

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN REJECTS CLAIMS OF EXPLORER COOK

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For Los Angeles and vicinity: Cloudy Wednesday, probably showers; moderate south winds. Maximum temperature yesterday, 55 degrees; minimum, 38 degrees.

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KOREAN PREMIER FATALLY STABBED

SEOUL, Korea, Dec. 22.—Premier Yi, the head of the Korean cabinet, was stabbed and fatally wounded today by a Korean, Yi Chalm Yoo.
The attack occurred at 10 o'clock in the morning. The assassin, a young Christian, for many years lived in the United States. The premier was riding in his jinnickska, when the assassin came up with a long kitchen knife in his hand. He drove this twice into the abdomen of the premier and once into his lung.
The assassin then turned on the premier's jinnickska man, whom he stabbed and instantly killed. The assassin was immediately arrested. He is 20 years old and is believed to be a member of a political secret society. The premier was removed to the hospital. Yi was always credited with fostering anti-Japanese sentiment in Korea. He bitterly opposed the faction among the Koreans that favored annexation to Japan and refused to present a petition for annexation to the Korean emperor. Notwithstanding Yi's known sentiments in regard to the relations between Japan and Korea, Marquis to regarded Yi as an honest patriot and refused to listen to the premier's repeated requests that he be allowed to resign his office.
It is believed that the assassination is the result of political intrigue.

FORMER FEDERAL OFFICIAL, COUNSEL FOR SUGAR TRUST



THE American Sugar Refining company in its battle with the government has drawn into its service some of the ablest lawyers in the United States. James M. Beck has recently been appointed senior counsel for the trust and, it is understood, will hereafter conduct the defense of the big organization. John E. Parsons, former chief counsel, will retire. Mr. Beck was assistant attorney general of the United States from 1900 to 1903, and has argued some of the biggest trust cases before the supreme court in recent years. It is announced that sensational developments may be expected in the sugar investigation at any time.

WRIGHT RETURNS WITH ODD TALE

PASADENA YOUTH TELLS AN IMPROBABLE STORY

It Is Believed That Developments Within a Short Time Will Prove a Great Sensation

[Special to The Herald.]
PASADENA, Dec. 21.—Carlos Wright, the young man who disappeared from the Lincoln Avenue Methodist church Sunday evening, when he turned up unexpectedly at 2 o'clock this afternoon, alighting from a short line car at Colorado street and Raymond avenue as though nothing had happened, and from developments this evening it is believed that one of the greatest sensations in the history of the city will come from the case within the next twenty-four hours.
Immediately upon dismounting from the car Wright told one of the most remarkable and improbable stories which has ever come to the attention of the authorities here. He said that after he left the Lincoln Avenue Methodist church Sunday evening, when he remarked to the janitor that he had a bad nosebleed, he walked to the Altadena car and got off opposite the Catholic cemetery. He stated that he knew of men who held a grudge against him and that as he was crossing the cemetery he became aware that he was being followed. Because of his knowledge of this grudge, he says, he carried a gun. Feeling that he was being followed and fearing for his life, he threw away his overcoat and started to run, drawing his gun as he did so. He says that he then started to fire his revolver at his pursuers and that his weapon failed to work.

Story of Encounter

At this the men following him each took a shot, and he claims that both bullets struck him in the left leg, but that he continued to limp along for some distance. According to his story the men then caught him and after a hard fight overpowered him, threw him in the tonneau of a high power automobile and proceeded at top speed from the scene.

After many hours of terrible pain he claims that the car reached San Francisco, and then he was taken to Oakland, where he was placed in a hospital under guard.

Wright says that he knows both the Pasadena men and knows that they are both in Pasadena. He says that as soon as he was permitted to do so he wired his mother from San Francisco the mysterious message about his being well and about his writing later. Then he remained in the hospital for a week, being allowed to write to his people on three occasions.

Becoming restless and wanting to get back home Wright says he watched for his chance and yesterday escaped from the hospital, where he was practically a prisoner, reaching Los Angeles today, where he says his wounds were dressed, and then, taking a short line car for his home city.

Coming Is Unexpected

As soon as Wright reached Pasadena he was helped to the curbstone, where he sat with his head between his hands, as though he did not know what to do. He was approached by friends, who placed him in an auto and asked him if he wanted to be taken to his father's home on Mountain View avenue, Altadena. He said he did not, but would prefer to go to the home of his uncle, William D. (Continued on Page Five)

TAFT URGES BROADEST INQUIRY MADE

Wants Pinchot-Ballinger Controversy Probed Mercilessly

THINKS PLOT IS LAID

President Believes Criticisms Intended to Injure Administration

[Associated Press]
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Any doubt that the whole force of the Taft administration is to be behind the investigation demanded, by both sides of the so-called Ballinger-Pinchot controversy was dispelled by events in and out of congress today.

