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OMBERG DIES OF MERCURY POISON; BURIAL THURSDAY

End Comes at 5 O'Clock Wednesday Morning After Ten-Day Fight—Mother, Sister and Brother at Bedside.

Frank Omberg, prominent Memphis banker, died Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock at Gartly-Ramsay Hospital from the effects of bichloride of mercury poison taken ten days ago. His mother, sister and brother were at his bedside when the end came. Previous to this he had suffered intense agonies from the effects of the deadly poison and had been unconscious for six hours.

Hospital attaches say that it was apparent as early as 6 o'clock Tuesday that Omberg was dying and all efforts were exerted to alleviate his suffering as much as possible. Narcotics were administered but the mercury was eating away the banker's life and his dying groans were agonizing.

Police still are uncertain as to the exact details surrounding the act that ultimately led to his death. According to the story the banker told to Miss Bernice Fort, employe of the Guaranty bank, and confidant of Mrs. Omberg, Omberg came from the bathroom of his suite in the Hotel

(Continued on Page 14, Column 1.)

GUARDS FRUSTRATE FIREBUGS' EFFORT TO IGNITE HOTEL

UNIONTOWN, Pa., Dec. 29.—Armed guards early today frustrated an attempt to burn the Junction House at Star Junction, near here, and drove off two men who had fired a quantity of inflammables placed in a room on the first floor. Hotel guests, awakened by the shots, joined in the chase, but the men escaped.

This incident was taken by state and county officers as additional proof that the two men under arrest here in connection with the widespread incendiarism of the last few months were not the leaders in the arson ring which already has cost Fayette county residents close to $1,000,000.

President Rejects $150,000 Offer For Newspaper Article

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—An offer of $150,000 in cash for a single newspaper article has been refused by President Wilson, it was learned today. The offer was made by a well-known syndicate, the only stipulation being that it be the first article to be written by the president after leaving the White House. The president was to choose his own subject and the article was to be of any length he desired ,or, if he wished, the subject could be covered in a series of several articles.

In refusing the offer the president is said to have given as his reason that no article that he nor any other living being could write could be worth so much money, and that it would be taking advantage of the syndicate to accept it.

Competition is becoming very keen among publishers and promoters for the handling of the president's literary efforts after March 4. The White House mail is crowded daily with offers, schemes and suggestions from persons who see a fortune in the market of Mr. Wilson's prospective works and who want to share it with him.

But to all these the president has turned a deaf ear. He has not confided the details of his plans for the future even to his nearest friends beyond stating that he expects to engage in literary work and make a living at it.

800 Lose Chance To Work In Huge Fire

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 29.—Fire which broke out in the plant of the Wilmington Leather company caused damage estimated by James I. Ford, treasurer of the company, at $2,500,000 and upset plans for employing 800 men and women to relieve the unemployment situation in this city.

The intense heat ignited a row of dwellings opposite the plant and they burned quickly.

More Earth Tremors Felt In Algeria

(By International News Service.)

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Further violent earthquake shocks have occurred in Algeria, said advices from Algiers today.

NEGRO ADMITS MURDER.

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 29.—Tom Bryant, alias Tom Brown, young negro, has confessed to killing Albert Chambers, 78, a storekeeper at Lutz, according to police. Chambers was killed Sunday night. Bryant said he went to the store to rob the old man, police said, and when Chambers rose up in bed he hit him over the head with an ax. He then robbed the cash drawer, obtaining only ten dollars.

Prisoner Robbed By Fellow Prisoners

STEUBENVILLE, O., Dec. 29.—Theft of $28 and a gold watch from Lawrence Shields, a prisoner in the county jail, by three negro fellow prisoners, released from their cells by a "trusty," was reported by prison officials. Barney O'Brien, the "truty" who is alleged to have released the robbers, not only had his name stricken from the honor list, but faced a charge of taking $22 from two other prisoners on the pretext that he was a county officer.

SLAYER ESCAPES POSSES; LYNCHING RUMOR UNFOUNDED

All-Night Search Fails to Reveal Trace of Murderer of Farmer and Daughter, But Citizens Maintain Hunt.

OSCEOLA, Ark., Dec. 29.—An all-night search by several posses failed to reveal any trace of Henry Lowry, negro murderer, and opinions of officers here today is that he has made his escape. Rumors of the negro's capture and lynching last night proved unfounded.

