

THE LACLEDE BLADE

A. J. GAYWOOD, Publisher. LACLEDE, MISSOURI

CURRENT COMMENT.

South American republics owe \$300,000,000. Looks like our Monroe doctrine would have to be freshly sharpened.

The man who rocked the boat has retired from business, but the one who tries to skate over the air holes of the Missouri river will be heard of presently.

Uncle Sam's star mathematician is trying to figure out how much it will cost to fatten a lean Texas steer in the semi-arid region with grass grown on land leased for two cents per acre.

Emperor William of Germany talks fluently in six languages—English better than any other except his own. Indeed, it has been said that he actually speaks German with just a trace of English accent.

Two cents more has been added to the price of oil by the Standard Oil company. This will enable it to make that \$10,000,000 donation to the cause of education. The consumers ought to get \$10,000,000 worth of education out of it, too.

A bronze memorial bust of the late Col. Richard W. Thompson, secretary of the navy in the cabinet of President Hayes and for 60 years an active participant in national politics, has just been unveiled in the courthouse yard at Terre Haute, Ind.

Medical sharps claim to have discovered a specific for the germ of laziness. Hitherto the dietum of Josh Billings held unquestioned sway: "There ain't nothin' that's a sure cure for laziness, but I have known a second wife tew hurry it some."

According to the Detroit Free Press the governor of Michigan shed tears over this touching appeal from the wife of a convict: "Pleaze Your Majesty, let him come home, if for no other reason than to see his three darling children who has been born since he went away."

Prof. Zephaniah Hopper has been teaching mathematics in the central high school in Philadelphia for 38 years, in some instances to three generations of the same family. He is 78 years old, and is not believed to have missed a session of his class in the last two decades.

Brookline, Mass., is the richest city in America, but there are more millionaires in Uniontown, Pa., than in any other town of its size, leaving out health resorts. "In fact," says a traveler from that place, "millionaires are so common there that they cut no more ice than the average citizen."

It is reported that the famous white house portraits, most of which for generations have decorated the walls of the public apartments, are to be transferred to the basement and hung in a long underground corridor running from the east entrance to a stairway leading from the basement. It is explained that these portraits conflict with the scheme of interior decorations, and provision has not been made in the large rooms on the first floor.

A London beauty doctor declares that the gifts of the present day lack the art of smiling, and advises them to cultivate the art assiduously, for in the correct smile may be found one of the chief attractions of the sex. The beauty expert will show a lady how to smile in any way she prefers. All one has to do is to choose the kind of a smile she wants and presto! it is upon her features. The doctor further promises to equip a limited number of titled ladies with the smile of their queen.

The modern tendency toward cooperative living, whether it be shown in boarding house, hotel and apartment living, or in the community cooperative kitchen, is taken by many social economists as a distinct menace to home life. It may, perhaps, for a limited class of society, but not for the great majority of the American homes. The instinct for home life and home making is too strongly imbedded, certainly in the American woman, to be uprooted in many generations, if ever.

The secretary of agriculture has decided to return the free distribution of seeds to its original purpose and intent—that is, to sending out such rare and valuable seeds as are not on the market. In the present year there will be the usual distribution of common seeds, amounting to 12,000 packages to each congressman, but each congressman will also have 500 packages of the unusual kinds. And then the secretary will ask congress to confine the distribution in future years to the latter.

The death of Mr. Reed leaves only three ex-speakers of the house still living—Galusha A. Grow, who was wielding the gavel 40 years ago and is a member of the present house; J. Warren Keifer, who presided in 1881, and John G. Carlisle, who served from 1883 to 1889, inclusive. It is noteworthy in this connection that by reason of the retirement of Speaker Henderson and ex-Speaker Grow the next congress will be the first in many years in which no man sits who was ever speaker of the house.

A six-year-old girl in Chicago stole quietly out of bed and drank half a pint of whisky, from the effects of which she died. The child's mother explains that her little daughter had a passion for whisky. The incident is distressing enough, but it might have been much worse. It is a fearful calamity to be born with a taste for whisky, and particularly where the dreadful heritage falls to a woman. To the thoughtful man or woman every day brings some example of the mercy of death.—Kansas City Star.

TOO BIG FOR ONE.

Board of Arbitrators Will Pass Upon the Venezuelan Trouble.

If President Roosevelt is Selected to Adjust the Issues He Will "Job-Let" the Detail Work—Monroe Doctrine and The Hague.

