

POLICE DRAW UP THEIR OWN WORST INDICTMENT

It is announced by the police that now, henceforth and forever, there will be no information given the papers regarding crimes in Spokane.

There is but one reason why the police of this city dare not give a report of their work to the taxpayers. That is because the police can tell the truth and hold their jobs.

The newspapers don't care. The papers of this town can tell folks of better and more interesting things than the sordid details of crime. BUT the public has a right to know what the police they pay for are doing, and the papers of the town are the only source of information the average man has, and when the police refuse to give the papers the truth they refuse because they are afraid to tell the TRUTH.

The Press doesn't give a hoot whether it ever gets a murder or a burglar or a hold-up yarn or not. It has better things to fill its columns with, and every other paper in town feels the same, but this paper, and every other paper that considers its work to be the informing of the public, must protest against this Czar-like rule of silence.

The police dare not let the truth be known. All their hope is to refuse access to their secret records. They have nothing to gain by concealment, if they are honest and efficient, because the police know that the reporters on the daily papers help an HONEST police force in the detention and prevention of crime more than does any other agency on earth. That will always be so while papers go to every home, and while they have ten thousand feelers and inside sources of news to every one that the average political detective has.

If the police of Spokane are on the square they have nothing to hide; if they are crooked, as their ban of silence suggests, they can gain nothing by playing the ostrich stunt and hiding their heads in the sand.

If Acting Chief Sullivan is right, he can't fear publicity; if he is wrong he will gain nothing but more grief by trying to work a Russian game.

If you are a man and are getting up, Mr. Sullivan, tell the people the truth every day through the daily papers; if you fear, for personal and official reasons, the light, be sure that the best way to bring down the avalanche on your head is to defy public opinion and to try to cover up the truth.

The worst indictment against the Spokane police is that they dare not let the public know how many crimes are committed. That indictment the police have returned against themselves.

Say, isn't it about time to get an American, republican, decent, honest, efficient, fearless, non-political police force?

Think it over, you fellows who pay the bills.

T. R. IS CENTER OF A GORGEOUS SCENE

SURROUNDED BY BRILLIANTLY DRESSED ARABS AND EXQUISITELY GOWNED WOMEN AT CAIRO DINNER.

(By Staff Correspondent of the United Press.)

CAIRO, Egypt, March 26.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt was the guest of honor tonight at a dinner tendered by American Consul General Iddings, following which there was a gala confetti fete at the Hotel Sheppard by American and foreign tourists. The dinner was attended by a score of the most prominent citizens and officials of Cairo.

The hotel and grounds were brilliantly illuminated for the confetti battle, and the scene was a beautiful one.

Men in flowing white robes, English officers in red tunics, and Egyptians with gorgeous uniforms and curved scimitars, and tourists in evening dress, women in ball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE FIGHT FOR HONOR

LAST SIGHT OF GIRL.

They saw the pretty, well-gowned girl go to the apartment of Walter and his "wife." That was the last seen of the child alive.

When the child failed to return home Thursday night her mother and sisters became anxious. They learned from the business school where Ruth had gone. Pearl went alone to the apartment of Walter.

Walter and the Fischer girl had occupied the rooms three weeks. Nothing was known of them save that Walter's companion worked in a German bakery, earning \$6 a week and supporting them both.

SISTER IS INSULTED.

Pearl knocked and was admitted by Walter. This was at 8:30 o'clock Thursday night. The girl was admitted into the very room where her sister's body had been burned.

She asked Walter where Ruth was. The German answered by locking the door and making an insulting proposition to the girl. She shrunk from him, frightened, but kept her wits.

"I have a policeman outside," she told Walter, "and you had better let me out of here."

WOLTER IS CAUGHT.

Miss Wheeler went to the police station and three detectives accompanied her to the flat, but Walter and the girl were gone. The detectives searched the flat, but no trace of the missing girl was found.

