the police department distribute it where it will do the most good—to the poor and needy people of the city," said a stranger who approached Policeman Tom O'Connell in Mason street Monday.

This peculiar form of Christmas giving at first impressed O'Connell as a jest, but the stranger, whose name has since been discovered by the police, but has been withheld at his request, insisted that he was in earnest and that his gift was genuine.

"I want Father Casey of St. Peter's parish in the Mission to have the \$300 check," he said "but I wish the police department to take care of the \$700 in cash, for they ought to have a better line on the poor than anyone else."

With this he turned over a large roll of bills to O'Connell, who reported the matter to Chief White and gave him the money. As the policeman was thought by everyone to be the proper person under the circumstances to have the pleasure of brightening Christmas Day for many poor people, the chief's automobile was put at his disposal.

O'Connell says that he got more enjoyment out of the time he spent Tuesday giving away the money in places where he thought it would do the most good than any one else did in all San Francisco.

## EAT ONIONS AND BE STRONG IS MARY'S TIP

#### Dr. Walker Says Festive and Fragrant Bulb Prevents Contagious Diseases

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—The use of plenty of onions will drive contagious diseases out of any city, Dr. Mary Walker, who is visiting with Chicago friends, tonight asserted. Here are Doctor Walker's directions for the use of onions:

Eat plenty of them—stewed, boiled, fried or raw.

Keep the fumes of onions continually permeating the atmosphere.

Spread onions in the alleys, on the lawn and any other place where it might appear they would do good.

Doctor Walker said onions were particularly effective against smallpox. The use of the vegetable in two cities, at least, has proved her contention, she said.

"Madrid was one of the affected cities," she said. "Some even had made the statement before the onions were used that the city would be depopulated by smallpox. The minister plenipotentiary assured that the spread of the disease had been halted by the use of onions. They also were used in other cities."

### SON OF INDIAN CHIEF ROBBED

Osceola Wheeler, a sailor on the gunboat Annapolis, who says his father is the chieftain of an Indian tribe in Maryland, complained to the police yesterday that he had been robbed of \$200 in cash and checks for \$150 while on shore leave.

# SEMI-ANNUAL The Emporium CLEARANCE SALES

### START THIS MORNING

After the great Christmas rush and the deep inroads into our stocks there comes the necessary clearing to prepare for the new year. Broken lots, broken sizes, and articles where there are but one of a kind left, are impossible stocks for this up-to-date, thoroughly systematized store. The White Sales at the first of the year crowd out the inventory event, so we start the semi-annual clearance sales the very morning after Christmas. Incisive reductions on all prices make them wonderful money saving events. You who are fortunate enough to have merchandise orders, gift bonds or a special Christmas allotment of money gifts, will do well to take advantage of the prices these sales afford. Come early to derive the full benefit of the bargains to be had. These sales will last for five days only, for next Thursday counter space is required for the huge piles of snowy white things which will usurp all places of prestige during the month of January.

## Every Suit! Every Coat in the women's and misses' department, regardless of former high prices, reduced to \$19.75



Needless to say this eclipses all former reduction sales in these departments. Values are little short of marvelous. We predict one of the greatest events in The Emporium history.

### WHAT IT MEANS

Taking every suit and every coat in stock including even the costly show pieces, the model garments, the direct import copies and, disregarding their selling prices (even though in many instances they are many times the sale price of \$19.75), grouping them all together at this small part of their actual worth. Over three thousand garments are involved. (Second floor)

#### The Suits consist of:

Velvets, broadcloths, diagonals and such smart cloths as are seen only in the better suits. Three piece models, fur trimmed styles, very fancy or very plain; in every suit there is a slightly evidence of a much higher selling price. Both women's and misses' departments.

#### High grade Corsets and Brassieres

Odds and ends of models to close at \$1.45, \$2.50 and \$5.00, which prices are far under their usual values. There are dozens of high grade brassieres in broken lots and sizes, 45c.

24 Inch Serge Lining, yard, 39c  
A quantity of high quality lining, underpriced to close. (First floor)  
Remnants of Dress Linings Reduced To very much less than their regular prices. (First floor)  
Men's and Youths' Suits, to close, \$12.50, 30 to 46 sizes, in broken lines left from the new Fall and Winter stocks; all wool; fine fabrics.  
Innovation Sets, \$2.00  
For women, 6 skirt and 6 waist hangers; a bargain. (First floor)

#### The Coats consist of:

Elaborate brocades, velours, velvets, fancy silks, charmeuse, velour de laine, broadcloth, rattine, imported novelty fabrics, with fur trimmings. Coats for evening wear, auto wear, street and afternoon wear. Every coat in stock is included, the show pieces as well as the more staple models.

3,000 Pair Fine Lisle Hose, Sale, Pair, 20c  
For quick clearance, fine gauze lisle, lace and embroidered hose.

Thousands of Wash Goods Remnants, Sale  
Percales, gingham and sheer white goods in various lengths. 15c to \$1.85 the piece.

Hand Emb'd. Artercrafts, to close. Pillows, scarfs, squares, centers, boxes, novelties, racks  
Children's Dresses, 50c to \$2.50  
All ready made stamped to embroider. Second floor, Art Dept.

Embroidered Models  
Such as pillows, scarfs, squares, centers, calendars, 9c to \$14.95.  
Imported Leather Novelties  
Jewel boxes, manicure sets, traveling sets, smokers' articles.

### Clearance of all Winter Millinery

This announcement gives only a hint of the bargains in a few departments. Every department in the house participates, adding its quota of bargains—so priced as to effect quick clearance. The Basement Salesroom is well represented.

Women's High and Low Shoes to close \$1.39, \$1.79, \$2.39 pair  
Imported Tunics of exquisite fashioning priced \$12 to \$50