

ATTORNEY-GEN'L WICKERSHAM EXONERATES BALLINGER

MAKES PUBLIC REPORT OF HIS INVESTIGATION

Scores Glavis and Charges Him With Having Had Exaggerated Idea of His Own Importance.

SAYS BALLINGER WAS SCRUPULOUSLY CAREFUL

Declares Secretary Had No Means of Favoring Claimants in Coal Cases.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Jan. 6.—Completely exonerating Secretary of the Interior Ballinger and the other officials of the interior department of charges filed by L. R. Glavis, former chief of the field division of the land office, Attorney General Wickersham today made public the report of his investigation of the case, made at the direction of President Taft.

In the report Wickersham declares that the insinuations and charges of improper action on the part of Ballinger and other officials have been, in his opinion, entirely disproved.

Calls Glavis a Megalomania.

He takes occasion to score Glavis severely and declares the charges against Ballinger were filed as the result of Glavis' "exaggerated idea of his own importance," which the attorney general characterizes as "megalomania." Wickersham also scores Glavis for not pressing the investigation of the Cunningham coal land claims, recites Glavis' connection with the case and concludes with a lengthy summary, completely clearing Ballinger and the other officials indicted by Glavis. The summary follows:

"The conclusions, which in my opinion are clearly established by these papers, are as follows:

Never Acted on Alaskan Claims.
"First—Insinuations or charges of improper action on the part of Secretary Ballinger, Messrs. Pierce, Dennett or Schwartz are, in my opinion, entirely disproved. So far from taking any action to favor the Cunningham claimants, the record shows that Mr. Ballinger was scrupulously careful. In no respect did he act upon these claims, for the reason that, during the summer of 1908, while in no manner connected with the government, he had been consulted by some claimants with respect to the issuance of patents, and had called upon former Secretary of the Interior Garfield to learn the attitude of his department thereon. Neither his actions nor his spoken or written expressions favored these claimants. The utmost he did was to instruct the land office promptly to investigate the matter, and dispose of all pending cases.

Pleads Rights of Claimants.
"Second—The suggestion that it was

FOLSOM CONVICTS MAKE ATTEMPT TO FLEE; FOILED

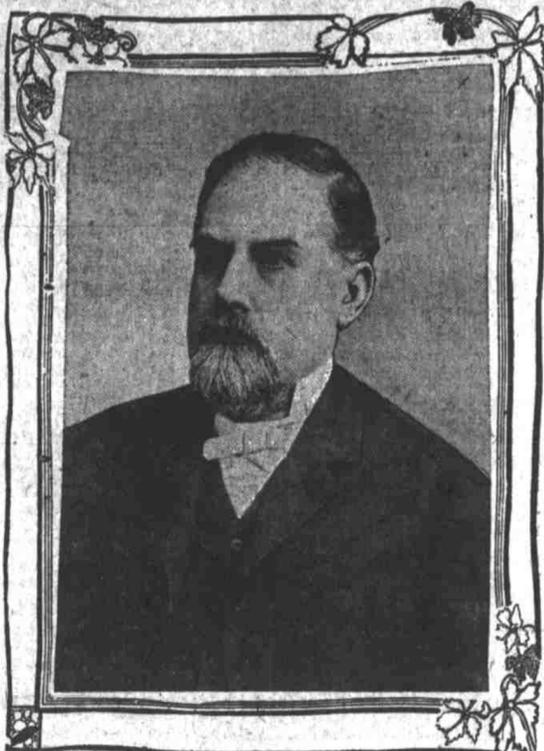
Guard Enters in Time to Drive Three Desperate Criminals to Their Cells—All Under Death Sentences.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 6.—Jacob Oppenheimer, J. W. Finley, and Frank Quijada, prisoners at Folsom state penitentiary under sentence of death, are in solitary confinement following a desperate attempt made last night to effect their escape.

When discovered by Captain Barrett of the night watch unit, they had already freed themselves from their cells and were starting out, cut their way through the outer bars. When Barrett sounded the alarm and drew his revolver they ran back to their cells. They will be closely guarded until the gallows end their careers.

With a small piece of steel Finley cut his way through the lower part of the doors of his cell and at a favorable hour made his way to the cells of Quijada and Oppenheimer and assisted

GOVERNMENT BEGINS TRIAL



Binger Hermann, who is on trial for Alleged Land Frauds.

TRIAL OF BINGER HERMANN OPENS IN FEDERAL COURT

Former Congressman From Oregon Charged With Conspiracy to Defraud Government Out of Valuable Lands.

