

AN ANSWER OF POLICEMEN SAID: 'I DON'T WANT ANY LAWYER; I'M GUILTY!'

On the Issue of Americanism There Can Be No Compromise

Weather
Tonight and Tuesday, rain; strong southerly winds
Temperature Last 24 Hours
Maximum, 47. Minimum, 35.
Today noon, 37.

The Seattle Star

7TH LATE EDITION

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VOLUME 23

SEATTLE, WASH., MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1921.

TWO CENTS IN SEATTLE

1921

Stick Together. Overcome Obstacles. Be Steadfast, Loyal. Advice of Parsons.

REGINALD H. PARSONS is president of the Northwestern Fruit Exchange. The Fruit Exchange's offices wander all over one end of a floor in the Stuart building, and they give off most any fruit odor you wish, from apples to persimmons. Parsons believes that Seattle will go ahead if the people of Seattle stick together, and together beat down the obstacles that stand in the way of progress.

MUST CONSIDER INDUSTRY OF HINTERLAND

Here's his analysis of Seattle's opportunities for 1921:

"Seattle citizens must not only consider local industries—important as they are—but must realize the great farming and livestock interests and the wonderful hinterland which lies behind us on the other side of the Cascades, and know that a great portion of these enterprises are producing millions of dollars' worth annually, much of the produce coming direct to Seattle or being shipped thru this port, and many of the financial transactions clearing thru this city.

"The present stringency here is no different from that of other cities all over the country. We are in no worse present condition than the majority of cities in the world, due to a rapid deflation, which, in the end, will be best for us all.

WITH WILL TO DO, WE CAN ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS

"The main point is that we must all stick together at this juncture, and, aroused as we are, for each other's protection, combine in a serious effort to overcome whatever commercial handicaps we may have, and by persistent and energetic work place ourselves in our rightful position as one of the world ports and the great cities of America.

"With the will to do, we can achieve great things, as has been proven in the past. As general financial conditions improve, we will also benefit; trade will resume; interchange of commodities will increase; labor will become better and better employed, and our city will grow at the same rapid pace that it has heretofore.

"Many of our citizens do not realize how much is brought to this city in the way of shipments from ocean to rail or vice versa, and what the new lines of steamship or water transportation are going to mean to us, a direct touch with South America, with Europe, our own Atlantic coast, as well as better service to the Orient, will open up a wonderful field for commercial activity.

OPENING OF EUROPEAN TRADE WILL HELP

"As soon as Europe is in a position to send us her goods in payment of the debts she owes us, we will in our turn have an opportunity of sending our supplies of foodstuffs or manufactured products to fill her needs. It is astonishing, for instance, how rapidly Belgium and France are regaining their place in industry and commerce.

"To return to prosperous times, however, we must remain strong and steadfast and loyal to our institutions, open to their progressive development, and retain a sane and careful mental attitude, with justice to all in our every relation, and not be carried away by fits and false prophets. If we remain thus steadfast and pull together, I have every reason to feel that Seattle at the end of the year 1921 will find herself again advancing along the line of progress and prosperity."

25 KILLED IN CRASH OF PLANT BLOW-UP

More Than Dozen Houses Blown Up in Memphis Early Today

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 24.—Twenty-five persons were killed when a series of explosions wrecked the Colyar-Reese Oil company's plant here at 7:45 a. m. It was estimated at 9:10 today.

First reports unofficially stated 15 persons were missing, and it was believed they had been killed.

Firemen arrived quickly after the first of the explosions and did wonderful work in rescuing the dead and dying.

MOTHER AND FIVE CHILDREN KILLED

They roped off streets two blocks away in preparation for a second series of explosions.

More than a dozen houses were blown up.

In one house a mother and five children were killed.

Ten dead negroes were counted by one man, according to reports.

The Colyar-Reese plant was known locally as the Sinclair Oil company because until recently it was the exclusive agent for the Sinclair company here.

The majority of those killed in the plant were believed negroes.

RESIDENTS WARNED TO FLEE HOMES

Fearing houses within a half-mile radius of the plant would be wiped out, should more explosions occur, police were going over that section of North Memphis, warning residents to get as far away as possible.

The explosions were caused by a spark from the chisel of a man who was working on a tank containing 15,000 gallons of gasoline, which first blew up. No trace has been found of the man.

Twenty-four men, including four whites, were due to be working at the plant when the tank exploded. The only hope given for any of them is that some may have been late in arriving at work.

32 Proposals in 18 Months

Gloria Fonda Flees Orient



Like many young women at the age of 19, Gloria Fonda, daughter of W. A. Fonda, 512 15th ave., Seattle glove manufacturer, was "stage struck."

