

MRS. SELLS DEAD

Widow of Allan Sells Expires Suddenly Today. Called For Help but Death Came More Swiftly.

HAD NOT BEEN WELL

Recently Returned From Visit to Will Sells in South. Supposed That Her Sickness Was Not Serious.

WAS CONSIDERED RICH

Left a Will But Provisions Are Not Known. The Fortune is Probably More Than \$200,000.

Mrs. Sarah Anna Sells died this morning at 3:40 o'clock at her home, 717 Quincy street of heart failure.

At 3 o'clock Mrs. Sells awoke and called to her companion, Miss Barbara Tauer, who was sleeping in the next room. She complained of difficulty in breathing.

Mrs. Sells had not been in the best of health for some time but nothing serious was anticipated. Mrs. Sells had just returned from the south where she went to see the first performance of the season of Will Sells' circus at Savannah, Georgia, on April 6.

She returned to Kansas City from Alabama. At Kansas City she was joined by Mrs. Blanche McClellan, an old time friend who used to live at the Chesterfield hotel in this city when Mrs. Sells managed it and lived there.

Mrs. Sells was ill after reaching Topeka and her physician, Dr. Rick was summoned from Kansas City and was to have returned there today with her.

On the train going to Georgia Mrs. Sells was slightly injured by a collision. She was standing near her seat arranging her hat when the train ran into a freight. Mrs. Sells was thrown against the seat and her knee was injured.

After returning from the southern trip Mrs. Sells was not feeling well and she summoned a physician who told her that she was worn out and needed rest.

Mrs. Sells was the widow of the late Allan Sells, one of the Sells brothers in the circus business. Mr. Sells was married to Sarah Anna White about 35 years ago. Her home was near Columbus, Ohio. At that time Mr. Sells was in the circus business and Mrs. Sells traveled with him for several years and took a small part of the circus.

Will Sells, known as their son, was adopted by them when he was a few months old. He was trained as a harness rider and was a feature of the circus for many years. He held a contract with the Barnum circus and traveled abroad. He had trouble with Barnum and then started a show of his own. The Sells brothers objected to his using the name of Sells for his circus and law suits and a bitter fight followed.

Mrs. Sells sided with Will Sells. He was ill in his room at her home. When Mrs. Sells died he held a large amount of real estate in and about Topeka and a stockholder and director in the Central National bank. Mrs. Sells inherited his property and has managed and looked after it since. When Mr. Sells died he was said to be worth between two and three hundred thousand dollars.

Mrs. Sells owned her home on Quincy street in the Chesterfield hotel. The Parkhurst-Davis building, a business house on West Tenth avenue, considerable city property and five or six farms in the country. One of the largest farms is known as the Sells farm east of Topeka. At one time Mrs. Sells managed the Chesterfield hotel. Not long ago she had her home rebuilt and refurnished.

Not long after the death of Mr. Sells, Mrs. Sells was married to Simon Greenspan, of Topeka, who was many years her junior. The wedding ceremony took place at Kansas City. Mrs. Sells never allowed her second husband to have any control over her property. About two years ago Mr. Greenspan became insane and was sent to the state asylum. After a short stay there he was released and secured but he still had hallucinations and it was finally found necessary to send him to a private asylum at Leavenworth. He died there six months ago.

His own family paid his expenses at the private asylum and he was buried in the Greenwood lot at Leavenworth. Mrs. Sells will be buried in the body of Allan Sells in the Topeka cemetery. She had her name of Sells restored in the district court.

Mrs. Sells made a will some years ago and it is supposed that Will Sells' son, who will be named as the heir to her property. Mr. and Mrs. Sells had no children. William Sells has been telegraphed at Pratt City, Alabama, of the death of Mrs. Sells and Mrs. Green White and Mrs. Rachal Colby, of Dayton, Ohio, sisters of Mrs. Sells, have been notified.

OUR PEOPLE ARE STARVING.

Language of a Representative of Porto Rican Planters. Conditions Worse Than They Ever Were Before.

DUE TO POLITICIANS

Who, He Says, Are the Lowest Class of the Inhabitants. Tax Law Was Drawn Up by a Theorist.

