

"GAMBLERS HAVE RUINED ME," SUICIDE'S CRY; "THEY SHOULD AT LEAST PROVIDE FOR MY BURIAL"

H. W. Gowell, President of Seattle Advertising Company, Asphyxiates Himself With Gas Leaving a Letter to The Journal Telling of His Struggles.

Body Found at 11 o'clock This Morning in The Cottage Rooming House—Suicide Was a Prominent and for Many Years a Successful Business Man in Seattle—Tried to Recoup Losses by Gambling.

"I am taking my own life by gas, at 103 Sixth street north, in room 11 of 'The Cottage.' The gambling houses here have ruined me and drawn me to my death. I feel that they should pay my wife enough to enable her to clear up the overdraft at the bank—not the notes, but the outstanding checks of \$350, and provide a decent burial for myself; for we have sacrificed everything, down to the last piece of jewelry to meet our obligations.

After writing a letter to The Journal and one to Coroner J. P. Finley, telling of financial troubles and of having lost \$1,100 in Portland gambling houses, H. W. Gowell, president of the Seattle advertising firm of Gowell & Kelley, turned on the gas in his room at the Cottage House and committed suicide. His lifeless form was found at 11 o'clock this morning by Mrs. E. E. Wood, proprietress of the house, when she entered to arrange the room. Gowell declares in his letter to The Journal that Portland gambling houses are responsible for his death, and begs them to give back to his wife the money he spent over their tables. The gamblers deny having won his money, although the Portland Club paid Mrs. Gowell \$125 a month ago.

No man in the Pacific northwest is better known than Gowell in the advertising world. He was for years connected with prominent wholesale and retail dry goods houses. He was for two years advertising manager for the Bon Marche, one of the largest retail dry goods houses in Seattle. In his letter to The Journal he says that he was left in the lurch by the Metropolitan Press, a large Seattle publishing house, of which Henry C. Piggot, foreman of the King county grand jury at its last session, is president and Finley Allen, manager. He states he had a large contract with that company for getting out a book, that it failed to keep its part of the contract, leaving him in bad financial condition.

It was for the purpose of making up this deficit that Gowell says he came to Portland to try gambling. For a time he won, but finally every dollar he placed on the faro tables he lost. Having pawned or sold even the last piece of his and his wife's jewelry, and having done everything in his power to make up an overdraft at a Seattle bank, he determined to commit suicide, so that out of his life insurance his wife might have sufficient to pay up what he owes, which he places at \$350.

Gowell's letter to The Journal follows: "The Journal, City—Brother: I am going out of this path of the ordinary suicide to write a letter to the newspapers in advance. But there are others that I dearly love connected with this unhappy affair—and for their sakes I want the matter printed as it is.

I am a newspaper man myself—and know how much harm can be done without a fair understanding of such cases. The real cause of my trouble which is financial, of course—a contract made with the Metropolitan Press of Seattle, last November to print and supply the cash to carry through the publication of a 400-page book the title of which is shown by the card enclosed. To make a long story short, the printing house left me in the lurch in February with an enormous expense on my hands—a short balance at the bank, and my family in California for the winter.

In hopes of making up the deficiency I began to come to Portland to gamble. I have lost \$700 at the Portland Club, \$350 at Erickson's, and \$50 at Frit's, total, \$1,100. Of this the Portland Club paid me \$125 on demand of Chief of

TWO CANDIDATES GIVE THEIR VIEWS

The Journal has received two more answers on how candidates for the legislature from this county will vote in the event of their election on the question of charter amendments. Here they are: Mr. Malarky's Views. Portland, May 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have received and read yours of April 27. I was a member of the commission that framed the present city charter, and as such favored and advocated the provisions concerning elections contained therein. I have had no reason thus far to change my views on the subject, and if elected state senator will vote in the next legislature against any amendments of the kind mentioned in your letter unless some good reason arises in the meanwhile to

MACHINISTS' STRIKE ON

President O'Connell Says Fifteen Thousand Men Are Affected.

FIGHT TO BITTER END

Entire Santa Fe System Goes Under the Ban This Morning—6,000 Men Ordered Out—Others May Follow.

(Journal Special Service.)

Washington, May 2.—A general strike of all the machinists of the entire Santa Fe system was ordered by President O'Connell of the International Association of Machinists, taking effect at 9 o'clock (western time) this morning. The order will affect 6,000 members and may result in the bringing out of the boiler-makers, blacksmiths and co-workers in sympathy.

Forecasting the probable extent of the strike, President O'Connell said that 15,000 men may be affected. The allied metal-workers are expected to quit work. There is no prospect that the transportation department will be crippled at present.

Third Vice-President Kendrick has expressed his determination to fight the strike to a finish. It is thought at this time that no other roads will be drawn into the trouble originating from the action taken by the Santa Fe machinists in inaugurating a general strike this morning.

