

OSTERMAN APOLOGIZES TO MAJOR SYLVESTER

Was Not Mentally Responsible When Disrespectful.

FINE IS IMPOSED UPON HIM

If Commissioners Approve of This Action Incident Will Be Considered as Closed.

"I was goaded by a sense of injustice to a degree that I lost my mental balance. These gentlemen say that I used disrespectful language concerning my superior officers. I have no remembrance of doing so, as that whole period seems like a dream. I cannot question their word, however, and admit that I must have used the language attributed to me. I can only apologize, which I do here and now, and urge in extenuation of my fault that I was not mentally responsible."

In about these words Policeman Charles F. Osterman, whose career as a policeman has been stormy from the day that Judge Kimball applied an opprobrious epithet to him from the bench, addressed the Major and Superintendent of Police Friday afternoon. In the presence of Captain Boardman, Lieut. William Moore and Frank McCathran, and Acting Lieutenant Anderson, of the Anacostia substation. In view of this avowal, Major Sylvester announced a fine of \$5 against Osterman, and if this action receives the endorsement of the Commissioners, the "Osterman incident," which has had several unpleasant features, will be closed.

How It All Happened.

Some months ago Osterman was passing a house at night, when he heard loud voices in controversy. He felt it his duty to listen until he could be sure whether or not his interference was called for. He has always insisted he made no effort to look into the house, but when the case was called in Police Court it was thrown out, with the remark so often quoted. It was this which started a train of circumstances that came near costing Osterman his position.

In view of a public accusation of so despicable a character, Major Sylvester had no choice but to place Osterman on trial. The board found him guilty. The major sent the papers back for revision, but the board refused to alter their finding. The result was that, to sustain his officials, the superintendent reluctantly approved of the finding, and sent the papers over to the Commissioners, at the same time calling their attention to the fine record made by Osterman in his years of service on the force.

On motion of Commissioner West the papers in the case were referred to Corporation Counsel Duval, who held that improper evidence had been admitted, and recommended the findings be reversed.

Osterman's Excitement.

In the meantime the local papers had published the conviction. Then it was that Osterman, smarting under a sense of injustice, did those things which necessitated the trial and apology of New Year Day.

The publication occurred on the afternoon of December 12. Osterman lives in Anacostia, and that night he appeared at the substation terribly wrought up, and under the impression that Major Sylvester was responsible for all his troubles. He threatened to go to his chief's house and express his feelings. So violent was he that he was detained under guard for the night. The next day the same publication appeared in a morning paper. In all of these publications the opprobrious term used by Judge Kimball was quoted, and this it was which so rankled in the policeman's bosom.

In the meantime he had been released from guard, having apparently come to reason, but the reading of the second publication again excited him, and he made a sensational call at Police Headquarters Sunday morning, December 13, exclusively printed in The Times at the time. Carrying the objectionable clipping in his hand, he walked into the office of the Superintendent of Police, and acted so strangely that it was necessary to remove him. Once downstairs, he gave vent to his feelings in language both disrespectful and vigorous.

Restored to Duty.

For this he was temporarily suspended, but his actions on this occasion were not allowed to interfere with the judicial consideration of his case. When he had been formally declared innocent he was restored to his uniform and to duty, but was informed he would have to answer for his language while under the sentence of guilty.

This was the interview which took place Friday. For this purpose Major Sylvester had summoned to his office the four officials named, as they were the ones in whose presence Osterman had used the disrespectful language attributed to him. When the policeman entered Major Sylvester read to him the status of the case, and frankly expressed his satisfaction at the final finding. He then told Osterman that he was accused of disrespectful and improper language, and the latter apologized.

The Superintendent of Police took into consideration the strained under the Osterman was laboring at the time, and ruled in accordance. To a reporter of The Times he called attention to the great provocation Osterman had, in view of his now established innocence, and that he was given a dinner yesterday by the board and establishing a new board, with an Assistant Corporation Counsel as a member, so that none but legal evidence may be admitted.

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THROUGH CAR SERVICE WOULD SOLVE PROBLEM

It Would Stop Complaint of Suburbanites.

Views of L. P. SHOEMAKER

Policy of Company Designated as Short-Sighted and Harmful to Citizens and Property Interests.

Establishment of through street car service from the outlying districts to Washington would end the crusade of the suburban residents against the railway companies, according to the opinion of Louis P. Shoemaker, president of the Brightwood Citizens' Association.

Mr. Shoemaker said to a Times reporter yesterday that the chief trouble lies in the failure of the companies to give through service. He also condemned the refusal of the railway officials to heed the general cry for better transfer stations.

