

# The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

VOL XL NO. 9

WILMINGTON, N. C., JANUARY 29, 1907

\$1.00 PER YEAR

## RUMORS CURRENT

### Of Differences Existing in the Thaw Family.

## MISS M'KENZIE THE CAUSE

### Efforts Being Made for Settlement of Trouble.

Daily Objected to Intimacy Existing Between Miss McKenzie and Mrs. Harry Thaw—Report Denied That Thaw Had Received Threatening Letters Since His Imprisonment—Plans of Defence Not Yet Definitely Developed, but it is Believed it Will be Emotional Insanity.

New York, January 26.—Rumors of differences between Mrs. Harry K. Thaw on one side and Mrs. William Thaw and the Countess of Yarmouth, mother and sister respectively, of Harry K. Thaw, on the other, which were started yesterday, continued to be circulated today, despite a denial by Thaw's counsel that any such differences existed. The reported differences are said to have arisen over the continued presence in the court room of Miss Mae McKenzie, the former chorus girl, who invariably accompanies Mrs. Evelyn Thaw and sits by her during the session of the court. Miss McKenzie is said to have been the younger Mrs. Thaw's constant companion since Harry Thaw shot Stanford White.

It was reported today that Delphin M. Delmas, the San Francisco lawyer, who came east to defend Thaw, went to the hotel Lorraine, where the relatives of Harry Thaw are staying, in the hope of reconciling any differences which might have arisen between the women. It was said that Evelyn Thaw made the first step to placate her mother-in-law and sister-in-law, and that Mr. Delmas only consented to try to smooth over their misunderstandings on the agreement that Miss McKenzie should discontinue her appearance in court.

Harry Thaw is said to have discussed this matter with A. Russell Peabody, of counsel, when Mr. Peabody visited him in the Tombs prison today. Afterward Mr. Peabody said:

"I don't believe that Mr. Delmas knows that Miss McKenzie is in the court room. He is there to work and I don't believe he gives the woman a thought."

"Early last summer, when Evelyn Thaw was practically all alone, Miss McKenzie was with her most of the time. It is only natural to suppose that Mrs. Thaw wants to have Miss McKenzie with her now, even if the other members of her husband's family are with her."

He was then asked to state whether there is any truth in the stories that Thaw has received many threatening letters since he has been in the Tombs.

"I want to talk to counsel about this matter before I say anything about it, it is possible that I may have something to say later," said Mr. Peabody.

"My client has received hundreds of letters during the time he has been awaiting trial in the Tombs and I have seen nearly all of them. None of the missives sent by others than relatives could be classed as threatening. About one in a hundred of the letters contained what may be described as unfavorable comment and that is a light percentage, as letter writing cranks, as a rule, use strong words in their uncalculated communications."

The jurors were kept under close surveillance at their hotel today. The wives of two of them called last night but their guards only permit conversations in the presence of another juror and one of the guards.

Mr. Peabody said that Miss McKenzie had proved herself one of the best friends Mrs. Evelyn Thaw ever had and that she took care of Mrs. Thaw last summer when the young woman was "suffering agony greater than that borne by any woman in New York" and has been devoted ever since.

"Is it to be expected that now Mrs. Harry Thaw would cast her friend aside just for the sake of appearances?" Mr. Peabody asked.

He declared that there was no more truth in the report than other relatives truth in the report that other relatives Thaw because of her friendship for Miss McKenzie. He said that Mrs. William Thaw and her daughters have never had the slightest objection to the intimacy of the pair and that this applied to the Countess of Yarmouth, who

he said, had not been in court for the past three days because she was so overwrought by the first day's proceedings that she had to stay in the hotel to recuperate. He promised that she would be in court Monday if she had recovered.

Mr. Peabody said that the report that Mr. Delmas had delivered an ultimatum that he would withdraw from the case unless May McKenzie was kept out of the court room, is absolutely without foundation and he said that Mr. Delmas had not declared at the Yale Club that either he or Miss McKenzie would have to keep out of the court room.

Mr. Peabody also declared that the report that Harry Thaw and his wife were contemplating a divorce if Thaw is acquitted is also false. He said that Thaw and his wife "are more inseparably bound together today than before the tragedy."

It was said today that evidence will be put before the jury to prove that ever since the Madison Square Garden tragedy last June, the entire living expenses of May McKenzie have been paid by some one connected with the Thaw family. The district attorney is said to have copies of bills paid on Miss McKenzie's account at the Hotel Lorraine. Miss McKenzie will appear as a witness for the prosecution during the trial, having been subpoenaed by the district attorney.

