

In Their Desire to Obtain Knowledge of the World too Many Persons Think It Necessary to at least Explore the Outskirts of Hell

13 GUESTS AT WET DINNER INDICTED AS BOOZE DEALERS

Principal Defendants Prominent in Social Circles

CHARGE FORGED PERMITS

Asserted 30,000 Gallons of Assorted Liquors Sold at Newark and Asbury Park

New York, Dec. 30.—Investigation by a federal grand jury into a bachelor's dinner at the fashionable Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue, at which liquor was alleged to have flowed freely, yesterday brought indictment of 13 men, including four members of the La Montagne family, prominent in the ranks of society.

Two indictments were returned, charging conspiracy to violate the Volstead and internal revenue acts, through which approximately 30,000 gallons of assorted liquors were alleged to have been illegally sold.

Some of those indicted also were charged with having forged liquor permits and other papers.

In a statement made public in connection with the indictments, United States Attorney Hayward asserted that his office had followed the trail of alleged bootlegging even though it led to select circles and exclusive places, and charged that liquor had been sold on a wholesale scale to exclusive clubs and the homes of the wealthy.

Federal Judge Knox received the indictments on a day on which two other juries—one in the court of general sessions in New York and the other in Kings County Court in Brooklyn—had handed up presentments urging repeal of the state prohibition enforcement act, on the ground that it was ineffective and was full of fraud.

In discharging the federal jury, Judge Knox thanked its members, declaring it had performed a highly useful task if it had "brought people in high walks of life to a realization that they cannot violate the Volstead act with impunity any more than they can violate other provisions of the constitution."

The principal defendants, according to Mr. Hayward, were Montague La Montague and his three younger brothers, Rene, William and Morgan. Rene has long been in the public eye as one of the foremost American polo players, having several times appeared in international competition.

Big Consolidation Of Roads Sanctioned

Cleveland, Dec. 30. By the Association of Interstate Commerce Commission and stockholders of the New York, Chicago and St. Louis, the Toledo, St. Louis and Western, the Fort Wayne, Cincinnati and Louisville and the Chicago and State Lines is necessary for the consolidation of these railroads into one of the largest rail systems east of the Mississippi River.

WEATHER FORECAST

Increasing cloudiness tonight, probably followed by snow Sunday. Slowly rising temperature.



One of every eight people each year is disabled for an average of three weeks.

Even an apparently negligible ailment is likely to make you the "one of eight" any day.

Accident and Health Insurance

will assure a steady "insurance income," enable you to pay the butcher and grocer and meet the extra burden of medical bills.

This protection is more than worth the small annual premium required.

Ask about Insurance Income.

William H. Wills

Bennington, Vt.

DEATH IN RETURN TO MER ROUGE SAYS EX-MAYOR MCKOIN

Troops Could Protect if He Approves Louisiana

MANY ARRESTS

Warranted by Investigation into Fatal Kidnaping, Authorities Claim

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 30.—Dr. B. M. McKoin, held here for the murder of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards, after they were alleged to have been kidnaped by white robed mobs at Mer Rouge, La., stated yesterday that he "would rather die forty times than be taken back to Mer Rouge."

He predicted that there "would be more bloodshed than ever" if he "ever put his foot on Mer Rouge soil again."

Dr. McKoin declared his conviction that his life would not be safeguarded there despite the presence of troops.

The lawless element there, he said would not stop at anything. Governor Parker, Attorney General Cocco and all officials there, he added, "cannot—if they tell the truth—guarantee that my life will be spared in that town."

More Arrests Planned.

Monroe, La., Dec. 30.—Sheriff Carpenter of Morehouse Parish yesterday declared there would be arrests in the kidnapping case.

"I have no word of any action of any kind," said the sheriff, "but I know that there are to be arrests on the return to Morehouse of federal investigators. I have no warrants as yet, but these are to be placed in my hands within the next few days."

He said he had information relative to the alleged confessions of two persons involving 45 citizens.

Sheriff Carpenter said that while forty-five citizens might be involved in the plot, he did not believe that more were actual participants in the kidnapping and deaths of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards.

Authorities Silent

New Orleans, Dec. 29.—Governor Parker, Attorney General Cocco, and investigators of the federal department of justice remained non-committal yesterday as to details of their series of conferences in the attorney general's office yesterday and last night concerning the Morehouse kidnapping case.

The sole intimation of what took place behind the closed doors was that it was an intensive study of the great mass of documentary evidence turned over to the attorney general's office. This record, it was asserted, already exceeds in volume that assembled in any criminal case in the history of the United States.

