

FOR LAW AND ORDER

General Tendency of Filipinos Said to Be More Encouraging.

GOVERNOR TAFT MAKES OFFICIAL REPORT

Says Government is Fast Making Progress on Substantial Basis.

CIVIL FORMS IN ALL CHRISTIAN PROVINCES

Thirty-Four Furnish Strong Nucleus for Advancement.

NATIVES YIELD READILY TO FEDERAL LAW.

Reports Show that Insurrection is Crushed in Moro and Exists Only Nominally in the Other Sections.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The investigation into the conditions in the Philippine archipelago, a purpose of the effort to secure legislation for the government of those islands, was begun by the senate committee on the Philippines today.

W. H. Taft, civil governor of the archipelago, was the first witness called. There was a full attendance of members of the committee and Senator Lodge, chairman of the committee, explained that the committee desired not only the fullest information concerning the islands, but any advice that Governor Taft might offer concerning the questions at issue.

Governor Taft began by saying that he had gone to the Philippines in the spring of 1900 and had visited almost all the provinces during the last year. He said that in all the Filipino or Christian provinces there is a form of civil government. There are thirty-four of these provinces.

Moros Are Fond of Trade. The Moros are all friendly, except a few who had never been otherwise than hostile to the Spaniards. Even these were now being brought over by the prospect of trade which they are very fond.

Going back to the beginning of the commission's tour of the island, Governor Taft said that it had only been undertaken after the rejection of the offer to purchase the time seemed ripe for the establishment of the local government in the islands.

Describing this tour, he said the course was to present to the dignitaries of the various places visited an explanation of the provincial and municipal administration, "in some cases, by the commission from the rear platform of the train, but generally from the windows of the car."

He then gave in detail the proceedings of the meetings at the various places visited, saying that some seventeen capitans of the provinces were visited on the first tour. At each place the delegates of the people were met, the prescribed special act was passed and a governor appointed who was authorized to organize municipalities.

Natives Selected for Official Duties. These provincial governments consist, he explained, of governor, superintendent, treasurer and a fiscal or prosecuting attorney. In all cases where the selection could be made without arousing jealousies natives had been chosen.

All these appointments are temporary and next month their successors will be elected. When the factions were too strong Americans were placed at the head of each provincial government. In all cases the treasurer and superintendent were Americans.

The commission having first given its attention to the northern provinces, and in April started south on a trip of fifty-four days. They had received most cordially everywhere. This remark led the witness into a few discursive remarks upon the subject of the "Spaniards," he said, "I will always tell you that his house is yours, but he does not always mean that you should take him at his word, but the Filipino will tell you the same thing and he always means what he says. He will turn his family out and install you in his habitation."

Many Officers in Island of Negros. Speaking of the island of Negros, he said it was peculiar in its topography and that previous to the coming of the commission there was difficulty in the province.

There was no many officers in the government that of the 200,000 (Mexican) only about 10,000 was left for other expenses than the payment of salaries.

Governor Taft said the commission had an interesting experience in trying to recognize the prince of Antique, but that the people resisted vigorously. He mentioned that at San Jose, the capital, they displayed a model of liberty enlightening the world which was twenty feet high and had been dragged seven miles over a very rough road. On this monument there was a statue of Washington and McKinley.

Governor Taft said it had been found impossible to put Filipinos over the Moros. They are subject to their dates, or chiefs, and refuse to recognize the authority of a Filipino. There were, he said, two suits, one in Mindanao and the other in Jolo group, but the suits do not always control their dates. The sultan of Mindanao, he said, very poor, but the sovereignty of the Jolos is a thirteenth man, who is constantly trying to increase his income and constantly getting into a row about it.

Sultan Ignores Property Claims. The Jolo sultan said he had refused to recognize any claim to property on the islands except the customs houses, and there is considerable question as to the ownership in many instances. This complication existed not only between the sultan and the United States, but between the sultan and his subjects.

In reply to Senator Hale, Governor Taft said no effort had been made to extend the civil government of the United States to the Moro provinces beyond making a few suggestions bearing upon the revenue laws. "Nothing has been done in that direction," he said, "Everything is going on just as it was and the islands are under the control of the War department as far as the United States are concerned."

Asked if the Moros were generally peaceful, the witness replied that they were so except in individual instances.

No More War in Moros. "There is," he said, "no war nor even insurrection in the Moro provinces, but there are occasional reports of the murder of American soldiers."