Washington, Dec. 24.—It is known that the president and all of the members of his cabinet at first preferred that the whole vexatious Venezuelan question should be referred to The Hague tribunal. It is understood that the president's plan, if he determines to arbitrate, contemplates the appointment of a board of arbitrators. He would not confide this important undertaking to any one man, nor does he feel able himself to spare the vast amount of time necessary for an examination in detail of each of the many claims that would be presented against Venezuela. Necessarily the president's own arbitration board would include some members of a high order of legal talent, as well as others thoroughly versed in the practice of international law.

It is said that the crucial point before the arbitration is the famous "Calvo doctrine." This doctrine, which was laid down by the greatest of Latin-American international lawyers for all of the Latin-American republics, denies the right of any nation to intervene diplomatically in behalf of one of its subjects where the courts of the country are open to his application for justice. Thus Venezuela has asserted that all of these claimants, British, German, Italian and French, might have gone before the Venezuelan courts and if their causes had been just and so decided by the courts, the government would have paid the judgments. The objection to this view is that no account is taken of miscarriages of justice and of racial antipathies.

It is known now that some members of the cabinet are opposed to referring the matter to The Hague tribunal. In the first place they have no desire to submit the Monroe doctrine to the arbitration of any non-American tribunal, not even excepting the august and eminently fair tribunal of The Hague. They very much prefer that if this doctrine is to be the subject of arbitration, if it is to be even brought in incidentally, that American influences shall pass on it. Not that the fairness of The Hague arbitrators is impeached, but as most of them represent European and monarchical interests, it is realized that their training may be regarded as unsympathetic where they are required to deal with such an essentially American subject as the Monroe doctrine.

GREWSOME ORNAMENTS.

Pretender Had 41 Moroccan Troops Decapitated and Their Heads Taken to His Tent.

Tangier, Morocco, Dec. 24.—The imperial troops have been totally defeated after a sanguinary battle with the rebels, headed by the pretender to the throne. The latter decapitated 40 of the sultan's soldiers. Their heads are now ornamenting his tent. Imperial reinforcements have been sent to attempt the capture of Taza, the headquarters of the pretender. Incensed by the successes of the rebels, the sultan has ordered his soldiers to spare no one at Taza, in spite of the advice of the chiefs who counseled him not to indulge in excesses.

Strike of "Hello" Girls at Joplin.

Joplin, Mo., Dec. 24.—As a result of four girls being discharged last night at the central offices of the Home Telephone company, 29 central girls walked out on a strike in a body and Joplin telephone service is at a standstill. The girls allege that they had taken steps to form a union and that four of their number were discharged as being instrumental in the movement. Fifteen or 20 line-men are also out.

Attorney for the Creek Nation.

Hartville, Mo., Dec. 24.—A. P. Murphy, who was a prominent candidate for the republican nomination for congress before the convention at Lebanon last fall, has received notice of his appointment as national attorney for the Creek nation, Indian territory. The appointment is for four years and the salary is \$5,000 per year.

From \$7 a Week to a Fortune

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—From work in a mill at \$7 a week to a fortune and a bride is the jump taken by Frank Frenwith, 21 years old. His bride is Mrs. Jennie Lyons, a widow, 39 years old, with a fortune of \$300,000. The bride met her young husband at a funeral, and a friendship was formed.

Noted for \$250.

Topoka, Kan., Dec. 24.—The breach of promise suit for \$50,000 filed in the federal court here by Nora E. Simmons, of Kansas City, Mo., against Ernest Broquet, of Norton, was settled out of court by the payment of \$250 to the defendant.

Hospital at Albuquerque Burned

Albuquerque, N. M., Dec. 24.—The big hospital of the Santa Fe-Pacific here is a mass of flames and there is no hope of saving it. Twenty-five patients, some of them very ill, were in the institution. Superintendent Cutter believes all were saved.

Clear Field for President of Mexico.

Mexico City, Dec. 24.—Gen. Bernardo Reyes, minister of war, has resigned. This practically leaves Senor Limonour, minister of finance, alone in the race for the presidency to succeed Diaz.

Fresh Outbreak of Cholera.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—The transport Thomas brings news of a new cholera outbreak in Manila. When the Thomas left there 20 cases of cholera were reported daily. Army surgeons arriving on the Thomas say the disease is raging unchecked in the southern provinces.

More Pay for 6,000 Employees.

New York, Dec. 24.—Six thousand employees of Wells, Fargo & Co. will have their salaries increased from 5 to 10 per cent, the increase to date from December 1.

THREE BLOCKS BURNED.

