

ASKS PARDON FOR LABOR MEN

Great Flood of Petitions are Sent to White House

DECISION IS DENOUNCED

President Compers, One of the Men Sentenced Yesterday for Contempt, Failed to Show Up at His Desk This Morning.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—President Compers of the American Federation of Labor failed to appear at his desk this morning, where a huge pile of telegrams and letters awaits him. Labor leaders denounced severely the decision of the supreme court of the District of Columbia yesterday, in which Compers, Mitchell and Morrison were sentenced for contempt. The White House was flooded with communications asking President Roosevelt to exercise clemency if the supreme court of the United States confirms the verdict.

One of the Appeals.

The various labor organizations in protesting to the president against the sentence urge him to prevent the incarceration of the labor leaders. The Illinois United Mine Workers sent this telegram, signed by President John H. Walker, the vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and members of the executive board: "In the name of 75,000 mine workers in Illinois, we desire to protest against the decision committing to penal servitude these great commoners and representatives of the American labor movement, Samuel Compers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison. These men may be guilty of a breach of law, but a law that denies the use of a free press and full speech is a breach of the fundamental principles of our country. Such decisions only tend to create enmity and class hatred. We respectfully solicit your influence to prevent the incarceration of these men."

Roosevelt Acts.

Stirred by appeals of thousands of labor bodies Roosevelt today sent for Attorney General Bonaparte to go over with him the proceedings in the contempt case. He don't intimate that he thinks the report of the court unjust but feels it demands earnest consideration.

WANTS A PARDON.

James Duncan Believes President Should Exercise Right.

Boston, Dec. 24.—First Vice-president James Duncan of the American Federation of Labor said last night: "I am of the opinion that the pardoning power of the president could be used right away in causing the release of President Compers."

"If President Compers is compelled to spend the year in jail, he will conduct the affairs of the federation from the jail in which he is confined. "I think the decision is the most unjust that I have ever heard."

Other local labor leaders, including President John F. Tobin of the Boot and Shoe Workers' union, expressed similar disapproval of the decision.

PERSONAL ALLUSIONS WILL BE LEFT OUT

President Will Confine Himself to the Text in His Next Reply to Congress, It is Said.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—Indications are that persons who expect President Roosevelt to say something to Congress, replying to the inquiry as to the basis for that portion of his message dealing with the secret service, will be disappointed.

While the president has not written his reply he was collected a stock of information which will serve for its basis. It is believed that he will confine himself principally to an effort to sustain the declaration in his annual message that the action of Congress in severely limiting the activities of the secret service agents has resulted in increased crime. Data will be produced to show that criminals and confidence men have been quick to take advantage of the cessation of the secret service men, but it is not believed that there will be any reflection upon the character of individuals that will in the slightest degree embarrass any member of the Senate or House.

To meet any objection that the secret service is limited by statute to the detection of counterfeiters, revenue and customs frauds and at the same time to preserve the general usefulness of that institution the president probably will recommend a change in the organic law so as to provide for the merging of the secret service, the land office inspectors, postoffice inspectors and all of the other minor governmental inspection service into one general bureau of criminology in the interest of economy and good administration.

ORGANIZE MARK TWAIN CO.

Three Members of The Clemens Family Are Directors.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 24.—The Mark Twain company of New York, capital \$5,000, organized to secure to the author and his family all rights in the name or pseudonym "Mark Twain" filed articles of incorporation yesterday with the secretary of state. The directors are Samuel L. Clemens, Clara L. Clemens, Jean L. Clemens, Isabel V. Lyon of Hedding, Conn., and Ralph W. Ashcroft of New York.

MORE PEACEFUL LOOK IN SOUTH AMERICA

Former Minister de Paul Starts from France and Holland to Effect a Settlement with Venezuela's Disputants.

The Hague, Dec. 24.—The foreign office received an official communication from Willemstad, Curacao, to-day, that the former foreign minister, Jose de J. Paul, has left Caracas for Paris and The Hague to open negotiations for the settlement of Venezuela's difficulty with those countries.