Forced to Move Body From Burning House

The body of David Casey, aged 25 years, who was crushed to death early Friday morning in the Stevens & Thomson's mill at Wallis Falls, was removed at 10 o'clock Friday morning, when a fire had started from an overheated chimney and was taken to Haussler's undertaking parlors until the fire department, which was called out, extinguished the blaze with nominal loss. Then the body was returned to Robson's again.

Casey had resumed work at the Wallis Falls mill Wednesday night after a long layoff because of the lack of business. The last seen of him alive was about 2 o'clock Friday morning, when he was putting a packing case on the elevator of the mill Fifteen minutes afterwards his mangled body was discovered pinned by the box against the wall of the elevator well. The elevator had evidently been started and it had been stopped by the body of Casey, who must have been instantly killed as no outcry was heard. Dr. McGrath was summoned, but the man was dead and Dr. Shaw was notified and he directed the remains to be taken to Robson's undertaking parlors. Casey is survived by a wife and one child.

Farm House on East Hoosick Road Burns

The one and a half story frame dwelling on the East Hoosick Road, about a mile from Hoosick Falls, known as the Baldwin house was destroyed by fire at 9:30 o'clock Friday evening with a loss of about \$1,500. The place was owned and occupied by R. B. Coon and his wife, who have been in New York for about a week and cannot be found, so it is unknown whether or not there is insurance. The blaze originated from an unknown cause.

Mrs. Hall to Sail For Europe, January 20

New Brunswick, N. J., Dec. 29.—Special Prosecutor Wilbur A. Mott will not interfere with the proposed trip of Mrs. Edward Wheeler Hall, widow of the minister who was murdered with his choir leader, Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills, September 14, he announced yesterday. Mrs. Hall plans to sail for Europe January 20, Mr. Mott declared, however, that he will take the case before the Somerset County jury "some time" but

MOTHER AND FOUR CHILDREN PERISH BY ASPHYXATION

Syracuse Family Nearly Wiped out by Gas Poisoning

MAN CRAZED BY TRAGEDY

Unbalanced by Shocking Discovery and Placed in Psychopathic Ward in Hospital

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 30.—A mother and four little children, ages ranging from two to eleven, were found dead at their home early today by the husband, death being due to gas poisoning.

The victims were Mrs. Katherine Simone and her children, Mary, John, William and Robert.

Simone was completely unbalanced by his discovery and was taken to psychopathic hospital.

Syracuse, Dec. 30.—Mrs. Katherine R. Simone and four children, Mary, John, William, and Robert were found dead from gas poisoning in their home today.

WEST WILL HAVE ONLY TIMBER SOON

Forestry Congress Delegates Told Trees of East and South Will Be Gone in 15 Years.

Boston, Dec. 30.—Timberland in the East are rapidly vanishing and in 15 years the West coast will be the only source of supply, W. B. Greeley, chief of the United States forestry service, said in an address before the New England Forestry congress Thursday.

The chief forester asserted that it was doubtful if the pineries of the South would be an important factor for the 28 lumber importing states within the next decade. He said that the cost of transportation was a bigger factor in the lumber situation.

"A large part of the lumber users in the United States are paying more today for freight than the entire users of the lumber 30 years ago" he continued. "Many users in the central and eastern states pay more for freight than the product is worth at the sawmill."

This country may be forced in time to seek timber in Siberia and other forest countries and will then encounter world-wide competition, chief forester added. He said the accessible coniferous timber of the world was not enough to last through the 20th century.

William A. L. Brazeley, commissioner of conservation of Massachusetts expressed the opinion that "we must look to the state for the next significant advances in forestry."

Poison Pen Wielder Works at Whittingham

Authorities at Whittingham, Vt., are bending every effort to identify the writer of a series of "poison pen" letters, attacking the character and integrity of a well known and highly respected resident of that town, it became known today.

The letters which first appeared several days ago, had been received by several prominent Whittingham residents and a number of them have been turned over to Vermont state officials who are running down meager clues gained from the missives. The letters have all been neatly typewritten and all of them have made direct and serious accusations against one of Whittingham's most highly esteemed citizens. It is understood, while the letters have not all been the same in contents they are described as scurrilous in every instance.

THE DIVINE SARAH

The "Divine Sarah," ill, rattles, becomes worse and gets better all in such a twinkling that it is a wonder her doctors themselves know where they are in trying to arrive at her true condition.

But hundreds and aye, thousands upon thousands of persons all over the earth are deeply moved by reports of her illness. The great French tragedienne holds a place in the hearts of drama lovers that is perhaps unexcelled. Long past the age when most actresses are forced to retire from before the footlights Mrs. Bernhardt still has continued to carry on.