The trial of Binger Hermann, former United States congressman from Oregon, charged with conspiracy to defraud the government out of public lands, formally opened in United States circuit court before Federal Judge Robert S. Bean, when the jury list was read in the presence of counsel for both sides this morning.

The list, which contains more than 300 names, was read in open court and checked by Circuit Court Clerk Marsh Francis J. Heney and Tracey L. Becker appeared for the government. Attorneys A. S. Worthington, John M. Gearin and C. E. S. Wood represented Hermann.

EASTERNERS BUY GAS CO.

Electric Share & Bond Co. Now Owner of Local Corporation—Standard Oil Interests Figure in Gigantic Deal—100 Miles of Mains Will Be Laid in the City.

Three million dollars, approximately, will be paid on Monday next by the Electric Share & Bond company of New York for the Portland Gas company. A meeting of the stockholders of the Gas company has been called for Monday, at which time the long pending negotiations for the purchase of the Gas company will be concluded.

The stockholders in the present company have agreed to give up their stock at \$10 a share. The bonds and other securities of the company will also be securities of the company make the approximate valuation of the plant \$4,000,000.

No Change in Management.
The purchase of the Gas company by the Electric Share & Bond company of New York, a holding company for the General Electric company, which is, in turn, closely affiliated with the Standard Oil, will mean no change in the management of the local company, according to Herman M. Pabst, general manager of the company. The affairs of the corporation, and its direction, will be left in the hands of the present active managers, though there will undoubtedly be some change in the personnel of the board of directors.

On the other hand the change of ownership will mean a great change in the equipment and capacity of the

SUIT AGAINST CRYSTAL SPRINGS FALLS VERY FLAT

Voluntary Nonsuit Taken by Attorneys for Louis Turjon, Who Claimed Heavy Damages.

The much-advertised suit of Louis Turjon against the management of the Crystal Springs sanitarium for \$25,000 damages for alleged mistreatment while Turjon was a patient at the institution, ended in a fluke before Judge Gatens in the circuit court this morning. The plaintiff's attorneys backed off the boards by taking a voluntary nonsuit, signalling the end of the case.

The attorneys for the sanitarium made a vigorous fight against the allowance of the nonsuit. They were ready for trial, and demanded an opportunity to present their evidence, so that the sanitarium may have a public vindication from the ugly charges that have been made against it. Witnesses had been called to Portland from Montana, California and Washington and eastern states, and the defense was anxious to have the evidence heard.

TRAIN CREW HAS NARROW ESCAPE

Derailment of a car laden with railroad ties delayed freight train No. 55 out of Portland for Corvallis several hours last night, near Crowley, a station a few miles this side of Independence on the west side division. Although the heavy freight, consisting of 15 cars, came to a sudden standstill, no one was injured, nor was much damage done.

Assistance was immediately sent out from Portland, as the train crew found it impossible to get the car back on the track with the appliances on hand. No material inconvenience was caused by the wreck, as the track had been cleared and put in shape in time for this morning's passenger trains. The accident happened at 8 o'clock last night and the railroad people have as yet been unable to discover the cause.

BLACK HANDS KEEP PROMISE TO KILL MERCHANT

Boldest Crime of Record in Chicago Committed When Benedetto Cienni Is Murdered in That City.

THREE ASSASSINS ENTER RESIDENCE

Wife of Wealthy Man Terrorized and Husband Shot While in His Bed.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Chicago, Jan. 6.—The boldest black hand murder of police record here was committed shortly after daylight today. Three men entered the home of Benedetto Cienni, a rich Italian drygoods merchant, held his wife off at the point of a revolver and deliberately shot Cienni to death as he lay in bed.

Mrs. Cienni opened the door at the call of the bell. Three unidentified men entered, one of them seizing her and holding a revolver against her head. His companions entered the bedroom where the merchant lay sleeping.

Mrs. Cienni said she heard three shots and then the couple emerged, each holding a revolver. The three strangers left the house by the front door.

Rushing into the bedroom, Mrs. Cienni found her husband dead with three bullet holes in his body.

Two years ago Cienni received black hand letters demanding the payment of \$5000 on pain of death. He ignored the demand. A year ago the last letter was received.

The police believe that the murder had been planned a year ago, the assassins awaiting a favorable opportunity to commit it.

SEEKS TO STOP STREET PAVING

John Knox Will Apply for Injunction to Prevent Killingsworth Ave. Improvement.