Early today a note was sent to the officers that a strange negro was seen on Island 34, near Butler, Ark. Officers have been sent to the scene, but little credence is placed in the report that it was Lowry.

Search was made during the night of every house between this place and Wilson, Ark. All negroes were questioned, but all denied knowing anything of Lowry.

Lowry is sought for the killing of O. T. Craig and his daughter, Mrs. C. O. Williamson, and wounded Craig's two sons last Saturday near Wilson.

Members of one posse fired several shots a a negro on the levee near Nodena early Tuesday night, but the black escaped. Whether this was Lowry or not has not been ascertained.

Bloodhounds were brought here from Mississippi late yesterday and placed on several trails supposed to be that of the fugitive. Thus far they have failed to develop any clew.

Lowry is declared to be intelligent and had contemplated several correspondence courses. His trunk was examined and one diploma found. He maintained a lock box at the postoffice at Wilson and received much mail.

Although worn by five days' search, the citizens of this section are continuing to explore every section. Another canvass is reported to be planned of negro houses Wednesday night.

BLOODIEST YEAR IN HISTORY OF ERIN FORECAST

Dispatch Says Truce Efforts Have Failed, But People Have Not Been Told—Acting Sinn Fein Head in Dublin

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The coming year promises to be the bloodiest in Irish history for more than a century," said a Dublin dispatch to the Daily Express today. "Truce efforts seem to have failed, although the public is told by officials that there are still faint hopes for peace."

Father O'Flanagan, acting president of the Sinn Fein, has arrived at Dublin from Roscommon, said a Dublin dispatch to the Chronicle.

Arthur Griffith, president of the Sinn Fein and acting president of the Irish republic, is in pirson at Mount Joy jail at Dublin. It is believed that Father O'Flanagan will confer with him on peace, as Premier Lloyd George recently announced in the house of commons that facilities would be given to Father O'Flanagan to meet Griffith for a peace talk.

LABOR PARTY ADVOCATES CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOM

BY EARLE C. REEVES,
(International News Service Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Constitutional freedom for Ireland as a means of bringing about Irish peace and immediate opening of trade relations with Russia as a means of alleviating unemployment in Great Britain were advocated at a special conference of the British labor party at Westminster hall today.

The executive committee had already prepared a number of resolutions. One called for a judicial inquiry into reprisals in Ireland, and challenged the British government to disprove the information on reprisal violence brought back from Ireland by the labor commission, headed by Arthur Henderson, which conducted an independent investigation.

Another resolution commended an election in Ireland for the selection of members of a proposed constituent assembly. This assembly would be given powers to work out an Irish constitution, but it would be subject to conditions protecting Irish minorities and also to limitations to prevent Ireland from menacing England in a naval or military way.

Other resolutions demanded punishment of soldiers and policemen guilty of reprisals and the immediate withdrawal of British troops putting responsibility for the maintenance of order upon the shoulders of the local authorities.

The executive committee, "affirmed its satisfaction over the efforts that have been under way in behalf of an Irish truce."

Ireland was under discussion all morning and unemployment was not taken up until after noon.

The report of the labor committee, which had investigated reprisals in Ireland, had been made public Tuesday night, on the eve of the labor party meeting.

The report said, in part:

"The situation is nothing short of a tragedy. There are 50,000 soldiers quartered in Ireland, most of them young and inexperienced. Discipline is lax and the youths become brutalized and demoralized. There are things being done in Ireland which must make Great Britain stink in the nostrils of the whole world."

GERMANY GETS LOAN.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 29.—A Dutch loan of 200,000,000 guilders (normally about $80,000,000) to Germany has been ratified here after a long delay owing to technical difficulties. The second chamber of parliament approved the loan last July.

TRAIN ENGINEER KILLED.

ANSONIA, O., Dec. 29.—George Riester, of Indianapolis, engineer, was killed and a number of persons were injured when eastbound passenger train No. 16 on the Big Four railroad turned over near here.

YOUTHFUL TRAIN BANDIT KILLED; TWIN SURRENDERS

Station Agent Believed to Have Foiled Second Robbery by Brothers—Battle Staged in Washroom.