He had no knowledge of the reported fights in Mindanao. On its tour the commission had been attended by a corporal's guard on the steamer, but there was a garrison of United States troops at every capital visited.

Governor Taft referred to the federal

(Continued on Second Page)

REACH GOAL OF THEIR LABORS

Delegates to Pan-American Congress Listen to Ignacio Mariscal in Final Speech.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 31.—In closing the Pan-American conference this afternoon, Ignacio Mariscal, minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican government, said in part:

In overcoming the most serious difficulties you have successfully reached the goal of our labors and in history the congratulations not only of the Mexican government, but of all lovers of moral progress and justice.

You have advanced in practice the great principle of arbitration, the peaceful and rational solution of international controversies so as to render less frequent and less serious the recourse to arms.

Delegates reached an agreement and signed a treaty of compulsory arbitration with exceptions similar to those that figured in the Washington treaty which miscarried in 1896, a fate which we may reasonably hope is not to be repeated.

Nevertheless it is in the matter of arbitration that triumph is undoubtedly the unanimous agreement of all the nations in spite of their apparently radical divergence as to the application of the great principle to the settlement of the controversy of the arbitration court of The Hague.

Continuing, Mr. Mariscal said: Let us congratulate ourselves on the fact that this conference, in spite of its extremely delicate mission has given rise to conflicts in the true sense of the word.

The minister concluded with the hope that all the delegates after returning to their native lands will retain a kindly thought for Mexico.

WILLING TO DISCUSS PEACE

England Reported as Saying the Door of Negotiation is Ajar.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The British reply to the Dutch note in regard to bringing about peace in South Africa was dispatched yesterday.

The note is kept secret, but the first publication of the text is intended to be made on Monday, February 3. The Associated Press has reason to believe that its original summary of the Dutch communication was correct, with the addition that the Dutch suggested that the Wessels, Nolmans and Fischer, the Boer delegates now in Europe, be permitted to go to South Africa in an endeavor to persuade the burghers in the field to surrender.

Writing from The Hague the correspondent of the Daily Mail says the reply of Great Britain to the Dutch proposal concerning peace in South Africa is a polite refusal of the request that permission be granted for a commission to proceed to South Africa.

"The lack of any authorization by the Boers has proved fatal," says the correspondent, "but the door of negotiations is not wholly closed, as Great Britain's reply indicates that she is willing to consider any authorized proposal for peace."

ENGLISH REDUCE COST OF WAR

Report Monthly Expense Over Four Million Pounds and Total Sixty-One Millions.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The war secretary, Mr. Broderick, in introducing a supplementary estimate of £5,000,000 in the House of Commons today, said this brought the total cost of the war for the year to £17,000,000.

Mr. Broderick's representation of the supplementary estimate furnished Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Broderick's predecessor, and while waiting will present the claims of his new look for inside post boxes to the experts in the Postoffice department.

RELIEF OF OMAHA FIRM

A bill for the relief of Rasmussen & Streble, carrying an appropriation of \$15,000, passed the house today. The claim grows out of the destruction of the government building during its construction at the Buffalo.

Representative Robinson today introduced a bill appropriating \$75,000 for a public building at Columbus. This action was on an earnest plea from the Commercial club and business men of that city.

These Iowa rural free delivery routes have been ordered established March 1: Ankeny, Polk county; area, thirty-four square miles; population, 525; George S. Thompson, carrier. Maxwell, Story county; additional service; area, thirty square miles; population, 600; Milan Day Warner, carrier. Nevada, Story county; additional service; area, thirty-eight square miles; population, 550; S. H. Hanks, carrier. Runnels, Polk county; area, thirty-four square miles; population, 600; Andrew Martin, carrier. Swan, Marion county; area, nineteen square miles; population, 500; Charles E. Carpenter, carrier. Winterset, Madison county; additional service; area, twenty square miles; population, 500; Guy D. Wiggins, carrier.

BOERS NOT SEEKING PEACE

Are Prepared to Continue Fighting and Claim to Be Aggressors.

PARIS, Jan. 31.—The Liberts prints a dispatch from Brussels today which says Dr. Leyds recently received a communication from General Botha, dated only six weeks ago, in which the Boer commander-in-chief not only does not allude to his alleged desire for peace, but declares the Boers are sufficiently provisioned to continue the struggle hopefully and that the situation in Cape Colony is growing worse for the British.