At the local Santa Fe shops in San Bernardino, Cal., and some other points the men have been out for several days, but it was not till today that the strike became general. The 6,000 members directly affected will be only a small portion of the laborers who will suffer if the strike is prolonged. All helpers and such unskilled labor as is dependent on the running of the shops of the Santa Fe system for employment will gradually be dropped from the rolls of the company until such time as their services may be required after an adjustment of the present difficulty is effected.

Non-union men have for several days been occupying the places of the strikers at San Bernardino, the plant at that city being inclosed with a strong barbed wire fence and every precaution taken by the company to protect the men who have taken the strikers' places.

The evident determination of both sides to carry the fight to a bitter end, if it is prolonged, not only cause suffering among the strikers and their families, but entail a loss of no small consequence upon the railroad company.

SEAL RAID IS PLANNED

Absence of Russian Gunboats Leaves Copper Islands Open.

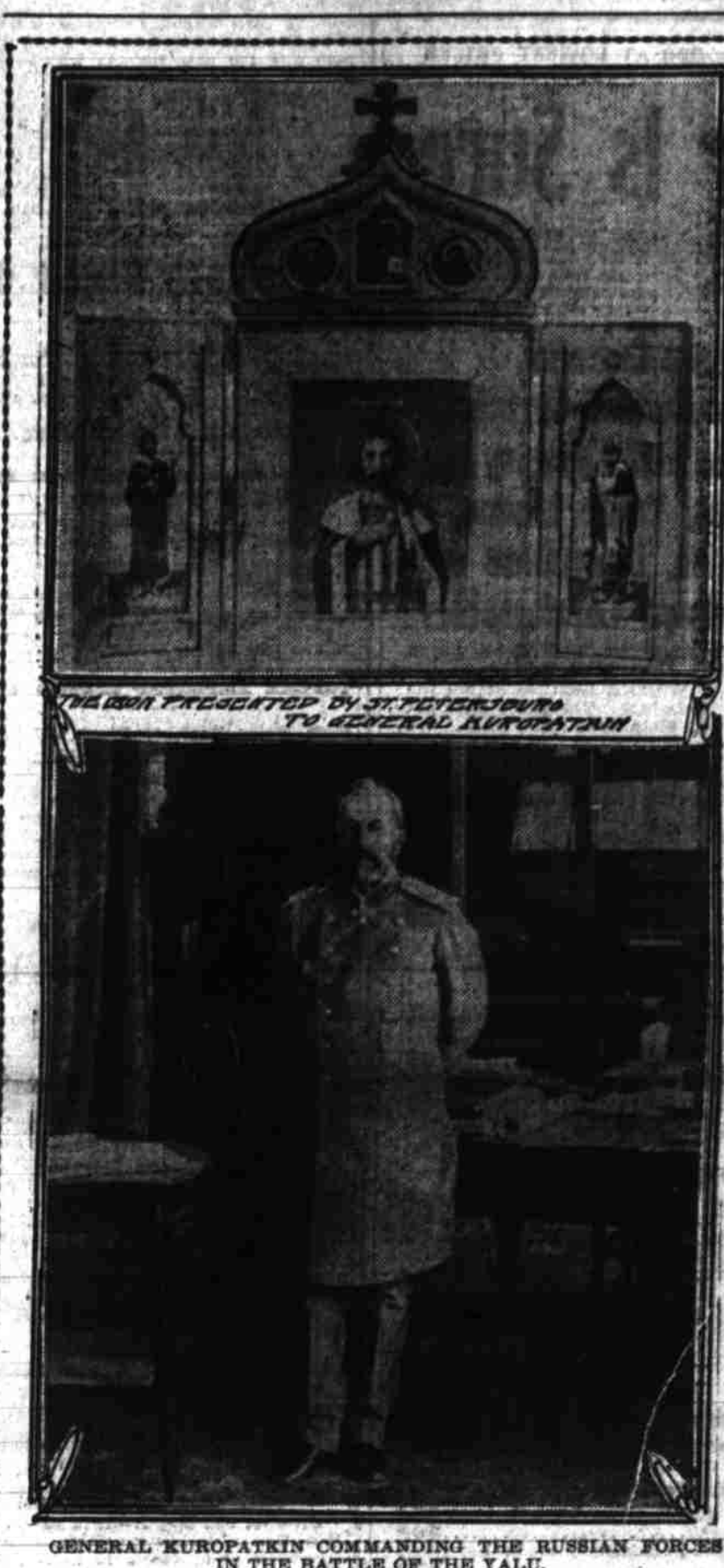
ENGLISH REFUGEE ORDERED DISCHARGED

(Journal Special Service.) Washington, May 2.—The attempt to extradite Thomas Walsh, or Lynchhaun, who is wanted in England, has failed through a decision of the supreme court today. Lynchhaun was sentenced to imprisonment for life in Ireland after being convicted of assault with intent to murder.

