# KILLED AT WIFE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Henry Shaffer Is Shot by Policeman.

GUESTS WITNESS TRAGEDY

N. H. Suitter, Longshoreman's Slayer, Pleads Self-Defense.

VICTIM WAS A PRISONER!

Arrest of Host and All Male Guests for Disorderly Conduct Precipitated Trouble-Officer in Similar Difficulty Once Before.

In the presence of the guests at a birthday party given in honor of his wife, Henry Shaffer, a longshoreman. 35 years of age, was shot and killed in his own home last night by Nathan H. Suitter, a policeman. The shooting was kitchen of the Shaffer residence, at 234 Failing street, corner of Mallory avenue, at 7:10 o'clock, and was the result of a dispute that arose when the policeman threatened to place Shaffer and his guests under arrest for disorderly conduct. Suitter was summone the neighbors, J. Holsworth, of 805 Mallory avenue, who is the owner of the quarter block on which the Shaffer iouse stands, and who is said to have objected to the sounds of revelry that grew louder as the birthday party pro-

The gathering was a surprise party for Mrs. Shaffer, who reached the thirtieth milestone of her life yesterday There were 12 persons present besides Stelgle and wife, Gottlieb Metzer and bacher and wife, Paul Deutch and wife, David Miller and Alex. Schneider All heard the dispute between Sutter and Shaffer, and they nearly all were evewitnesses of the shooting. All ar either Russians or Germans and do no speak English intelligibly.

#### Keg of Beer Is Tapped.

The guests assembled at the Shaffer home shortly before 5 o'clock and sat flown to a hearty dinner. During the feast alcoholic beverages were dispensed quite liberally. A keg of beer was on tap and several bottles of wine and spirits were on the table. Shortly before 7 o'clock Patrolman Suitter, who resides at \$93 Mallory avenue, several blocks west of Falling street, was called to the scene to notify Shaffer and his guests to make less no his arrival he was admitted to the house, but on making his mission known, was not treated with marked cordiality, and departed immediately to notify police headquarters, and

Captain Slover instructed him to return to the house and await assistance. Patrolman Fred E. Leavens was sent to Suitter's aid, and together the policemen went to the Shaffer he They were admitted by Mrs. Shaffer. noise cease. At this juncture, it is years ago and located at once in Port-

#### Sends for Reinforcements.

are but two entrances to the house, and which opens from the kitchen to the peace back yard, tried the door and found it not locked. Placing his back against out. Suftter ordered Leavens to call the patrol wagon and request reinforcements. It was after his fellow-policeman had gone on this errand that the dispute arose which resulted in Shaf-

Sultter says Shaffer, after a few anwords, struck him in the chest. Thereupon, the policeman says, he drew his revolver, fearing further viole at the hands of Shaffer, who was a an, weighing about 250 pounds. and fired three shots. Two builets Shaffer's lungs, and caused

death within a few minutes. When the shooting began, Shaffer's ompanions fled into an adjoining roo women present, who had taken refuge in the front parlor, became hys terical, and some fled screaming into the street. This served to arouse the entire neighborhood, and the Shaffer some was soon crowded with neigh-The arrival of the patrol wagon with Sergeants Baty and Cole, Dete Graves, Adams and Leavens, served to clear the house of all but the wit-

#### nesses to the killing. Hysterical With Grief.

Owing to the inability of the witnesses to talk English, it was with trouble that anything was learned from them. Mrs. Shaffer, hys terical with grief, was with difficulty prevented from throwing herself on the body of her husband. When she befairly intelligible story of the shooting and one which differs materially from that told by Sultter, for Mrs. Shaffer

effort to strike the officer, who she says shot without provocation. Her story of the affair, as she told if in broken English, was as follows:

"It is my birthday, Henry, Mine Gott. be is dead! he give the party for me ind our friends they come to do m honor. The policeman, he had no right to shoot my Henry. He came to the house twice. First time he told us to went away, but pretty soon he come back with another policeman, and the two of them told us we were all ar-rested. My Henry wanted to know what for. The policeman said we were making too much noise. Then one of ficer went away, after saying some-thing to the other.