The revocation of the transshipment decree of May 14 by the Venezuelan government was announced by the lower house of Parliament yesterday afternoon by Foreign Minister Van Swinderen. It was this decree that made most of the trouble between Venezuela and the Netherlands. Under its terms the transshipment of goods at Willemstad destined for Venezuela was prohibited, and its operations worked much injury to the commerce of the Dutch island. The foreign minister said also that the Dutch naval operations along the Venezuelan coast had been suspended at the request of acting President Gomez.

The foreign minister's words were as follows: "Following the discovery of a plot against the life of the vice-president of Venezuela, Juan Vicente Gomez, a new ministry was formed and some of the supporters of President Castro were cast into prison."

"On December 21 acting President Gomez, as an evidence of friendliness and pending later negotiations by duly appointed delegates, ordered a stay of execution of the decree of May 14 and expressed the hope that the Netherlands similarly would suspend the naval demonstrations in Venezuelan waters."

"Pending the re-establishment of a Venezuelan consulate at Curacao, the German consul there has been authorized to grant shipping clearances."

RESUME RELATIONS.

United States Sends Envoy to Venezuela Again.

Washington, Dec. 24.—After an interval of eight months the United States has resumed relations with Venezuela and William L. Buchanan has left this country on the steamer North Carolina as a special commissioner to report upon the situation. The question whether the United States will accord formal recognition to the new government will depend largely upon Mr. Buchanan's report as to its ability to maintain a stable administration and to fulfill treaty obligations. It has not been fully established that the Gomez government will retain its power without trouble, for there remain adherents of President Castro. A possibility that disorder may arise is indicated in a request for an American warship at La Guayra, to which wish this government has responded promptly.

Secretary Root was pleased when he announced yesterday that President Gomez wished to settle all international questions. He has felt all along that the situation in Venezuela would work itself out, if the Venezuelans were left to themselves. Some significance was at first attached to the fact that Mr. Root had referred to Gomez as president in his statement to the press and this was taken at once as an indication of the attitude of the government. It was explained that such a reference had been made in the communication which came to the department through the Brazilian officials.

It is expected that the Dutch warships will be withdrawn from Venezuela and that either diplomatic relations between Holland and Venezuela will be resumed or a commissioner will be dispatched to Caracas, as in the case of the United States.

The refusal in March last by the Castro administration to consider separately the questions of controversy between the two countries made it plain that diplomacy could accomplish nothing further toward their settlement. This deadlock was made clear to the United States Senate, but Congress adjourned without taking any action in the matter. The five claims which form the basis of the last negotiations were those of A. F. Laurent, who was expelled from the country, the Orinoco corporation, the Orinoco Steamship company, New York & Bermudez Asphalt company, and the United States & Venezuelan company, the amounts involved running nominally into millions of dollars.

CLASH ON STREETS.

Castro's and Gomez' Supporters Spilled Blood Today.

Willemstad, Dec. 24.—The United States gunboat Dolphin arrived here today and was greeted by a noisy demonstration among the residents. At Caracas this afternoon a thousand partisans of Gomez and Castro clashed in street fighting. Two of Castro's supporters were killed, and a hundred were wounded on both sides.

70 YEARS' SENTENCE.

Imposed on a Washington Attorney Last Night.

Washington, Dec. 24.—John A. Heny an inventor of York, Pa., was acquitted, and Henry E. Evarding, an attorney of Philadelphia was convicted of conspiracy, forgery and destroying public records, growing out of the patent office scandal, which revealed the fraudulent handling of specifications on an electric light invention.

Heny was adjudged not guilty because the jurors did not believe from the evidence that he has any knowledge of a conspiracy. The jury recommended Evarding to the mercy of the court. His attorneys gave notice that they would file a motion for a new trial. The jury was out only eight minutes. The indictment comprised six charges of forgery, two of destroying public records and two of conspiracy, and a maximum sentence of 70 years may be imposed under the law.

Heny & Evarding were jointly indicted with Ned W. Barton, former assistant examiner in the patent office, who is now serving a term of three years as a result of his confession of guilt to the charges.