The social life that she was asked to lead bored her; it was her idea of nothing to do. Possessing a well-trained voice, she had slight difficulty in getting an engagement with a musical comedy company.

That was nearly two years ago. BUT—Gloria wanted a stage and not a matrimonial agency listing. With the T. Daniel Frawley company of globe trotters she found that in the Orient the male members of the audience wanted wives rather than chorus girls. Within four months she had received 32 proposals.

So she is back in the United States again, after spending a year and a half abroad. Of the 14 pretty young women in the company she was one of four to return unwed.

"I never heard of anything like it," she declared. "There seem to be about 50 men to every pretty girl in Japan and China and the men bother one almost to death. I had either to get out or get married."

Gloria Fonda, a few years ago, was winner in a beauty contest held here, and went to California to try out in the movies.

Then followed the trip abroad, and now—Gloria is back home again.

121 FACING EXECUTION!

ANSWER OF AMERICA TO CRIME WAVE

Outbreak of Banditry Brings Swift Reaction Toward Capital Punishment

One hundred and twenty-one men and women under death sentence! This is America's answer to the crime wave.

A canvass made by The Star over Sunday of every state in the union shows that sentiment is swinging back toward capital punishment.

In 1918 there were 85 legal executions in the United States; in 1917 there were the same number.

Before the war clemency was gaining on vengeance, reform on punishment.

TIDAL WAVE OF CRIME BRINGS SWIFT REACTION

But the tidal wave of crime that has swept the nation since the war has brought swift reaction in a swing toward the death penalty in the 26 states that invoke it.

In 26 of these 28 states, and the District of Columbia, from 1 to 14 persons are awaiting the gallows, or the electric chair, or the firing squad.

In Idaho two women are under death sentence.

Reports from all these states are that juries are more severe, judges slower to grant new trials and errors more infrequently commuting sentences.

WHERE PRISONERS FACE EXECUTION

The Star's canvass of the nation shows the following have prisoners awaiting execution:

Alabama	1
Arkansas	2
California	4
District of Columbia	3
Georgia	1
Idaho (two women)	2
Indiana	3
Illinois	1
Kentucky	1
Maryland	1
Mississippi	6
Missouri	2
Montana	4
New Jersey	1
New York	13
North Carolina	8
Ohio	8
Oklahoma	4
Pennsylvania	4
South Carolina	4
Tennessee	4
Texas	10
Utah	2
Virginia	2
Washington	1
West Virginia	1
Wyoming	1

There are 16 states that do not have capital punishment. They are: Arizona, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Twelve states that have capital punishment laws, but report no executions pending are: Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Vermont, Florida and New Mexico.

DEMANDS DEATH FOR SLAYERS OF POLICEMEN

Chief of Police Frank W. Smith of Cleveland has personally gone into court to demand the death penalty for slayers of policemen.

He blames courtroom leniency for the increase in crime. He points to the recent case of Jiggs' Loster, bandit and killer, captured red-handed after a battle at a bank in which several persons were shot. Loster was wanted then for three murders; he was convicted of one—and drew a life sentence. Immediately banditry broke out with renewed violence.

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SPIRITED TO COURT DESPITE THREATS

Schmitt Pleads Behind Locked Doors; Trial Starts at 9:30 Thursday

"I don't want a lawyer. I am guilty."

With these words John Schmitt, confessed murderer of City Detective "Jimmy" O'Brien and Patrolman W. T. Angle announced his determination to face speedy justice when he was arraigned before Judge J. T. Ronald, at 12:30 this afternoon.

"You are charged with first degree murder. Do you understand that?" Judge Ronald asked.

"Yes, sir," the prisoner said.

"You will have to have a lawyer. You will have to go to trial," Judge Ronald informed him. Then, turning to a group of people standing outside the courtroom, the judge said: "Mr. Silvain, will you take this young man's case?"

Louis Silvain nodded.

"WOULD TEAR HIM TO PIECES," A WOMAN SAID

"I appoint you this man's attorney. You will represent him."

At 11:30 this morning word was passed to Sheriff Starwich to have the prisoner in court at 12:30. A crowd of spectators was gathered in the corridors outside of Judge Ronald's courtroom. Members of the crowd freely expressed their opinion that the trial should not be longer delayed. One elderly woman, who said she had known "Jimmy" O'Brien for the past 12 years, said: "I would like to get a chance at him; I'd tear him to pieces. When do you think that'll be?"

At 12:30 the morning word was passed to Sheriff Starwich to have the arraignment had been postponed until tomorrow, and she left the building.