And even now despite her age and probably weakened physical condition she remains as optimistic as ever and declares that she will again play her part upon the stage. And with her ability, her courage and optimism she deserves much not only the hands of her own people but at the hands of all others who have delighted in her acting and in herself as an exponent of one of the great arts—Burlington News.

NO ISSUE MONDAY

Monday, January 1, 1923, and a legal holiday in Vermont is inventory day at the Banner office and there will be no issue of the Banner. The office will be open in the forenoon.

ANNUAL FORTNIGHTLY MUSICAL

Program at Chapel of Congregational Church Saturday Afternoon. The annual musical of the Fortnightly Club will be held Saturday, January 6th, at the chapel of the Congregational church at 3 p. m. The program will be given by the following artists: Miss Elsie De Grood, violinist, of Delanson, N. Y.; N. Boorzinsky, cellist, of Pittsfield; and James Morton, tenor, of Pittsfield.

A DOLLAR A BABY

To Be Given by Clement National Bank of Rutland for a Year.

Rutland, Dec. 30.—The slogan "Catch 'em young" is being applied to thrift promotion in this city. The Clement National bank directors have voted to give a handbook with a deposit of one dollar credited to every baby born in Rutland after December 1 of this year. The plan will be in effect for a year.

APPROVE ARNOLD TRAIL FROM MAINE TO CANADA

Fine Scenic Route For Tourist Travel Planned for 22 Miles Near Border.

Kingsfield, Me., Dec. 30.—The International Arnold trail construction of which has just been approved by the Franklin county commissioners, will connect the Rankely lakes region with Canada by means of a highway which will open up one of the finest scenic routes in New England to tourists. It also will unite and develop two important sections of Maine and the province of Quebec, and furnish a direct route to the sea board.

The proposed road will extend from the state highway in Eustis to the border, a distance of 22 miles, where it will join a three-mile section of the Canadian highway to be built from Woburn, a few miles below Lake Megantic and the Canadian Pacific railway line which crosses Maine. The first nine miles will be along the west bank of the north branch of Dead River.

Third in Family of Brewers a Suicide

St. Louis, Dec. 30.—William J. Lemp fifty-four years old, President of the William J. Lemp Brewing Company, committed suicide yesterday by shooting himself twice through the heart in the office of the brewery. It was the third suicide in the family of the famous brewers, his father and sister having taken their own lives.

The William J. Lemp Brewing Company just before the advent of prohibition, was considered one of the largest brewing companies in the world. It covered a fourteen-acre triangular tract in the southern section of the city and was valued at \$7,000,000. It was sold at auction last June to five different interests for a total of \$585,000. Lemp had been downcast since it was sold, as he had hoped to get a much greater price for the property.

Lemp appeared at his office at 9 a. m. today as usual it was stated, and shortly thereafter Henry Volkamp, Vice President, arrived and greeted Lemp: "Well, how do you feel today?"

"Oh, I'm feeling worse," Volkamp said Lemp replied.

MEETING TO PROTEST ARBUCKLE ENDS IN ROW

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 30.—A mass meeting called by the Los Angeles Co-operative Council for Better Films to discuss the return of Roscoe Arbuckle, comedian, to the screen was thrown in to an uproar Thursday when evangelist Cuddy, head of a Mission, attempted to enter into the debate in behalf of Arbuckle.

Interrupted by cries of "sit down," "throw him out" and "fanatic," Cuddy accused the ministers of Los Angeles of meddling in affairs outside their province when they condemned Will H. Hays, chief of the film industry, for his action in removing the ban in Arbuckle. He appealed to the churchmen to "shake themselves from the mire," and when his hearers grew more hysterical, asked them to listen to him, "as a representative of Jesus Christ."

Upon suggestion of Rev. R. P. (Bob) Shuler, President of the Ministerial Union, Cuddy finally was granted three minutes in which to present his views, after which the meeting peacefully adopted a resolution protesting the return of Arbuckle as "tending to cover the standard of right living among the young people of our country."

ARBUCKLE IN PERSON

Will Appear in a New York Music Hall New Year's Eve. New York, Dec. 30.—Roscoe (Patty) Arbuckle, who was recently "pardoned" by Will H. Hays after his films had been banned by moviedom, will appear in person at a New York music hall when two of his new comedies are shown on New Year's eve, it is announced here.

READ BUT DON'T BELIEVE

What You Read in Detective Stories, Says Former Scotland Yard Head. New York, Dec. 30.—Sir Basil Thompson, former head of Scotland Yard, whose visit to the United States has been marked by extreme reticence concerning things criminal, unobserved himself at a reception at police headquarters which continued until after midnight Thursday.