KANKAKEE, Ill., Dec. 29.—One of the two youthful bandits who held up the New Orleans-Chicago flyer on the Illinois Central railroad near here last night was killed in a battle with police and railroad detectives at Aroma Park, four miles east, early today, and the other surrendered.

The youths, Jose and Jacob Scott, twins, aged 24, were said to be sons of an automobile mechanic at Greenville, Ill., a few miles south of Kankakee.

A holdup of the Cincinnati-bound train on the Big Four railroad was contemplated by the two robbers, it was believed, but was prevented when the station agent at Aroma Park telegraphed that two men resembling the robbers were in his station waiting room. Police and railroad detectives arrived as the Big Four train pulled in and chased Jacob Scott through the train into a washroom, firing through the walls until he was fatally wounded.

Only the rear Pullman on the Illinois Central train was robbed, the two youths boarding the train at Gilman, Ill., a few miles south, and leaping off just as the train neared Kankakee. Several hundred dollars in cash and a few thousand dollars worth of jewelry were recovered.

COMMITTEE CUTS FORE THAN HALF FROM CIVIL BILL

First Big Supply Measure To Be Completed Reaches House Carrying Less Than Provided in Last.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The sundry civil appropriation bill, carrying a total of $383,611,292, or $420,914,192 less than was asked by the government departments, was reported today by the house appropriations committee. It was the first of the big supply measures for the next fiscal year to be completed and its total was $52,237,514 less than the amount appropriated for similar purposes this year.

Indicating a desire to put government expenditures on a prewar basis, the committee, first taking care of men disabled by war, set aside only $160,611,292 for actual sundry civil expenses of the government, which was within $34,000,000 of the total appropriated for 1916.

The largest single reduction, $147,000,000, applies to the shipping board emergency fleet corporation, the bill providing that the organization shall be supported entirely out of various sources of income.

Dry Appropriation Eliminated.

Request from the department of justice for $300,000 for enforcement of the national prohibition act was eliminated entirely. The sum of $15,000 was appropriated, however, for suppressing liquor traffic in Alaska.

Other principal slashes in the amounts asked by the government departments included: War risk insurance, $87,000,000; vocational education, $13,000,000; military posts, $60,942,815; national cemeteries, $19,000,000; flood control, Mississippi river, $8,330,000; nitrate plants, $10,000,000; Panama canal, $7,187,255; immigration service, $2,567,589; employment service, $1,384,991; reclamation service, $5,809,000; public health service, $4,467,000; armories and arsenals, $6,238,000; public buildings, $6,798,400; bureau of mines, $2,112,000 and department of justice, $1,989,304.

War Compensation.

The bill includes $223,000,000 on account of military and naval compensation for death or disability of soldiers, sailors, and marines, medical, surgical and hospital treatment

(Continued on Page 14, Column 1.)

Conductor Empties Automatic When 2 Try To Hold Him Up

H. W. Vaughn, conductor of a Chelsea street car, turned the tables on two negro highwaymen who tried to hold him up on his car at the end of the line at 9:30 Tuesday night.

Police are looking for a negro believed to have been struck by one of nine bullets fired from an automatic by Vaughn. He was limping when he and his companion fled.

While Vaughn was changing his trolley the blacks approached him with drawn pistols. They ordered the street car man to hold 'em up. Vaughn was too quick. He drew an automatic from his pocket and sent nine bullets, the entire charge of his revolver, at the men. The negroes immediately ran, one of them firing once at Vaughn. Neither Vaughn nor his motorman was struck, but Vaughn is sure that he hit one of the negroes.

The firing attracted scores of persons from the neighborhood, who quickly reached the scene. Detectives Heckle and Clark were detailed to the case and worked on it the greater part of the night.

AGREEMENT AUTHORIZED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company was granted authority today by the interstate commerce commission to execute an equipment trust agreement and a lease equipment agreement, amounting to $4,500,000 of trust certificates to be issued by the Safe Deposit and Trust company of Baltimore.

ROAD SEEKS LOAN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Virginia Blue Ridge Railway company today applied to the interstate commerce commission for permission to issue nine short-term notes aggregating $46,500 to retire outstanding obligations and to aid in the purchase of new equipment.