New York, April 25.—When Dr. L. S. Howe of the Porto Rican code commission reached here several days ago he said in an interview that conditions on the island had been much improved despite statements made by "a small element of the population in a spirit of pessimism."

To this assertion of Dr. Howe, exception is taken by Wenceslao Borda, a member of the commission chosen by the planters, bankers and merchants' association of Porto Rico to present to the United States government the ideas of that organization regarding the tax law which they are particularly in connection with the Hollander revenue law.

"Our people are starving," said Mr. Borda in an interview, "and the island is in a worse condition under the rule of Gov. Allen than it ever was before, even when Spain held sway. So hopeless are the state of affairs that fathers sell their daughters to keep them from dying of hunger. These people who say the country is flourishing are the officeholders, representatives of that class of professional politicians into which Gov. Allen has fallen—the lowest class of all the island's inhabitants."

Mr. Borda is in a bitter mood. He is a member of the commission and he enters the view that like encouragement in the United States would bring about similar results in the development of the American merchant trading.

He will remain in Washington until tomorrow when he starts on an extensive trip through the west, visiting the Carnegie works at Pittsburgh and going on to Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and many other points, returning by way of Canada to Boston and commercial centers in New England.

\$1,600 FOR A BOOK.

Old Volumes Bring Big Prices at a Boston Sale. Boston, April 25.—At Libbys in selling the French library, the first of the Grolier club volumes brought \$1,600, the top price for a single volume. It was catalogued as "Le Livre de l'Oratoire," a rare printing, made July 11, 1577, by Charles Heuland, of Paris, and published by Scribner's Sons, the purchasers, also took several other valuable copies of the Grolier volume for \$200.

"Ruhavrat of Omar Khayyam," for \$100; "Matthew's Modern Bookbinding," \$50; "The Book of the Grolier Club," \$40; "Devin's 'Christopher Plantin,' \$30; "The Book of the Grolier Club," \$25; "Seventy of the Grolier publications, including twenty-six catalogues of the club, for \$200. The rare first edition, sold for \$10, to Little, Brown & Co., of Boston. The second edition, sold to Dodd, Meade & Co., for \$50, and Garrett's 'Elizabethan Songs' on Japanese vellum for \$25. The first edition of Hawthorne and Holmes brought figures higher than those at the famous Arnold sale. The first edition of 'The Autograph of J. O. Wendell' sold for \$50 to J. O. Wendell, first edition \$20, to Geo. H. Richmond, of New York.

ONCE TOO OFTEN.

Attempt Is Made to Extort Money by Letter. Chicago, April 25.—A special to the Tribune from Morris, Ill., says: An attempt to obtain 600 by a threatening letter was frustrated last night by Sheriff Johnson and his deputies. S. D. Holderness of Eriema township, a wealthy farmer, was the intended victim. At the appointed hour and place the officers secreted themselves and placed a dummy package in lieu of money. The writer of the letter secured the package, and in an attempt to escape was seriously wounded. He gave his name as Warren Wayne and his home in Indiana. He is about 60 years old.

IN JAIL FOR FRAUD.

Americans Extorted Money From Jamaican Laborers Wrongfully. Kingston, Jamaica, April 25.—Frank Fuller and Thomas Smith, Americans, have been sentenced to six months in prison for having made false contracts here with Jamaican laborers to work in Cuba. Fuller and Smith exacted passage money from each laborer without giving them contracts.

Blow at Christian Science.

Atlanta, Ga., April 25.—Judge J. H. Lumpkin of the superior court has denied Christian Science a blow in Atlanta by refusing to charter an institution for the treatment of disease by the Christian Science method. His decision, which was announced in a decision, says that no person has the right to treat disease unless he is either a regularly licensed medical practitioner or will pass a complete examination before the state medical examining board. The decision has excited much interest here.

REVISITS AMERICA.

M. Jules Siegfried Who Came Over in Lincoln's Time. Washington, April 25.—The French ambassador called at the White House at 11 o'clock this morning and introduced to the president M. Jules Siegfried, formerly minister of commerce, industry and the colonies in the Ribot cabinet and also an official long service in the French army and in the chamber of deputies. M. Siegfried's visit to the president recalls the fact that during his last visit to America in 1861 he was received by President Lincoln and enjoyed a pleasant exchange of views with the president of that day. At that time the forces of the North were hurrying through Washington and M. Siegfried accompanied Gen. McClellan in a review of the army of the Potomac. In the call at the White House today the president spoke in most friendly terms of the relations between this country and France.