Insufficient Service.

"The wholly inadequate and inefficient service afforded by the Brightwood Railway Company to its patrons," he continued, "was the subject-matter of a resolution introduced at a meeting of the Brightwood Citizens' Association, by Jacob Kander, who is the owner of a considerable property in Petworth. Mr. Kander and his family use these cars daily, and he knows whereof he speaks. The resolution referred to the fact that the cars were almost at all times, crowded to an extreme degree of discomfort, affording generally only standing room. The transfer facilities were also alluded to as being disgraceful in the extreme, and the absence of any effort on the part of the railroad company to furnish comfortable quarters for its patrons was criticized."

"This is true of the transfer place at the south end of the Brightwood Line, the Soldiers' Home junction, the Takoma Junction, the District line, and the Takoma terminus of the road. The company has utterly failed, neglected, and refused to provide any of these suitable accommodations for its patrons."

"The resolution was unanimously adopted showing that it is evidently the desire of the people who reside in that section of the District to have the advantages of through service to the center of the city, an advantage much enjoyed by those who go to Chevy Chase, on the Capital Traction road, to those who reside in Brookland and beyond, and Anacostia."

"The question very naturally arises, why not to Brightwood? Almost every station in this country provides through facilities for suburban travel without charge. Only recently I took an electric car to the business center of Detroit, Mich., and rode out to Flint, a distance of sixty-eight miles, without charge."

"This condition of affairs is not only inconveniencing our people, but it is injuring our section of the District, and it is also injuring the railroad company. The interest taken in the matter by The Times is highly appreciated. There is I am sure a large number of residents of this part of the District to grumble or complain unnecessarily."

NEWS OF RAILROADS AND OF RAILROAD MEN

The Railroad Year.

Statistics are busy just now with their pencils, attempting to show what has transpired in the railroad world in the year just ended, and all have apparently come to the conclusion that it has been one of the most prosperous in the history of the country. Notwithstanding the money stringency, there was a great increase in construction. The South and Southwest led in the number of miles of track laid, and Oklahoma stands far ahead of any other State or Territory in the Union, with 553 miles of new line to her credit; Louisiana has forced work to the front, and stands second, with 446 miles; Texas is third, with 371 miles; Indian Territory fourth, with 319 miles; Arkansas fifth, with 283 miles; and Missouri sixth, with 259 miles. Other States showing an excess of 100 miles each are: Pennsylvania, 221 miles; Iowa, 211 miles; New Mexico, 193 miles; Minnesota, 199 miles; Illinois, 171 miles; California, 167 miles; Michigan, 162 miles; West Virginia, 148 miles; Mississippi, 147 miles; Georgia, 140 miles; Ohio, 134 miles; North Dakota, 130 miles; Utah, 129 miles; Arizona, 117 miles; Alabama, 117 miles; Florida, 117 miles; Washington, 116 miles; North Carolina, 116 miles; and Tennessee, 102 miles.

Expansion in Detail.

The number of miles laid by important systems for the year ending December 31, is as follows:

The St. Louis and San Francisco has built 81 miles of new line in Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Illinois, Oklahoma, and the Indian Territory, while the Rock Island system, which now controls the "Frisco," has built 197 miles in Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, and the Indian Territory, making a total of 447 miles, which properly should be credited to the Rock Island system; the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas has added 334 miles; the Missouri Pacific, 241 miles; the Santa Fe, 215 miles; the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul, 187 miles; the Southern Railway, 151 miles; the Louisville and Nashville, 119 miles; the Great Northern, 94 miles; the Northern Pacific, 92 miles; the Oregon Short Line, 81 miles; the Soo Line, 80 miles; the Texas and Pacific, 68 miles; the Chicago Great Western, 66 miles; Rio Grande system, 63 miles; the Chicago and Northwestern, including the Omaha, 61 miles; the Kansas City, Mexico, and Orient, 61 miles; not counting the track laid in Mexico; the Illinois Central, 52 miles; the Southern Railway, 46 miles; the International and Great Northern, 45 miles.

Coal Production.

Closely allied with the railroads is the coal industry, and when the demand for the product of the mines is greater than the supply, with consequent high prices, it goes without saying that profits are good for both the railroads and the mines. In the year just ended the production of coal amounted to 256,128,728 tons, nearly 30,000,000 more than were

MEXICO GETTING READY FOR GOLD STANDARD

Reform Scheme Reported by Monetary Commission.