One of the reports in circulation today dealing with Thaw's motive for shooting Stanford White was to the effect that on the night before the shooting, Thaw called on White and exacted from him a promise that he would never try to communicate with Evelyn Thaw again. It was also reported that while at dinner in the Cafe Martin, four hours before the tragedy, Thaw intercepted a note from White asking Mrs. Thaw to meet him.

Rooms are reported to have been engaged in this city for eight Pittsburg witnesses for Thaw to be brought to this city under the care of Roger O'Mara, the Pittsburg detective.

The seven jurors are comfortably housed at the Broadway Central Hotel seven rooms with baths and a private dining room having been engaged for them. The jurors so far selected are accepting the situation in a philosophical manner. The plans of the defense, while they have not definitely developed, are believed to be as at first supposed, emotional insanity and an appeal to the so-called "higher law." Only the faintest indication in this direction has appeared at the trial thus far, and that was yesterday when Clifford W. Hartridge, chief counsel for Thaw, asked a prospective juror this question: "Would you take into consideration all the evidence tending to show the condition of this man's (Thaw's) mind at the time of the killing of Stanford White?"

## ASSOCIATION ELECT OFFICERS.

### Passed Resolution Urging Increase of Salary for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Special to The Messenger.)  
Raleigh, N. C., January 26.—The North Carolina Association of City School Superintendents elected W. S. Snipes, of Winston, president; I. C. Griffin, of Salisbury, vice president; C. W. Wilson, of Scotland Neck, secretary. A resolution was unanimously adopted urging the legislature to so increase the salary of the state superintendent of public instruction as to put it on a footing with that of other state officers. A resolution of regret at Charles D. Melver's death was adopted.

The state text book commission decided to adopt D. H. Hill's primary history of North Carolina and W. J. Peole's book on civics.

State Treasurer Lacy appoints H. M. Reece, teller, to succeed Doughton resigned. Reece has been a Seaboard Air Line engineer until a year ago, when he was hurt in an accident. He is a native of Guilford.

## CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

### Few Bills of Minor Importance Passed by Senate—House Devoted the Day to the Agricultural Appropriation Bill.

Washington, January 26.—The Senate was in session today only for a little more than an hour, the early adjournment being taken to permit attendance on the funeral of the late Senator Alger. A few bills of minor importance were passed, but most of the time of the sitting was devoted to further discussion of Senator Hale's resolution providing for an inquiry into the personal interest manifested by naval officers in the navy personnel bill. The resolution was ultimately referred to the committee on naval affairs.

The house spent the greater part of the day debating the agricultural appropriation bill and it was still under consideration when adjournment was taken. The question of free distribution of garden seeds continued to hold the most prominent place with the speech makers, although action on the provision of the bill by a vote of 71 to 69 was postponed until Monday. The senate bill incorporating the International Sunday School Association of America, was passed.

Visit Gaylord's Monday white sale 10 to 12 o'clock. Mennen's powder 10c

## MERRIMENT REIGNED SUPREME

### Annual Winter Dinner of the Gridiron Club.

## PROMINENT PERSONS PRESENT.

### Feature of Evening's Entertainment Was a Burlesque on Centralization. Guests Were Roasted in Manner Peculiar to the Famous Organization.

Washington, January 26.—Centralization was the major motif in the entertainment furnished tonight by that famous association of Washington newspaper correspondents, the Gridiron Club at their annual winter dinner given at the New Willard. The new president of the club, Samuel G. Blythe, of the New York World, directed the entertainment.

In the presence of the president of the United States and the vice president and representatives from the coordinate branches of the government, a host of literary and newspaper men, before statesmen and many of the captains of industry those who have done and are still doing things, an empire was erected with all the splendor attendant thereof. The scene was laid in Washington and the time nineteen hundred and seventeen (ten years hence).

The king of power was surrounded with all the officers of state with courtiers and pages, a herald who looked more like "Happy Jack Falstaff" than anything else and a numerous court to complete the gorgeous picture and the fun these men of the Gridiron club got out of the "skit" to say nothing of the enjoyment of the guests, showed how keenly the assemblage appreciated the satire. And there was a jester too, who, clothed in his motley, spoke an epilogue which served as the introduction of President Roosevelt, who made a forcible address.

