

MURDERED BY HIGHWAYMEN

Emil Desmit, a Laborer Was Shot Down By One of Two Bandits Whom He Attacked When They Attempted to Hold Up Saloon At Van Asselt Last Night

Emil Desmit, a laborer, was shot and instantly killed by two masked bandits who attempted to hold up the Maple Leaf saloon, at Van Asselt, last night. Instead of obeying the order, "Hands up everybody," Desmit attacked the robbers when they came into the saloon and paid the penalty with his life. The bandits escaped after the shooting and are still at large. Half a dozen men were in the saloon at the time.

The bandits entered the front door of the saloon about 10:40 o'clock, each holding a revolver, and ordered hands up. Cliff Maple, one of the proprietors of the saloon, made a grab for a gun, which was kept back of the bar, but could not reach it. Accordingly he threw up his hands.

When he heard the command, Desmit, who was seated at a table playing cards, rose up and swung his chair over his head, and fired at the bandits. His example was followed by Hamilton McCullough, and they together forced one of the robbers

out of the door. Then the second robber shot Desmit in the temple over the left eye and he dropped dead. His second shot was meant for McCullough, but the bullet hit the chair which he held in front of him and glanced off. The robbers then disappeared.

News of the affair was sent by messenger to Georgetown, where it was telephoned to police headquarters.

Deputy Sheriff Jack Williams and Schmidt and Detectives Barbee and Tennant left soon for the scene, but had to walk a mile from Georgetown to the saloon.

A motorman of a South Seattle car said two men started from the city at about 10 o'clock last night. They got off at Ryan's crossing and might have taken a boat across the Duwamish river. These men were seen returning to the city shortly after the hold-up.

The Maple Leaf saloon was held up two years ago. The robbers were caught.

ENGINE GOES ON A SPREE

LOCOMOTIVE RUNS AWAY AND
FINALLY WRECKS ITSELF
AND SEVERAL FLAT CARS

(Special to The Star)
TACOMA, Dec. 3.—A runaway locomotive, shrieking up a steep grade, is an unusual sight. Tuesday morning, Friday night, and 6 o'clock a locomotive at Electron ran away, up grade. It ran for two and a half miles from the water tank up to the powerhouse and crashed into two freight cars, smashing them and wrecking the locomotive.

The runaway was decidedly peculiar. The engine crew had just got up steam in the locomotive for the day's work and left her standing on the track near the water tank while they went in to breakfast. They had been away but a few moments when, without a moment's warning, the locomotive started off up the track at a speed that was momentarily increasing.

Two and a half miles of clear track loomed ahead of the runaway, and she did the distance in double-quick time. She came the powerhouse, with some flatcars standing on the track. The runaway crashed full tilt into the flatcars and smashed them to kindling wood.



AND THE DOG STILL GROWLS.

QUEENAN MATCHED

Perry Queenan of this city and Fred Wyatt have been matched for a 20-round contest in New Westminster, Friday night, December 11. The two have fought before and are evenly matched men. Queenan has fought several good games in British Columbia and is becoming a popular favorite there.

CHURCH BURNED

INDIANA EDIFICE DESTROYED
BY FIRE THIS MORNING

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 3.—St. Paul's Lutheran church was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is estimated at \$80,000 and is covered only by a small amount of insurance.

AND STILL THEY COME

MORE STREET IMPROVEMENT
CONTRACTS ADDED TO THE
DELINQUENT LIST

Three more contracts for street improvements have become delinquent within the last few days, and several more will soon be overdue.

The time for the completion of C. J. Erickson's contract for repaving Pike and East Pike streets, expired Nov. 20. There is still no telling when the work will be finished.

It is only a matter of guesswork as to when the Barber Asphalt company's contracting for paving Queen Anne avenue from Roy to Galer street, the time for which expired Dec. 1, and the contract of Hotta & Wagner for grading and constructing concrete walks on East Republican street, the time for which expired on the same date, will be completed.

Tomorrow F. McClellan's contract for paving Union street expires. The work of laying the brick has just begun. The following day the time for the completion of the contract of G. W. Walker & Co., for plank on Tenth avenue south, will run out.

NOME MAIL

The first mail of the winter from Nome is expected to arrive not later than Christmas. Ben Dawson, who left Dawson three weeks ago, has the contract for carrying the mail between Dawson and Rampart. He expects to meet the Nome carriers on his arrival at the lower terminus of his route. He will transfer the mail to the Canadian government at Dawson and it will deliver it at White Horse, where the mail will be placed aboard the train of the White Pass & Yukon railroad and forwarded by that route to Skagway and this city.