Keo Fischer came back alone to the flat Friday and packed her trunk, telling the janitor they were moving away. She left the flat at 10 o'clock Friday night; the detectives followed. She doubled on her tracks twice, and then went to Park avenue and Eighth street, where she was joined by Walter. The pair strolled around the streets for some time and finally went to 122 East 105th street, where a few hours before they had rented rooms. As Keo Fischer entered the apartment burst in and arrested Walter. He was arraigned in court this morning and held in \$10,000 bail on the charge of kidnapping. Walter told the court he had never seen the girl. He admitted he often wrote to business colleagues that stenographers to be sent to him for work. He said he hoped in this way to perfect himself in English, teaching the girls German at the same time.

VITRIOL THROWN ON TAFT'S CABINET

CHICAGO'S FORMER MAYOR "LACES INTO" KNOX, NAGEL ET AL.—PRESIDENT'S DISGRACEFUL ADMISSION.

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

CHICAGO, March 26.—Within nine days from the time President Taft was the guest of honor of the Irish Fellowship club, the chief executive's cabinet appointments were held up to ridicule before that club at a luncheon this afternoon, by Edward F. Dunne, former mayor of Chicago.

"The people hoped President Taft would select for his cabinet advisers who had honor and manhood enough to advise him to keep his campaign pledges," said Dunne. "Judge their astonishment when they read of the selection of the following:

"Knox—Handy man of the steel and other Pennsylvania monopolies.

"Nagel—Attorney for the Standard Oil company.

"Strict Construction Ballinger—Who believes in the strict construction of every law against the government and where the interests of private syndicates are concerned. Now under investigation by congress.

"Hitchcock—Lassoer of delegates, and past master of practical politicians.

"Illinois Central Dickinson and 'Can Goods' MacVeagh, extremists of most exclusive aristocratic and plutocratic predilection.

"With such able statesmen presiding, betrayal of the people and abandonment of campaign pledges were inevitable. It came in the Payne-Aldrich law, the culmination of republican perfidy and robbery of the people."

Referring to the president's Wisconsin speech on the tariff bill, Dunne said:

"A more shameful admission never fell from the lips of an American president. He admits that he sacrificed the interests of the whole people, to further the interests of his own party."

NEW "MARK TWAIN" STORY TOLD BY A MISSOURI CIGARMAKER

Humorist's Youthful Days Recalled in Reminiscences of Hale and Hearty Veterans.

HANNIBAL, Mo., March 26.—"Gone to Bermuda, has he? Well, I can tell him a plan that'll beat that. Let him come over here and climb up and down the old hills, chop holes to fish in Bear creek and smoke some 'Old Fisherman' cigars, and he'll forget he ain't feeling peart."

Thus spoke Joe Tisdale Sunday morning when told that his old friend and playmate, Sam Clemens, had gone to the southern islands for the benefit of his health.

Mr. Tisdale is a small man, a trifle bent, but active and vigorous as a schoolboy. There are only a few years difference between his age and Clemens'.

"Are you the man who used to make those long three-for-a-nickel stogies for Sam?" Mr. Tisdale was asked.

"I made cigars, sir—not stogies," replied the old gentleman, with some indignation. "Began down there where Tom Foster kept a drug store alongside the printing office. That was long before the war—the big war, you know. I guess it was in 1852. Sam came in there now and then and bought smokers; used to say they were the best he could get. He was a bit particular about what he smoked, even when a youngster."

"What did the people think of Sam in those days?"

"They thought he was a darn fool."

"He was a joke, Sam was. I remember one time he got a big watermelon—the Lord knows how—but anyway he took it upstairs and hid it on his stool near the window. One evening I was around the corner, and as I looked up I noticed Sam

GEN. GORDON BOLDLY DEFIES MADRIZ MEN

(United Press Leased Wire.)

NEW ORLEANS, March 26.—The crisis in the strained relations between the representatives of the Madriz and Estrada factions of the Nicaraguan government was reached late today when General Gordon, who is organizing an Estrada relief expedition, suddenly appeared at the Madriz consulate, and, entering the room where Luis Corea, Madriz minister to Washington, and other Madriz officials were in conference, defied them to keep him from starting his expedition for Central America. It was an exciting and dramatic scene. Corea and General Altschul were seated at a table when Gordon suddenly entered. He calmly told his enemies that the reports that he was organizing an army were true.