The grand procession was welcomed by "God Save the King" rendered by a section of the marine band. But the king was finally deposed and the court sent in exile while the band played "The Star Spangled Banner."

During the course of the centralization act the king asked one of the ministers "has Japan conquered the Philippines?" The chancellor of the exchequer replying "No, your majesty; they now offer to give them back to us for a coaling station at Guam."

The initiation of Clifford K. Berryman, the cartoonist and creator of the "Teddy Bear," afforded an opportunity to introduce two enormous cinnamon bears, played of course by two members, and between the president and Mr. Berryman the club had a lot of sport over the bear incident.

A show man who had the bears in charge, explained that he had taught them the language of man; that they could "think as quickly, speak as rapidly and spell as badly as the president of the United States". Mr. Berryman with the aid of his bears made a number of cartoons. One of the bears requested that he draw a picture of the man whom the senate loves most, and a striking likeness of the president appeared. A picture of Senator Foraker showed up when the cartoonist was asked to draw a picture of the senator whom the president loved most. The picture of the next vice president of the United States was a composite one starting with David B. Hill and being changed into Fairbanks. The cartoon of the next republican candidate began with Taft, was changed into Fairbanks and ended with a speaking likeness of Joseph G. Cannon.

Songs to Associate Justice Harlan of the supreme court, to Vice President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon, served as introductions to speeches from these gentlemen, while other brilliant after dinner efforts were made by General Horace Porter, Secretary Root, Henry VanDyke, of Princeton university, Representative Adam Bede, of Minnesota, and Francis D. Cushman, of Washington state. As a souvenir of the dinner a book of nearly sixty pages was presented to each guest, its title being "Who's Who in Gridiron Prose and Rhyme", dealing with historic characters and portrayed with a profusion of cuts. Governors Warfield, of Maryland and Swanson, of Virginia, were represented as speaking to one another as follows:

"Says the Gov'r of Maryland to his friend of Virginyeh  
"I will mix you some things that are good to put in yeh."

"Says the Gov'r of Virginyeh, prefer not to wait  
"When time may be saved by taking them straight."

## Killed by Dynamite Explosion.

Pearisburg, Va., January 26.—A premature dynamite explosion occurred on the tidewater railway today, on the works of P. J. Miller, on which nine men, all foreigners, were killed almost in an instant. The mangled body of one of them was thrown nearly across New river and lodged on an island. It seems that the men were eating their dinner on the grade, when the dynamite exploded, causing their death as above described.

## TO PUT SOLICITORS ON SALARY

### Bill Passed Final Reading in the House.

## TURNER WANTS JUDGES FINED.

### Considerable Debate on Resolution Regarding Solicitors to Give Amount of Fees Received Last Year—Additional Appropriation Voted for Jamestown Exposition.

(Special to The Messenger.)  
Raleigh, N. C., January 26.—In the senate prayer was offered by Senator Brown, from Yadkin.

Bills were introduced as follows: By Burton, to validate marriages heretofore solemnized by unauthorized ministers; by Klutz, to amend Chapter 190 of the Revisal regarding fire insurance policies and losses thereunder; by Webb, to extend the time for obtaining grants for land entries; by Drewry, to enlarge the capitol, providing rooms for the supreme court and library and for state officers; by Graham, to give permission to towns to sell their electric and power plants when desired.

The following bills passed third reading: To appropriate \$20,000 additional to the Jamestown exposition.

There was considerable debate on a resolution offered by Webb to ascertain from solicitors what was the amount of their fees received last year. Mason opposed this resolution, saying that he did not like this prying into affairs of this kind. Webb said he was informed that Solicitor Clarkson of the Charlotte district was the only solicitor opposed to the bill. Pharr and Mason said Clarkson had not told them of any such opposition. The resolution was adopted, however, and solicitors are to be notified to give the information desired. Bills passed amending the revisal so as to compel water companies to supply the public with good water.

Senator Turner tried again to get the senate to pass a bill fining Currituck county judges not on time to open court Monday 5:00 unless with physician's certificate for sickness. Many senators said it would be an indignity to the judges. It was laid on table by vote of 19 to 4.