ALEXANDRIA, Ind., Dec. 3.—The Carnegie library, which has been in course of construction here for more than a year, is now completed and today the building was formally dedicated.

THREE NOTORIOUS CAR BARN MURDERERS ARE MERE BOYS



GUSTAVE MARX.

HARVEY VAN DINE.

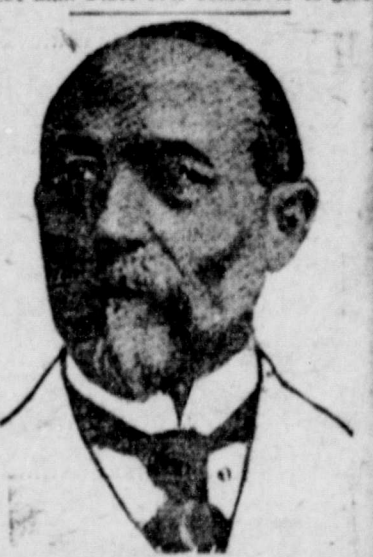
PETER NIEDERMEIER.

TOM PLATT, NEARLY READY TO GIVE UP POLITICAL RULE, IS NOW A TOTTERING OLD MAN

HIS OFFICE, ONCE THE MECCA OF THE GREAT WHO SOUGHT
PREFERENCE, NOW DESERTED—FLATTERY OVER HIS SUPREME POWER IS PLATT'S WEAK POINT

(Special to The Star)

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—Better take a last look at Tom Platt. In another year he may be just plain Senator Platt. His days as the Easy Boss are numbered. They've waited these ten years for old age to paralyze the iron grip of the Empire State boss. He only went and got married. That settled that. Now Ben Odell—the mightiest man Platt ever reared—is to give



SENATOR TOM PLATT.

him make the political coup. They say the knife is already turning in the ribs of the old boss. So take a look at Tom Platt quick.

Forty-nine is the number of all Broadway to politicians. There is just a plain, ordinary express office there. But upstairs a little shriveled old man is bent over the president's desk. He has made it Mecca for a generation. Here all who would mount to political place or power in New York or out must wait on Platt. In the dingy study hall outside I've run across future presidents of these United States, gov-

ernors, statesmen of highest rank. In the course of the last ten years. They sat hunched up like kept-in schoolboys on the narrow wooden bench. This week I mounted to this entry again. The bench was empty. Even the fat-faced clerk grinned at me. "No one around, guess he'll see you now all right," he said, chucking. "He's just up from Washington."

Inside the shadowy office it was just the same as of old. Absolute quiet pervaded every corner of the big room. There was mystery and decorum in every breath of the close air. From behind one of the two cavernous desks rose silently the sleek secretary. Every hair of his carefully clipped Van Dyke beard bristled caustion. He nodded with a sad, wan smile and tip-toed over the thick carpet to the corner recess behind the other desk. "He'll see you," he announced, wearily. There, as of old and always, shaded by a heavy window screen of stained glass, sat Tom Platt.

You see, sunk in the depths of a branching swivel-chair, a very old man. The cartoons immediately flash across your mind. There are the stray wisps of hair, planting quaintly out from behind the post-shaped head. There is that keen profile drooping diffidently over a sunken chest. There is the bulging frock-coat, the pantaloon flapping over the lean shanks. Yes, there are the square-toed shoes and the claw-like fingers. Over all is the inevitable stoop and hunch that the cartoonists caught decades ago. But now you look closely and see something new, an individuality, lively and almost lovely. You forget the cartoons. A feeling of deference, even pity for a broken old man creeps over you.

Deliberately the swivel swings toward you. With no apparent effort one hour glides rises for a schoolboy. Limpness is the dominant feature of Platt's person. The little figure of the man seems to be helplessly huddled in the big chair. You feel that someone must have dumped it there; must come again to shake it up into action. You take a chair and square off at the limp

bundle with some confidence. But then the eye of Tom Platt rises upon you. It mounts deliberately, cautiously, from the overhanging head. It takes stock of you. Confidence ebbs. The memory of the stories and cartoons of the political Platt rush back. There come the voices. You must bend well forward to catch it. It quavers and falls in mumbling. But don't get confident again. This isn't the doddling of an old man. Every word sinks in and cuts like a knife.

I have interviewed Tom Platt for a great many years. I've seen men, rumors, facts, threats, denials brought to confront the little old man in the shadowed corner. He gobbled them up. It always reminded me of the spider silencing the buzzing flies that had strayed into his web. One mumbled phrase, one quivering declaration did for the intruder in an instant. It will pay you to stoop and catch every word of Tom Platt's mutterings. Every syllable hits and counts.