Millington Hi Girl Wins Second Place In Contest

Because the heart of a girl goes out to the children who can not go to school, she won a million dollars for the erection of a school, where such children could go, and receive their books, pencils and papers free of charge, as well as special attention that would not be received otherwise.

And because the judges in The News Scimitar's Million-Dollar contest, deemed that a worthy way of spending a million dollars for the good of Memphis, the girl was awarded second prize in the out-of-town high school division in the contest just closed. Her contribution follows:

SECOND PRIZE.

(By Carrie Hooks, Lucy, Tenn., pupil of Millington High school.)

To spend a million dollars for the good of a city the size of Memphis, and a city with as many needs as Memphis, is indeed a problem that would be hard to solve. A million dollars could well be spent for improvement of the parks, for better libraries, for better hospitals, for the widening of the river channel, for the cleaning up of Memphis morally, and numerous other things.

But to my mind, there is a way to spend a million dollars for the good of Memphis, that would, in the future, help cover all these needs, and that is to help educate the poorer children. Build a school for these children who can not for many, many reasons, attend the public schools of Memphis. Equip this school not only with the staples of a schoolroom, but even with books, pencils and tablets.

Teach them cleanliness and home making, and thus teach the parents, through the children. Who knows but that in some of these poor children lie minds of poets, novelists, politicians, ministers, or perhaps a governor or president? Look back over history and see if the births of our great men were not in log cabins or equally lowly places.

Perhaps some day, just one little Memphis boy or girl, picked up and educated thus, would bring returns and profits for Memphis by the millions. At least, fewer criminals are found among the educated—fewer beggars. Think of the good a million dollars could do for Memphis if it was used to educate the poor! There is no end. It would go on forever, like the flowing of a river.

You Never Can Tell, Maybe Your Name Is In This Story

First Awards in Bebe Daniels' Jingle Contest Announced. Hundreds Writing Jingles.

TODAY'S BEST JINGLE.

Prize $2, won by Miss Jane Taff, box 132, Memphis.

My hair was too dull in its color,
So I rushed to Madame BeSwell,
And now it is titian,
Just like I've been wishin'.
I'm sure "you never can tell."

Second prize, $1, won by Roger Wilson, 902 McCall building.

It takes a bright one to write jingles,
But I'll give it atry for a spell,
And perhaps the first prize
Will gladden my eyes,
For it's certain "you never can tell."

Third prize won by C. J. Busch, box 1004, Memphis.

Many times I've wanted to yell:
"I've fallen for the screen's best belle,"
But if I should meet her
How would I greet;
That's something "you never can tell."

Fourth prize, won by Miss Bernice Winston, 216 Buena Vista place.

He rented a cute little bungalow,
A nice place he thought to dwell,
But after a month's rent
He purchased a tent—
I'll tell you "you never can tell."

Fifth prize, won by Miss Fay Gerstel, 1140 Jackson avenue.

A boy may love a girlie,
And she may love him well;
He promises to marry
And never to tarry,
But then "you never can tell."

The third, fourth and fifth prizes are two tickets to "You Never Can Tell," Bebe Daniels' first starring comedy romance, which comes to the Strand theater the week starting Jan. 2. The cash prizes won today, as well as the theater tickets have been mailed to the successful jinglers.

Similar prizes will be awarded by The News Scimitar for the next nine days, five prizes being awarded by the Jingle editor from each day's mail.

The contest is open to every one in Memphis and Shelby county. There are no conditions attached to the contest beyind the fact that every jingle must end with the words "you never can tell," and each jingle must be signed by the writer, with his or her name and address.

As many jingles as one wishes to write may be submitted, but all must be on one side of the paper. Any subject may be written about whether it is comedy, pathos, sentiment or tragedy.

Hundreds of jingles arrived in today's mail, and the contest is only on its third day. The sooner our jingle is sent in the better chance you will have of winning one of the five prizes offered each day.

The contest will be closed Thursday night, Jan. 6, at midnight and the last of the prize winners will be announced in Friday's News Scimitar.

All jingles should be patterned after the above, so far as rhyme is concerned.

TROUBLE STARTS AT VENIZELOS SERVICE

(By the Associated Press.)