BRICK AND A HALF ANN'S OWN COUSIN

If a brick weighs seven pounds and half a brick, how much does a brick and a half weigh? This is the successor of "How Old is Ann?" and has been puzzling Californians. It is one of the easy things that make you smile at first glance—it is so exceedingly simple. Then you try it and you are not so sure it is easy. Then you begin to wonder whether it can be done at all, and finally—may-be—you hit the answer. The problem is short and easy to remember: If a brick weighs seven pounds and half a brick, how much does a brick and a half weigh? The Journal will print whatever answers its readers may send. Try your hand at it.

JAPANESE AFTER FIERCE BATTLE GAIN COMMAND OF YALU RIVER



GENERAL KUROPATKIN COMMANDING THE RUSSIAN FORCES IN THE BATTLE OF THE YALU.

Russian Defeat Becomes Demoralized Retreat—Abandon Everything.

1800 IN CASUALTY LIST

Japanese Booty Includes 28 Quick Firing Guns and Large Quantities of Arms and Ammunition.

(Journal Special Service.) Tokyo, May 2.—The preliminary battles that have marked operations on the Yalu river have been outdone in one grand finish, and the Japanese now have practically a full control of the Yalu river.

These reports have been received from General Kuroki, who commanded the Japanese. The Japanese loss, according to his statement, was 700 men, and the Russian loss is placed at 800 men.

From Tuesday until Thursday the Japanese continually landed small parties of men, when an attack was made in force and the Russian forward guard compelled to withdraw. As dawn approached Saturday the Twelfth division of the army crossed above Wiju and held its footing. A second pontoon bridge was thrown across the Yalu at 8 o'clock Saturday night, and the imperial guard of the Second division were hurried across to join the advancing army. It was in readiness for an attack, which was ordered to be made Sunday morning.

At daybreak the entire Japanese artillery opened on the Russian front, and by 7:30 o'clock had succeeded in silencing the enemy's guns. Immediately after a general attack was made, covering a frontage of four miles.

The Russian army, numbering 26,000 men, was posted in such position on the opposite side of the Iho river that the Japanese infantry in making the charge was subject to a terrific rifle fire, but swarmed across the stream, up the embankments and into the Russian rifle pits. The Russians were outnumbered and outfought.

So fierce was the onslaught that but 45 minutes were consumed in the battle. The Russians retreated toward Feng Huan Cheng, leaving in the trenches their dead and wounded and abandoning, as they were pressed onward by the victorious Japanese, their cannon, rifles and ammunition.

General Kuroki's report of the battle was received at the war office here in full, but the general details only were given out, as it is supposed the dispatches contain much that might embarrass the future plans of the army. A supplementary report received this morning from General Kuroki says: "The Russians made two stands. The enemy's strength included all of the Third division, two regiments of Sixth division, one cavalry brigade, about 40 quick-firing guns and eight machine guns. We have taken 25 quick-firing guns, many rifles, much ammunition, more than 100 of our men and many non-commissioned officers and men as prisoners."

"I am informed that Major-General Kashtalinsky, commander of the Third East Siberia rifle brigade, and Lieutenant-General Zaslavitch, commander of the Second Siberian army corps, were wounded. "Our casualties number about 700, and the Russian loss is more than 800 men."

GUMBOATS PARTICIPATION

Commander Walsh Report Which Is Given Out in London. (Journal Special Service.) London, May 2.—The Japanese minister today issued a report from the captain of the gumboat Maya, which was captured by the British.

"ROLLERS" WOULD RESTORE EDEN

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Albany, Or., May 2.—Frank Hurt and his wife, Nellie Hurt, who were Saturday afternoon committed to the asylum at Salem, were yesterday morning taken to the institution by Sheriff Worth Huston and Deputy L. A. Munkers. The sheriff also took down Miss Urania Florence Sealey, the girl who was a few days ago taken from the Holy Rollers and committed to the Boys' and Girls' Aid society, and took her to Portland. When Hurt and his wife were brought to Albany the young man was received with a new pair of shoes and a hat, he being barefooted and hatless. He wore these articles of clothing until placed in jail, when he promptly divested himself of the shoes and hat and burned them in the jail stove, and when called out of jail to be taken to the asylum Hurt was again hatless and shoeless.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT ST. LOUIS FAIR

(Journal Special Service.) St. Louis, May 2.—The state buildings of Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio were dedicated today. Beautiful weather continued, and the crowds that thronged the fair grounds were greatly augmented in number by new arrivals. Great satisfaction is expressed by the officials having the exposition in charge at the large attendance and the outlook is favorable for a continued increase of visitors. Everything now points to a successful outcome of the project.