And there's the other side. You only get this if you know Platt. And he's got to know that you know. There is no more genial, amusing companion that I know of in this town than this apparently feeble old man. As a wit, a satirist, he has no equal. Platt's solemn, infinitely sly wink as he hands out a properly righteous answer is worth going miles to see. And the answer will go between his quotes. It will look fine. While the moss-back citizen is reading the righteous answer that right Tom Platt will be entertaining the riotous Amen Corner with sly, keen digs at the righteons. One of them would double up the moss-back with indignant apology.

That is Tom Platt's strong side, satirist, sly wit. His weak side is reached by flattery. Hint at his supreme power and you have him. The man who can pierce all other guile will fall for this. Platt has lived for power. Now he doesn't know that it is slipping from his tenacious hands. In another man Tom Platt would see the situation as a huge joke.

L. G. MEAD.

TEAM LEAVES TONIGHT

UNIVERSITY TEAM GOES TO PORTLAND TO DO BATTLE WITH
THE MULTNOMAH ELEVEN

At 5:40 o'clock tonight the football team of the University of Washington will leave for Portland to meet the team of the Multnomah Athletic club Saturday. Bruce Shortle of the Seattle High School faculty will probably umpire the game. The line-up of the Washington team will be the same as in the Idaho game here. The men did so well then that Coach Knight will not make a change.

The Portland team, according to reports, might have a great deal more confidence in themselves than they have. They know they have a hard team to go against and have trained hard for the contest. Seattle has not lost a game this year and the team will work like Trojans to keep up the record.

MORE SPEED AND LESS BEEF FOR

MINNESOTA'S NEW ELEVEN

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Minnesota has confidence in her foot ball coach, Dr. Henry L. Williams. He has

had charge of the team for three years and a contract signed last winter gives him three more seasons to look after the Gopher grid-iron candidates.

As far as theory goes there are few men in the country who know the game as well as Williams, but from a practical standpoint, there has always been some doubt. Each fall he has the advantage of every other coach in the "big nine" as far as material and climatical conditions go, but has never turned out a championship eleven.

One of Williams' faults has been his tendency to sacrifice speed for weight. This year he started differently. He is giving the 170-pound men a chance and the result is more material than ever and of a better quality.

Williams' first foot ball experience was gained on the Hartford high school team. He went from there to Yale, where he played a backfield position. His coaching at West Point and his success at a Philadelphia preparatory school won him his present position.



DR. HENRY L. WILLIAMS.

LANGFORD TO FIGHT

COLORED LIGHTWEIGHT WILL
GO TEN ROUNDS WITH JIM
MY KELLY TONIGHT

BOSTON, Dec. 3.—Sam Langford, the colored lightweight who has shown to advantage in his recent bouts in this section, will be seen tonight in a go with Jimmy Kelly, the New York lightweight. The two are scheduled to engage in a ten-round bout under the auspices of the Central Athletic club. The colored boy is regarded as a "corner" in the lightweight division and as a consequence ring followers are awaiting with some interest the showing he will make against Kelly.

VAN GOES TO 'FRISCO

MANAGER OF "THE MEADOWS"
LEAVES FOR THE SOUTH TO
MEET HORSEMEN

A. T. Van de Vanter left last night for San Francisco, where he will attend a meeting of the newly organized Western Sockeye club. This is an organization of prominent racing men west of the Missouri river. The object of the association is to bring a better class of horses out West and to better the interests of the racing men.

It is probable that next season's program will be outlined at the meeting of the club.

SHORT SPORT

E. E. Smathers is figuring on a 'round the world tour in an auto. He may in this way discover a way to defeat his enemy, Billings.

The way the Indians went through the Northwestern was a revelation. It throws water on the caliber of most of the Western teams, Michigan and Minnesota excepted.

Corbett is 40. He is twice as old as Sharkey was when Sharkey won a fight. How old is Fitz?

And still one, P. H. Yost, wears a smile that won't come off.

The Michigan-Chicago game ended with the Wolverines having the biggest score of her history against the midway eleven.

Joe Grim, the human punching bag, will be seen in Chicago this winter.

Fitzsimmons is billed to open a cafe in Chicago this winter.

Gardner now knows the difference between a fighter of the first class and the men he has been meeting.

In the light of the Gardner-Fitz episode, the Jeff-Gardner talk becomes a joke.

Jack McClellan, who will meet Charlie Neary in Milwaukee before the Badger club, December 4, has been promised a match against either Kid Iro or Young Mavrat at New Orleans, providing he gets as good as a draw with Neary.

Mike Sullivan, the New England lightweight, is out after a match with Joe Gans.

Jack Turner, a Chicago feather who is touted as a corner, has been matched to meet Young O'Leary before the Badger athletic club, December 4. Weight 125 pounds.