"While he was gone my Henry asked allowed to go to the back yard. The officer say no, and right away he pulled out his club and backed up gainst the door. Henry talked to his



Night's Tragedy.

and pretty soon the policeman pulled my Henry fell to the floor and died."

Blames Her Landlord.

"That policeman had no business come to our house. We were not making any noise and we do not hurt anybody This man Holsworth, he is to blame. He has been trying to get us to move away for a long time, and last week we threw him out of the house. We have until May to live in this house, and he wants to raise our rent. We have no children and refused to move until our time is up He got mad and said he would make u move and set the policeman after us. hink he gave the policeman money. The man had no business to shoot my Henry and I will tell the Judge so. All

my friends will do the same."

C. E. Shaffer, who lives at 425 Falling street, adjoining the Shaffer home, con oborates Mrs. Shaffer's story in part He says that he heard no unseemly noise n the Shaffer home, although he ad nitted that the guests were dancing and laughing. He said that he did not notice that they were dancing until he went out on his front porch. Shaffer is not clated to the dead man, although his of American railroading. surname is the same.

The Shaffer who was killed had had trouble with the police before. Last July manager of the Rock Island system, ex-he w. arrested at Twenty-second and pressed it, "we were plunged from pros-Lovejoy streets by Sergeant Baty and perity to adversity. A year ago our syslocked up on a charge of assault and tem could not handle the traffic offered battery. At that time his wife was the us. Today, we have 11,000 idle cars Five victim of his wrath. On the arrival of months ago we suffered from a congesthe officer Shaffer put up a desperate tion of freight, now we suffer from a fight and it was necessary to handcuff congestion of empty cars." him. After reaching the City Jail Shaffer fought three policemen until he was finally overpowered. He was posses of enormous strength and is said to have

#### been surly when in his cups. Nine Years in America.

For beating his wife Shaffer was bound Sultter reiterated his demand that the never tried. He came to America nine said, Shaffer threatened to throw both land. He was regularly employed as a

Sends for Reinforcements.

ning, who summoned the police. It is every witness before the Commission who summoned the police that Shaffer, there was a note of confidence because the kitchen of the house. In an ad- his wife and a party of friends gathered nearly every one of them believed coining room was the heer keg. There at his home were taken into custody Sultter, going to the rear entrance, lett, who found them disturbing the to fundamental causes.

Policeman Suitter is the officer who, on November 6 of last year, shot Herman Burkbart, a commercial traveler, on ter was attempting to escape after being

#### Will Hold Inquest Today.

the body of Shaffer and Coroner Finley will hold an inquest this afternoon.

The six men who were guests at the fatail betriday party and who witnessed the dispute which led to the shooting were taken to police headquarters and charged with disorderic conduct. They

#### BOOK THAT WAS KING HAL'S

London Dealer Discovers Publication by Desidrius Erasmus.

discovered a copy of a book by Desidfius Erasmus, "Christiani Marrimonii Istius." It is a first edition and contains marginal notes believed to be in the hand writing of Henry VIII. The book bears the royal arms and the statement that it was bound for King Henry VIII's library. The handdenies that her husband even made an writing resembles that of the King.

# MUST RETRENGH FOR 9-HOUR LAW

Railroads Will Close Small Stations.

### **NEED ARMY OF TELEGRAPHERS**

Economy Necessary to Comply With New Situation.

#### TRAFFIC SHOWS DECREASE

Optimistic Spirit, However, Manifest by Companies, Who Expect to See a Rapid Return of Business Prosperity.

WASHINGTON, March 1 American railways have made arrangements to omply with the provisions of the "nine hour law." The operation of the law will mean the employment by railroad companies of several thousand additional operators and the closing of a large number of small stations on the principa systems. Discontinuing of railway serv ce at many points, it is thought, will nduce at least temporary inconvenience to traveling and shipping public in order o reduce operating expenses, which now as necessary. The operating officials of the railways believe that this is the only way they possibly can meet the sit-

pation with which they are confronted. During the hearing of applications for an extension of the nine-hour law by the astonishing statements were made by the operating officials of important railways. A good many lines, owing to a reduction in the revenues and to their inability to nd the cash necessary to mee their payrolis, have been forced during the past four months almost to the point of asking for receivers.