Determined opposition to the paving and widening of Killingsworth avenue, from Union avenue east to the city limits, developed at the meeting of the Killingsworth Avenue Improvement association last night. John J. Knox, an expressman living at 425 Brown street, together with a few other property owners on Killingsworth avenue, has announced that he will apply to the circuit court for an injunction restraining the work on the ground that his property will be damaged.

While over two-thirds of the property owners along the avenue have already signed the petition calling for the improvement, it is feared that the improvement will be held up for some time.

Knox has a house and barn on his property, between Killingsworth avenue and Brown street, which he claims would be greatly damaged. He claims that the barn would have to be moved back, thereby damaging a number of fruit trees on his property.

In order to block the improvement Knox is applying for an injunction from the circuit court. The people most interested in the improvement are going ahead with their work and expect to overcome all opposition. They point out that they will be paving Killingsworth avenue, make it one of the leading business streets on the east side and that any loss they may suffer now will be more than made up in the future.

Councilman Ellis of the Tenth ward was present at the meeting last night and suggested that the property owners see that the independent paving companies get a chance to bid for the job. It was pointed out to him that the independents had the same chance as the others to bid before the council.

12 OF HIS PEERS BRAND MEYERS OF SALEM MURDERER

A Wealthy Portlander's Son Faces Prison Sentence for Second Degree Slaying; Jury Deliberates 12 Hours.

ATTORNEY M'NARY MAKES GOOD CASE

Belief Prevails That Defense Will Carry Fight to the Highest Court

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)
Salem, Or., Jan. 6.—After deliberating 12 hours, the jury in the circuit court for this county at 5 o'clock this morning delivered a verdict of murder in the second degree against George Meyers, charged with the killing of Patrolman Eckart in this city last October. The trial had been in progress since Monday afternoon and the case went to the jury at 5 o'clock Wednesday evening. The penalty provided by statute for murder in the second degree is life imprisonment.

Meyers shot and killed Officer Eckart while under arrest and about to be placed in the city jail. The shooting occurred in front of the police station in Salem at about 1:30 o'clock in the morning.

Meyers had difficulty with his brother, Arthur Meyers, in the rooms of the latter, and Arthur went out to seek a policeman and found Eckart.

Eckart went to the room and placed Meyers under arrest. The defense in the case was that the arrest was unlawful in that it was made without a warrant or without provocation and that the prisoner was right in resisting the officer.

The prosecution conducted by District Attorney John McNary was masterly and the case which McNary developed against the prisoner was a surprise. It was believed from the first that murder in the first degree could not be sustained by the state and that manslaughter would be the verdict. Late last night it was generally believed that the jury would disagree and today the verdict of murder in the second degree is considered a victory for the state.

Attorneys P. H. D'Arcy and S. T. Richardson defended the prisoner, who has behind him the wealth of his father, who now lives in Portland. The case will without doubt be carried to the supreme court.

H. W. and M. L. Meyers, brothers of the convicted man, conduct at Salem the largest department store in Oregon, outside of Portland. The family gained notoriety about 18 months ago when the two brothers in business here attempted unsuccessfully to prevent the marriage of their father, who is 70 years of age.

At the time a strong box containing \$50,000 worth of securities and jewels was lost at Portland while being transferred to the fat or through the Wells Fargo from a local bank.

JOHN BURNS, UNION LABOR MAN, ASSAULTED

(United Press Leased Wire.)
London, Jan. 6.—John Burns, who represents the labor union element in the British parliament, was assaulted at Staffordshire last night by an unidentified man, according to dispatches received from that place today. Burns was entering his automobile after making a political speech in a town hall, when his assailant, who was not identified as a resident of Staffordshire, sprang upon him from the crowd on the sidewalk and struck him several times with his fist.

The assailant made good his escape and disappeared in the crowd.

Burns was not seriously hurt, but suffered a number of bruises and cuts on his face.

ALL BALLINGER, NONE FOR PINCHOT

Proposed Members of Investigation Committee Not For-ester's Friends.

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)
Washington, Jan. 6.—Advance suggestions from inspired sources as to who will be members of the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation special committee are regarded as indubitably indicating the intention to whitewash Ballinger. Among the 12 proposed members, not one is a dependable friend of Pinchot, while several are active partisans of Ballinger.

