

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR.

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1908

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COLLIER DUNLAP PLEADS GUILTY

NEGRO WHO SHOT RILEY STEPPS PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER—GOES TO THE PEN FOR LIFE.

Case Against Mrs. Tracy Green, Who Killed Ed. Dooley, Is Set for Next Wednesday—John Johnson, Negro Murderer, on Trial Tuesday.

The first week of the midwinter term of circuit court came to an end last night, and the most important case to be disposed of was that of the negro, Collier Dunlap, who on Christmas day shot and killed another negro named Riley Stepps. Upon agreement with the district attorney, Dunlap was arraigned Thursday and pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter, and a verdict to this effect was entered upon the record. The penalty for manslaughter in this State is a life term in the penitentiary, and in accordance with the law in the case Judge Cochran sentenced the prisoner to prison for the remainder of his natural life. Dunlap was not represented by an attorney, the agreement as to the plea of guilty and the consequent sentence having been made between the district attorney and the defendant in person.

John Johnson, the negro who last fall shot and killed his uncle, John Thomas, on the Otley place in the Cherokee neighborhood, was also arraigned Thursday on the charge of murder, and entered a plea of not guilty. The trial of Johnson, who is represented by Mr. L. D. Landrum, is set for next Tuesday.

The case of Mrs. Tracy Green, who last November shot and killed Ed. Dooley, is set for next Wednesday. This is a case of unusual importance, as all the people concerned are white, and the trial will doubtless attract a considerable amount of public interest. Mrs. Green is represented by Mr. Z. P. Landrum, while the prosecution will be conducted by District Attorney Currie.

The most important civil case to come up for a hearing was that of Mrs. Nellie Noland, whose husband, Henry Noland, lost his life in an accident on the Southern Railway last year, and who as a result thereof has instituted a suit against the company in the amount of \$20,000. Mrs. Noland is represented by Mr. W. P. Stribbling, and in answer to the bill of complaint filed by him Hon. A. F. Fox and Hon. Z. P. Landrum, attorneys for defendant, filed a demurrer, setting up the plea that in the preparation of the bill of complaint the law had not been fully complied with. The accident which resulted in Mr. Noland's death occurred in Alabama, and according to the laws of that State, all suits for damages resulting from accidents of this kind must be brought in the name of the legally qualified administrator or administratrix on the estate of the deceased, and as Mrs. Noland had never taken out letters of administration she was not legally qualified to bring suit. Taking the facts and the law into consideration, Judge Cochran was compelled to sustain the demurrer filed by attorneys for defendant, and the case was thrown out of court. This act, however, does not debar further litigation in the matter. An amended bill will be prepared by the plaintiff's attorney, and the case will come up for trial at the next term of court.

The only case of importance disposed of in addition to those noted above was the suit of Capt. W. L. Young against Lowndes county for \$400, which sum was alleged to be due for rent of the ferry at Waverly. The suit was withdrawn, and a decree for defendant entered. Capt. Young was represented by Messrs. A. F. Fox and Z. P. Landrum, while Messrs. Batts and Sturdivant appeared for the county.

Court took a recess Saturday morning, and Judge Cochran left on the 11:40 train for his home in Meridian. He will return to Columbus tonight, and the hearing of cases will be resumed Monday morning.

In addition to the cases noted above, the following have been disposed of since the last issue of The Dispatch:

Standard Stove Works vs. Southern Railway Company, assumpsit; continued.

E. T. Moore vs. Southern Railway Company, trespass; jury and verdict for defendant.

William Driver vs. Southern Railway Company, trespass; jury and

verdict for defendant. S. Selig vs. E. R. Lawrence, assumpsit; case dismissed at cost of defendant.

White Star Steamboat Company vs. Weaver & Pentecost, assumpsit; continued.

Standard Stove Works vs. Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company, assumpsit; continued.

J. T. Franklin & Bro. vs. C. A. Russell, assumpsit; verdict in favor of plaintiff for \$74.70.

J. Albert Loeb vs. Southern Railway Company, assumpsit; verdict in favor of plaintiff for \$50.00.

July Williams vs. Southern Railway Company, trespass; verdict in favor of plaintiff for \$40.