#### Good Times Will Return.

In the opinion of rallway officials expressed at the hearing under oath and In private conversation this condition enforcement of regulative laws or to the incapacity of railway management. Mos of the railway officials attribute the difficulty to the unfortunate banking situa-tion which developed last September. The railways did not feel the stringency is money until about the first of November In fact, the month of October was one of the best in the history of the business

Then, without the slightest warning. as H. U. Mudge, vice-president and general

#### Thousands of Cars Idle.

What is true of the Rock Island is One railway official ventured the state ment that in the country today there are 200,000 idle freight cars, and one line over to the State Circuit Court, but was hauling empty cars backward and forsidings to accommodate them

Not a single official of a single railway officers out, whereupon Suitter destevedore and grainhandler. He was line who appeared before the Commissional Commission of the present under articles.

The assault Shaffer made on his wife the present industrial depression would was witnessed by District Attorney Man- be lasting. In the testimony of nearly there was a note of considence because stringency in the money market from several months ago by Patrolman Mai- which the country has suffered is not due

#### Material Prosperity Untouched.

They point out that the crops last year Park and Morrison streets while the lat- that industrial enterprises throughout the country were flourishing. It was merely arrested on a charge of assault and bat- the inability to command ready cash and tery. Burkhart recovered from his the hoarding of money by panic-stricken wound and has brought suit against Suit- Individuals which produced so suddenly ter for \$10,000 damages. Burkhart was the remarkable depression from which arrested on leaving the hospital and tried all have suffered. They practically unibefore Municipal Judge Cameron, who formly express confidence that the refound him guilty of assault but failed to turn of prosperity will be almost as suo impose a fine. On that account Burk- den as was the coming of adversity, and hart recently entered mandamus pro- in their arguments as to the enforcement ceedings against Judge Cameron and se- of the nine-hour law they pointed out cured an order compelling the court to to the Commission that such a return of enter judgment in order that an appeal prosperity might seriously embarrans might be taken to a higher court. it would render it difficult to command the services of competent operators in prosperous conditions.

With four or five exceptions, no im portant railroads of the country have indicated an intention to reduce the wages of their employes. As Chairs Knapp of the Interstate Commerce Com-

mission expressed it: "So far as I am informed, there is no concerted action on the part of the American railway companies to reduce wages. Instances of an intention to change the scale of wages have been given, but they can be said to be in no

#### sense general." , Will Listen to Complaints.

Such railroads or their employes as may take advantage of the Erdman act to secure the mediation of the chair-man of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Commissioner of Labor will be accorded every opportunity fairly to present their case to the Gos officials. It will be the effort of Chair-

#### EVENTS OF COMING WEEK

chief subjects under consideration in Congress this week. Having postponed last week the time for asking the Senate to fix a date for a vote of his emergency currency bill, Senate Aldrich is not hopeful of bringing the measure to an issue before the

second week in March.
It is expected that the legislative. executive and judicial appropriation bill will be reported early in the week and will be taken up for consideration by the Senate.

The House will continue to give sideration of the appropriation bills. The pecuage resolution authorizing the immigration Commissioner to investigate labor conditions in the Southern States will receive attention

Important Conventions.

Political activity will be further quickened during the week by a ber of state conventions. Propably the Ohio Republican convention at Jolumbus and the Nebraska state Democratic convention at Omaha on Thursday will attract great National interest, as politicians believe the declarations to be set forth by the to some extent foreshadow the party platforms desired by the two candidates. The Kansas Republican state Wednesday, and the Louisiana Republican state convention on the same day.

Politicians Still Talking. Secretary Tast will deliver a num-ber of addresses during the week, speaking on Monday at Springfield and Fitchburg Mass, and on Tuesday evening at Boston Governor Hughes will be the guest at a deliar dinner at Poughkeepsie on Saturday. Mr. Bryan will attend the Omaha convention and will therefore make

The long-deferred meeting Railroad, for the control of which Pish have waged a sharp contest scheduled to be held in Chicago on Monday

man Knapp and Professor Neill amicably to adjust the differences between the companies and their employes. Their efforts will be purely concillatory as a board of arbitration. Any decision which they may reach in a given case will not be binding upon either party to the controversy. They expect, however, to be able to adjust such differences as may be presented to them, on the facts now cuity.