At 12 o'clock deputies began to leave the sheriff's office in the county jail. Last to leave was Sheriff Starwich. He joined the others in the basement and, with Deputy William Sears at the steering wheel, an automobile carrying Starwich, Herbert Beebe, Charles Jerrett and Bill Downey arrived at the county jail at 12:10.

NOT FEELING VERY WELL, SAYS PRISONER

Starwich said, "Bring him out." Schmitt was led from his cell by Downey. Both the prisoner's hands were manacled. Starwich took off the handcuffs and snapped on a pair of his own. The party clambered into the automobile and sped down the hill. They got into an elevator in the basement and took the prisoner to the fourth floor. There they got out and led him down the back stairway to the third floor and into the jail room back of Judge Ronald's court. Here the handcuffs were taken off and word sent in to the judge that they were ready.

"How do you feel?" Starwich asked Schmitt.

"Not very well," replied the prisoner.

The outside door of Judge Ronald's court was locked, barring a large crowd that had gathered outside. Schmitt was led in, flanked by the deputies. Judge Ronald had already taken the bench. Without delay he asked, "Is your name Schmitt?"

"Yes, sir," replied the prisoner. The court then appointed Attorney Silvain to defend the man, and the information was read charging him with the crime of first degree murder for the killing of Detective O'Brien, while Schmitt stood with his cap in his hand, looking at the floor.

As Schmitt stood facing the judge, the courtroom door was opened into the corridor, and about 50 people flocked into the room. They drew up close to the cordon of deputies and strained their ears for every word.

LAWYER ASKS FOR TIME WITH CLIENT

Assistant Prosecutor Jones read the information, naming as one of the witnesses for the state Police-man W. T. Angle, who died from a wound inflicted by Schmitt.

Schmitt went thru the proceedings calmly. After Silvain was appointed, the lawyer said, "I should like to have time, Your Honor, to talk to my client a few minutes to inform

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FULL TIME IN FACTORIES BY APRIL IS HOPE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Industrial depression throughout the world has reached its low point and from now on conditions will improve, according to reports gathered by government experts, it was learned today.

More than 6,000,000 workers now are idle in the United States and the principal countries of Europe, it was estimated.

April, it was predicted there will be much less unemployment, factories will be running full time, foreign trade will pick up, railroads will be rushed and prosperity will be general.

A revival of commercial activity already has set in and plants are beginning to open and operate full time in many sections of the country.

Retail centers already have begun to experience a slight increase in buying and the textile mills of New England and the South are beginning to report an increase of orders.

BABY CLOTHES AT PEETE TRIAL

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 24.—Baby clothes, "surprise witnesses" and a "mysterious Spanish woman" were expected to figure prominently today in Judge Willis' court, when District Attorney Woolwine and his aides resume their efforts to send Mrs. Lofie Louise Peete to the penitentiary for the murder of Jacob C. Denton, rich mining promoter. Denton was shot thru the neck and killed about June 2. His body was found buried in a wooden crypt in the cellar of his home, about three months later.

Dainty infants' garments, a pair of baby shoes, bits of hand-made lace and other intimate keepsakes of Denton's dead wife and baby were to be introduced in evidence today. These articles are alleged to have been taken by Mrs. Peete and sent by her to her relatives in the East. Detectives in Salt Lake City, Denver and Butte traced the articles for the prosecution.

The "Spanish woman" was expected to come in for official mention in court today. After her arrest Mrs. Peete declared Denton had quarreled with a Spanish woman and asserted the latter and her accomplices probably had slain the wealthy broker. The "Spanish woman," who, the state charges, is a myth, and her alleged aids, never have been found.

Mrs. Peete spent a quiet Sabbath in the county jail. She reiterated her confidence that she will be acquitted.

MURDER TRIAL IS UNDER WAY

Quarrel Over Chickens Led to Killing. Charge

In the presence of a courtroom full of sober faces Peter Colheino went to trial this morning before a jury in Judge Boyd J. Tallman's court, charged with the murder on December 19 of Alex McGibbon, father of 10 children.

The murder occurred at Colheino's home, 1925 11th ave. S. A quarrel over some chickens resulted in the tragedy. Up to noon 11 jurors had been examined. Questions put by John F. Dore, counsel for Colheino, indicated that the defense will be self-defense. Colheino claims that McGibbon came to his home and precipitated the quarrel, striking him in the face.

Associated with Dore in the defense is Attorney J. L. Finch, Deputy Prosecutor John D. Carmody is presenting the state's case.