J. D. Davis vs. Southern Railway Company, trespass; verdict for defendant.

H. C. Baird vs. T. S. Oliver, assumpsit; continued.

Called Meeting of Council. City Hall, Columbus, Miss., Jan. 25, 1908.

At a called meeting of the Council this date present, B. A. Weaver, Acting Mayor, and Councilmen Lincoln, Walker, McClanahan, Moore and Gardner.

The following call of the Acting Mayor was read:

Columbus, Miss., Jan. 25, 1908. To the Honorable Members of the City Council, B. A. Lincoln, J. L. Walker, D. S. McClanahan, E. S. Moore and W. L. Gardner:

Gentlemen:—You are requested to meet at 4:30 p. m., this date, to elect a Board of Health for the ensuing year and to hear and consider charges against Officers Cummings.

Respectfully, B. A. Weaver, Acting Mayor. Officer Cummings stated that on Sunday morning last while on duty he felt sick and chilled and took a drink of whisky, that it did stupify him, but that he would not repeat this if re-instated.

Moore by Gardner. That the action of the Mayor in suspending Officer Cummings be approved and sustained. So ordered.

Moore by Walker. That Officer Cummings be reinstated and that the Acting Mayor notify Mr. Cummings of the feelings of this Council in this matter and that he is reinstated on the condition that he never again be under the influence of whisky while on the police force. So ordered.

The following health officers were elected for the ensuing year: Drs. A. C. Halbert and T. M. Henry, and Messrs. I. I. Kaufman and F. O. Harris.

On motion the Council adjourned. Attest: I. H. Sykes, Sec'y and Treas.

Prudent Planter Commits Suicide.

Hernando, Miss., Jan. 23.—(Special)—The body of J. S. Oliver, a well-known planter, was found in his stable Wednesday by his cook. He is supposed to have committed suicide Tuesday morning. His body was cold and, it is thought, had been so twenty-four hours when found.

Mr. Oliver lived alone on Central street. Tuesday morning his cook called him to breakfast, but receiving no response, entered the room, to find it empty and the suit he had worn the day previous on a chair. This was nothing unusual as he often left early and went to Memphis. Nothing was suspected. Wednesday a negro came from the plantation to see Mr. Oliver and finding him absent went to the stable for tools. He and the cook found the lifeless body on the ground clad only in underclothes and overalls. The shoes were unlaced.

A servant next door saw him go early Tuesday morning to the stable and heard a shot, but never suspected suicide. He leaves a mother, brother-in-law and several nieces and nephews. He was well known and was on the Panama canal works recently. Despondency is the supposed cause of the suicide.

Mr. Charles Tucker.

News of the death of Mr. Charles Tucker, which occurred at his home in Chicago during the early part of the week, has just reached here. Mr. Tucker was formerly a resident of this city, and had numerous friends here who learned of his demise with profound sorrow.

Col. Walter Weaver has returned from Jackson, where he went to attend the inaugural exercises. Col. Weaver went down as a colonel, but he returned to Columbus a private citizen, his commission as colonel having expired with Gov. Vardaman's administration.

STEENS MAY GET BIG WAREHOUSE

LARGE STORAGE WAREHOUSE WHICH FARMERS' UNION IS TO BUILD WILL PROBABLY BE ERECTED AT STEENSTON.

The Farmers Would Like to Build in This City, but Freight Rates from Steenston to Mills Are Forty Cents a Bale Lower.

The lack of reasonable freight rates will likely prevent Columbus from securing the large warehouse which is to be erected by the Lowndes County Farmers' Union. The members of the union were practically all anxious to locate the warehouse here, but when they found that Steenston enjoyed a lower rate on cotton than is granted Columbus they put on their thinking caps, and as a result of their cogitations the little town near the eastern border line of the county will probably get the plum. The rate from Steenston to the North Carolina mills and other cotton manufacturing centers is forty cents per bale cheaper than from Columbus, and as the Farmers' Union in this county controls several thousand bales of cotton the amount of money saved will be considerable.