Pinchot's friends would be satisfied if one or two members were appointed from the real supporters of conservatism Tuesday evening. Immediately, the

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Theodore P. Shonts



Theodore P. Shonts, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit company of New York, who will retire on February 1. Mr. Shonts came to the New York subway on the recommendation of Paul Morton. It is said the reason for Mr. Shonts' retirement is that he has stirred up too much antagonism to the Interborough road.

BRIDE FAINTS IN POLICE STATION, HUSBAND IN CELL

Haigh Fails in Effort to Keep News of His Burglaries From Wife, Who Was in Pendleton at Time.

While the police station is a place where the comedy and tragedy of the city are centered, one of the most affecting occurrences for many days was witnessed there yesterday, when the bride of George Haigh, "gentleman burglar," visited him in jail. The meeting was pathetic in the extreme.

Haigh lives in Pendleton, but has been in Portland four weeks. During this time he has committed 11 burglaries, and has made a complete confession. His wife did not know he was in trouble until she read of the affair in the newspapers that reached

BANDITS SHOOT BROOKLYN CLERK

Bold Attempt to Rob Foreign Exchange Bank of New York.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
New York, Jan. 6.—Two robbers, failing in their attempt to hold up the Foreign Money Exchange bank of Hancy Kern in Brooklyn today, shot and mortally wounded the banker's brother, Sam Kern, who was overseer of the place.

The proprietor was out when the robbers entered. They leveled their revolvers at Sam Kern and ordered him to give them all the money on hand.

Kern turned and fled. The robbers fired at him and then fled to the street. Three clerks were in the bank at the time of the robbery and saw the shooting.

PRINTERS EXPECT TO BE LOCKED OUT NEXT WEEK

Proprietors of Binderies Agree to Nonunionize Shops Rather Than Grant Employees Wage Increase of \$3 a Week.

STRIKE FEBRUARY 20 IF NOT FORCED OUT

Compositors Say Wage Schedule Lower in Portland Than Any Other City Same Size.

Relations are strained to the breaking point between employers and job printers in Portland. The printers expect to be locked out of the shops next week, and employers do not deny that they have agreed among themselves to nonunionize their shops before they will grant increases in wage, schedules demanded by the printers.

Press feeders and some of the pressmen, refused demands for increased wages, have announced their intention of striking the first of next week, if the lockout order is not made effective before they can strike. Compositors, who have been refused a \$3 a week increase, expect to work until February 20, then strike. If in the meantime, they have not been locked out of the shops, they will be refused an increase of \$2 a week, are preparing for a long strike.

In token of the belief entertained by the local job printers that a strike is inevitable, arrangements for a strike benefit are already being made.

Printers Assent Statements.
Statements made yesterday by employers were bitterly resented by the journeymen. They assert that a comparison of wage schedules between Portland and cities of the middle west is not fair to them; that a comparison of the wages paid in Portland with other coast cities will show that the Portland scale is the highest in the west. They also claim that all branches of the printing trade have been more favored in the matter of wage advance than the employees of the job printing houses.

"We get less than hod carriers," declared A. L. Leonard, chairman of the scale committee of the typographical union.

"Hod carriers are paid \$4 a day for unskilled labor; we who spend several years learning our trade, a trade which necessitates much natural aptitude and mechanical ability, get \$2.75 a day. I am unable to make expenses on my present salary of \$22.50 a week because of the increased cost of living."

"It was a deliberate misrepresentation," facts for one of the employers to state yesterday that the printers had raised the scale each year during the past five years. The facts of the case are that the job scale has not been raised for three years and only \$1.50 in the last 15 years. Mr. Whittemore knows, too, that it is not true that our wage schedule is the highest in the country, because, in fact, it is lowest and not only the lowest for printers of any place on the Pacific coast, but lower than any other trade or calling. They claim that lower scales in other

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DRUNKEN BOYS UNDER ARREST, SHOOT OFFICER

Marshall Roehl of Auburn, Wash., Dying From Bullet Wound—Boys Arrested After Chase of Seven Hours.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Auburn, Wash., Jan. 6.—City Marshal Roehl is dying from a bullet wound. He was shot by a group of boys after a chase lasting seven hours. Both boys fled to their homes after Roehl fired the shot that will probably cost the life of the marshal.

The shooting occurred at 11:30 last night at the Northern Pacific depot in Auburn. The pair became boisterous and George Richardson, special Northern Pacific constable, arrested them. City Marshal Roehl was summoned, and as he was conveying them toward the jail Williams suddenly drew a revolver and fired.

Roehl, the dying marshal, is about 35 years of age. He has a wife and three daughters.

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