The Temps correspondent, in an interview with Dr. Leyds and Mr. Fischer at Brussels regarding the powers of the Boer delegation in Europe, quotes them as saying: "We are duly accredited by our government and could begin negotiations at any time, but we will not do so until we have consulted with the commanders, and neither Steyn nor Botha nor any other leader will take a decision without consulting with us."

BOERS ATTACK SASSAX REGIMENT

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Lord Kitchener, in a dispatch from Pretoria, dated Thursday, January 30, reports that the camp of Colonel L. E. Du Moulin of the Sussex Regiment was attacked by Nieuwoudt's command and that after severe fighting the Boers were repulsed.

Lord Kitchener also reports that General French captured twenty-six men belonging to Fouché's command in the northeastern part of Cape Colony and that the command was completely scattered.

DEFERRING HIS CONDITION SERIOUS

BELFAST, Jan. 31.—Sir William H. Broadbent, physician in ordinary to the king, who is attending Lord Dufferin, the former governor general of Canada, issued a bulletin this afternoon as follows: "Lord Dufferin's condition is one of extreme gravity. Weakness, emaciation and anemia have reached a serious degree."

CONST VON BUELOW'S DINNER

BERLIN, Jan. 31.—Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, Andrew D. White, United States ambassador here, and Mrs. White; John E. Jackson, secretary of the embassy, and Mrs. Jackson, together with a large company, were entertained at dinner tonight by Count von Buelow, the imperial chancellor.

MACHIAS GOES TO CUBA

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The gunboat Machias has today ordered from the Brooklyn navy yard to Cuba to join the North Atlantic squadron. Machias will have the place of the gunboat Albatross which has been ordered to Colon to protect American interests there.

STATE LINE INSPECTION

Railroad Men Seek to Force Secretary Wilson on Sheep Question.

L. D. RICHARDS AND FREMONT POSTOFFICE

Omaha Contractors Secure Passage of Bill for Their Relief—Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars for Columbus Public Library.

TO PROCEED WITH LEASES

Decision Given in the Grazing Land Case of Standing Rock Reservation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The disputed question as to permitting the leasing of the grazing lands of the Standing Rock Indian reservation in the Dakotas was settled today by a decision to go ahead with the leases.

The Interior department will proceed immediately with the execution of leases to W. I. Walker of Rock Island, Ill., who gets 460,800 acres, and Mr. Lemon, a cattleman of South Dakota, who gets 768,400 acres, making a total of 1,229,200 acres. This leaves about 1,000,000 acres to be leased and remaining for the use of the Indians themselves if they so desire.

There was a conference on the subject at the White House today between President Roosevelt, Commissioner of Indian Affairs Jones, Indian inspectors McLoughlin and Jencks, and the representatives of the Standing Rock agency and L. P. Primeau, representing the Sioux Indians, who have been protesting against the terms of the lease. These Indians proposed to have the government fence off six miles on either side of the reservation, and the reservation, which, according to the department's view, would ruin the grazing lands on both sides, the same view being taken by the president today.

WILL NOT DROP RECIPROCITY

Ways and Means Committee, Through Chairman Payne, Denies Unwarranted Reports.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Chairman Payne of the house ways and means committee today authorized the following statement: "A report in being industriously circulated that the ways and means committee, in taking up the subject of reciprocity, has indirectly sought to dispose of the subject of Cuban reciprocity. Nothing could be further from the facts and the erroneous report appears to be the result of a mixture of misstatements and unwarranted speculation. The fact is the ways and means committee has taken no vote on the subject of reciprocity, and the committee has been given no such conference or exchange of views among the members, or among the members of the committee, as would warrant any conclusion that there was no purpose to deal with the subject of Cuban reciprocity. The bill to reduce the revenue taxes was taken up because it was the sense of the committee to take up the subject resting upon our own people should be lightened before we turned our attention to the subject of reciprocity. It was not with any idea of making the reduction of revenue taxes a barrier to full consideration of the revenue asked by Cuba."

TO STOP ALLEGED OUTRAGES

Bill Introduced to Prevent Unlawful Removals from Indian Territory.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Representative Stevens of Texas today introduced in the house a resolution empowering the speaker to appoint a committee of five members to ascertain whether certain citizens of the United States have been unlawfully removed from the Indian Territory on the expense orders of the secretary of the interior or others, and if so, to authorize the committee to consider legislation to prevent such outrages.

