

DR. WHITAKER IS CHARGED WITH MURDER

OTTUMWA PHYSICIAN IS ACCUSED OF PERFORMING CRIMINAL OPERATION ON MRS. ELLA HAMMERSLEY RESULTING IN DEATH

CORONER'S JURY RETURNS VERDICT

WOMAN MADE ANTE-MORTEM STATEMENT IMPLICATING DEFENDANT—THE CHARGE IS SECOND DEGREE OFFENSE.

Dr. L. B. Whitaker, 424 West Second street, was arrested this afternoon by Constable W. A. Derby upon a warrant issued by Coroner A. W. Slaughter, following the verdict reached by the coroner's jury in the inquest over the remains of Mrs. Ellen Hammersley, charging the physician with performing a criminal operation on the woman which resulted in her death.

Dr. Whitaker was arraigned this afternoon before Justice G. B. Melick upon the charge of murder in the second grade. He waived examination to the grand jury. His bond was fixed at \$5,000.

Mrs. Ellen Hammersley, wife of W. S. Hammersley, 239 McPherson street, died at the Ottumwa hospital Sunday at 12:20 a. m. Prior to her death the woman made an ante-mortem statement to Assistant County Attorney E. R. Mitchell, in the presence of several witnesses, stating that Dr. Whitaker had performed a criminal operation on her, which had resulted in blood poisoning and her death.

The remains were later removed to the Sullivan morgue, where a post-mortem examination was made by Doctors Sheafe, Bannister and Newell in the presence of Coroner A. W. Slaughter. The examination showed, according to their testimony before the coroner's inquest this morning, that the criminal operation said to have been performed by Dr. Whitaker, had resulted in septicaemia or blood poisoning.

The physicians who made the post-mortem examination and Assistant County Attorney E. R. Mitchell, and other witnesses present at the hospital when the woman made her ante-mortem statement, were subpoenaed by Coroner A. W. Slaughter, and gave their testimony at the inquest this morning. The verdict of the coroner's jury, composed of S. M. Mowatt, J. C. Cockerill and W. J. Berry, was as follows:

"We, the jury do find that the said Ella Hammersley came to her death, between the hours of 12 m., and 1 o'clock p. m., on the 27th day of February, 1910, from septicaemia, caused by a criminal operation performed by Dr. L. B. Whitaker on or about January 26, 1910, said operation was for the purpose of producing and did produce abortion." Following the verdict of the jury Coroner Slaughter issued a warrant for Dr. Whitaker's arrest.

Leaves Six Children. Mrs. Hammersley is survived by her husband and six children, her mother, two sisters and two brothers. The funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Sullivan undertaking parlors. Rev. L. H. Otto, pastor of the First Christian church, will conduct the services. The remains will be interred in the Ottumwa cemetery.

"Policy-Loans" Not Taxable. Washington, Feb. 28.—That so-called "policy loans" or "premium line note loans" of insurance companies are not liable to local taxation was decided today by the supreme court of the United States. The case was that of the city of New Orleans against the New York Life Insurance company.

Special Miners' Convention. Indianapolis, Feb. 28.—A special convention of the Mine Workers of North America will be held at Cincinnati March 14 to act upon the conclusions of the Joliet conference of the central competitive field, to be held at Cincinnati March 8.

Government Business First. London, Feb. 28.—Financial business first and the question of the lords second, was the program laid down by Premier Asquith in a statement in the commons this afternoon, in moving that government business have precedence at every sitting until March 24.

Posee After Murderer. Untonowa, Pa., Feb. 28.—A sheriff's posse is today searching for Frank Smith of Duna Station, who is wanted for the alleged shooting and killing of his father and brother-in-law, farmers, Sunday night.

High Prices And Lent Too Much For Butcher; Suicides

St. Louis, Feb. 28.—The high price he was forced to pay for meat, together with the loss of trade through Lent, caused Alexander Hindebault, a butcher, to kill himself today. His body was found in the ice box of his shop.

HARLAN MAN IS FATALLY BURNED

J. A. RATCLIFF LOSES LIFE BY EXPLOSION OF GASOLINE STOVE—FAMILY ESCAPES.

Harlan, Feb. 28.—(Special)—J. A. Ratcliff, aged 45, was fatally burned by a gasoline explosion and his wife and six children narrowly escaped from the burning house in their night clothing this morning. Ratcliff started to light the gasoline stove; it blazed too high and he tried to carry it out doors when it exploded and he was covered with burning gasoline. Mrs. D. W. Battey, a neighbor, in running to the fire fell and broke her leg.