CHANGE TO COME GRADUALLY

Reimportation of Mexican Dollars to Be Prohibited and New Coins to Be Minted.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The Mexican monetary commission, has finally rendered a definite report, after months of investigation, relative to the adoption of the gold standard for the republic, says a special dispatch to the "Herald" from the City of Mexico.

The commission recommends that the government adopt a monetary system based upon the gold standard, though stating that the immediate adoption of the gold standard, with gold circulation, is not advisable. The commission adds:

"On the contrary, as the most adequate means of bringing about a regime under which gold coins will constitute the chief circulating medium of the republic, it is advisable to adopt for the time being a system, which will keep the silver coins in circulation a considerable quantity. This is possible, without impairing the practical maintenance of their parity with gold at a ratio to be adopted."

Mints to Be Closed.

In order to bring about this state of affairs, the commission recommends the closing of the mints and the prohibition of the reimportation of Mexican dollars, thus gradually creating a scarcity of these dollars and raising their value by the operation of the law of supply and demand.

The commission recommends that the ratio adopted be based upon the average value of the dollars in foreign markets for the last ten years, with an increase not exceeding 10 per cent.

It is proposed that new coins be minted of the same fineness and weight of the present coin. A date is to be agreed upon when the old coin shall become demonetized. Exchange of new dollars for old is to be effected at par.

Demonetization of Silver.

In case the value of silver advances in foreign markets enough to make the dollars worth more than the fixed ratio, then silver would be demonetized, and simultaneously the gold standard would be adopted, with free coinage of the yellow metal and its use as the regular circulating medium.

The government is decidedly opposed to the government taking immediate action by arbitrarily fixing the value of silver coins without regard to their bullion value.

These recommendations are not binding on the government, but, nevertheless, they will have great weight in influencing the final decision.

UNUSUAL MORTALITY AMONG ZOO ANIMALS

Collection Has Lost Many Fine Specimens Recently From What Is Thought to Be a Sort of Consumption.

Death has fallen heavily upon the creatures at the Zoo, and a number of the pets which delighted children last summer and most important death was that of one of the prong-horned antelopes, on the night before Christmas.

When the keeper went to feed the two rare animals on Christmas morning only one responded to his call. Making an investigation he found the other in a far corner of the inclosure dead and badly lacerated. What animal descended upon the harmless captive in the middle of the night and tore away its throat is not known. General opinion among those connected with the Zoo is that a band of roving, half-wild dogs invaded the inclosure, and after driving the antelope back and forth got him into a corner and killed him.

The prong-horned antelope is a native of the western United States, found in the Dakotas, Colorado, and Wyoming. Its distinguishing peculiarity is that it is the only antelope known which sheds its horns every year. There were originally six of the prong-horned animals in the Zoo, but only one is now left. The places of those which have died will be hard to fill, as the animal is very rare. The Almas, which are not contained in many zoological collections.

Admiral Walker's Gifts.

Two fine ocelots, one of them the gift of Rear Admiral Walker, have died recently. The ocelot is a leopard-like cat that ranges from Patagonia to Arkansas, and is one of the most interesting of America's wild felines.

Four white tigers from Florida have died and have left a sad vacancy in the zoological collection. The American tiger is a cousin of the sacred tigers of the Egyptians, and is particularly interesting on that account.

A roseate cockatoo and a sulphur-crested cockatoo from New South Wales, Australia, are among the birds which died about the holiday season. An especially fine emu from Australia is now seriously ill after a decline lasting several months, and there are no hopes of saving its life.

Consumption is supposed to be the cause of death among the birds and possibly among the animals. The experts at the Zoo are trying every known means of preventing the spread of the disease among the animals, birds, and snakes, but with little success, and they are as far as ever from finding a preventive or a cure.

ALEXANDRIA NEWS NOTES

(Special to The Washington Times.)

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Jan. 2.—The Evangelistic churches of this city next week will unite in a "week of prayer." Services will be held as follows:

On Monday night at Trinity M. E. Church the Rev. F. J. Brooke, D. D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, will preach, taking as his subject, "Warrant, Privilege, and Power of Prayer and the Present Need of World-Wide Intercession."

On Tuesday night at the Second Presbyterian Church the Rev. J. H. S. Ewell, pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church, will preach, subject, "The Church of Christ—The One Body of Believers, Called of God to Win the World to Christ."

On Wednesday night, in the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the Rev. J. A. Jeffers, of the Trinity M. E. Church, will preach, taking as his subject, "The Enthronement of Christ on Earth, the Only Hope of Humanity's Highest Welfare."

On Thursday night the services will be at the M. P. Church, and the Rev. J. P. Stump, of the Methodist Church South, will preach, subject, "All Nations and Peoples, the One Human Family, Loved of God."