BIG YEAR AHEAD.

Western Contracts in Two Weeks Reach 200,000 Tons. Almost All of This Amount Is Steel. THE OUTPUT OF RAILS Expected to Exceed Any Year Since the Early Eighties. Trolley Line Building Growing to Enormous Proportions.

Cleveland, April 24.—The Iron Trade Review, discussing trade conditions this week, says: The buying pace has subsided somewhat in the past week and the lull can only be welcome to overcrowded mills. The large business done in the Chicago district with the implement manufacturers and other buyers of bars, is the chief exception to the rule of light buying; rails are another. It is estimated that the western bar contracts closed in the past two weeks will approximate two hundred thousand tons, almost all of it steel. The activity in rails in view of the advance to \$28, effective May 1, is the chief exception to the rule of light buying; rails are another. It is estimated that the western bar contracts closed in the past two weeks will approximate two hundred thousand tons, almost all of it steel.

The year promises to make a record for rail tonnage unequalled since the early '80s. Trolley line building is growing to remarkable proportions. Cleveland alone has contributed contracts and inquiries totalling 35,000 tons in the past week for electric lines and the Cleveland system working on the eastern part of the country have fully 100,000 miles of such roads either under construction or ready for the contractors.

The favorable character of the government crop reports is another factor, of which more and more is sure to be heard in railroad buying as the season advances. Railroad equipment purchases are likely to make a new record this year, car works capacity being taken for months ahead. There is no sign yet of the speculative buying that produced the furor in 1899.

In fact the parallel to 1899 of which there is occasional talk, and which the Chicago district have come into the market thus early for their next season's supply is significant of the heavy demand for implements and for heavy vesting machinery that has developed in many cases, taking up all the stock carried over and all that had been planned for this year.

Edward testified that he went back to the house two or three days later and recovered it. He said he knew it by the outside steps and the broken places into which he had stepped when blinded. He described the building and told its location.

SPREADING RAILS

Cause a Serious Wreck on the C. H. & D. Railroad. Dayton, O., April 25.—The south-bound Cincinnati Hamilton & Dayton train was badly wrecked nine miles north of Dayton near Johnson's station. The accident was due to spreading rails which caused the engine to leave the track and plunge into a ditch. The baggage car and smoker upended and fell into the ditch. Engineer Dooly of Lima was killed as also was his fireman, Raymond McElroy, also of Lima. Frank Weaver, brakeman, of Cincinnati, had his arm crushed and was otherwise seriously hurt; George Thompson, baggage car conductor, suffered severe abdominal injuries; Fred Colls, of Sidney, O., a passenger, was seriously cut about the head.

WORSE FLOODS.

Higher Waters Appear to Be in Store For Ohio Valley. Stage of Fifty-eight Feet Passed at Cincinnati. RATE OF RISE GREW During the Night Owing to Floods in Tributaries. Situation Has Reached the Point of Great Distress.

Cincinnati, April 25.—The flood situation in this part of the Ohio valley is much worse today. It was expected that it would reach its limit today here, and up the valley and that it would not exceed 58 feet at Cincinnati or eight feet above the danger line. It passed the stage of 58 feet at Cincinnati today and the conditions for almost 200 miles up the river are equally as bad.

The rise here yesterday afternoon was at the average rate of one and a half inch per hour, but during the night the average rate of rising increased owing to rising tributaries below the Kanawha, especially the Big Sandy, which had previously been falling. While the limit of the present flood may be reached today, it is feared that the new floods may keep the river about stationary, when there might be a second flood. The worst conditions are reported at Huntington, Catheysburg, Ironton and Portsmouth and the smaller places in that district have reached the point of great distress.