ATHENS, Dec. 29.—Disorders arose in the Church of St. Theodore during services in honor of the name day of former Premier Venizelos. It was alleged that officers in the Greek army threatened the priest conducting the ceremonies. Two persons were arrested, but were soon released.

The newspaper Patris today printed a photograph of M. Venizelos and devoted its entire first page to an editorial in which the former premier was eulogized. The newspaper declared that Greece was "enduring her calvary" and that M. Venizelos would "surely return." The editorial closed with an apostrophe to M. Venizelos, which declared: "Thou art the heart of our eyes; our past, present and future. Thou flowest in our blood and controllest the beat of our hearts."

Some alarm has been shown by the cabinet over the fact that $20,000 of Gen. Wrangel's anti-Bolshevik troops which were landed at Gallipoli have spread into Thrace. It is declared these men are pillaging the country for food.

Girl Sets Fire To Paper; Baby Burned To Death

Death claimed the life of Bettie Lee Singleton, aged 3, Tuesday, after hours' of suffering from burns about her body and face received when her clothing caught fire in her home at 61 South Parkway. Betty was the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Singleton.

Viola Singleton, the little girl's 5-year-old sister, and her constant companion, accidentally caused her sister's death. Viola set fire to a piece of paper, she sorrowingly told her parents, with which to ignite the fire. When the paper burned close to her fingers she dropped it to the floor near her baby sister.

In an instant Betty's dress was ablaze. Children were playing just outside the home, and the noise they made prevented the sisters' screams from reaching the mother immediately. Betty was in a serious condition when her mother found her.

Funeral services were to be held at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon form the residence. The body will be taken to Slayden, Tenn., the old home of the Singleton family, for burial.

Cold Wave Broken; Warm Weather Seen

A 10-degree rise in temperature over night, brought the mercury in the local U. S. weather bureau to the 30 degree point, with indications of warmer weather to come.

Fair and warmer weather for Wednesday night, is in store for Memphis, Forecaster Scott says.

The river dropped .4 feet over night, reaching the 15.9-foot stage Wednesday, with indications of a slow but gradual fall for several days to come.

One-Pound Infant In Robust Health

ABILENE, Tex., Dec. 29.—A one-pound baby which was born Christmas night to Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Pruitt, of this city, is still living and gives evidence of robust health. The child is kept wrapped in cotton and takes nourishment regularly.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon Receives Tribute As "Grand Old Man"

WASHINGTON, Dec 29.—The house of representatives arranged to pause today for an hour or more in its consideration of appropriations, taxation and other governmetal matters to pay tribute to its "grand old man," "Uncle Joe" Cannon.

Establishment by Representative Cannon of a new record for length of service in congress was the occasion for the celebration. The former speaker set the new mark yesterday, surpassing in length of service Justice Smith Morrill, of Vermont, who previously had held the record of 43 years, nine months, and 24 days in the house and senate. Mr. Cannon long ago exceeded all others for length of service in the house and last November was elected to the house for the 23d time.

Union And Planters Gives Fine Bonus

Recognizing their services for the past year during conditions that have been abnormal, directors of the Union and Planters Bank and Trust company have given each employe of the institution a bonus equivalent to five per cent of the year's salary. The distribution was made on Christmas eve. The bank has made progress during the past year and President Frank Hill attributes much of it to the faithfulnes and loyalty of its working forces.

THE WEATHER

Tennessee—Fair; warmer.
Mississippi—Fair; warmer.
Arkansas—Cloudy; warmer.
Alabama—Fair; warmer.
Kentucky—Fair; warmer.
Louisiana—Fair; warmer.
Oklahoma—Fair; warmer.
North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida—Fair; warmer.
East and West Texas—Fair.

MEMPHIS METEOROLOGL.

Twenty-four hours to noon, Dec. 29, 1920:

Hour.	Temperature Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Hum.
7 p.m. yes'day	32	28	64
7 a.m. today	31	28	63
Noon today	44	38	56
Maximum	33	..	..
Minimum	31	..	..

Sun sets today 4:57 p.m. Rises tomorrow 7:03 a.m. Moon rises 10:09 o'clock tonight. Precipitation, none.

POET SURRENDERS ALL HIS POWERS TO FIUME COUNCIL

Conference for Surrender Arranged by Commander and Communal Body After D'Annunzio Abdicates.

(By the Associated Press.)