The house committee on territories gave a hearing today to the delegation from Arizona, including Governor Murphy, Chief Justice Street, J. G. Ainsworth and Delegate Smith, in favor of its action. The resolutions of the committee as to the obligations of statehood was set forth.

COMPLETES BILL ON WAR TAX

Chairman Payne Finishes Measure for the Reduction of Revenue.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The bill reducing war revenue taxes \$77,000,000 has been completed by Chairman Payne of the ways and means committee. The committee will meet on Monday and report the bill to the house and it is the purpose of Mr. Payne to begin the consideration of the measure in the house immediately following the consideration of the anti-osteomarine bill.

The reduction bill is rather lengthy, as several schedules have to be readjusted. All rates are brought back to those existing before the Spanish war, except on mixed flour. The repeal section is brief and restores the old rates. In some cases, as in that of cigars, tobacco, beer, etc., the changes have been made since the original war taxes were imposed, so that a simple repeal of existing law would not restore the old rates. Special sections cover these cases.

ADVOCATE CUBAN RECIPROCITY

President and Secretary Root Favor Reduction on Sugar Duty.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The only business matter of interest under discussion at the cabinet meeting today was the Cuban reciprocity question now before congress. The president is very much in earnest in his advocacy for a reduction of the duty on Cuban sugar.

Secretary Root is also a strong advocate of a reduction of about 35 per cent. It is believed that this proposition meets with the general approval of the members of the cabinet.

It is understood the executive order issued today by the president, prohibiting government officers and employes from accepting of influence legislation is the result of complaints made by members of congress that postoffice employes, and particularly route agents and general delivery letter carriers, in their districts, are making every possible effort to secure legislation by congress favorable to their interests, and in some instances threats had been made that unless their representatives in congress favored such legislation, they would not be re-elected.

The president is fully determined that this thing shall cease and it is said that any person that violates the order will be summarily dismissed from the government service.

This was Secretary Payne's last cabinet meeting and the president and secretary's associate members individually expressed to them their most sincere regret at the severance of relations which always have been of the closest possible character.

CONCILIATION COSTS TO WRESTLE WITH PROBLEMS OF FINANCE

Most of the time yesterday afternoon was devoted to cuts in the estimates of departments which are cared for by the general fund. All the work done Wednesday afternoon was revised. The greatest cut was made in the appropriation to the street department. Last year it had \$25,000. This year the sum was originally fixed at \$28,000, but was finally cut down \$2,000. Minor cuts were also made in the appropriations to nearly all city offices.

CUT DOWN STREET DEPARTMENT FUND

After three hours of deliberation yesterday afternoon the city council adjourned without deciding what the tax levy shall be for the present year. The council will meet again Monday morning at 10 o'clock to continue its discussion of the levy. Although two meetings of the council as a general committee have not enabled the councilmen to tell positively what the levy is to be, they have resulted in many reductions in estimates and have shown beyond doubt that the taxes for city purposes will be less than they were last year in spite of the fact that important improvements must be cared for.

NO DECISION YET ON LEVY

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LEGISLATORS ARE INDICTED

Missouri Politicians Are Placed Under Arrest for Alleged Bribery.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 31.—Harry A. Falkner, member of the present house of delegates from the Twenty-third ward, and Julius Leyman, former president of the house, were arrested this afternoon on bench warrants issued by Judge Wood at the order of the grand jury, which is investigating the charges of alleged corruption in the municipal assembly.

The two men arrested are charged with bribery in connection with the suburban street railway franchise. It was reported that another bench warrant had been issued late this afternoon, but this cannot be verified. The January grand jury will adjourn tomorrow. Its report is awaited with intense interest. Circuit Attorney Folk is authorized by the statement that the next grand jury will take up the bribery investigation where this one leaves off and will go into every detail of the alleged corruption in the municipal assembly and elsewhere in connection with street railway and other legislation.

IGIGARS COMING FROM MANILA

Over Two Million Are Being Shipped to the United States.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 31.—Private advices from Manila received in this city state that there are over 2,000,000 cigars on the way from the Philippines to this country. It is thought that before the end of February or by the middle of March at the latest, there will be ten times that number consigned to the American tobacco consumers from the same quarter of the world. Of the shipment now coming 600,000 alone are to be sold in this city. The tax on these goods under the present law is the internal revenue tax. The letter also states that the different factories in the islands are working night and day. There seems to be a fear in the islands that the present law will be revoked and the manufacturers of the Manila article are determined to take every advantage of the opportunity.