Fire at Beatrice, Neb., the Third in 18 Months, Destroyed Property Valued at Two Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 24.—Three business blocks and the Masonic temple burned here yesterday. The Padlock hotel was on fire at noon, but the flames were put out. The fire began at two o'clock in the morning in the Day drug store basement. The loss is \$200,000. The fire spread from the drug store to the floors above and then to the three-story Beatrice national bank building adjoining on the east. The fire was discovered by the police judge, Mr. Callison, who roomed on the second floor over the drug store. He was confined to his room with rheumatism, but gave the alarm by shouting from a window. He was overcome by smoke and was rescued by ladders raised to his window. The fire, aided by a strong south wind, baffled the firemen, who were handicapped by a defective boiler at the city pumping station, and quickly gutted the bank building. Nothing was saved. The bank vaults are beneath the fallen walls of the building. The fire at its way westward toward the First national bank and destroyed several small stores in the same block. The Beatrice national bank opened for business on time in the Nebraska bank building. The fire is the third large one to occur in the last year and a half, and the three fires destroyed nearly \$1,000,000 worth of property.

MERCIFUL AFFLICTION.

Nebraska Man Saved from the Penitentiary by an Attack of Sickness Which Kept Him in Bed.

Kearney, Neb., Dec. 24.—John W. Tatum, who served a penitentiary sentence in his bed at home. Convicted of horse stealing more than two years ago, he was carried into the court room on a stretcher to receive his sentence. His brother was the complaining witness. The prisoner did not improve and has not been removed from his home. A certificate of pardon has been mailed to him by the governor. It is probable that Tatum will be a prisoner in his bed until death relieves him.

Four Girls Heavily Injured.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 24.—Five girls jumped from a third-story window of Chase & Sons candy factory, which was on fire. Four of them were dangerously hurt. A fire escape was near the window from which the girls jumped. The loss is \$65,000. There were 50 girls employed in the factory and nearly all jumped from second and third-story windows. Many received slight injuries.

Shoe Factory for East, Ok.

Enid, Ok., Dec. 24.—The Commercial club accepted the proposition of R. P. Shirley, of Washington, Ind., to build a shoe factory here. The factory will have a daily capacity of 900 pairs of shoes and will employ 225 people. It will occupy a four-story factory building 75x150 feet.

Gov. Stanley Gave a Dinner.

Topoka, Kan., Dec. 24.—At the executive mansion last night Gov. Stanley gave a "harmony" dinner, and had as his guests prominent representative republicans, including Congressman Long and Curtis, Cyrus Leonard, Gov.-elect Bailey and State Treasurer-elect Kelley.

Heart Damaged \$5,000 Worth.

Emporia, Kan., Dec. 24.—Maude McClure, of Burlington, filed suit here for \$5,000 damages against Charles J. Gunkle, a Lyon county farmer. She charges that Gunkle promised to marry her and afterward refused. Gunkle married Miss Minnie Fowler last July.

Railroad Cases in Kansas

Topoka, Kan., Dec. 24.—During the past two years 202 cases were tried by the state board of railroad commissioners. Of these 152 were settled by trial and 106 were won by the people.

Passing of Ex-Senator Fabin.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Ex-Senator Dwight M. Sabin, of Minnesota, died suddenly in his apartments at the Auditorium Annex. He was United States senator from Minnesota from 1883 to 1889. He left an estate of \$10,000,000.

Jefferson City's Carnegie Library.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 24.—The \$25,000 library building was dedicated here last night and is now open for use. The building was the gift of Andrew Carnegie and is now completed in every detail.

Oklahoma Bars Horses.

Guthrie, Ok., Dec. 24.—The Oklahoma live stock sanitary board says that henceforth no horses will be allowed to enter the territory unless accompanied by certificates of good health, given by known veterinarians.

Baby Played with Matches.

Ardmore, I. T., Dec. 24.—The 18-month-old child of W. J. McLaughlin, who lives near the city park, was burned to death. Its mother had gone into the garden and left it in a room with some matches.

BRITISH BREVITIES.

Wood pigeons do more harm to British crops than any other birds. Zuyedotte, near Dunkirk, was overwhelmed by snow in 1777. Only the church steeple can now be seen.

Falmouth is probably the oldest port in England. It was used by the Phoenicians at least 2,500 years ago. In 827 Winchester, not London, was proclaimed to be the capital of England, and so it remained for two centuries.

Including rivers and canals, it is estimated that no part of England is more than 15 miles from water communication. Manchester, England, has a new Health Culture society, according to which the simple remedy for most ills of the flesh is: "No breakfast."