Representatives of the different subordinate unions in the county held a meeting in this city Friday for the purpose of talking over the location of the warehouse, but no definite action was taken. There were present at this meeting Messrs. M. H. Vandiver, R. R. Barrentine, J. W. Shelton, J. W. Bailey and Frank Cooper. The matter was discussed at great length, but the committee finally adjourned without having reached any definite decision, as they wish to canvass the situation thoroughly before finally deciding upon the location of the building.

The loss of this warehouse will mean a great deal to Columbus, as the members of the Farmers' Union will not only carry their cotton and cotton seed to the town where the warehouse is located but will have their supplies shipped there. The Union is buying fertilizers and other commodities needed on the plantations of its members in bulk, and these commodities will all be shipped to the point at which the warehouse is located. Thirty car loads of fertilizers have already been purchased for use during the present season, and these fertilizers are now being delivered at Steenston in such quantities as the purchasers require.

The Lowndes County Farmers' Union is growing to be quite a powerful organization. There are seven subordinate unions in the different neighborhoods, and the organization now has between 275 and 300 members. The membership includes some of the most progressive planters in the county, and the money which they spend for supplies during the course of a year amounts to quite a large sum. Many of these planters now buy the bulk of their supplies in Columbus, and the erection of the warehouse at Steenston will certainly be injurious to the interests of local merchants.

Mr. Hunter Ellis Hurt.

Mr. Hunter Ellis, one of the cleverest and most popular young men in the city, met with a very painful accident last Thursday. Mr. Ellis has for several months past been employed as flagman on the Southern Railway, and while making a coupling at Fayette on Thursday had his foot severely mashed. The coupling pin refused to slide readily into place and when Mr. Ellis gave it a kick his foot got caught between the bumpers and was painfully mashed. Mr. Ellis was brought to this city on the train which arrives here at noon and was taken to the Columbus Hospital. He is improving rapidly, and his numerous friends hope that he will soon be entirely recovered from the effects of his wounds.

Little Mary Ella Bragg.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. S. Bragg have the sympathy of numerous friends in the death of their sweet little daughter, Mary Ella, which occurred at their country home, about eight miles west of Columbus, at seven o'clock Saturday morning. The little girl was two years old, and her death resulted from pneumonia. The body will be brought to Columbus for interment. The funeral will take place at noon today, and will be conducted by Rev. W. V. Frierson.

Bring Printing to The Dispatch.

LOCAL LINE-UP IS ABOUT COMPLETED

PRESIDENT BANKS HAS FULL COMPLEMENT OF PLAYERS FOR COMING SEASON—COLUMBUS HAS STRONG TEAM.

Local Magnate Thinks Date Selected for Opening of Season is Too Early and Will Strongly Urge Postponement.—Notes of Sport.

President Banks, of the local baseball association, has practically completed the selection of the team which is to represent Columbus in the Cotton States League during the coming season, and announces the following line-up: Stewart, second base and manager; Puckett, catcher; Van Vleck, first base; Huber or Anderson, short stop; Mannish, third base; Marshall, Power, Alexander and Yount, outfielders; Wheeler, May, Mitchell, Camper and David, pitchers. Of course, there will be several changes before the team goes on the road, but all the above-named men, with the possible exception of Huber, will report here for practice, and will be given a try-out. The coming of Huber is still uncertain. As every reader of The Dispatch knows, Huber played here last season and was one of the most popular men on the team. At the close of the season President Banks made an effort to "cover him up," but Comisky, of the Chicago Americans, who promised to draft the foxy little short stop, failed to make good his promise, and Charlie Franks, the New York magnate, gobbled him up. President Banks recently received a letter from Huber in which he declares that he is anxious to return to Columbus and will make an effort to secure his release from Franks. If the New Orleans manager will release Huber for two hundred dollars, the price which he paid, the local association will be glad to refund the amount to him, as Huber is not only a good player but steady and reliable, and, as stated above, is very popular with the patrons of the game here.