DENVER WILL HAVE NEW PLANT

Forms Western Packing Company with Half Million Dollars Capital Stock.

DENVER, Jan. 31.—The Western Packing company, which was incorporated here today with \$500,000 paid up capital for the purpose of building and operating a packing plant in this city. The incorporators include: Colonel D. C. Dodge, formerly president of the Rio Grande Western railroad; John F. Campbell, a prominent mining man and capitalist and head of the sugar beet industry in this state, and J. J. Capill, formerly with the Armour Packing company at Kansas City. Mr. Capill is to be manager of the new company and a \$300,000 plant will be constructed at once.

LARGEST GIFTS ON RECORD

Public Donations this Year Exceed One Hundred and Seven Millions.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—The New York Times will publish tomorrow in its literary supplement a list of gifts and bequests for public uses made in the United States during the year 1901, showing the enormous total of \$107,360,000, far outdoing all previous records. The highest previous record for any one year was \$62,750,000. Of this total for 1901, Mr. Carnegie gave the colleges and libraries \$3,000,000, his gifts to libraries alone having been nearly \$1,000,000. The Times points out that this total of \$107,360,000 equals one-third of the cost of the Boer war to England for the same year.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Snow Saturday, Clear in Southwest—Storm; Sunday Fair; Winds Becoming Northerly.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Table with 2 columns: Hour, Degree. Rows for 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m., 11 p.m., 12 m.

— Indicates Below Zero.

FIVE PEOPLE HURT IN WRECK

Passengers Are Hurt by Ditching of Train at Defective Switch.

PONTIAC, Ill., Jan. 31.—The Chicago & Alton Limited, which left Chicago at 2:25 this morning, was thrown into the ditch at the interlocking switch plant, just north of here, at 1:40 this afternoon by a misplaced switch. The injured are:

W. Bruce, Joliet, back injured. Mrs. Bruce, colored, injured internally. W. Cass, mail clerk; legs injured. S. Nash, St. Louis; head injured. Mitchell, mail clerk; back and lower limbs injured.

The train was going rapidly when it struck the derailing switch, derailed sharply, ran a short distance on the ties and finally al, but the engine and rear coach left the roadbed and rolled into the ditch. The train was in charge of Conductor Fox, with Muldoon as engineer. Engineer Muldoon stuck to his post, while the fireman jumped and was slightly injured.

The interlocking plant has been under going repairs recently and the safety devices have been disconnected, including the switch, which caused the wreck.

RISE FOR UNSKILLED LABOR

Independent Glass Companies Give Voluntary Increase of Ten Per Cent.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 31.—Acting independently of the combines the D. O. Cunningham Glass company, which is the largest manufacturer of window glass outside of the American Window Glass company, has voluntarily advanced the wages of all unskilled laborers 10 per cent. Similar action was immediately taken by S. McKee & Co. and Cunningham & Co. (limited), who, like the Cunningham Glass company, are members of the Independent Glass company. It is expected that the other plants of the Independent Glass company, the American Window Glass company and the Federation Co-operative Window Glass company, will follow suit. The advance will affect 2,000 men.

This move on the part of the Cunningham Glass company was entirely unlooked for by the combines and is due to the advance made last week to skilled labor by the American Window Glass company, the independents and co-operatives.

TRACING THE BRIBERY MONEY

Suburban Official Used Through Company Books with the Grand Jury.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 31.—When the grand jury resumed its investigation of the suburban bribery scandal today T. G. Kimball of the suburban railway, who was examined yesterday, was the first witness called. With his aid the examination of the books of the suburban was continued, in the endeavor to find proof of the payment of the \$135,000 made last week in safe deposit boxes.

The grand jury will remain in session until a late hour Saturday night. Even then its work will not be completed and a heavy burden of investigation will fall on the next set of grand jurors impaneled at St. Louis. It is thought that before the investigation where this one leaves off and will go into every detail of the alleged corruption in the municipal assembly and elsewhere in connection with street railway and other legislation.

GIRLS ARRESTED FOR MURDER

One Child Admits Poisoning Her Mother's Coffee to Get Revenge.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Jan. 31.—Jona Turner, aged 13, and her 13-year-old schoolmate, May Holland, were arrested tonight on charges of the murder of the 56-year-old mother a few days ago by putting rat poison in the family coffee pot. In a confession today the girl, Jona, said that she put the poison in the coffee pot in a fit of temper because her two brothers were constantly telling their mother stories about her, which she girl says discouraged her so that life at home was unbearable. All the family partook of the poisoned drink and only the prompt work of physicians saved the father and brothers of Jona. The girl expressed no regret for the act.