Since midnight the Ohio river here has risen seven tenths of a foot. The stage at noon was 58.7. As the river is still rising as far as Catheysburg and the Kanawha at Charleston is again rising the inference is reasonable that the rise here cannot be checked before tomorrow, by which time it may reach a stage of 60 feet or over. The weather here is clear. Contrary to expectations the Ohio river is still rising slowly at Ironton. MAHONING BREAKS ALL RECORDS Youngstown, O., April 25.—The Mahoning river this morning broke all records for the highest water ever known in the valley and is still rising an inch per hour. Through the city the river is a mile wide and is nearly surrounded by things loose within reach. The pumps at the waterworks have been working under water since last night and if breaks in the machinery occur, the city will be a mile wide and is nearly surrounded by things loose within reach. The pumps at the waterworks have been working under water since last night and if breaks in the machinery occur, the city will be a mile wide and is nearly surrounded by things loose within reach.

PAUCITY IN JAPAN.

Twenty Banks at Osaka Suspended Payment. Yokohama, April 25.—Over 20 banks have suspended payment at Osaka and in the southern and central provinces. The Bank of Japan has assisted them but further trouble is apprehended. A financial panic prevails. New York, April 25.—A. M. Townsend, local manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking company was asked for information today with reference to the failure of banks in Osaka. He replied: "I have no advice regarding these failures. They do not directly affect foreign trade as they are only small national banks. The financial position in Japan is strained and such failures are expected."

CUDAHY ON THE STAND

Boy Who Was Kidnaped Testifies Against Callahan. Omaha, April 25.—In the trial of Jas. Callahan, for the kidnaping of Edward Cudahy at the opening of court this morning, young Cudahy told about the light man's return to the prison house about 11 o'clock on the night of the deed. He said he saw the dark man, who remained about half an hour. At the end of that time the light man came up stairs and told the prisoner they were to take him to the jail. Edward told of the trip home, and of his being set down by his captors on Thirty-sixth street about a block north of the post house. He said that while he was talking in the dark man, he whispered to the light man and asked: "Is this Sarpey Mills?" and the latter replied "Yes."

The boy identified what appeared to be a section from the leg of an old pair of knit drawers and said this was the part of the blindfold that was left on the man after he was taken away. He said he was walking ahead till he came to Leavenworth street. Edward testified that he went back to the house two or three days later and recovered it. He said he knew it by the outside steps and the broken places into which he had stepped when blinded. He described the building and told its location.

SHORT LINE WINS.

Fight Between Clark and Harriman Won by the Latter. Salt Lake, Utah, April 25.—The long local fight for the possession of the abandoned Oregon Short Line right of way through southern Nevada and southwestern Utah between Senator W. A. Clark of Montana and the Oregon Short Line, representing the Harriman interests, has been settled in favor of the Oregon Short Line.

MEET IN THE DARK.

Strange Doings of a Holiness Church in Minnesota. St. Paul, Minn., April 25.—The Holy Christian church at Woodbury is bringing to light the peculiar customs of a religious society which has been in existence there for some years, but which until the present has never received much public attention. The society has for its motto "Holiness Unto the Lord," and was originated by O. M. Brown, a blacksmith, who formerly resided in that town.

CONTRACT WIFE RECOGNIZED.

San Francisco, April 25.—The Examiner says: Mrs. Clara Sutro has been cured from the representatives of the Adolph Sutro estate a recognition of the claims of her children by her children, Adolph Sutro, Jr., aged 9, and Adolphine Sutro, aged 7 years. The settlement, which is on the basis of \$100,000, has been agreed upon. The woman claims to have been the contract wife of the late millionaire mayor. It is intimated that she may secure the famous Cliff house as a consolation of the two corporations. Mr. Sutro executed a deed conveying to these children real estate in this city, which was then estimated to be worth \$50,000.

NO CONSOLIDATION.

New York, April 25.—President W. A. Boland, of the Detroit and Chicago Traction company, denied the reports that negotiations are being carried on between his company and the Detroit, Ypsilanti & Ann Arbor street railway looking to a consolidation of the two corporations. Mr. Boland said: "There is no truth in the report. We will enter into no consolidation and our end will be running to Detroit by the first of October."

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

Chicago, April 25.—Forecast for Kansas: Generally fair tonight and Friday; southerly winds.



Mrs. Sarah Ann Sells Who Died Suddenly Today.