Invitations by Police Commissioner Enright had announced that Sir Basil would give "a quiet little talk." The visitor's remarks developed, however, into "a plain talk on crime—as one cop to another," according to those who attended. Reporters were barred.

Among other things, according to those present, the British visitor advised the New York plain clothes operatives to "read detective stories tentatively, but without following their teachings very closely."

"Read them, by all means," he said. "Observe how the author works out his solution of a crime, and then do exactly the opposite. For remember that the story places the crime to suit the author, while the criminal does not."

He was also reported to have advised means of causing disintegration within extreme radical organizations.

HUGHES ADVISES EXPERTS TO SOLVE GERMAN CRISIS

Believes Commission of Americans Could Save Europe

TO ELIMINATE POLITICS

Vital Questions Abroad Concern of Whole World with Reparatations the Key

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 30.—A suggestion that an independent commission of men competent in financial affairs could accomplish more than a general international conference toward solution of the European reparations tangle was put forward by Secretary Hughes here last night in the first public pronouncement on the economic crisis to come from responsible officials of the administration at Washington.

The Secretary, who spoke before the American Historical Association, added that he had "no doubt" distinguished Americans would be willing to serve on such a commission, which he said might well be kept free from any responsibility to foreign offices or any duty to obey political instructions. Once advantage had been taken of the opportunities thus afforded, he said, "the avenues of American helpfulness cannot fail to open hopefully."

Referring to suggestions that the United States assume the role of arbiter in the reparations dispute, Mr. Hughes said a sufficient answer to that was the fact "that we have not been asked." He went on to say he did not believe this government should take such a burden of responsibility.

Throughout the discussion the Secretary recognized that the questions of German reparations lay at the root of any economic settlement. The problems abroad, he said, are world problems and could not be disposed of by "calling them European." He declared the United States would "view with disfavour measures which instead of producing reparations would threaten disaster," and said no one could foresee "the serious consequences" which might ensue if forcible means were adopted to obtain reparations from Germany.

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STUMBLED ON MAN'S BODY

When He Went Onto Haymow to Feed Horse. Bellows Falls, Dec. 30.—A rather gruesome and so-called "free" Fred Richardson's cat for hay for his horse at his small farm on the Broad River road Wednesday afternoon when upon climbing into the hay mow he stumbled upon the body of a head man wrapped snugly in oil blankets and canvas. The body was later identified by checks in the clothes as that of Henry Buxton of Saxtons River, who has been missing as far as any one can learn since putting work five or six weeks ago on the Joseph Severance and Elmer Weston farms.

About \$50 in cash and checks were on his person and as there were no marks of violence it is believed the man died of exhaustion and exposure. The body was poorly clad and had evidently been lying in the hay several weeks.

The dead man, who was a brother of George S. Buxton of Saxtons River, had lived in this vicinity for many years. His age is estimated at about 70 years. There is no known reason for the man's being in the hay mow, except that on one other occasion it is reported he had concealed himself in a barn on the upper Saxtons River road from Rockingham and had been discovered there in a serious condition.

The fact that there were no tracks in the snow about the shack given an idea of the length of time he must have been dead. Mr. Richardson, who found the body, had not been near the shack in several weeks and by mere chance stopped there Wednesday to get hay for his horse.

Mr. Buxton had been an inmate of the Brattleboro Retreat.

PLAY "MISS ROSE"

Bennington Girls' Club to Stage Production Jan. 15 and 16. The Bennington Girls' Club is planning to stage a home talent production, "Miss Rose," under the direction of Frank O. Mayo of Westfield, Mass. The first rehearsal of the music and chorus will be held in the club rooms on the third floor of the First National bank building, Tuesday, January 2nd, at 7:30 p. m.

The production is to be given two nights, January 15 and 16 at the Opera house.

VERMONT TO PLAY MARQUETTE

Thanksgiving Day Football Game at Milwaukee. Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 29.—Marquette university football team will meet the University of Vermont here on Thanksgiving day, 1923. It was announced yesterday.

TWELVE BELOW ZERO TODAY IS LOW 1922 RECORD

Coldest Morning During Entire 12 Months

45 BELOW ZERO UP NORTH

Snowstorm Severe In All Directions But Less So In Bennington

Twelve degrees below zero in Bennington and 45 below in the other end of Vermont marks the closing days of 1922. Father Time will have a chilly spell turning over the pages of the calendar in northern New England.

The snow storm of Thursday night and Friday morning was much less severe in Bennington than anywhere else in this part of the country.