Expert testimony before the parliamentary committee investigating the deep tube railway schemes in London, in which Trenchard and Morgan are interested, show that the cost of excavation will be \$250 per yard at the stations and \$240 per yard for the rest of the line. The average depth of the line is to be 90 feet.

FOUGHT WITH DEATH

Terrible Experience of Sailors Set Adrift at Sea.

After Deserting Two Sinking Ships 15 Men Battled Many Hours with Marcellus Waves, Cold and Hunger—Several Became Injured.

Boston, Dec. 23.—A foreign steamer, the Manahasset, arrived here at 2:30 Monday morning with ten survivors of the crews of the schooners Frank A. Palmer and Louis B. Cray, which were in collision off Cape Ann Wednesday. Six men on both vessels went down with the ships and the balance, 15, took to one boat. Three went insane and jumped overboard, two died and two went insane after arriving on shore.

The Louise B. Cray was a five-masted and the Frank A. Palmer a four-masted schooner. They were both coal-laden, bound for Boston. At eight a. m. Sunday when the Manahasset was 45 miles off Highland light, the lookout sighted a small boat with men who were making signals of distress. The Manahasset changed her course and bore down on the craft, which proved to be the boat which had been launched from the Cray. Only ten of the men aboard were alive and they were almost helpless as a result of their exposure to the rigorous weather. Saturday night one became crazed by his sufferings and shouting at the top of his voice that the police were after him he jumped overboard and disappeared. Four other members of the little boat's company died from exhaustion and the exposure to which they had been subjected. All the survivors were frost bitten and some of them will probably have to have their feet and hands amputated.

MISSOURI SCHOOL FIGURES.

Total Enrollment is 703,057, or 266,425 Less Than the Enumeration—Average Wages of Teachers.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 23.—In the forthcoming report of the state superintendent, Mr. Carrington, there will be interesting statistics. The total school enumeration of children over six and under 20 years of age is 569,482; the total enrollment in the schools is 703,057; the average daily attendance is 472,799. There are 2,539 districts in the state having less than 20 pupils.

Of the 16,347 teachers in the state, 6,013 have only a third-grade county certificate. The average annual salary of teachers is \$306.15. An interesting fact in this connection is that the average salary for female teachers is \$163 more than it is for male teachers. The total expenditures during the year were \$8,169,288.43, which is an annual expenditure per capita of \$2.52. There are 21 states expending more per capita on their schools than Missouri. Both Colorado and Nevada are spending more than twice as much. The total amount of the permanent public school funds (state, seminary, county, township and district) is \$12,795,516.53.

PLAN A COUNTER COMBINE.

Farmers in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma Allege Grain Buyers Are Enforcing Arbitrary Weights and Prices.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 23.—Representatives from all the Farmer's Co-operative Grain associations will meet in Lincoln next month to organize into a state body. There will probably be 16 such organizations represented. It is likely that within another year at least 50 of such organizations will be effected. The grain buyers over the state, so it is alleged by the farmers, have organized themselves into a state association which tends to compel the farmers to accept weights and prices that do not seem just.

A Beneficial Cave-in.

Galena, Kan., Dec. 23.—A big cave-in occurred on the New York Zinc company's ground on the lot being mined by Downing & Sons, in which it exposed a rich vein of lead heretofore undiscovered. The vein is about 20 feet in thickness and is exposed about three-fourths of the way around the entire circle. Millions of pounds of lead are in sight. This cave-in is beneficial, an exception to the rule, on account of the exposure made and in causing no little excitement.

Call for a Single Statehood Convention.

Oklahoma City, Ok., Dec. 23.—The single statehood committee of Oklahoma and the Indian territory met here yesterday and issued a call for a convention composed of 1,000 delegates, 500 from each territory, to meet at Oklahoma City on Tuesday, January 6.

Miles Entertained at Fort Arthur.

Pekin, Dec. 23.—The Russian officials at Fort Arthur entertained Lieut. Gen. Miles on his arrival there and are now sending him to Taku on board a cruiser.

Celebrated Landing of Pilgrim Fathers.

St. Louis, Dec. 23.—One hundred and sixty natives of New England, comprising the New England society of St. Louis, held a banquet last night in commemoration of the 252d anniversary of the landing of the pilgrim fathers.

Internal Revenue Collections.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The monthly statement of the collections of internal revenue show that the total amount for November, 1902, was \$19,285,357, a decrease as compared with November, 1901, of \$3,892,593.