IOWA FALLS MAN BURNED

W. L. Johnson Victim of Cook Stove Explosion and Will Probably Die as Result.

Iowa Falls, Feb. 28.—(Special)—W. L. Johnson was probably fatally burned this morning by an explosion that followed the starting of a fire in the cook stove. The room was enveloped in flames and Johnson rushed from the house calling for help. Neighbors soon smothered his burning clothing, but until one side of his body was burned to a crisp. The house and contents are practically a total loss. Johnson was taken to the hospital and physicians says the chances are against his recovery.

NAB KEOKUK COUPLE

Letter in Hands of Edna Jaques Leads to Arrest of Mrs. Jesse Jobe and Oscar Bishop.

Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Following the discovery of a letter in the possession of Miss Edna Jaques, aged 18, of Keokuk, from Mrs. Jesse Jobe of the same place, now in Des Moines, Mrs. Jobe and Oscar Bishop were arrested for lewdness today. They had written to the girl to come to Des Moines. The letter aroused the suspicions of the police when they took charge of the girl at the depot. Bishop is from Keokuk and Mrs. Jobe's husband is supposed to be there yet.

EARLING IN IOWA

Head of Milwaukee Road and Other High Officials Come to Des Moines to Attend Important Suit.

Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—President Andrew Earling of the C. M. & St. P. railway and a half dozen of the high officials of the road arrived here today to attend the trial of the case of the Milwaukee road against the Des Moines Union in the district court for possession of a mile of track in the city limits worth \$1,000,000. If the Milwaukee loses it will be forced out of Des Moines.

TABERNACLE DOOMED

Structure in Which Rev. Sunday Held Evangelistic Meetings at Muscatine Will Be Razed.

Muscatine, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Nearly 4,000 people at a mass meeting here today made their farewell to the Sunday tabernacle where 3,579 were converted, and listened to an elaborate sermon by Dr. Laird Mitchell of the St. James church of Chicago. The tabernacle will be torn down to make way for the handsome new Methodist church to be erected.

MAY ADD ATHLETICS

New Department May be Created at the State University at Iowa City Soon.

Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—An attempt will be made at the meeting of the state board of educational control Wednesday at Cedar Rapids to create a department of athletics for the state university. The object is to more evenly distribute athletic exercises among the students, and to curtail athletics among a few students. It means a hot fight, the whole athletic problem coming up for review.

WILL DISINTER BODIES.

State Board of Health Will Investigate Mysterious Burials in Central Iowa. Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—The state board of health has ordered several graves in central Iowa opened, the object being to ascertain the cause of the mysterious burials in that part of the state.

100 REPORTED DEAD AS RESULT OF SNOWSLIDE

REPORTS FROM WALLA WALLA AND SPOKANE TELL OF FRIGHTFUL AVALANCHE; THOUSAND RESCUERS AT WORK.

Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 28.—Early reports say that twelve dead bodies were recovered and twenty-five men, women and children were taken alive from a snowslide that occurred at Mace last night. It is known that a hundred persons are dead. The slide is half a mile long and thirty feet deep. A train bearing twenty-five injured left Mace for Wallace at 2:30 this morning.

Estimate Dead at Sixty. Spokane, Wash., Feb. 28.—The number of dead in the avalanche of Sunday night is now conservatively estimated at sixty. Besides the destruction of Mace, an avalanche overwhelmed the town of Burke, where a score of houses were crushed. Fourteen bodies were recovered from the ruins at Mace and sixteen at Burke. A thousand rescuers are at work. Thirty-five Italians sleeping in an outfit car on a Northern Pacific siding were swept away with their car into the bottom of the canyon. They secured their tools in the car and dug themselves out.

FARMERS LEAVING STATE

State Veterinary Surgeon's Office is Swamped With Requests for Permits to Move Stock.

Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Farmers are leaving Iowa in such large numbers this spring that the state veterinary surgeon's office is swamped with requests for permits and health certificates enabling them to take their cattle and hogs out of the state. Members of the office have been compelled to work half the night getting the certificates, so great has become the rush.

LOSES LIFE IN MINE

William Smith Killed in Dust Explosion at Mine No. 15 in Buxton.

Albia, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Another life was forfeited in a dust explosion at Mine No. 15 at Buxton last Saturday, about 5 p. m., when Wm. Smith, a shot firer, was instantly killed, his entire scalp being torn away. He was alone when the accident occurred, his companion being in another part of the mine. Doors were torn from their hinges and the mine considerably damaged. All work has been suspended since the explosion on account of the general condition of the mine.

U. S. LAND OFFICE CLOSED

Department Maintained at Des Moines for Over Half Century is Removed from State.

Des Moines, Feb. 28.—(Special)—The United States land office, established here in 1852, was closed today. F. J. Laughran receiver, turned over his books to an agent of the government. All government land in Iowa has been homesteaded.