Of course local fans will want to know something about the men who are to play on the team, and are deeply interested in their past records. Stewart, Wheeler, Mannish, May and Marshall all played here last season, and the new men all come with good records. Puckett, the new catcher, played with Mobile a short time last season and gave perfect satisfaction. Van Vleck, the new first baseman, comes from the California league, and is said to be a crack-a-jack. He is very enthusiastic, and says that he will come here prepared to "deliver the goods." Powell comes from the Georgia League, Yount from the Virginia League and Mitchell from the South Michigan Circuit. Anderson, who will play shortstop in the event that Huber fails to return, comes from the Pennsylvania-Ohio circuit and has a fine record.

In the opinion of Mr. Banks, the date selected for the opening of the season, April 2nd, is entirely too early, and he has written a letter to President Crowder, urging that the opening be postponed until April 13th. There are many reasons which seem to make this postponement advisable. In the first place, the weather early in April is usually cold and disagreeable, and this would naturally affect the attendance on the opening day. Then, too, to the date selected comes so soon after the first of the month that it will be impossible for many business men to get off to attend the opening games, and last, but not least, the early opening would preclude the possibility of securing exhibition games with any of the major league teams.

Manager Finn, of the Little Rock Southern League team, wants to play an exhibition game in Columbus, and in the event that the opening date is postponed the game will probably be played, otherwise local fans will be compelled to forego the pleasure of seeing a contest between the Discoverers and the Travelers.

The mail of President Banks is growing more voluminous each day, and among the many letters which he received last week was one from Secretary McClure, of the Webb City Club in the Western Association, offering to exchange Pitcher Meredith and a fielder named Painter for Wheeler and Mannish. Meredith played with Columbus a short time last season and made a splendid record not only in the box but as an outfielder and with the stick. Painter is unknown here, and as President

Banks is a firm believer in the old adage that when a baseball manager proposes a trade it generally means swapping peanuts for pineapples, he has declined to entertain the proposition.

"Bugs" Raymond, who pitched the opening game against Columbus at Jackson last season and who was later traded to Charleston, is in trouble in Chicago. A recent special from that city states that a man declaring himself to be the famous "Bugs" has been arrested for larceny, the specific charge being the theft of \$74 from Geo. G. Mosher, a jeweler. Baseball players are naturally fond of "diamonds," so it is no wonder that "Bugs" selected a jewelry store as the scene of his peculation.

University Appropriation Bill of Representative Russell is Reached.

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 29.—(Special)—The University of Mississippi appropriation bill, introduced by Mr. Russell in the house of representatives last week, carries an aggregate amount of \$128,500, for the two years for which the allowance is to run. The amount required for support and maintenance for the two years is \$52,000 for each year, while for the repairs and improvements that are imperatively needed, the following estimates are made, which are figured conservatively: Light, heat and water plant, \$40,000; general repairs, \$25,000; dining hall, \$25,000; and dormitory, \$50,000. In addition to these items there are standing charges against the property, such as interest on the original seminary fund, \$22,847, for each of the two years; and interest on the 1904 land grant fund, for 1907 and 1908, \$9,259.10.

Other items are for erecting and equipping laundry and providing apparatus for the laboratory, each, \$10,000; equipping the science hall, \$1,000; deficit caused by the fire in the destruction of the power plant, \$12,000; for expenses of meetings of the board of trustees, \$1,500; for expenses attending the building of summer schools, \$1,500 for each year. The sum total, while apparently great, is really figured down to the lowest point considering the very great and urgent need for the new work proposed by the trustees. The dormitory and the dining hall are both badly needed, and have been for several years, both these items having been included in the last University appropriation bill, but were set out when the bill got through the committee. The sum total of the last appropriation bill was slightly under \$200,000, the support fund having been cut down to \$17,500 for 1906 and \$12,500 for the succeeding year, and the trustees and other officers of the University could, if they were called upon, relate the direct kind of experience in the matter of cutting their cloth to meet the funds at their disposal.

Whitaker Quits Under Heavy Fire.

New Orleans, Jan. 27.—Inspector E. S. Whitaker, head of the New Orleans police department, offered his resignation to the board of police commissioners.