On Friday night the services will be held in the First Baptist Church, and the preacher will be announced later. The subject will be "The Family—A Divinely Prepared Foundation of Society's Existence and Well Being."

FUNERAL OF MRS. DEARBORN.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Minnie Dearborn will take place from her late home, in South Lee Street, this afternoon. The pallbearers were W. B. Doble, Oscar Phillips, G. A. Nowland, George Pettit, L. McDaniel, and J. D. Staunton. The services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Brooke, of the Second Presbyterian Church.

MEETINGS OF CORPORATIONS.

Meetings of the Washington and other corporations which have their headquarters in Alexandria will, as has been stated in The Times, occupy nearly every day in January. These meetings will be held at the following places:

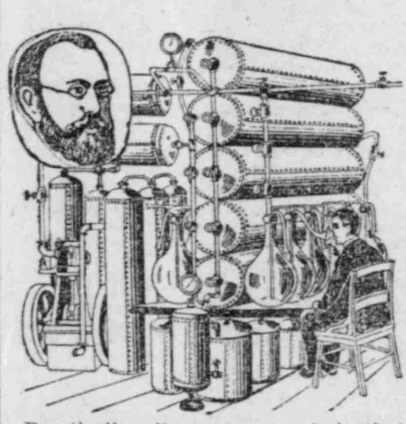
Monday, when the American Rutile Company of Virginia, a Washington corporation, will hold its annual meeting at 111 South Fairfax Street. The Savings Mutual Building and Loan Association will meet on Wednesday night at 110 South Fairfax Street. The George W. Knox Express Company will hold its meeting on Thursday at 10 o'clock at 111 South Fairfax Street. The National Rifles' Hall Association will meet at 2 o'clock on the same day. Over thirty meetings will be held before the close of the month.

JANE KIDWELL'S FUNERAL.

The funeral of Jane M. Kidwell will take place from her late home in North Pitt Street tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. The funeral services will be conducted by the Rev. Mr. Stump, and the interment will be made in the Bethel Cemetery.

WAR ON CONSUMPTION AND ASTHMA.

Dr. Edward Koch's Wonderful Invention.



Practically all physicians admit that the Koch "Tuberculin" cures Consumption when administered directly into the lungs. Dr. Edward Koch has invented a wonderful apparatus by means of which the tuberculin, in combination with healing oils, is vaporized so that the curative vapors may be breathed directly into the lungs and air pipes, killing the germs and permanently eradicating all consumption poison from the system. The Koch Lung Cure has been the subject of a deep and searching study of all lung diseases, including Consumption, Catarrh, Asthma and Bronchitis, and hundreds of pa-

IN THE CHURCHES.

On account of the inclement weather it is not expected that the churches of Alexandria will have large congregations tomorrow. At the First Baptist Church, which is at present without a pastor, the Rev. Lester H. Brown, D. D., will occupy the pulpit at the 11 o'clock service, and the Rev. Marsteller will preach at night.

ELECTION CASE DISMISSED.

In the Alexandria county court today the contested election case of Johnston vs. Mackey was called before Judge Lipscomb, but at the request of the plaintiff's attorneys the case was dismissed.

SUPERVISORS MEET.

The board of supervisors of Alexandria county held a meeting today and elected Dr. D. N. Rust chairman of the board.

OPENING OF SCHOOLS.

On Monday all of the schools of the city will reopen, after the Christmas holidays.

LEE CAMP TO MEET.

Robert E. Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans will hold a meeting in Lee Camp Hall, in Prince Street, on Monday night at 8 o'clock.

WATCHMAN SAVES TRAMP.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning as Winter Crupper, watchman at the Southern yards in this city, was making his rounds, he found a man asleep between two railroad tracks. The hall was going down on the man, a fire which had kindled beside him having gone out. Mr. Crupper carried the man to a safe place, and kindled a fire for him. But for the timely discovery of the tramp he would probably have been frozen to death.

MARCH AS CARRIER.

John E. March, has been appointed carrier and Fred Everett substitute to fill vacancies on route No. 2 of the rural free delivery service in Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA IMPROVEMENTS.

The "Richmond Times-Democrat" published yesterday an account of the improvements made in Alexandria within the past year, from the pen of Harrison E. Smith.

HOME FROM BALTIMORE.

L. T. Downey has returned from a visit to friends in Baltimore.

MR. PRESTON BETTER.

P. T. Preston, who accidentally shot himself some time ago, is able to walk about his home.

PEYTON A CANDIDATE.