GOOD ROADS CONVENTION.

Township Officers of Mahaska County to Meet in Oskaloosa to Discuss Better Highways.

Oskaloosa, Feb. 28.—(Special)—The fifty-one township trustees and twenty-two road supervisors of Mahaska county are in session here today discussing ways and means for the better public highway. This is the first good roads convention ever held here.

Twentieth Century Limited Delayed.

Cleveland, Feb. 28.—For a reason not yet determined the vest bound Twentieth Century Limited on the Lake Shore railroad was derailed at Olmstead Falls early this morning while running at a speed of sixty miles an hour. Two or three passengers only were slightly injured. The entire train of two engines and seven cars left the track, but remained upright.

Found Dead in Bed.

West Grove, Feb. 28.—(Special)—W. D. Sawyer when retiring last night complained of feeling bad. When the family went to awake him this morning he was dead having died during the night some time.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cole Dies.

Marshalltown, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Mrs. Elizabeth Cole, wife of the chaplain of the Soldiers' Home, died here this morning.

Killed By Train.

Marquette, Wis., Feb. 28.—Mrs. Lucy Marks, crossing the tracks of the St. Paul road this morning, was struck by a train and killed.

Carroll Man Kills Self.

Carroll, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Tom Conley committed suicide at the poor farm Friday afternoon by cutting his throat with a razor.

Typical Scene in the "City of Brotherly Love" Now in the Throes of a Serious Street Car Strike



ATTACK MADE ON VATICAN ACTION

METHODIST PASTOR IN ROME COMMENTS ON FAIRBANKS INCIDENT.

Rome, Feb. 28.—The American Methodist church was crowded yesterday, the congregation including many American visitors who were attracted by the subject of Pastor B. M. Tipple's sermon, "Why Methodism is in Rome." It was in the American Methodist church that Charles W. Fairbanks, ex-vice president of the United States, delivered the address which shut him from being received in audience by the pope, an incident which has created much discussion in Rome as well as in the United States.

The Rev. Mr. Tipple said the Methodist church was meeting with great success throughout Italy. Such an inference could be drawn from the extraordinary action of the Vatican with regard to the proposed presentation of ex-Vice President Fairbanks to the pope and also from the bitter arraignment of the Catholic clergy. As Mr. Fairbanks spoke in the American Methodist church, the pastor said it was fitting that from the same pulpit the charges pending against Methodism in Italy should be considered.

"With reference to the assertion that Methodists have no right to be in Italy," said the preacher, "the answer is, that we are here under the Italian laws, guaranteeing religious freedom. Another assertion by the Catholics is that Methodism is not needed in Italy. But Methodists believe that the need is urgent, as the Catholic church is always more efficient for good when compelled to compete with aggressive Protestantism, as is clearly evidenced in America.

"Italy needs Methodism because it is no longer Catholic except in name. The charge of Methodism proselytizing is foolish. Their hands are full in dealing with the unbelievers. This is proved by the last census, which shows that it reports the largest number of men without religious profession. It is true that the Methodists have ex-priests among the workers, but none have been actively sought. The Methodist schools are full because the children's parents select them as the best."

CELEBRATING 97 ANNIVERSARY.

Mrs. Margaret Plambeck of Davenport is Observing the Event Today by Receiving Callers.

Davenport, Feb. 28.—(Special)—While retaining the full use of her mental faculties and able to walk about the house, Mrs. Margaret Plambeck is receiving numerous callers today, the occasion being her ninety-seventh birthday.

Maybray Lawyer Stricken.

Council Bluffs, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Charles M. Harl, a prominent lawyer and one of the counsel for J. C. Maybray, was stricken with paralysis this morning. His condition is critical.

Re-arrested for Forgery.

Carroll, Feb. 28.—(Special)—C. M. Cowell, a switchman on the Chicago and Northwestern, was re-arrested yesterday on the charge of breaking and entering. The grand jury indicted him on three counts.

Britt Minister Resigns.

Britt, Feb. 28.—(Special)—Rev. G. Greenaway, pastor of the Congregational church of this city, has resigned his position here to accept a call to the Presbyterian church at Rochester, Minn.



Scene near the car barns, showing the great crowd of strikers. C. O. Pratt, who was conducting the Philadelphia car strike and whose arrest has made him a martyr in the eyes of the strikers and has greatly aggravated the breach between employer and employe.

HITCHCOCK IS GRILLED

Minnesota "Insurgent" Congressman Calls Postmaster General a Dictator.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Representative Lindberg of Minnesota, a Republican "insurgent," aroused by the refusal of the postmaster general to accept his recommendation for post-office appointments, has written a letter in which he calls him a "political dictator," and denounces him for his alleged effort to defeat Lindberg's renomination.