At Rutland there was a fall of 14 inches and 18 inches was reported in eastern Vermont, while west of Troy and throughout northern New York the fall was from 8 to 12 inches. East of Bennington there was a fall of 6 to 8 inches and 10 to 12 inches in the Adirondacks.

Thermometers in the village this morning registered from 6 to 16 below but the accurate temperature was around 10 or 12. This is a lower temperature than was reported in Bennington previously during the whole of the present year, the coldest so far previous being 8 below last January.

Tennis Champ, Minus Finger, in Winter Match

Chicago, Dec. 30.—William T. Tilden, 20, national tennis champion, in a series of matches here January 5 and 6, will make his first public appearance since he underwent an operation last year for the removal of his serving hand. It was announced yesterday. The play is expected to indicate whether the champion can continue his phenomenal record which has kept him at the top in national and international championships.

Walter Richards joint holder with Tilden of the national doubles title, Sam Hardy, Grant Chenoweth and S. Howard Yoshida, the Brooklyn outlander, will make up the party, which, with Tilden, will engage in indoor exhibitions. The contests will be under the auspices of the Western Lawn Tennis Association and the Chicago Tennis Association.

RUBE BENTON GOING BACK TO THE MAJORS

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Rube Benton, former Giant pitcher, yesterday was without fear that K. M. Landis, Commissioner of Baseball, would move to prevent his return to the National League this spring with the Cincinnati Reds, after a visit with Commissioner Landis.

"In view of the publicity caused by the announcement of Benton's signing with the Cincinnati club and the connection of his name with the 1919 world's series scandal," Commissioner Landis said, "Benton came to me to get a line on his status in organized baseball."

"So far as the records in my office show," Commissioner Landis concluded, "there is no reason to keep Benton out of the majors."

Benton was released by the Giants in July 1922, and went to the St. Paul club of the American Association.

"OLD HOMESTEAD" TONIGHT

Worth While Picture Showing at Opera House. "The Old Homestead" which is showing at the Opera House tonight is said to be quite worth while. The story is quite human and the acting dramatic and strong. Theodore Roberts heads an all star cast of Paramount Stock Exchange players. The picture is said to be beautiful and impressive and the various roles are in capable hands. Theodore Roberts, "the grand old man of the screen," will be seen as Uncle Josh, a part played by Mr. Thompson on the stage for thirty-two years.

George Fawcett, another great character actor, is Hollbrook while T. Roy Barnes, is the one-legged tramp, Harry Jack, Fred Rialway plays Ann, and Reuben is portrayed by Harrison Ford, while other characters are ably played by well known actors.

A village of forty or more houses was constructed for the picture at New Lake, N.H. This was afterwards practically destroyed by a great wind storm which threw the thrilling citizens to the ground.

ONLY SPIN AT 101

Adolph Weiser of New Hampshire an Enthusiast in Winter Sports. Gloucester Iron Works, N. H., Dec. 30.—Adolph Weiser, 61 years old, who has been riding every day and is as interested in winter sports as the youngest, he declares that nothing is so conducive to prolonged life as the bracing air while behind a last-sprocket.

"COP" \$20,000 PAYROLL

Bandits Raid Office of Ferry Cap and Screw Co. Cleveland, Dec. 30.—Armed bandits today raided the offices of the Ferry Cap and Screw Company as the paymaster returned from the bank under a heavy guard and escaped with a \$20,000 payroll.

ALL REPORTS SHOW YEAR '22 WAS GOOD TO BENNINGTON

Mills Ran Steadily and Inhabitants Prospered

EXPANSION IN INDUSTRIES

One New Plant Established and Increased Facilities in Others

This is the last business day of 1922, a year that can be looked back on as one of the best in the history of Bennington.

There has been no boom, for which the town should be thankful, but business has been good all the time and the only people who have been out of work, in the main, have been those who did not want to work.

Following the death of Dr. Pratt the George Rockwood company has been reorganized with largely new ownership and the plant is again running, with excellent prospects for the future.

The Vermont Novelty company, organized by Walter H. Mattison, and located in the old Norton factory, has gotten its plant started and begun manufacturing late in the summer, and has had more orders than it could fill.

The Tryon Mills has increased its output and during the busy season had all that the plant could do.

In the meantime the older manufacturing plants have gone steadily along doing business and gross payrolls in Bennington for 1922 were well above the total for 1921.

More real estate has changed hands in town than ever before in one year and the prices, paid show what the business estimate of the buyers is relative to the future of the town of Bennington.

About 40 new houses and tenements have been added to the housing capacity of the town but that by no means indicates that it is probable that the number will be increased yesterday.

The merchants, as a whole, have done a good business. Bennington has no serious complaints to make as to the year but the year has closed forward with confidence to the new year.

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