FIUME, Dec. 29.—Gabriele D'Annunzio early today surrendered all his powers to the Fiume communal council.

Gen. Caviglia, commander of the regular Italian forces, was to arrange conditions of peace with a delegation of the council today.

TRUCE ARRANGED PENDING SURRENDER CONFERENCE

(By the Associated Press.)

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Fighting at Fiume between Italian government troops and D'Annunzio's legionaries has been suspended for a time at least, it was reported here today.

A dispatch from Rome stated that delegates appointed by the mayor of Fiume met Gen. Ferrario, in direct command of the Italian regulars, at Abbazia yesterday and agreed to the terms laid down for the capitulation of the city. A truce was arranged until noon today.

The duke of Aosta, cousin of King Victor Emmanuel, was said to be on his way to take part in the negotiations.

LEGIONAIRES SET FIRE TO POWDER MAGAZINE

(By the Associated Press.)

ROME, Dec. 29.—D'Annunzian legionaries at Fiume set fire to a powder magazine in the Recena valley, southeast of the city, last night, according to a report from Abbazia. The explosion set fire to the woods surrounding Fiume and great clouds of black smoke rolled down over the city. In some quarters the belief was expressed that a petroleum refinery near the powder magazine had also been set on fire.

Italian regular troops surrounding Fiume continued to advance west and north of the city yesterday, while on the eastern side the situation was unchanged. The fiercest fighting occurred west of Fiume, where Alpini advancing from Castra reached the public gardens. When they had forced their way that far they found all the houses surrounding the gardens had been transformed into machine gun nests, from which a terrific fire was poured upon them.

An armored car advanced against the regulars and inflicted heavy losses. The car finally was captured, the regulars finding in it three dead legionaries and two seriously wounded commissioned officers.

Wounded regulars have been taken in motor lorries to Triest and Gorizia, where special hospitals were organized. The number of men being taken to these hospitals is increasing hourly, and all agree in declaring that the regulars find themselves handicapped in their fight against the legionaries. They are armed only with rifles, while the D'Annunzian troops use hand grenades and machine guns, and besides have laid mines everywhere so that at every step the government soldiers are in danger of being blown up or killed by debris and splinters. Two houses in Fiume have already been destroyed by mines.

NATURE OF D'ANNUNZIO'S WOUND IS DESCRIBED

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The wound sustained by Gabriele d'Annunzio was in the head and not in the arm, the Central News correspondent reported.

The wound sustained by Gabriele d'Annunzio was in the head and not in the arm, the Central News correspondent reported.

Jugo-Slavia protested to Italy that D'Annunzio's legionaries on the isle of St. Marks had fired upon Jugo-Slav troops.

The Jugo-Slav garrison commander offered to dislodge the legionaries from the isle of St. Marks but the offer was refused.

LABOR DEPLORES IRISH CONDITIONS

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A special conference of the labor party on the Irish situation today unanimously adopted a resolution deploring the "lamentable condition of affairs in Ireland" as revealed in the report of the labor commission which investigated the situation there and approving the demand of the parliamentary labor party for an immediate judicial inquiry into the question of reprisals.

EARTHQUAKE ROUSES CALIFORNIA TOWN

WILLOWS, Cal., Dec. 29.—An earthquake aroused all inhabitants of this town at 2:15 this morning. No damage has been reported.

WELCOMES ARREST.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 29.—Frank Holmes Sain, 28, a mining engineer, is under arrest here charged with killing William S. Crabtree, also a mining engineer, in Jenkins, Ky., May 7, 1916. Sain said that he was glad his long term of wandering is over, according to the police. He will waive extradition, the police stated, adding that he contended he killed Crabtree in self-defense.

TROOPS GUARDING ARKANSAS PEN TO BLOCK BIG BREAK

Slaughter and Green, Noted Hot Springs Bandits, Reported to Figure in Wholesale Escape Plan.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Dec. 29.—The remaining 35 members of the local machine gun company, Arkansas national guard, were mobilized this morning.

Lieut. Sam Trimble, officer in command, said that beyond the fact that the orders were due to the plot for a general penitentiary delivery, and posting of an armed guard there disclosed last night, he knew nothing.