Decides Against Congressmen.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Justice Wright of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, today decided that the court acted entirely within its authority when it issued a writ of mandamus ordering the joint committee on printing of congress to show cause why it should not reconsider the bid of Valley Paper company of Holyoke, Mass.

PAPER TO BE SERVED

Capiases for Arrest of Indicted Packers Ordered by New Jersey Prosecutor.

New York, Feb. 28.—Capiases for the arrest of the indicted meat packers and summonses for the six indicted meat corporations were ordered today by Prosecutor Garven of New Jersey, who will later hand them over to Sheriff Kelly for execution. Counsel for James E. Bathgate, Jr., one of the New Jersey directors in the meat combine appeared today and was released on \$2,500 bail.

PORK STILL CLIMBS

Hogs Set Another High Mark for Year at Chicago, Climbing Nearer Ten Dollars.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—Live hogs advanced still closer to the ten dollar mark today, sales being made at \$9.92 1/2. Pork reached the top price today—\$24.70 for May delivery.

Pork went to \$24.75, but closed at \$24.55. Late in the session today May wheat, on influential buying, bolstered up by crop damage reports, advanced from \$1.15 1/2 to \$1.16 1/2 @ \$1.16, a new crop record price. It closed at \$1.15 1/2.

100,000 MAY JOIN STRIKE IN PHILADELPHIA

WALK OUT OF ALL UNION MEN IN QUAKER CITY THREATENED UNLESS DIFFERENCES ARE SETTLED BY SATURDAY.

ARBITRATION IS NOW URGED ON COMPANY

BUSINESS INTERESTS DROP IN DIFFERENCE AND TAKE HAND IN BRINGING ABOUT SETTLEMENT OF STRIKE.

Philadelphia, Feb. 28.—Despite various acts of violence committed by riotous crowds throughout the city Sunday, the street railway company was prepared this morning to open its lines with an increased number of cars. Very little difficulty was experienced in the operation of any line in the early part of the day. More important than the company's ability to operate the cars is the probable effect of the sympathetic strike decided upon by the labor leaders. The walkout of more than 100,000 union workers is scheduled for next Saturday unless the differences between the company and its union employes is amicably adjusted before that time.

Business men and other heretofore indifferent are now endeavoring to induce the company to agree to arbitration, but so far it shows no sign of yielding.

General Strike Voted.

Action fraught with possible momentous consequences to Philadelphia was taken by the Central Labor union last night, when that body, representing 140 unions with a claimed membership of 125,000, voted to begin a sympathetic strike next Saturday in aid of the striking street railway employes.

This action came at the end of a secret session of about 700 delegates in Labor Lyceum hall, which lasted more than six hours. There was apparently no question that the delegates would vote to strike, the split being on the question of whether it would be started immediately. The more conservative element prevailed, however, and the walk-out was put off until next Saturday.

Meanwhile there is hope that the street railway strike will be arbitrated, despite the repeated declarations of the transit company, controlling all the lines in the city, that "there is nothing to arbitrate."

Nobody doubts that the action of the Central Labor union makes the situation very grave. There is a strong feeling, especially among business people, that the strike should be settled speedily, as all lines of business suffer because of the stagnation resulting from the interference with traffic. Consequently there is much sympathy for the move for arbitration made by clergymen of all denominations early in the week.

Whether this sentiment is strong enough to bring the clashing interests together remains to be seen.

Unanimity in Vote is Surprise. There was surprise at the unanimity of the vote in favor of a general sympathetic strike. For several days the meeting had been discussed, and there was a mixed sentiment as to the wisdom of calling out all classes of workmen.

Leaders of various trades unions said they were opposed to a general strike, because it involved the matter of broken trade agreements. Others doubted their ability to order all workmen to lay down their tools and have the order obeyed. There is no doubt, however, of the strength of the feeling that unionism is at stake, and the consequent feeling that a fight to preserve the union is necessary.

A man and a boy are dead and four other boys were seriously hurt as the result of a trolley car jumping a switch at Sixth and Jackson streets, down town, last night, and crashing into the front of a cigar store. The dead are:

CHARLES M'KENNA, aged 14 years.

JOHN E. FREDERICK, aged 41 years.

The injured are: William Everett, aged 14 years, leg and arm crushed and internally injured.

Abram Shinskieg, aged 12 years, general contusions.

Raymond Trainor, aged 10 years, general injuries.

Edward Moore, aged 15 years, crushed head.

The dead and injured were all standing in front of the cigar store. There had been a disturbance down the street, and some one had turned the unused switch at this point. A trolley car driven at a high rate of speed jumped the track and crashed through the stomach.

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