## HOUSE.

The House was called to order at 10:30 by Speaker Justice, Rev. Dr. Tye offering prayer. Vestal presented a petition from firemen for an appropriation for the North Carolina Association of Firemen. Bills were introduced as follows: By Mull, to amend the revisal as to appropriate the revenue from the liquor traffic to the public schools. By McRae, to allow Maxton ti issue bonds. By McCracken, to incorporate Clarendon, Columbus county. By Parsons to amend the law punishing burglary, also to put the state on an equality in criminal actions with defendants in selecting juries; also to regulate the hours of labor in factories and to forbid labor of children in factories at night. By Haynes regarding pay of jurors in justice trials. By Wynne to punish trusts and conspiracies; also to confer additional power on county commissioners; also to create a North Carolina Fish Commission.

The house took up Justice's salary bill, enlarging the powers of the attorney general, giving him the aid of solicitors in investigating violations of law by trusts and giving solicitors \$2,500 salary. The bill was on third reading and amendments were offered by Turlington, Dowd and Harshaw. Morton took the chair and Justice spoke on the bill, saying he was satisfied the vote on the bill Thursday was the deliberate judgment of the members of the house after a debate and by a large majority and that he would not make further argument except to say that some of the amendments had received telegrams from Solicitors Duffy, Moore and Carr and had talked with Solicitor Jones and all were favorable to the bill. The only solicitors not replying, were those living in the districts represented by Messrs. Dowd, Turlington and Harshaw. These Solicitors being Clarkson, Hanner and Linney.

Turlington's amendment that Solicitors should be on salaries, but that until the fees paid into the State Treasury by them reached \$2,500 and salary should be the amount of fees so turned in was adopted by a roll call vote of 63 to 43. The result was received with applause. The bill was then amended passed third reading on a viva voce, only one no being heard.

## Bank Clearances.

New York, January 26.—The statement of clearing house banks for the week shows that the banks hold \$15,562,800 more than the legal reserve requirements. This is a decrease of \$2,897,900 as compared with last week.

Two day sale of bankrupt millinery stock Princess street, goods must go.

25c colored organdy 9c at Gaylord's Monday white sale.

## MILL DESTROYED BY FIRE.

### Four Operatives Burned to Death—Loss Estimated at \$500,000.

Dover, N. H., January 26.—Dover's most disastrous fire, which occurred today, cost the lives of four and probably five young mill operatives and a property loss of half a million dollars. The fire destroyed mill No. 1, of the Cocheco Manufacturing Company. The bodies of four boys, charred beyond recognition, were found in the smoking ruins and as five boys are known to be missing, it is believed that another body will be recovered. Several of the injured were hurt while descending by ropes.

The fire broke out in the mill port long after the 500 mill operatives had assembled for their work. Friction from a belt generator caused sparks which lodged in a mass of cotton, the flames quickly spread through the building. The exits soon became blocked by the struggling mass of mill hands and many were obliged to jump from the windows. Others secured ropes and descended to the ground.

There were several daring rescues by firemen. Four imprisoned men on the fourth floor were taken out of a window, though not until they had climbed, one by one, down a stout pole which the firemen had made fast to the top of a ladder too short to reach the window sill. The total loss is \$500,000, covered by insurance.

## FAILURE IN CLINTON.

### A. W. Aman, Merchant, Makes Assignment—Liabilities \$30,000, Assets \$100,000.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Clinton, N. C., January 26.—Business circles here were subjected to a shock when it was announced yesterday that A. W. Aman, general merchant and retiring sheriff and treasurer of Sampson county, had made a deed of assignment. He conducted a large dry goods store and owned the grocery business conducted under the name of The Clinton Supply Company.

It is rumored that his mercantile liabilities are about \$15,000 and that he is behind as county treasurer about an equal amount, making his total liabilities about \$30,000 as estimated. His assets will approximate \$10,000, consisting of mercantile stock and accounts.

On his bond as sheriff and treasurer are some fifty of the leading farmers of the county, so that their loss, if any will not be individually great. The worst feature of it all is the tangle into which the county finances will be temporarily thrown. F. R. Cooper is named as assignee.

## IMMIGRANTS FOR THE SOUTH

### Georgia Association Making Arrangements to Bring Over Several Hundred Scotchmen and Swedes.

Augusta, Ga., January 26.—The Georgia Immigration association announces today that arrangements are making with representatives of two steamship lines to bring to this county within the next three weeks several hundred Scottish and Swedish immigrants to relieve the very urgent demand for help in this section. The matter has been taken up with Commissioner Hudson and the request made that the state lend all its aid which will be complied with. The immigrants are to be landed at Savannah. The association has committed itself and its foreign representatives to the policy of bringing only a class of immigrants against whom no objection can be found.