There is now no question the president himself is as eager for the merciless probing of the whole matter as hitherto he has been reluctant to admit the necessity for it.

A motive much deeper than willingness to do justice to Secretary Ballinger is ascribed to President Taft by senators, representatives and others active in politics.

Men in a position to know the sentiments of Mr. Taft declared tonight he has at last become convinced of the truth of what his friends have been telling him for many weeks—that there lies behind the attack on Mr. Ballinger a more or less definitely organized movement to discredit the Taft administration, especially by spreading the impression that the so-called "Roosevelt policies" are in unfriendly hands; that Mr. Ballinger was made the target only on the theory he offered the most vulnerable point in the administration.

Taft Loath to Believe Rumors
Because he was loath to believe such a propaganda was under way Mr. Taft opposed every suggestion from Mr. Ballinger or his friends that attacks on the land office should be met with a determination to reach and expose those responsible. Though slow to come to a decision, it is known Mr. Taft is now inclined to believe the criticisms which have cropped out in many widely separated localities are in part a deliberate determination to make trouble, which amounts practically to a conspiracy.

The first step in paving the way for a congressional investigation was taken today. Senator Flint introduced a resolution in the senate directing the attorney general to send to the senate all the papers in his possession relating to the case. These papers included reports of L. R. Glavis, dismissed special agent of the general land office, who sought to connect Mr. Ballinger with the Cunningham coal land cases in a manner reflecting on his integrity. These records are the ones on which the president based his exoneration of the secretary of the interior.

Flint Resolution Adopted
The Flint resolution was adopted, and some time later it was learned it had been drafted by Attorney General Wickham, and it was one of the matters considered at the White House conference yesterday, when the attorney general, Mr. Ballinger and Postmaster General Hitchcock discussed with the president the advisability of

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MAY WIPE OUT CAMPAIGN DEBT IF CITIZENS RESPOND TO CALL

IN order to wipe out the \$5000 debt which still hangs over the Good Government organization as a result of the recent campaign, a "dollar campaign" has been suggested by James A. Williams, a grocer at 2426 West Ninth street. Mr. Williams' plan is to have all who supported and voted for the Good Government candidates contribute \$1 or more, as they see fit, thus becoming active members of the organization and aiding in a worthy cause.

It is not right from any standpoint that a few rich men should wipe out the debt. This is the way of machine politicians. Such a method gives the donors great power and allows them to ask, with every expectation of receiving favors of all sorts from the candidates who are elected with money furnished by the few. When all the people contribute a small amount it gives nobody special leverage, but it gives nobody special leverage, more so a great deal than they would have from merely voting for winning candidates.

Membership in the Good Government organization is not predicated upon fees or dues. All subscriptions to the funds with which the affairs of the organization are conducted are voluntary. However, if all the men who voted for the Good Government ticket should send in their names to Lucian J. Clarke, secretary, 320 Los Angeles Trust building, and accompany their application with a check for from \$1 upward, it would not only strengthen the organization, but it would also clear it of all debts and tend to re-establish the organization in the faith of the people.

The position in the matter taken by

General Wood, President Taft's Choice for Chief of the Army, and Mrs. Wood



WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The announcement here that Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, commander of the department of the east, is President's Taft choice for chief of staff of the army to succeed Brig. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, whose detail is soon to expire, has caused no end of talk in army circles. When he assumes his exalted post General Wood will have established an almost unparalleled record for rapid promotion. In twelve

RAISIN POOL CONTRACTS EXTENDED TO JANUARY 3

FRESNO, Dec. 21.—At a mass meeting of raisin growers today it was voted to extend the raisin pool contracts to January 3. This is done in the hope that a three-cent offer will be made. The rejected offer was 2 1/2 cents a pound. The Kearney estate crop of 500 tons recently brought three cents and growers believe that the 7000-ton block will bring as good a price.

EIGHTEEN ARRESTS OF STRANGERS ARE MADE

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—Eighteen arrests of strangers who were unable to account satisfactorily for their presence in Belleville, Ill., were made there this morning. It is thought the men were caused much anxiety among the residents of the town by their presence. A mob of 150 to reach the town earlier by street car.

Despite the developments of last night it is not expected that militia will be needed.

INSANE PATIENTS LOOSED BY FIRE

NORTH WING OF BIG ILLINOIS ASYLUM BURNED

Woman, Patients Found Sitting on Curbstones After First Panic. All Not Accounted For

JACKSONVILLE, Ill., Dec. 21.—Fire in the Central Hospital for the Insane tonight destroyed the north wing of the institution, threatened destruction of other portions for hours, and for a time caused much anxiety among asylum officials in preventing panic and escape among patients. It is believed a few inmates are at large.

When the fire broke out in the north annex, soon after 8 o'clock, some of the patients escaped, but the asylum authorities systematized the removal of the inmates from the burning wing to another part of the hospital.