"Then you are liable to a \$1,000 fine and three years' imprisonment according to American laws," shouted Corea.

"I am ready to sign a statement that I am raising an army here and that I have chartered a ship and I defy you to do anything," was General Gordon's reply. He then handed each of the Madriz officials his card and walked out.

ATLANTIC FLEET TO CRUISE TO MEDITERRANEAN

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The Atlantic fleet will make a practice run to the Mediterranean in the fall for division practice, according to an announcement made today by Secretary of the Navy Meyer.

As a result of the changes recently made the commander in chief of the fleet will have less to do, much of the work having been turned over to the division commanders. After the practice in the Mediterranean the fleet will return to Guantanamo, Cuba.

BOSTON, Mass.—Conto Arturo Cinielli comes from Rome to challenge Carlo Cartica, tenor of Boston Opera company, to a duel, but postpones meeting till June 4, when both will return to Italy.

BLAZING COMET MONSTER APPROACHES; SCIENTISTS SAY, "DON'T GET SCARED!"

On May 18 many of us earth beings will witness a sight the like of which has never before been seen of men, at least since men have kept a written history of events. On that day for over three hours we shall be viewing the sun through the great blazing head of a comet.

Of a sudden our earth, swinging through space at 65,000 miles per hour, will plunge into the tail of it. The tail will have been whipped against us at its own speed of 105,000 miles per hour. Thus this globe will dive through the luminous haze at a total speed of 170,000 miles per hour. 47 miles per second, the earth entirely immersing herself in the celestial mist in less than three minutes, yet so thick is the tail at the point of perforation—600,000 miles—that we shall be nearly three hours and a half passing through.

What will happen? No two scientists agree in detail. They are, however, practically certain there will be no harm done to any creature of the earth, save the harm which fear does. But the superstitions are almost certain to be stricken with mortal terror during that three hours.

For those three hours will show to men the most sublime, awe-inspiring display of heavenly fireworks this earth has witnessed since space roared with the primordial flames of creation, the astronomers say.

But, the chances are it will be nothing but light—terrific, but harmless, and our sunlight during those 205 minutes will be filtered through the comet's head or nucleus (the head will be eclipsing the sun) and that head will have just come from a bath in the very flames of the sun. This gaseous head 51 times as big as our earth and only 14,000,000 miles away—mere step compared even with the distance to the sun), will be boiling, fuming, exploding, blasting in titanic convulsions of heat after its recent experiences.

And it is through such a lens our sunlight must come, filtered for three hours and a half May 18.

We did, indeed, have one slight previous experience with the tail of a comet. On June 30, 1861, we witnessed the passage of the comet of Tebbel's comet. But it was a mere wisn of tail—just a thread at the extreme end of the tail's 24,000,000 miles of length—a hair a scant 8,000 miles thick.

For the experience of seeing the comet's tail through our atmosphere Liats journeyed to Rio de Janeiro and set up his instruments. The moment came. Suddenly Liats saw the sky turn like blood at midday. Then there was a rapid change through the purple, red, orange, yellow and almost instantly the sky darkened to a coppery green, as if a tornado were approaching. And next instant, before the observer could realize it, the sun shone serenely again, the comet's tail for passing within the 3,000 mile thick hair was un- and Liats packed his instruments and went home.

We'll be in Halley's comet's tail over three hours. Will the effects be proportionately bad?

Scientists all over the earth are warning people to be prepared for strange sights, and not to be frightened. For, as the saying is, the whole 62,000,000 miles of its tail, condensed, might be packed in a trunk.

Says Andre, director of the Lyons observatory: "You must not be astonished if it shows an aspect as strange and stranger than anything ever seen before."

What effect the adventure will have upon the earth is disputed. Comets are little understood. There are instruments which can detect their weight and instruments which partially show their composition, but beyond those known facts each scientist has a different explanation.

A recent theory is that the comet nucleus or head is simply an enormous gas lens, and what appears to be a tail is, in reality, only the pencil of concentrated sunlight such as proceeds from an ordinary search light. Outside of this pencil we can see its length, but once in it, we would observe only an increase in the heat and brilliancy of the sunlight.