It is rumored on the streets tonight that James F. Peyton will be a candidate for the position of police justice for the city of Alexandria.

THREE BOYS CHARGED WITH HIGHWAY ROBBERY

Alleged to Have Snatched Purse From Girl at G and Thirteenth Streets Northeast.

Three youthful highway robbers occupy cots at the House of Detention. They are Harry Rodgers, Richard Slater and Charles Winston, all colored, and aged eleven, thirteen and eleven years, respectively.

It was shortly after 6 o'clock that Grace Wilson, of 1311 Emerson Street northeast, with two companions, was returning from shopping. In her hand she carried a handbag containing \$2.80 in money. At Thirteenth and G Street northeast the trio met the three little negroes. As they passed, one of the youngsters grabbed the handbag and ran. The two others walked leisurely away.

The girls screamed, and Policeman Hayden, of the Ninth precinct, came running to their assistance. He speedily caught one of the boys, and a little later the other two. All three are charged with larceny from the person, and will have a hearing in Juvenile Court tomorrow.

RUSSIAN CRUISER TAKES MACHINERY AT KIEL

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The Exchange Telegraph company Kiel correspondent cables that the Russian cruiser Almaz put in there today and "took on board several pieces of machinery." The Almaz will sail on Monday for the Far East.

REAL ESTATE.

THE BEAUTIFUL SUBDIVISION OF North Brightwood

Has been placed in our hands for sale, and the price has been fixed at
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SECURE A CHOICE BUILDING LOT.
25 ft. by 162 ft.,

In one of the most attractive sections of the District.

The terms are exceedingly liberal. By making a small cash payment, the balance can be paid in easy monthly installments. This property is absolutely certain to become a good paying investment. The subdivision of NORTH BRIGHTWOOD is reached by the Brightwood ave. car line. It is high and healthy, and is surrounded by handsome residences, and is convenient to schools and churches. Money furnished for building.

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All the leading makes of Gloves are in this stock and included in the reductions.
\$1.00 Kid Gloves for..... 60c
\$1.50 Kid Gloves for..... 1.15
\$1.75 Kid Gloves for..... 1.15
\$2.00 Kid Gloves for..... 1.50
\$2.50 Kid Gloves for..... 2.00
\$3.00 Kid Gloves for..... 2.50
PHILIP T. HALL, F Street,
Cor. Thirteenth

SAVE THE CHILDREN.

Scarlet fever is unknown in countries where cow's milk is not used as food, hence milk from unsanitary stables may contain the poison producing it.
Milk is also known to have caused epidemics of DIPHTHERIA, TYPHOID, and other ENTERIC DISEASES.
A proper and simple precaution consists in
SCALDING MILK
(Don't boil it)
for children and invalids—and scalding will not affect its digestibility. After scalding, keep cool and covered.
A regular diet for children on condensed milk is inadvisable.

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Will Cure that tired feeling, Pains in
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Only expert specialist in the city on all forms of private diseases of men and women; 20 years' practice; the past 10 years in present location. Contagious blood diseases, venereal diseases of the kidneys and bladder, as well as all forms of nervous weakness, are quickly and permanently cured. X-ray for examination and treatment. CURES cancer, stricture, varicose veins, blood poisoning, and all Private Diseases cured for life by safe methods. CHARGES LOW, INCLUDING MEDICINES.

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The Well-known German Specialist.
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10 years permanently located in Washington City. His success in treating old and so-called incurable cases is acknowledged by the public and profession. See testimonials at his office. RHEUMATISM permanently cured, without pain or loss of time. X-RAY for examination and treatment. CURES cancer, stricture, varicose veins, blood poisoning, and all Private Diseases cured for life by safe methods. CHARGES LOW, INCLUDING MEDICINES.

DR. FISK ELGIN,

Expert in treatment of private diseases, chronic and acute. Both sexes. All consultations confidential. Medicine furnished. Free consultation. Phone call East—21-M. S. E. corner 4th and F sts. Hours, 10 to 1, 4 to 9. d21-24

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In all Chronic, Nervous, and Special Diseases. Charges moderate. Including medicine. Consultation free. Phone call East—21-M. S. E. corner 4th and F sts. Hours, 10 to 1, 4 to 9. d21-24

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Treatment for Wasting and Nervous Diseases. Men and Women. Nervous Prostration cured and prevented; new cure for Catarrh. Hours: Daily, 8 to 7; Sundays, 8 to 1. Consultation free. n27-41

EVANS' DRUG STORE

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ANNUAL REDUCTION SALE

Men's and Boys' \$2 Jackets and Sweaters. 98c

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