BOY ADMITS KILLING JONES

But Pleads Not Guilty to Murder in Court To-day

MYSTERY IS UNRAVELED

Francis E. Jones Was Shot to Death While Fishing in Shrewsbury, Mass., Monday—Ralph W. Krantz, Arrested Last Night, Confessed.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 24.—Ralph W. Krantz, the self-confessed murderer of Francis E. Jones on Mud Pond in Shrewsbury Monday afternoon, was taken before Judge Ujtry this morning. He pleaded not guilty to murder and was held without bail for the January term of court. Krantz made his confession last night. He is only fourteen years of age, while his victim was aged 19 years.

His arrest was due to his telling a neighbor that he had picked up a revolver near Lake Quinsigamond. As Jones' revolver was missing, the neighbors decided to communicate with the state police, with the result that two officers went to Krantz's home last night. Krantz was in bed, but the officers awakened him and asked him if he knew anything of the death of Jones. Krantz admitted that he had found a revolver but at first denied all knowledge of the shooting.

Finally the boy broke down and made confession. He said on Monday he left home to go fishing with a shotgun. He met Jones, who was fishing through the ice. Picking a quarrel with Jones on a slight pretext, Krantz according to his confession leveled his shotgun at Jones' head and fired, the charge striking the young fisherman in the head and killing him.

The body was found Tuesday, frozen into the ice on the pond, by Dr. William E. Taft and Elmer Hill, as they were preparing to fish through the ice. Young Jones had left home early Monday morning to go fishing. He was the son of Herbert A. A. Jones of Shrewsbury, a former mail carrier in Worcester.

OLDEST VETERAN DEAD.

Joseph St. Peter Who Enlisted When 80 and Danced a Jig at 85.

Rutland, Dec. 24.—Joseph St. Peter, the oldest survivor of the Civil War living in Vermont, died at his home here yesterday afternoon of senile debility, aged 96 years and nine months. He was one of 37 survivors of the 7th regiment who attended a reunion here in February, 1907, and although then wearing his 96th birthday he danced a jig for the entertainment of his comrades.

Mr. St. Peter as a native of France. He passed his young manhood in the Canadian lumber camps and had lived in Rutland 65 years. He enlisted in company D, 7th Vermont volunteers, after he had reached the half century mark and served four years, mostly under General Butler. He had a narrow escape at Baton Rouge, a bullet passing through his hat and clipping off a lock of hair.

He was the last of a family of six children and was father of 14 children, six of whom survive him. He was married the second time two years ago.

HIS WIFE REFUSED TO LIVE WITH HIM

So Henry Rivard, Aged 28, of Worcester, Mass., Took Poison To-day and Is Dying.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 24.—Henry Rivard, aged 28 years, attempted to commit a suicide with a poison pill at the Lincoln Hotel this morning. It is alleged that the cause was the refusal of his wife to live with him. He is dying at the City hospital.

WILL END TO-DAY.

Prosecution in the Hains Trial Will Give Way to the Defense.

Flushing, L. I., Dec. 24.—The Hains prosecution will complete its case to-day. There will be no Christmas session, but the court will resume on Saturday, when Attorney Shays opens for the defense. Martin Skura, the hack driver, who took the Hains brothers to Bayside, was recalled. He positively identified Thornton as one of the men. He swore he heard, "We have got him now." He told of finding the package of cartridges in the carriage. Mr. McIntyre objected and the testimony was thrown out. The cross-examination badly confused the witness.

Skura finally admitted that he had perjured himself in a statement made to the prosecution and Attorney McIntyre demanded his commitment. Judge Crane refused but admitted that the evidence was perjury and promised to consider it after the trial.

FIGHT ON THE LEVEL.

Says the Promoter and the Public Seems to Think So.

New York, Dec. 24.—A dispatch from Sidney, says that the fight of Saturday between Johnson and Burns for the world's championship will be "absolutely square." This is the statement of Hugh D. McIntosh, the promoter of the big mill. The public is inclined to believe that the fight is for earnest and is betting odds against Johnson of 6 to 5. Twenty thousand tickets have been sold.