Under this theory the only effect that will be noticed May 18 will be that the sunshine will fairly burn one. But in the shade it should be fairly comfortable.

If the comet's tail is gas, at least the gas is much diluted. Some observers fear the deadly cyanogen gas, which, if thick, would stifle all breathing things at once. Diluted, such a gas might turn the whole world very sick to its stomach for two or three hours.

Some predict a display of electrical phenomena, tremendous, but harmless as the aurora borealis. Deslandres, a Frenchman, says the tail is made up of cathode rays, which, if they are in atmosphere, would become X-rays of great intensity. The effect of X-rays upon the air is to write the

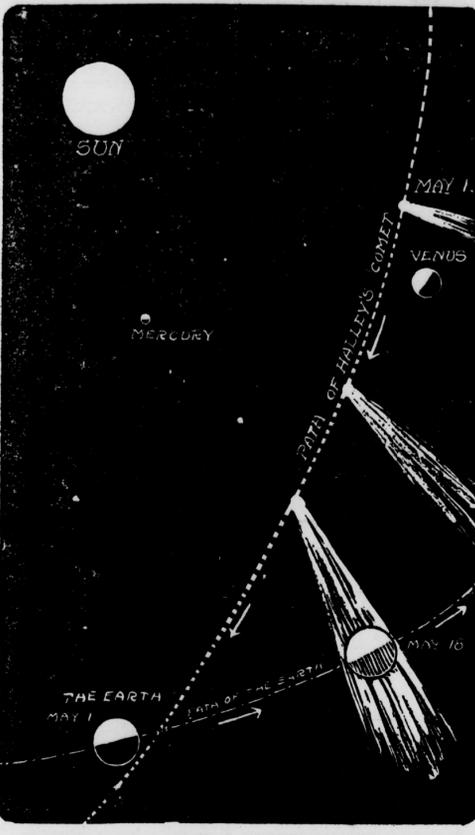


DIAGRAM SHOWING HOW THE ASTRONOMERS FIGURE THE EARTH WILL DASH THROUGH THE TAIL OF HALLEY'S COMET ON MAY 18.

water out of it. So we may be full observations have not yet been taken. The final calculations may show that the tail will miss the earth by a few thousand miles—a microscopical distance in space—but still enough so that we would pass the tail in blissful ignorance of its nearness.

At any rate there seems little danger of any harm to come to us of the earth. The thing to do is to hold tight, don't lose courage, and keep your eyes open. For you're likely to see things you can tell about to your grand children.

JACK JOHNSON, ORATOR, WINS IN JUST ONE ROUND

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

CHICAGO, March 26.—Mr. Jack Johnson, heavyweight pugilist, tonight laid aside his ring laurels to garner a few new ones as a political stump speaker. It was Mr. Johnson's "first offense" but he "got away with it" quite as readily as he got away with Tommy Burns when he won the heavyweight championship.

Jackson's speech was in the interest of E. H. White, colored independent republican, candidate from the "black belt" ward. Ring-side seats were at a premium even during the preliminaries which preceded the main event—Johnson's speech. The pugilist orator was given an ovation that would make Jeffries jealous, when he stepped on the platform.

"The white man showed the black man how to work with his hands," he said, "and now it's up to the black man to learn how to work with his brain. You black folks want to learn your children how to read and write and figure and give 'em an education. If they haven't got any education they won't amount to much."

Johnson urged his hearers to "stick together and vote for Mr. Wright because if we black folks don't stick together we'll never get anything."

Jack's peroration was a peep into the future when "maybe there would be a black country, with a black president and black officials and black policemen and black firemen and—"

"And a black flag, too?" asked one of his hearers.

"Yes, and a black flag too, if they want it," retorted the pugilist.

PLATT'S WILL READ.

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

OSWEGO, N. Y., March 26.—Edward H. Frank and Harry B. Platt, old rivals, which, he said, our atmosphere, would become X-rays of great intensity. The effect of X-rays upon the air is to write the

A VERT BIG TARIFF WAR

MATERIAL CONCESSIONS BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADA ACCOMPLISHED.