The resignation was accepted and Capt. William J. O'Connor was elected to the vacancy. The charges against Mr. Whitaker grew out of his sensational attempt a week ago to avenge an alleged personal insult. Accompanied by five detectives he entered the newspaper office of J. M. Leveque, who had that day published an editorial calling him obnoxious names. The inspector struck the editor in the face and fired two shots, claiming that he thought Leveque was drawing a pistol.

Master Clyde Lew, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lew, was brought to the Columbus Hospital the past week from Calcedonia suffering from an attack of fever. The little fellow has been critically ill but is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Terry's friends regret to learn that their little daughter, Jane, was quite ill on last Wednesday. She has continued to improve and is now well and up again.

Mrs. F. Grigo, of Greenville, Miss., was in the city the past week on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. M. Debbaha.

Hon. Y. B. Franklin, of this city, attended the inaugural of Gov. Nod at Jackson on last Tuesday.

Two more days of Kaufman's great sale.

COL. MAYO MAY BE ADJUTANT GENERAL

LOCAL MAN HAS GOOD CHANCE TO SECURE APPOINTMENT AS ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE STATE NATIONAL GUARD.

Gov. Nod is Correspondent on the subject, but Col. Mayo's Friends Are Evidently Urging His Claim for the Office.

It is not at all unlikely that a Columbusian will be honored with a prominent office in the State National Guard. The friends of Col. Jan. F. Mayo, of this city, are urging his claim for the position of adjutant-general, and while Gov. Nod has given out no hint regarding his intention in the matter, it is known that his claims are being considered, and his appointment may come as a recognition of years of faithful work as a member of the State militia.

Col. Mayo attended the inauguration of Gov. Nod at Jackson last week, but when seen by a Dispatch reporter stated that he did not mention the matter to the governor while in the capital city. Governor Nod, who is conservative and deliberate in all things, is exercising an undue haste in making appointments, and has given out nothing to indicate that he has made up his mind as to who will secure the adjutant-general's berth. It is known, however, that the new chief executive feels very kindly toward Col. Mayo, who has been his loyal friend and ardent supporter in numerous campaigns, and on account of this fact and for the further reason that Col. Mayo has rendered valiant service in the State militia his friends feel confident that he will secure the appointment.

Col. Mayo has been a member of the Mississippi National Guard for many years. He has served faithfully in war as well as in peace, having accompanied the soldiers to Florida at the outbreak of the war with Spain and having voluntarily commanded a battalion during the time that lastilities were in progress. In view of the fact that he has filled various offices in the State militia, and has always been faithful and prompt in the discharge of his duties. He is at present adjutant-general of the State National Guard, ranking as colonel, and all who are acquainted with his work agree in deploring that the office was never filled by a more competent or more valiant man.

There is no man in the State who is better posted in military tactics or who exhibits a keener interest in the welfare of the National Guard than Col. Mayo, and if appointed adjutant-general he will make a faithful, efficient and conscientious official.

Shippers Discouraged.

Local merchants and manufacturers are still experiencing much inconvenience as a result of the removal of the switch engine from the yards of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. Under the present system the switching is all done by the local freight crew, and as the crew never consists of more than six men it is impossible for them to accomplish much work. The managers of manufacturing plants as well as the merchants are complaining at the delay in handling cars, and it seems that the only way in which relief can be afforded would be for the officials to restore the switching service.

In reply to a letter from Secretary Hines, of the Progressive Union, protesting against the removal of the switch engine at asking that the same be restored, Superintendent Puffer declares that the company was forced to cut down expenses and that following a general policy of retrenchment, the switch engine was taken off. He declares that the work can be handled satisfactorily by the local freight crew, but those who are on the ground know this to be impossible. Secretary Hines has written the Railroad Commission for relief, but it is doubtful if this body has jurisdiction in the matter.

Miss Edith LaFare, who has been three years in the city, is the guest of Mrs. Jan. W. Manary. Her father, returned to her in Atlanta Thursday.

The numerous friends of Mrs. Lester Lang will regret to learn that their sweet little daughter, Elizabeth, is quite sick.

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