TOUCHING TRIBUTE TO THE BISHOP

Crowd of 500 People Met Funeral Party at Burlington Station and Escorted Body of Bishop Michaud to Winoski.

Burlington, Dec. 24.—A crowd of over 500 members of the congregation of St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Joseph's church waited nearly an hour last evening at the railroad station for the arrival of the 6:30 train, which brought the remains of the late Rt. Rev. J. S. Michaud, D. D. LL.D., to this city, and formed a silent escort for the body as it was taken through Burlington on its way to the Fanny Allen hospital. The bells of St. Mary's cathedral and St. Joseph's church were tolled during the progress of the procession through the streets. The body was accompanied to Burlington from New York by the Rev. P. J. Barrett, the Rev. W. A. Plamondon and Dr. D. A. Shea, who also accompanied the remains to the Fanny Allen hospital, where they will lie in state in the former room of the bishop until their removal to St. Mary's cathedral, where the funeral will take place next Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

At the funeral the Rev. A. J. Barron of Bennington will preach the sermon and Bishop T. D. Beaven of Springfield, Mass., will celebrate the funeral mass. The former is pastor of the late bishop's last parish before his elevation to the bishopric and the latter is a classmate at Holy Cross college and a life-long friend. This arrangement is in accordance with the expressed wish of Bishop Michaud, before his sailing for Europe. Interment will be made in the burial crypt in St. Mary's cathedral.

The Rt. Rev. J. M. Cleary has received many expressions of condolence from priests and prelates. Among those who first sent messages were Archbishop O'Connell of Boston, Bishop Walsh of Portland, Bishop Guerin of Manchester, Bishop Burke of Albany, the administrator of Hartford, and others. It is expected that many of these will be in attendance at the funeral.

A solemn high mass of requiem for the peace of the soul of the late prelate was celebrated in the chapel of the Fanny Allen hospital yesterday morning at eight o'clock. The celebrant was the Rev. J. P. Rand, rector of St. Stephen's church, Winoski. The Rev. Fr. Jean Marie acted as deacon and the Rev. George Leduc as sub-deacon. Seated within the sanctuary were the Rev. Ernest Salmon and the Rev. Fr. Nicol of St. Roch's college. Music was furnished by the sisters' choir.

FUNERAL OF VICTIM.

Of Shooting Accident at Richmond Held at Burlington.

Burlington, Dec. 24.—The funeral of William Trayah, who was killed in Richmond Sunday by the accidental discharge of a shot gun, was held at eight o'clock yesterday morning from St. Joseph's church. The Rev. J. A. Laoureux officiated. The bearers were Y. M. Potvin, Theodore Broasette, John Martin, John F. Bean, Louis Lalouque and Charles Lucas. Among those present at the funeral from out of town were Louis Lalouque, Burt Root and Clarence Goodrich of Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Wheeler of South Burlington, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Trayah and daughter of St. Albans, Joseph Stephen, Peter and Fred Trayah of Milton, James Trayah and Charles Lucas of St. Albans and Charles Lucas of Richmond. The four years old daughter of the deceased will be cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Potvin of 28 Spring street, as the mother of the child is dead.

DIED IN STATION.

Woman Passed Away in Waiting Room at Rutland.

Rutland, Dec. 24.—Mrs. Emma Boytell of Fort Edward, N. Y., daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bowtell of 42 Williams street, died suddenly of heart trouble in the waiting room of the Rutland depot shortly before 9 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She left Mr. Bowtell's house about 15 minutes before feeling perfectly well and death came almost without warning. She had previously suffered from attacks of heart trouble.

The stricken woman walked to the station with Mrs. Samuel Bowtell and Miss Elizabeth Sedden, with whom she lived in Fort Edward, to see Miss Sedden off to Montreal. As soon as they arrived at the depot Mrs. Bowtell sat on a settee. Her companions saw by her appearance that she was suffering and Mrs. Samuel Bowtell went to the restaurant for a glass of water but nothing could be done. The stricken woman died almost immediately.