Countess Castellan in New York.

New York, Dec. 23.—Countess Castellan, who was Miss Anna Gould, arrived to-day from Paris to spend a few months with relatives in this country. She brought with her two little boys, who saw for the first time their mother's country.

Big Fire at Hubbard, Neb.

New York, Dec. 23.—Fire that started from an unknown cause last night in the big seven-story piano factory of Ernest Gabler & Bros., in East Twenty-second street, did damage to the extent of \$250,000.

Postmaster Said to Be Short.

Ardmore, I. T., Dec. 24.—The postmaster at Ardmore has been arrested at the instance of Inspector Vagos, as a shortage of \$1,800, it is alleged, has been found in Benington's accounts.

ITS SCOPE IS BROAD.

The "National Society of Equity" Has Been Incorporated to Promote the Interests of Farmers.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 24.—The National Society of Equity of North America was incorporated to-day. It has been incorporated after months of correspondence between all parts of the country. The objects as stated are as follows: To promote and encourage organization and co-operation among farmers, stockmen, horticulturists, gardeners and men of kindred vocations by the establishment of a national society with such branch and local societies as may be necessary to carry out such objects; to obtain profitable prices for all products of the farm, garden and orchard; to encourage the building and maintenance of elevators, cold storage houses and warehouses in the principal market cities, or all the localities where necessary, so that farm produce may be held for advantageous prices; to secure equitable rates of transportation, encourage highway improvement, irrigation of land and promote arbitration.

President Everett said: "We expect to organize the millions engaged in agriculture. A complete system of crop reporting will be maintained through an official organ. Knowing the amount of crops produced and the consumption from past experiences, an equitable minimum price will be fixed by the directors of the national body and reported at once to all parts of the country. Once fixed, the price will rule on that crop for the year."

UNDER TERRIBLE SHADOW.

Mrs. Lena M. Lillie, of David City, Neb., Charged with Killing Husband, a Prominent Grain Merchant.

David City, Neb., Dec. 24.—Lena M. Lillie was arrested here charged with murdering her husband. The arrest has caused a sensation. Harvey Lillie was shot dead while lying in his bed in October, supposedly by burglars, although the suspicion that the house had been robbed was later disproved. Since then the county attorney and detectives have been working on the case. The family was prominent, Mr. Lillie being local manager for one of the leading grain and elevator companies of the state.

MRS. DOCKERY NEAR DEATH.

Wife of Missouri's Governor Reported in a Critical Condition from an Attack of Heart Disease.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 24.—Mrs. A. M. Dockery, wife of the governor, who was suddenly stricken with heart trouble yesterday, is reported in a very critical condition and it is stated there is little hope for her recovery.

He Made False Statements.

Anacosta, Mont., Dec. 24.—On the ground that David Lovell did not make truthful statements when he secured final receipt for his claim to the land, the commissioner of the general land office has ordered the suspension of his entry to the township of Sao, Valley county, which have been improved at great expense. Sao is now an important railroad point on the Great Northern.

Moving Headquarters to Chicago.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 24.—The American Galloway Breeders' association, which since 1886 has had its headquarters in or near Kansas City, will on January 1 move these headquarters to Chicago, following the example of the Hereford association. The headquarters of the Southern Breeders' association, which are now located in Springfield, Mo., will also be moved to Chicago within a few weeks.

Working with the Revolutionists.

Caracas, Dec. 24.—The port of Coro, which is surrounded on the land side by the revolutionists, is not blockaded. In Caracas this fact is believed to mean that the British and German fleets are working in harmony with the revolutionists and not blockading Coro in order to allow the free entrance of such schooners from Caracas bringing arms and ammunition.

Lockout of 25,000 Employees Averted.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—A lockout of the 25,000 garment workers and clothing makers employed in Chicago was averted when Cutters' union No. 21 accepted the agreement presented by the employing tailors. While there are still differences between the employers and the tailors, the chances are that they will be settled by arbitration.

Preacher Leaves State Prison.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 24.—Rev. Rowland P. Hills, sentenced to four years in the Nebraska penitentiary on a bigamy charge, has been pardoned by Gov. Savage. Soon after he leaves the prison he will be married to Dolle Powell, his former wife. Hills was an Episcopal clergyman and his first wife came here from England to prosecute him.

Prime of All England Dead.

London, Dec. 24.—Most Rev. Frederick Temple, archbishop of Canterbury and prime of all England, who had been ill some time, died at 8:15 o'clock in the presence of his wife and two sons. He was 81 years old.