Johnny Kelly, the Chicago ban-

dam, is anxious to try conclusions with Harry Forbes. Jake Chalm, manager of Kelly, offers to pit his man against Forbes at 116 pounds, weigh 3 o'clock on the day of the battle.

CHESS CLUB

A separate club has been formed by the chess players of the Seattle White and Chess club, with rooms in the Pacific block. It is expected that a tournament will be played this winter and it is possible that telegraphic games may be arranged.

NEW GAME

LONDON SPORTS HAVE DISCOVERED A GAME MORE FOOLISH THAN PING-PONG

London seekers after new pastimes have hit upon a foolish game that, through its foolishness, has won its way to the front. The name of the new game is Tambourine. It derives its name from the fact that it is played with a tambourine. The game is sort of a cross between a Spanish dance and a lawn tennis match. It is tennis, only tambourines are used instead of rackets. There is sort of a ping-pong flavor about the new game that savors of short life.

BACK TO THE MOTHERLAND

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—The annual exodus from the Northwest and the Middle West of Scandinavians, who return to the motherland for the Christmas holidays, promises to be unusually heavy this year. Arrangements have been made for special trains next week to carry between 800 and 900 excursionists from Chicago to New York, where they will embark for Sweden and Norway. Practically all the excursionists will return to the United States, and many of them have arranged to bring kinsmen with them on the return trip.

LABOR MEETINGS TONIGHT

Brewery Laborers—Newell's hall, South Seattle.
Bricklayers—Room 15, Masonic Temple.
Building Laborers—Olympia hall, 1104 1/2.
Clerks—Walters' hall, 1420 Second ave.
Electrical Helpers No. 2—Leo's Business College.
Lathers—Carpenters' hall, 1520 4th av.
Marine Cooks—Room 9, Colman dock.
Ship Carpenters—Shipwrights' hall, Flyer dock.

TOM TRACEY A THESPIAN

The Well Known Middleweight Fights in the Steps of Corbett

Tommy Tracey, a middle-weight fighter well known in Seattle, has gone on the stage in Portland. Tommy will be remembered as the man who fought a clever go with Tommy Reilly in Germania hall, a year ago. He has "signed" with "The Bowery After Dark" and has already had his first rehearsal. He really likes the new roles in which he is to appear, but thinks the whole business very strange.

"It's all new to me," says Tom, "and I thought I would die when I met that pretty bunch. They treated me well, and encouraged me in my part. I feel that I will make a big hit. The introductions to the actresses disturbed me more than the lightning and thunder of the play. I will study every part in the play, so that it will be impossible for me to forget mine. It is quite novel, don't you know?"

Don't Fail to Read
A Bottle
of
Trouble
It will make you laugh.

OLD COUPLE MURDERED

Ghastly Find Made by Detective in Search for Missing Man and Wife--Heads Crushed In With Hammer

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 3.—The police this morning discovered the bodies of Franz Frehr and wife buried in a shed near the residence from which they mysteriously disappeared November 6. Their skulls were crushed in with a hammer, which was afterward found in a nearby shed.

A search for Charles Bonier, who moved into the house the day after the

Frehrs' disappearance, resulted in his arrest at Erie this morning. Frehr and wife were more than 50 years of age. The supposition of the detectives is that Bonier murdered them to gain possession of the property.

Bonier, when arrested, claimed to have bought the property from the old couple, paying \$3,500. He exhibits deeds, bearing Frehr's signature, but the money has not been found.

KAISER UNABLE TO OPEN REICHSTAG

WHAT PROMISES TO BE STORMY SESSION, BEGUN AND MEAN-
WHILE THE EMPEROR MUST GO SOUTH FOR HIS HEALTH

BERLIN, Dec. 3.—Despite the denials of alarming reports as to the kaiser's condition, he will be obliged to spend January and February in the south. He was unable to attend the opening of the reichstag today.

The session of the reichstag, formally opened today, is expected to be one of the stormiest in the history of that body. The Socialists are stronger than ever before. Furthermore, the Social Democratic party is unquestionably the best disciplined and most compact political organization in the empire, and if its well laid plans do not miscarry, the government will see many of its pet measures balked during the present

session. As usual, the government is obliged to depend for support on the Center (the Catholic party), which has always opposed the Socialists and which, fortunately for the government of Emperor William, continues to hold the balance of power in the reichstag.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Dec. 3.—The annual session of the Savannah Conference of the M. E. church began in Brunswick today and will continue until the middle of the coming week.

The steamship Dolphin, Captain Hunter, sailed this morning for Singapore with 50 passengers and a full cargo of freight.