The fire in the north wing burned fiercely, and the fire department fought it with difficulty until midnight, several firemen being injured by falling walls in the first half hour.

Most of the patients separated from the burning section were escorted by guards and volunteers to the south wing. The fire, however, so alarmed patients all through the asylum that the situation became threatening and citizens were asked to aid in preventing further disorder. Patients freed from the burning section gave the guards and volunteers concern.

Several men and women escaped, some being found in the outlying streets. Some women, thinly clad, were found sitting on curbstones half a mile from the asylum.

It is rumored that a number of patients still are in the burned portion of the asylum, including women who are reported to have climbed to the attic. They may have perished. There is no certainty regarding the number of patients in the building. The fire started in the roof of the wing. The cause is not known. Flames spread rapidly to the fourth floor, where several hundred women patients were kept.

Their cries created a terrific din, which aroused the other patients.

Santa Clara College Burns
SAN JOSE, Dec. 21.—A telephone message just received here says the Santa Clara college building is on fire.

RECORDS OF TRAVELER FAIL IN PROOF

Doctor's Title to Discovery of Pole is Shattered Completely

DENMARK CHAGRINED

Noted Institution to Take Away Degree Conferred on Arctic Voyager

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 21.—In an interview tonight Knud Rasmussen said: "The university would not call me at first, because I was one of Dr. Cook's strongest supporters. Later, however, I was invited to the investigation and when I saw the observations, I realized it was a scandal."

"My confidence in Cook has been based on personal impressions, on reports that I had received, and also on the testimony of the Eskimos when they all said that he had made the trip from Cape Sparto to Etah. But the papers which Cook sent to Copenhagen university are most impudent. Any school boy could make such calculations. It is a most childish attempt at cheating. Cook has killed himself by his own foolish acts."

[Associated Press]

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 21.—The report of the special committee of scientists which the University of Copenhagen appointed to investigate Dr. Frederick Cook's claims that he had discovered the north pole was submitted to the consistory of the University of Copenhagen this morning, indorsed and given to the public.

The report shatters completely, almost contemptuously, the American explorer's title to such discovery and fills officials and people of Denmark with chagrin at the figure Denmark is made to assume in the eyes of the scientific world.

The public was prepared for a verdict of "not proven," but did not expect its recent hero to be branded as an impostor. Many still cling to the belief that Cook acted in good faith, but harbored a delusion.

Explorers and scientists have almost entirely lost faith in Cook's honesty, while one of his warmest supporters, Knud Rasmussen, helped to frame the report. Evening papers attack Cook and severely reproach him for hiding, which they regard as a sign of a guilty conscience.

Will Withdraw Cook's Degree

The rector of the university, Dr. Salomonson, when questioned as to the possibility of the university cancelling the degree which it conferred on Dr. Cook, said that no decision had been reached, but he thought that the degree would be withdrawn.

Commander Gustav Holm, Arctic explorer and a member of the committee, said:

"Cook's claim he made the observation 89 degrees 55' north, 15 degrees west of the pole proved immediately that he was a bad observer, but nothing indicated that he was a swindler. Now, his papers convict him of being a swindler. We agree unanimously that Cook's observations were worthless."

Prof. Olufsen, secretary of the Danish Geographical Society, said in his life. As an explorer there seems to be no doubt, that Cook is absolutely unreliable."

The National Tidende, while deploring that the university conferred the degree, finds consolation in the fact that others honored Cook.

"The president of his own country and its envoy at Copenhagen," says the paper, "were the guarantors of him. Denmark did not blunder alone."

Care Used in Review

The committee appointed by the university to examine Cook's records recently, presented its report to the consistory of the university, which reviewed the deductions of the experts with the greatest care and discussed the findings of every statement.

That both the committee and the consistory were disappointed was soon known.

The consistory met today and adopted a written report to the effect that the alleged records submitted for examination by Cook failed to prove his claim.

The report of the committee, of which Professor Stromgren was chairman, as presented to the consistory, states Cook's papers are without any value; that his report to the University of Copenhagen is virtually the same as that published in the New York Herald on his return from his Arctic expedition.

The copies of his notebook submitted, says the committee, contain no original calculations of observations, but only results thereof. Accordingly, the committee concludes he affords no proof of having reached the pole.

There was produced before the committee a letter from Cook postmarked Marseilles, December 14. This letter lends color to the earlier report that Cook sailed from New York for a Mediterranean port.

Documents Submitted

The documents submitted for examination are:

First—A typewritten report prepared by Cook's secretary, Walter Lonsdale, and covering sixty-one pages of foolscap.

Second—A typewritten copy made by Lonsdale from Cook's note books. This occupies sixteen pages of foolscap and includes a description of the period from March 18, 1908, to June 13, 1908, during which, according to the statement, Cook journeyed from Svartog to the north pole, and returned to a

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