WORKS HARDSHIP ON ROADS

#### Fulton Bill Does Not Meet Favor With Commission.

WASHINGTON, March L.-Responding a letter of inquiry to the Interstate commerce Committee of the Senate, the Interstate Commerce Commission has written a letter taking a position in op; position to Senator Fulton's bill prohibiting railroad companies from advancing a rate in the face of a protest made by a



Patrolman Nathan H. Suitter, Who

passed upon the reasonableness of the in

To give to the protest of a single shipper the effect of preventing the advance of any rate until the reasonableness of that advance was affirmatively determined by the Commission says the letter, "would establish a hard and fast rule of doubtful fairness to the railroads and questionable advantage to the public. Under existing conditions we are of the opinion that it would be unwise to adopt the arbitrary limitations which this bill proposes, whatever may be found desirable or necessary in this Deputy Coroner Eagan took charge of sufficient numbers to meet the needs of regard in the future." The Commission shillty of increased burdens upon the Commission. On this point they say:
"If every proposed advance had to be investigated by the Commission and officially sanctioned before it could take effect, the number of cases to be considered would presumably be so great as to render their prompt disposition almost impossible. In instances of instifiable in-crease, the necessity of dulay resulting from the probable volume of cases would work injustice to the carriers. Until conditions become more stable and the sub

tiers than this measure allows should be The Commission also suggests as a pos-sible effect of the bill, the preventing of voluntary reductions of rates, "It," they say. "the rates could be increased with-out the approval of the Commission after

(Concluded on Page 2)

## BITTER FIGHT FOR Week Before Congress. SEATTLE OFFICERS

State Politics Mixed in City Campaign.

### OPEN TOWN ALSO INVOLVED

Miller's Election Said to Mean Lifting of Lid.

#### REFORM VOTE FOR MOORE

Both Sides After New Residents Who Will Hold Balance of Power in the Ballot-Box Contest Tomorrow

SEATTLE, Wash., March 1 .- (Speial.)-With less than 48 hours to lapse before the result is known, Seattle is today in the turmoil of one of most bitter municipal political campaigns that has ever marked its nistory. Direct accusation, bitter inpendo and all manner of charges of underhand work have been indulged in y the managers of the respective candidates for the office of Mayor, and with both sides claiming victory at the polls, there is, even to the man versed in the game, little on which to base a forecast of the result. Unless there is a big change, election day will see

#### Police Chief the Issue.

For the past week the Chief of Poice, C. W. Wappenstein, and his administration have loomed big as the He is a Mayor Moore appointee and has been the Mayor's right hand in enforcing the Sunday and o'clock closing ordinances. Until last week, the administration of the chief had been commended by both the Times and the Post-Intelligencer, but sinc that time the latter publication has published columns of figures to show that crime has flourished during the wo years of his office. In this the chief has been supported by the Times which, after two years of scoring Mayor Moore, has come out in suppor of him and his reform policies. It is declared the election of Miller means

an open town and a new police chief The police phase of the campaign was precipitated by what is termed an illadvised move on the part of Prose-cuting Attorney Mackintosh, who is in charge of the Republican campaign John F. Miller, the Mayoralty candi date, is chief deputy in Mackintosh's office, and when the former sent a letter to Sheriff Smith, calling upon that officer to close gambling in the gambling is rampant in Seattle, he laid Milfer open to accusations of having countenanced lawlessness as an office.

### City's Dirty Linen Aired.

That let down the bars, and every by the respective candidates, the ancient history of the city's lawlessnes. has been dragged out for the edification of the voters. Men have been called Hars, friends have met only to depart bitter enemies, and all manner of jobs have been put up in an endeavo

to cast reflection on the opposition. It is the effect that what has been said and published will have on the new vote which is causing campaign man agers to increase the crop of gray hairs. Of the total registration votes there will be cast nearly 10,000 ballots in excess of those cast at any previous election, and the majority of these voters are practically strangers in the city Some of them are accounted for by the newly annexed territory, but the great majority are persons who have moved from other states to Seattle.