Yates Standridge, known as the "human wolf," leader and most notorious of the 12 convicts who escaped from the state farm at Tucker last Sunday night, gave himself up today.

Standridge walked into the farm office unannounced and said "Here I am, boys." He said he had been unable to secure clothing, food or shelter in the water-covered bottoms, and has been "starved and frozen out." Officials at the farm say they expect others to surrender today or tomorrow. Nine of the men are still at liberty, surrounded on an island near Pastoria. Two were recaptured near the farm an hour after the break.

Standridge was serving 15 years of sentences aggregating 52 years, for two murders, his sentence having been commuted two years ago. He has escaped five times previously, and the last time was captured in Oklahoma after a pistol battle with officers who apprehended him.

SLAUGHTER AND GREEN FIGURE IN BREAK PLOT

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 29.—According to Maj. H. F. Fredeman, adjutant-general, the men sent from Pine Bluff this morning will be divided between the farm at Tucker where they will assist in the capture of the remaining felons, and the penitentiary here. The local force now contains 12 men and two officers, and five men will be added.

The troops were ordered as the result of a report to Gov. Brough by Penitentiary Commissioner J. F. McQuistion that a wholesale delivery of prisoners, involving Tom Slaughter and Fulton Green, Oklahoma outlaws, serving life sentences was being planned and that an attempt to carry out the plan might be expected anytime as Commissioner John D. Barrett, who has charge of the "walls," is absent from Little Rock.

The reports of the plot were given credence by the arrival recently in Little Rock of Slaughter's wife, who was allowed to visit him on two occasions without being searched.

On one occasion Mrs. Slaughter was left alone with him several hours. Mr. McQuistion said he had been reliably informed that several men accompanied Mrs. Slaughter to Little Rock.

Gov. Brough declined to discuss details of the reported plot and the plans of the state authorities to counteract it, but stated that the troops would be kept on duty long enough to prevent the contemplated escape and make practically impossible carrying out plans for a wholesale delivery later.

The governor also declined to say whether the plot included reports of outside aid to the convicts, as the case several days ago when trusties at the penitentiary confessed that a similar plot was on foot to release Slaughter Green and other convicts, who wished to escape.

REPAIR DAMAGE AT FORD PLANT

String of Freight Cars Breaks on Incline.

Damage of $3,000 at the Memphis plant of the Ford Motor Co., Union avenue and the Southern Railroad crossing, resulting several days ago when a string of freight cars broke in half on the incline tracks at the rear of the plant, is now being repaired.

An immense hole was torn in the plant's wall and considerable damage was done inside the building, one car of the "runaway" string stopping only inside the plant.

Due to the fact that no employes were working near that part of the wall which was smashed no one was injured. The accident was caused by a broken coupler, it is said.

HARDING HAS MANY CONFERENCES SLATED

MARION, O., Dec. 29.—Miscellany of subjects occupied President-elect Harding today in a busy succession of short conferences arranged to permit his callers to present topics in which they were particularly interested.

Those on his engagement list included H. B. Stafford, president of the Chicago stock exchange; Representative Patrick H. Kelly, of Michigan; Albert Sidney Gregg, of Cleveland, representing the American Civic Reform league; Victor F. Lawson, publisher of the Chicago Daily News; Charles W. Hoyt, president of the Advertising Agencies corporation of New York, and Harry E. Rickey, national director of the Scripps newspapers.

Mayor To Tighten Up On Film Shows

Mayor Paine held a conference with members of the censorship board Wednesday for the purpose of discussing means of tightening up on the censorship of some of the pictures being shown in Memphis.

Some complaints regarding the character of pictures being shown have reached the mayor and he is prepared to do all in his power to draw the censorship restrictions to the tightest limit.

DEBS GETS CHECK.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 29.—A Christmas present in the form of a check for $250 was sent to Eugene V. Debs, now serving a term in federal prison at Atlanta, by district No. 12, United Mine Workers of America, it was announced.

SHIELDS SAYS GARRETT WILL BE CONFIRMED

Senior Senator Making Strong Fight for a Democratic Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

In a telephone conversation with The News Scimitar Wednesday, Senator Shields, who is spending a few days in Nashville, expressed the opinion that Representative Finis Garrett, of the Eighth district, will be confirmed as judge of the federal court for the Western district of Tennessee.