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Through mutual concessions the threatened tariff war between Canada and the United States has been averted. The agreement reached today at the white house between President Taft Secretary of State Knox, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh and Charles M. Pepper of the bureau of trade relations representing the United States, and Minister of Finance W. S. Fielding and Minister of Railways George P. Graham, representing Canada, promises not only to

MAYOR AND BLAIR UPHOLD EACH OTHER

After being closeted with John E. Blair, the new corporation counsel nearly all of yesterday afternoon, Mayor Pratt issued a letter to the city council defending Blair as to the charges of which he was found guilty by the investigating committee of the city council and refusing to remove Blair from office, as requested. The language of the report has a legal ring to it, conveying the inference that Mr. Blair might have had a hand in its preparation.

Mayor Pratt squarely takes issue with the five councilmen, who, after investigating the facts in the case, returned a report finding Blair guilty in every count charged against him by E. O. Connor, former corporation counsel, and on other matters that Connor had not mentioned.

"Untrue" and "erroneous" are the words the mayor uses in speaking of various charges mentioned by the investigating committee. The mayor is exercised over the suggestion that he had used his office to build up a political machine, and that Blair was one of the chief cogs in the mechanism. He says this is "absolutely false." The mayor admits that he called in J. C. Ralston, his man Friday, when the question of ousting Connor was up.

The mayor in conclusion says that the solution of the whole difficulty is the adoption of a commission plan of government.

The refusal of the mayor to name a new corporation counsel places the issue again up to the city council. Whether it will accept Mr. Blair after all that the committee has said about his various alleged derelictions remains to be seen.

"OUR NATIONAL STATE OF DEFENSELESSNESS"

HOBSON STARTLES CONGRESS BY ARRAY OF FACTS SHOWING WEAKNESS OF U. S. NAVY.

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, March 26.—"Our national defenselessness" was the theme around which Representative Hobson (democrat, Alabama) voiced a prophecy of disaster in the house late this afternoon.

A startling array of facts as to our unpreparedness for war, as collected by the general staff of the army and recently made public exclusively through the United Press, was the basis of the appeal of the hero of the Spanish-American war for immediate action by congress. He declared it was imperative that a larger navy be created at once if the United States would stave off a possible invasion by a foreign enemy in the future.

"Any European nation of the first power," said Hobson, "that has an adequate army and merchant marine—I will take Germany, merely as an illustration, could put 200,000 men aboard ships in a single expedition. One-half could land on the coast of Long Island and the other half on the coast of New Jersey, and inside of a few weeks they could seize Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York without resistance."

Hobson said he would probably offer an amendment to the naval bill calling for six battleships.

"We need that many a year," he said, "to maintain the equilibrium existing among the nations."

Referring to conditions on the Pacific coast, Hobson said: "It is unfortunate that I cannot refer to existing conditions on the Pacific coast without the peace

dreamers crying out 'war and jingoism,' but you can all verify for yourselves, you who have no knowledge of existing conditions, that the city of San Francisco cannot regulate her own schools as she desires. The legislators of California, Oregon and Washington today cannot legislate upon segregation of the yellow people.

"Those legislators were told subsequently to drop that dangerous question. I will tell you why. We are defenseless on the Pacific ocean.

"The Japanese navy is rated at 490,000 tons and ours at 395,000 tons. All of our 695,000 tons substantially is in the Atlantic ocean, and has to stay there."

FUNERAL OF STANDARD OIL MILLIONAIRE

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 26.—The funeral services of the late Andrew MacDonalld, Standard Oil multimillionaire and business associate of John D. Rockefeller, occurred this afternoon in his mansion, with interment by the side of his wife and daughter in the marble mausoleum in Spring Grove cemetery.

The honorary pallbearers included Governor Harmon, former United States Senator Foraker, James Holmes, treasurer of the Standard Oil company of Kentucky, of which MacDonalld was president; Eugene Zimmerman, the railroad magnate, W. P. Orr and J. G. Schmidlapp.

William C. Libbey of New York, one of the vice presidents of the Standard Oil company, attended, representing John D. Rockefeller.

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