The politicians know that these per sons are in the majority from Repulslican states, but they are also from states which have set the seal of disapproval on the saloon, and to this extent they are expected to favor Mayo Moore's candidacy, for when all is said and done, about the only thing his party managers emphasize is the fact that he closed the saloons on Sunday, at 1 o'clock at night, and has othe wise minimized the civic evils connect ed with the liquor interests. The Democrats have no hope of electing their candidate, General J. B. Metcalfe, and as they are as a party opposed to Mayo Moore, formerly of Democratic faith, the Miller managers have great hopes of getting a large slice of the Demo cratic strength.

#### Plot to Control Charged.

The Times has insisted that in supporting Miller the Post-Intelligencer is actuated by motives inimical to United States Senator Samuel Piles and that, if the Wilson organ wins the city fight, it will at once set itself up as a dictator in King County politics and will work for the undoing of the King County representative at the National Capital and against Senator Levi Ankeny. Piles and Miller are personal friends and the Senator has, from Washington city, advocated the election of Miller. On this basis Miller's friends point out the futility of the arguthat his election means but help

Through all the Sercences of the battle in behalf of the heads of the tickets, the candidates for the minor offices have been

wards the councilmanic contests has failed to create any great enthusiasm ar failed to create any great enthusiasm and practically no attention is being paid to the fights for Treasurer and Controller, but it is probable that the Republicans will win these. The Republicans have spent practically no money in ward or precinct fights and while the management is credited with having a "barrel" the district workers are complaining bitterly that none of its contents has come their way.

#### Come Near to Blows.

This money question has caused muc discontent and also a near fight between Mackintosh and James B. Wood, an mackintosh and James B. Wood, an active party worker. Mackintosh was accused of converting the money to defray his expenses during the primary campaign when he spent something like \$1800 out of his own pocket. The lie was passed and only for the intervention of bystanders the men would have come to



Henry Shaffer, Whose Birthday Celebration Ends in a Killing.

primary law provisions as election judges and clerks shave resigned, and as their successors will have to be chosen by vote from among the bystanders, both sides are planning to have big representations at the polls early and trouble may result from the determination of each side to have the vacancies filled by men friendly to their respective causes. Tuesday, March 2, 1986, promises to be an day, March 3, 1908, promises to be an eventful day in Seattle.

# AIR WAVE WRECKS HOTEL

PRESSURE FROM AVALANCHE CAUSES THIRTEEN DEATHS.

Guests Near Berne Warned by Children Just as Roof Is Crushed in Over Their Heads.

BERNE, Switzerland, March 1 -- An avlanche descended today near the village of Coppenstein. The enromous atmospheric pressure which accompanied it Loetschenthal tunnet, killing 13 persons and injuring 15 others.

table by sinister rumblings. Almost im- saloons, twelve restaurants and diately two children rushed into the dining-room and screamed, "An ava- Tampa Electric Company, lanche! An avalanche!"

bullding, which was of a temporary naure, collapsed without warning. Both burned itself out at the extreme northof the children were killed, along with many of those they had sought to save. Among the others killed was an American engineer named Mervart, who was

the engineers and others engaged in construction work. There were no tourists

The village Postoffice and Police Station were also seriously damaged by the air wave, and were keeled over to an angle of 45 degrees, making occupancy impossible. The tunnel works were not tonight in the burned district to prevent

### CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER SILVER THAW IN CHICAGO

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S Maximum temperature, 46 degrees; minimum, 38 degrees; TODAY'S Gerasional rain; southerly winds, Foreign,

Torpedo fiotilla reaches Callao. Page 2.

National. Belated honor of Vice-Admiral assured to Evans. Page 3.

Domestic.

Railroads must retreach to meet requirements of 9-hour law. Page 1.

Tampa Fforids, fire-swopt. Page 1.

Tests at Columbia indicate that tobacco is less injurious than commonly believed.

Page 2.

Parith Coast. Pacific Coast, San Francisco raising \$500,000 to fight bu-bonic plague. Page 2

Tilmon Ford, Oregon politician, dies at Salem. Page 3, Bill proposing increase in pay of legisla-tors will be submitted to people in June. d-hot municipal campaign will close in Scattle Tuesday. Pake 1.