Senator Shields is not given to extravagant statements and his repeated assurance that he is doing everything humanely possible to secure Mr. Garrett's confirmation and the further fact that he believes Mr. Garrett will be confirmed have caused Mr. Garrett's stock as a prospective judge to rise precipitately among the politicians.

Senator Shields realizes that a strong and determined fight is being made against Mr. Garrett by Republicans throughout Tennessee, but he believes that some of the tactics will react against those making the charges, and in favor of Mr. Garrett.

Circulate Rumor.

The rumor has reached Washington that some of Mr. Garrett's Tennessee colleagues are inclined to dampen the ardor of his friends by the circulation of the report that Mr. Garrett has not a chance for confirmation.

Senator Shields recently gave out an interview in Washington in which he made a scathing attack upon some of the opponents of Mr. Garrett's confirmation. One of the persons brought to task by Senator Shields was Representative-elect Len Scott, of the Eighth congressional district, who spent several days in Washington informing Republican senators that Mr. Garrett was not fit or qualified for the position. Senator Shields denied that Mr. Scott was a competent judge since he made two or three unsuccessful attempts before he succeeded in securing license to practice law in Tennessee.

One of the charges against Mr. Garrett on file with the judiciary committee, of which Senator Shields is a member, is that Mr. Garrett is the son of a Confederate soldier.

Senator Knute Nelson, of Minnesota, is chairman of the judiciary committee. He was a private in the Union army, was wounded and taken prisoner at Port Hudson, La., in 1863. But Senator Nelson's wounds have healed and he is one of the fairest minded members of the senate. Throughout the service of the late Senator Bankhead, who was a private in the Confederate army and up to the time of his death, the two were inseparable companions. One of the striking episodes in the Confederate reunion in Washington in 1917 was the spectacle of Senator Nelson wearing the uniform of a private in the Union army and Senator Bankhead wearing the uniform of a private in the Confederate army, marching at the head of the parade on Pennsylvania avenue. The incident was typical of the two men. It is believed, therefore, that appeals to Senator Nelson to defeat Mr. Garrett's confirmation on the ground that he is the son of a Confederate soldier will be unavailing. Some of the other charges are equally absurd.

The lack of interest in Mr. Garrett manifested by certain members of the house from Tennessee is attributable to the fact that Mr. Garrett's confirmation will be regarded as a single handed victory for Senator Shields. It is generally admitted that if Mr. Garrett has any chance whatsoever of confirmation it is due to the efforts of Senator Shields in his behalf.

With reference to the charge that Senator Shields is in Nashville to organize the legislature and influence the election of state officials, he said: "The charge is absolutely and unequivocally false. I have never since I have been in the senate undertaken to influence the legislature in the selection of its officials. I did not attempt to organize the legislature before I was elected to the senate and I have never done so since I have been in the senate."

Senator Shields said he was in Nashville for the sole purpose of meeting his friends and consulting with them on matters of legislation coming before the congress during the present session. He expressed his gratification over his cordial reception and the renewed pledges of friendship received from all parts of the state.

World's Shorthand Record Is Beaten

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The world's shorthand writing record was broken by three New York supreme court reporters in tests held under the auspices of the forty-fifth convention of the New York Shorthand Reporters' association.

Nathan Behrin, national champion, wrote from dictation on a 240-word a minute standard, 238.8 words. A similar record was made by Willard B. Bottoms, and Neale Ransom wrote 238.8. The former record was 238 words.

On the 280-word a minute standard, Behrin wrote 279.4 and Ransom 277.9. The former record was 277 words.

The standards differed in length of words and character of dictation.

EPWORTH LEAGUE TO EXTEND ITS ACTIVITIES

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—Epworth League leaders from throughout the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, met here today, and considered plans for extending the scope of the organization.

Rev. Ralph E. Hollner, of Nashville, Tenn., assistant general secretary, in an address advocated appointment of field secretaries to carry on the work of the organization. Two should be placed in each state, he said.

CATTLE RANGE DRY.

FORT WORTH, Tex., Dec. 29.—Dry weather continues over all of the Texas cattle ranges, according to this week's reports from inspectors to the Texas Cattle Raisers' association here, though no particular damage has been done. Herds are in splendid condition, but are not moving to market because of prices.