SPECIAL RAMS CAR OF FLOUR

N. P. Officials Shaken Up in Smith Cove Accident

A special train, carrying local officials of the Northern Pacific, crashed into a string of box cars on the Great Northern tracks at the Garfield bridge, Smith cove, shortly before noon Monday.

The locomotive of the special telegraphed a carload of flour which was being shunted along the main line and scattered flour in every direction.

The engineer stayed at his post, but the fireman jumped and suffered a bruised knee and elbow. He was the only one who suffered any injury.

The locomotive was not damaged and was able to proceed with the special.

The train is understood to have been going north to get President Donnelly of the N. P.

FIND MAN DEAD UNDER TRESTLE

An unidentified man, about 55 years of age, was found dead of natural causes under the trestle at Railroad ave.—and Massachusetts at 8:30 a. m. Monday. He was shabbily dressed. He had been sleeping in shanties in the south end of the city and in the railroad yards for some time. There was no identification mark on his clothing. He had no letters or other writing that might lead to his identity.

SUSPECT HELD AS CRACKSMAN

John Debedowski, an alleged cracksmen, was in county jail today, charged in an information filed in superior court with carrying concealed weapons. The prisoner was caught in an alley back of a drug store in Auburn, Saturday night, by Sheriff Matt Starwich. Starwich said the man had a fully loaded and cocked revolver in his hand.

In his pockets were found some fuse, dynamite caps and three bottles of nitroglycerin.

Scores of Plants Increase Product

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 24.—Under the stimulus of increased demand, manufacturing plants forced to shut down completely or cut production during the latter part of last year, are now reopening or increasing their output, reports from all parts of Ohio indicated today. Scores of plants have swung into full stride since January 1.

Mayor Asks Hart for Armory Bouts

Expressing his desire to have the Seattle boxing commission stage a benefit smoker in the interests of the dependents of city policemen killed by bandits recently while performing their duty, Mayor Caldwell Monday asked Governor Hart to permit the use of the Armory for the project.

NEITHER FURY NOR RAGE WILL FEED THE HUNGRY

The murderers will be punished, to be sure, but we must not rest content with that; the families of their victims need our help

THE MURDERERS of Patrolmen Stevens and Angle and Detective Jimmie O'Brien are certain to meet their just deserts under the law! But that is not enough. Their punishment will not bring back the dead, nor will it bring to the widows and children the support and companionship they are entitled to.

The widows and children are now the city's wards. We must see to it that we discharge our obligations faithfully. John Sullivan, of Beeler & Sullivan, has started the ball rolling with a subscription of \$50. Henry Broderick is giving \$100. Ryan & Kelly are sending \$25.

Every newspaper in the city has offered to accept subscriptions for the families of the slain officers. They gave their lives in the line of duty. Shall we not give something in return?

NEVER MIND the murderers! They will get theirs! There is no need to worry in the slightest about that. There isn't one chance in ten thousand million that they will escape. There is no need to upset the machinery of the law, nor the procedure of court. By all means, let the murderers be brought to speedy trial.

But, after all, whether the murderers are tried and convicted today, or in two or three days, or next week, is of smaller consequence than several practical things that we ought to do ourselves.

THE FIRST is to raise a sufficient relief fund for the dependents of the dead officers.

Secondly, we should see to it that Chief Searing's request for 40 additional policemen is granted.

We have today fewer policemen on duty than there were last summer. This is due to the fact that in granting policemen one day off in seven, there necessarily must be a smaller number on each shift, altho the total number of policemen remains the same. To bring the number on duty to the same size it was before the "crime wave," 40 additional policemen are needed. The council should lose no time in granting the request.

Thirdly, the legislature should pass the Grass bill, which provides that dependents of peace officers killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to \$5,000 out of the industrial insurance fund.

Fourthly, the legislature should look into the subject of gun-toting. No man or woman should be permitted to carry a gun without a police permit. If a penitentiary sentence were imposed upon those who carry concealed weapons without permits, there would be no danger of holdup-suspects escaping with a mere fine or 30 days in jail.

BUT FIRST and foremost comes our duty to the families of the dead officers.

Let us not consume ourselves with rage against the slayers, yet do nothing to ease the burden of the bereaved.

Come, folks, let's do the right thing!

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Kentucky	1
Maryland	1
Mississippi	6
Missouri	2
Montana	4
New Jersey	1
New York	13
North Carolina	8
Ohio	8
Oklahoma	4
Pennsylvania	4
South Carolina	4
Tennessee	4
Texas	10
Utah	2
Virginia	2
Washington	1
West Virginia	1
Wyoming	1

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