American auto car arrives at Marshalltown,

Portland and Vicinity,

Republicans of Mulinomals confident other counties will oppose Statement No. 1. Page 5. Ernest Heymans will come back to testify; promised immunity, says rumor, Page 7

Dr. Brougher criticizes Mayor Lane's ad ministration and says he needs mor backbone. Page 8. W. S. U'Hen will meet opponents of State-ment No. 1 in debate Thursday night. Page 14.

# CITY OF TAMPA SWEPT BY FIRE

Burned Area, 55 Acres; Loss \$600,000.

# WOMAN DIES FROM FRIGHT

Occupants of 200 Dwellings Save Little From Flames.

#### FIRE CHIEF IS OVERCOME

Large Stores of Tobacco Destroyed in Cigar Factories - Insurance Not Half of Loss ... Thousands Left Destitute.

TAMPA, Fla., March 1.-The entire extreme northern section of this city was destroyed by fire, which broke out in a boarding-house early today and raged uninterruptedly for four hours. The area burned covers 55 seres or 13th city blocks: 308 buildings were destroyed with a total loss estimated at \$600,000, and one woman is dead from excitement.

The burned section included four large and one smaller cigar factory and numerous restaurant, salgons, boarding ouses and over 200 dwellings, occupied were: M. Stachelberg & Co., loss \$100,000; M. Perez & Co., loss \$50,000; Gonzales. Fisher & Co., loss \$60,000; Esberg, Gunst 000, and Fernandez & Co., loss \$29,000.

#### Tobacco Stocks Destroyed.

All the factories carried large stocks of tobacco and cigars. The area swept by fire embraced all that portion of the city between Twelfth and Michigan avenues and Sixteenth and Twentieth streets. It originated in the boarding-house of Antonio Diaz, 1714 Twelfth avenue, and, fanned by a strong wind, spread fanshaped, defying the efforts of the tire department, which was crippled by a

low water pressure.

Occupants of over 200 dwelling-houses, thrown into a panic, rushed out, atlongings. A Cuban woman dropped dead from the shock.

#### Fire Chief Overcome.

Fire Chief Savage was overcome by heat and smoke early in the fire but recovered later. Citizens volunteered assistance to the hard-working firemen, but demolished a hotel at the mouth of the the spread of the flames was so rapid that little effectual work could be done

Among buildings, other than factories, destroyed were the hotels and cafes of The occupants of the hotel, numbering destroyed were the hotels and cafes of 20, were surprised while seated at the Perez & Castro and Maximo Caras, six cars, were endangered, and owing to the There was a rush to escape, but the destruction of the trolley wires, the cars could not be removed. The fire finally eastern section of the city

#### Homeless Are Unemployed.

Fully half the people rendered homeless were out of work, and their shelter beinstalling American machinery to be came an immediate problem. St. Joseph's The hotel had been erected by the tun-of the Jesuit Fathers and many found nel contractors for the convenience of lodgings there, while others were accommodated in homes throughout the city Besides these, thousands of men will be out of work on account of the burning

of the factories. The insurance is estimated at not more than half of the loss. The State Militia was placed on guard

Temperature Rises in Nick of Time to Save Big Damage.

CHICAGO, March L-Record-breaking Avalanche in Switzerland wrecks hotel and kills 13 people. Page 1.

China compiles with Japan's order to surrender ship Tatsu Maru. Page 3. poles 25 to 50 miles, north and west and south of Chicago, and 100 to 150 miles cast, was melted during the day by a rise of temperature just in the nick of Ice-coated lines, sagging heavily, had already begun to amap to pieces or topple to the ground long lines of glisten-

ing overweighted poles. The worst damage was east of this city and west of Fort Wayne. system on the Lake Shore and Michigan Central Rallways suffered particularly In one instance, a stretch of nearly a mile of poles bearing dozens of important circuits to New York and other Eastern cities, went down in a tangled mass of wreckage. With the mercury ascending a trifle, the miles of sleet di appeared almost as if by magic. Tonight the telegraph officials had restored the facilities to a basis adequate for Sunday night traffic and hoped to be able to care for brokerage and other business tomor-

### EXPECTS STORK IN JULY

Queen of Spain Preparing for Happy Event.

MADRID, March 1 .- It is officially announced that the accouchement of Queen Victoria is expected to take place about the end of July,