Dr. M. R. Crain and Rev. N. Pronx were summoned. The woman was dead when they arrived. The ambulance of Cahoe & Spencer was called to remove the remains.

Mrs. Bowtell was born at New Haven, Conn., 55 years ago. She had lived in Fort Edward 10 years and was visiting in this city at the time of her death.

FEARED CONSUMPTION AND KILLED HIMSELF

Fred Howard of Johnson Shot Himself in the House This Morning—Leaves Wife and Two Daughters.

Johnson, Dec. 24.—Fred Howard committed suicide by shooting himself in the mouth early this morning with a revolver. He has had melancholia since the death of his only son on October 24. His son died of consumption and he feared he had contracted the disease. He retired as usual Wednesday evening and at midnight took a 32-caliber revolver from the stand drawer and fired it into his mouth, dying almost instantly. He is survived by a wife and two daughters.

NEW BUSINESS STARTED.

St. Johnsbury Has One For Manufacturing Purposes.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 24.—The Grant-Anderson Forging company is the caption under which St. Johnsbury's latest industry was recently launched. O. J. Anderson and H. R. Grant make up the firm which is organized for the manufacture of horse shoes, cast dogs and the Vermont pole timber, which latter invention was patented in November. The company is also equipped to do all kinds of custom work and jobbing.

They are at present installing a 1,500 pound hot hammer which will increase their capacity for turning out horse shoes to 1,000 a day, and they already have contracts for that amount. Their plant on Granite square is equipped with two drop hammers, two trip hammers, a rolling mill, two shearing and punching presses and an air compressor. Two oil fires and two coal fires are used for working the iron and the motive power is derived from two electric motors.

At present the firm employs four hands, but this force will be increased as business demands and we expect before long to see the business occupying a prominent place among the many St. Johnsbury enterprises.

WATER IS NORMAL.

Declares Report on the Condition of Montpelier Supply.

A report has been received in Montpelier from the samples of Berlin water which were sent to the state laboratory in Burlington for examination. The reports state that the water is normal.

SUSPENDED FOR LONG TERM.

One of the Biggest Brokerage Houses in New York City.

New York, Dec. 24.—Marshall Spader & Co., one of the largest stock brokerage firms of New York, has been suspended for three years by the government stock exchange.

C. L. U. Delegates.

The regular meeting of the Central Labor Union of Barre and vicinity has been postponed until Wednesday, Dec. 30th, when a full attendance is expected, when a full attendance is expected.

WENT THROUGH ICE.

Driver Saved Himself But Lost Valuable Horses.

Middlebury, Dec. 24.—Fred Guyette of Shoreham narrowly escaped drowning while attempting to drive across the lake Tuesday afternoon. He started on the ice at Larrabee's point and was bound for Concord, with a load of Christmas poultry. When about a third of the way over the ice gave way and the whole outfit was plunged into the icy water. Mr. Guyette managed to save himself but in spite of desperate efforts to rescue his team, the horses were drowned and the poultry froze to death. The horses cost Mr. Guyette \$300 last summer, and as he is a poor man, his loss is a heavy one.

Shortly before this accident, a team owned by former Sheriff Kent W. Merrill of Shoreham crossed the ice on the same track and very nearly broke through in the same place.

MILL BLOWN INTO PIECES

Big Explosion at Powder Plant Near Concord, Mass.

BEFORE WORK STARTED

The Fact That It Came at 6:52 This Morning, Rather Than Later, Is the One Satisfactory Feature of the Accident.

Concord, Mass., Dec. 24.—One building of the American Powder company's plant located between Concord and Maynard was blown up this morning and a great deal of damage was done to adjoining property. The fact that the explosion came at just eight minutes before seven o'clock was extremely fortunate, as the force of workmen had not at that time arrived to begin their day's labor. No one was hurt by the explosion.

The wrecked building was the glass mill of the plant, and it was literally blown to pieces. The force of the explosion was so severe that a great deal of glass was shattered in buildings within a radius of considerable distance and the buildings themselves were damaged. The cause of the explosion has not been ascertained.