His Back to the Engine.

Larned, Kan., Dec. 24.—H. C. Blunt, a Santa Fe section man, was killed by a passenger train two miles east of here. He was inspecting track on a railroad tricycle and was riding with back to the train.

During Holiday at Hubbard, Neb.

Hubbard, Neb., Dec. 24.—This town was the scene of a daring hold-up last night. Two masked men, heavily armed, entered a crowded saloon and robbed everybody in the place, looted the till and made their escape.

Postmaster Said to Be Short.

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POLICEMAN STOOD GUARD.

Not Instead of Protecting Property Patrick Mahoney Aided in the Recovery of \$10,000 Worth of Jewelry.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Policeman Patrick Mahoney was found guilty and Daniel Curran, co-defendant, not guilty of burglary, by a jury which returned its verdict of a locally sensational case in Judge McEwen's court. The burglary of Hagemann's jewelry store, with which the defendants were charged, netted the robbers \$10,000, of which \$7,000 was recovered by the police. James Clark and an accomplice were convicted and served a term in the penitentiary. Upon his release Clark told a story to the state's attorney which resulted in the arrest of Curran, a saloonkeeper, and Mahoney, a policeman well-known and respected among his fellows. Clark testified that Mahoney in full uniform stood guard while the jewelry store was being looted.

AS A NEW YEAR'S PRESENT.

Frick Coke Company Will Increase the Wages of Twenty Thousand Employees Eight Per Cent.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 23.—Notices were posted throughout the Connellsville coke regions Wednesday granting the 20,000 employees of the Frick Coke company a voluntary advance in wages averaging eight per cent. The increase will take effect January 1. It means that the company will next year disburse in wages to its men \$1,600,000 more than it has this year, and that it will continue to pay the highest wages of any concern in the United States employing this kind of labor. The Frick Coke company is a subsidiary company of the United States steel corporation.

SUBMARINE COAL MINES.

In Nova Scotia, Oehlirne McDonald Is Planning to Take Fuel from Under the Ocean Bed.

Glacebayne, N. S., Dec. 23.—An operation, unique in the history of Nova Scotia mining, is planned by Oehlirne McDonald, who has bonded coal areas near Port Morien. The coal areas which he controls are wholly submarine, and he is planning to sink a shaft on a rock islet known as Flint Rock, mining his coal from under the ocean bed. There seems to be no doubt that during the succeeding generations mining will be carried on extensively in Cape Breton, which has large fields of submerged coal beds.

DEFENDED HER HONOR.

Jury at Oliveville, Pa., Acquitted a Woman Who Shot and Killed Her Drunken Asaunt.

Bradford, Pa., Dec. 23.—At Oliveville, a small hamlet near here, Mrs. Edward Budick shot John Ryan dead in defense of her honor. Ryan entered the woman's house during her husband's absence. She saw him coming, and fearing trouble got the pistol out of a drawer and held it under her apron. When he attacked, she fired once at her assailant, killing him instantly. A coroner's jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide. Ryan, who was a laborer employed about the place, had been drinking heavily for several days.

Six Students Guilty of Rioting.

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 23.—President Maclean, of Iowa state university, has announced that while a large number of sophomores had been different investigations for recent student riots, all but six had been exonerated, and that there would be punished by suspension. The sophomore class has agreed to pay the damages, approximating \$500, resulting from the riot.

New "Substitute" for Coal.

Elkhart, Ind., Dec. 23.—Charles E. Haas, of this city, thinks he has solved the cheap fuel question in the discovery of a substitute for coal, produced by the mixing of seven different chemicals together and giving volume and shape to the compound by saturating dirt or mud and molding it in the desired forms.

These Robbers Have Good Luck.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 23.—The gang of bank and post office robbers which has been at work in this vicinity for the past year cleaned out the post office at Towanda last night. One hundred dollars cash and all the stamps and registered mail, estimated in value at from \$300 to \$1,000, was taken.

All the Profits for Betterment.

New York, Dec. 23.—At a meeting of the directors of the St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad company here it was decided that in view of the rebuilding of the bridge at St. Joseph, Mo., at a cost of \$400,000 and the necessity of additional equipment, estimated to cost \$300,000 no dividend will be declared.

Fish's Slaying Given Ten Years.

New York, Dec. 23.—Thomas J. Sharkey, the private detective, who was convicted of manslaughter in the second degree for having killed Nicholas Fish, the banker, on September 25, was sentenced to state prison for ten years.

Fire Started from Overheated Lamp.