Details for further extension of the movement will be perfected at the state immigration conference to be held in Macon, February 19 and 20.

## PANAMA CANAL AWARD.

### Conference Held at White House—Announcement on Subject Will be Made Monday.

Washington, January 26.—Secretary Washington, January 26.—Secretary announcement respecting the award of the contract for the construction of the Panama canal. He made this statement as the conclusion of a conference at the White House today. He said no announcement on the subject will be made before Monday. He declined to indicate what might be the conclusion of the President and his advisors. It is surmised that additional information is awaited on various features of the proposition and that pending the receipt of this, final action is not to be taken. In addition to the president and Secretary Taft, there were present Secretary Root, Postmaster General Cortelyou, Assistant Secretary of State Bacon and James H. Garfield, commissioner of corporations and for a portion of the time Chairman Knapp of the interstate commerce commission.

25c colored organdy 9c at Gaylord's Monday white sale.

## A PHYSICIAN SHOT

### Dr. Charles W. Townsend Probably Fatally Wounded.

## SHROUDED IN MYSTERY

### Assassin Believed to Have Been Actuated by Revenge.

### Masked Man Went to Doctor's Room At Early Hour Yesterday Morning, Forced Him to Get up, Shot Him Twice and Made His Escape—Dr. Townsend Claims to Know the Man But Will Not Reveal His Name.

New York, January 26.—Dr. Charles W. Townsend, one of the best known physicians and surgeons on Staten Island, was shot and probably mortally wounded while in bed in his home at New Brighton, S. I., early today. The case is surrounded by mystery, but from the meagre details which have been permitted to leak out by the officials it is believed that the doctor was the victim of a man who sought vengeance from some real or fancied wrong.

Dr. Townsend at first declared that his wounds were inflicted by a burglar, but later said he knew the man who did it. "I know perfectly well who shot me," he told the police, "but I shall not tell his name. I do not want the man arrested. There is no need of sacrificing still another life."

A cab man named Silverman, who answered the description given by Dr. Townsend, of his assailant, was arrested. When he was taken to the bedside of the dying man, however, the doctor refused to identify him. "I didn't see you," said Silverman, "that shot me," said the doctor to the officer who made the arrest. "I merely saw my assailant looked like this man. Silverman is a friend of mine and he is not the man who fired the shots at me."

Dr. Townsend's home is a handsome residence a block from the New Brighton railroad station. The doctor and his wife occupied the front room, on the second floor, his aged mother slept in a room in the rear of the doctor's, and his four children in another room on the same floor.

About 3:45 this morning the doctor's wife was awakened by some noise and saw a strange man in the room. In one hand the intruder carried a lighted match and in the other a revolver. The lower part of the face was covered with a handkerchief. Mrs. Townsend screamed and her husband awoke. The stranger advanced on the doctor and declared that he was going to kill him.

He forced Dr. Townsend to get up and it is understood that he said something but what it was the coroner will not reveal.

Dr. Townsend was in a half sitting position when the intruder fired. The bullet struck the doctor a glancing blow in the stomach and then buried itself in the bed clothes. Again the stranger fired, and this time the bullet hit the doctor in the abdomen and pierced the intestines.

As soon as he had fired the second shot the assailant fled from the room and ran down stairs and escaped.

The intruder gained admission to the home by forcing a window in the doctor's office on the ground floor. Tracks also were found leading from the house to the water's edge and it is believed that the assailant, after his crime, made his escape in a boat, which had been provided in advance for the purpose.

New York, January 27.—Charles W. Townsend, who was shot early yesterday, died this morning.

## Train Crashed Into Street Car.

Dayton, O., January 26.—A street car was struck at Third street crossing today by the eastbound Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis (Big Four) railroad and before the train could be stopped the car was carried nearly a square. Miss Lillian Huber was killed and sixteen other passengers seriously injured, two of whom will probably die. They are Professor Mercer, assistant principal of public schools of Dayton and Mrs. Frank Ramby, mother of assistant fire chief Ramby of this city. At least a dozen more passengers were badly bruised.

Bluefield, W. Va., January 26.—An earthquake shock lasting almost a minute, was felt here at 1 o'clock this morning. Houses were badly shaken and people jumped from their beds in fright. No serious damage resulted, however.