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BUSHELS OF PRESENTS

Were Handled at the Barre Post Office To-day.

The post office employees have been worked to the limit for the past three days and the receiving window of the office has taken a continual stream of Christmas gifts from opening until closing time. Tuesday and yesterday were not quite up to the record of last year, but to-day's receipts made it up and the total amount is about the same as that of last year.

The incoming rush has been as great as usual, and to add to the discomfort of the carriers to-day, the mails have been late and the chances are that there will be no delivery to-night, as the men will be obliged to work through the day on the forenoon's incoming mail. Persons who are expecting packages are requested to call at the carriers' windows between seven and eight o'clock to receive them.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF MONTEPLIER MAN

Henry S. Town Left City at 12:30 Apparently in the Best of Health and Was Dead Three Hours Later.

Physicians are somewhat baffled over the cause of the death of Henry S. Town, a prominent citizen of Montpelier, who died yesterday afternoon following a very short illness with convulsions. A post-mortem examination is being held this afternoon.

Mr. Town was in the city yesterday shopping and at 12:30 o'clock in the afternoon left to return to his home, which is on Town Hill, and about two miles out of the center. Arriving home, he was taken with severe pains in his stomach. A physician was called and the pain was somewhat alleviated. Later, about half past three, the convulsions came on again, and the end soon came. When Mr. Town started for his home from Montpelier, he was apparently in the best of spirits in good health.

He was 75 years of age last month and was a successful farmer, having also considerable of a reputation as a horseman and a driver of fast ones. He was married to Elizabeth Cummings fifty years ago the eighteenth of next January. She survives him, as do two sons, Clinton E. and Frank H. Town. He had been a selectman and was a director of the Orange County Telephone company at the time of his death. The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon at half past one o'clock.

DIED AT HARRISBURG.

Former Assistant Postmaster Clark of Montpelier.

Word has been received in Montpelier of the death at Harrisburg, Pa., of Dan Clark, who was formerly assistant postmaster in the capital city, and who went to Pennsylvania to become a post office inspector. He was well known in Barre also.

While in Montpelier in 1903, Mr. Clark had a very severe attack of typhoid fever and lingered for a long time between life and death.

He was 40 years old and leaves his wife, who was Miss Josephine Cochrane, daughter of Alex. Cochrane of Groton. He went to Montpelier when 20 years of age and became money order clerk in the post office there, being then promoted to assistant postmaster under Postmaster Morse, a position which he held continuously until he went to Pennsylvania as a government inspector. The body will be brought to Groton for burial.

DRUGGIST LICENSE GRANTED.

By St. Albans City Council, by Vote of 3 to 1.

St. Albans, Dec. 24.—Liquor is now being sold legally in the city for the first time since May 1, when the city went dry. C. D. O'Leary was last night granted a fifth class license, following a hearing by the city council. Objections were made by the Rev. G. F. Porter, to the granting of the license. Mr. Porter thought that the city had got along pretty well for the past eight months, and conditions were not so serious but that we could get along the balance of the year. The council finally by a vote of three to one granted the license. Mayor Atwood and Alderman Root were present and President N. J. Jarvis presided.

RESIGN WHEN CRITICIZED.

St. Albans Fire Chief and Two Assistants Step Down and Out.

St. Albans, Dec. 24.—The resignations of George Derich as chief, C. W. Buckley as first assistant and F. E. McArthur as second assistant engineers of the fire department were received by the council, but the board adjourned before taking any action. It is understood that the resignations followed the criticisms of the management in which the Messenger fire of last Sunday was handled.

BANKRUPTS OF HALF YEAR.

There Were 14 More For Last Six Months Than For First.

Rutland, Dec. 24.—Sixty-one petitions in bankruptcy have been filed in the United States court of Vermont since July 1, which is 14 more than during the first six months of this year.

TALK OF THE TOWN.

The standing committee of the Congregational church will meet at the church Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. F. M. Aiken, who drives the stage between this city and Topham had one of his stage horses drop dead Tuesday while driving along the road. The