TO OFFSET HIS LAND CLAIMS

Grand Jury Indicts Chicago Man Who Says He Owns Lake Front Property.

CHICAGO, Jan. 31.—Four indictments, charging the obtaining of money under false pretenses, were voted by the grand jury today against Captain George Wellington Streeter. Streeter claims valuable land in Chicago formed by accretions along the shore of the lake. His claim is based on the right of a homesteader to public land. Title to the land which Streeter has declared a part of the United States under the name of the District of Lake Michigan, has long been in dispute. The charges against Streeter are based on the sale of lots in the district.

LACK OF HARMONY IN PLANS

Discord Threatens Serenity of Preparations for Prince Henry's Visit.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—Lack of harmony and preparedness mark the arrangements for the reception here of Prince Henry of Prussia and the launching of the yacht of the German emperor. Certain boxholders at Metropolitan opera house have failed to give up their places for the prince and his staff, the board of aldermen complain that they have been slighted and the arrangements at Shooter's Island, where the schooner will be launched, are still incomplete.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN VESSELS JAN. 31

At New York—Arrived—Scotia, from Naples. Departed—Palatia, for New York. At Hamburg—Arrived—Palatia, from New York. Departed—Palatia, for New York. At Liverpool—Arrived—Palatia, from New York. Departed—Palatia, for New York.

BIDDLES ARE CAUGHT

Escaped Prisoners and Female Companion Captured by posse.

FUGITIVES FATALLY SHOT BY OFFICERS

Warden's Wife Shoots Herself When Escape is Hopeless.

SHE MAY RECOVER FROM HER WOUND

Tric is Overtaken in a Sleigh by Its Partners.

MEN FIGHT DESPERATELY WITH GUNS

Ed Biddle Says Mrs. Soffel Facilitated Their Escape at His Request—He Professes His Innocence of Murder.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 31.—Edward Biddle, dying in the jail at Butler, John Biddle, riddled with buckshot and in a precarious condition and Mrs. Peter K. Soffel lying in the hospital with a self-inflicted bullet wound in the breast, in the sequel of the sensational escape of the Biddle brothers from the Allegheny county jail, aided by Mrs. Soffel, the wife of the jail warden, on Thursday morning.

The close of the Biddle tragedy came at 5:45 this evening, in a snow-covered road two miles east of Prospect, Butler county, near Mt. Chestnut. The exact place was at McClure's barn, where two double-team sleighs, filled with eight officers, three of them Pittsburgh detectives, John Roach, Albert Swinehart and Charles McGovern, met the two Biddles in a one-horse sleigh driven at a gallop. At once opened fire on the trio. The Biddles returned the fire after jumping out of the sleigh. Mrs. Soffel was shot through the breast, Edward Biddle was shot in the left arm, in the breast and in one leg. John Biddle was riddled with buckshot in the breast and head.

OFFICERS FORM STRONG POSSE

The Pittsburgh officers were met by Butler this afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Rainey and Hoon and Officers Frank Holliday and Aaron Thompson, the latter under command of Chief of Police Robert Ray of Butler. The officers were certain that they were on the right trail and that it was only a question of time when they would overtake the escaping convict murderers and their guilty companion.

The Biddles and Mrs. Soffel ate dinner at J. J. Stephens at Mt. Chestnut, five miles east of Butler. They had made a detour of the town of Butler and after going several miles east turned north and west. The Pittsburgh officers followed the Biddle sleigh, took the wrong road for about eight miles, but when they found their mistake they made up lost time by telephoning and telegraphing ahead for fresh horses. They reached Mt. Chestnut not less than an hour after the Biddles had fled. Watson, Soffel's driver, had fresh horses waiting them and the chase for life began anew.

Overtake the Fugitives.

Two sleighs carrying the eight officers met the Biddles and Mrs. Soffel at McClure's barn, two miles from Mount Prospect. The Biddle sleigh, having been overtaken, were almost overtaken, and taking what they considered the only chance they had, drove eastward and met their doom. The Pittsburgh and other officers were armed with Winchester rifles and revolvers of large caliber. They got to kill and their aim was perfect. The Biddle sleigh failed to kill to the last of their string, but not one of the eight of the officers has a wound as a result of the battle.

When the detectives got within sixty yards of the fugitives they opened fire