

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 5, 1913.

## ACTING MAYOR OF NEW YORK OWES HIS JOB TO FATE AND A PLEASANT PERSONALITY

### Kline, a Genial German, Was Pushed Into Politics; Luck Does the Rest

By Herbert Corey.

New York, Oct. 4.—This is the story of the luckiest man.

Adolph Loges Kline is mayor of the city of New York because luck follows him like a dog. In the next four months his name will be on every front page in the world, down to those that are printed with camel's hair brushes. As the executive of the second greatest city in the world, he may lay the foundation of future greatness. And it is all luck—pure luck.

"We must have a German on the ticket for sheriff," said Tim Woodruff at a despairing conference of Republican leaders in Brooklyn in 1902. The leaders gathered at each other for four hours every day for a week. Then William H. Maxwell walked out on the street to clear his aching head. At that lucky moment Kline walked by.

"Tag," said Maxwell. "You're it." He dragged Kline into the conference. Every one shouted that he was the man for the place. Woodruff told him that he should have the nomination.

"What nomination?" asked Kline, puzzled. He led his ticket by 5000, but was beaten—that being one of the worst years in memory among the Republicans across the East river—and then thankfully dropped out of politics. Next Rudy Fuller, leader of what is now the Fifty-first assembly district, found the situation beginning to jell on him. He needed a vote getter on his ticket. One afternoon Kline thought he'd go home early and take his family out for a drive. More luck. Fuller waved to him from a window.

Pushed into Politics. "Hey, Kline," said he, in effect, "go down and join the Republican club in this district. We're going to run you for alderman."

Kline didn't want any more politics. The first batch had been sour. But he had to take it just the same, and served until the Democrats gerrymandered him out of office. As a consolation he was made assistant United States appraiser in Brooklyn. That place suited him. He made a violent protest when the leaders told him that his party was once more in a bad way, and he must be a candidate for alderman once more. As usual, he was elected. Then ambition first began to stir within him. Previously he had been a conscript.

"I want to be vice chairman of the board," said he. His politically practical friends told him the honor was as empty as a tin can. It didn't even have a salary. But Kline persisted. Luck, as usual, came his way. Two or three unexpected things happened that resulted in his election. John Purroy Mitchell, then resident of the board, became ill, and Kline worked so well in filling his place that no objection was made to the grant of \$4000 salary to him—which he needed, for Kline is not a rich man. Then Mitchell resigned to become col-



Adolph Kline, acting mayor of New York.

lector of customs—and to become the fusion candidate for mayor—and Kline stepped into his shoes. And then the story of William Jay Gaynor's death at sea shocked the country—and Adolph Loges Kline was mayor of New York.

Is a Fine "Vixen." Kline is a fine, genial man, with a penchant for "japing." He belongs to a long list of societies of various sorts. As a clerk in a men's furnishings goods store in Brooklyn, he didn't have time to learn to play golf or tennis or other daylight sports. So feeling the need of a sed, he joined the national guard. He became colonel of the Fourteenth regiment and made himself one of the big men of the state organization. His wide acquaintance made him a valuable asset of the Republican organization in Brooklyn. Luck did the rest.

Kline likes to tell a good story. He is apt at turning phrases and capping sentences. He is so thoroughly good natured and obliging that people do favors for him almost as readily as he does them for other people. He is conscientious and his acquaintances declare that he always does his duty as he sees it. But these qualities didn't make him mayor of New York. That's what luck did.

## CONVICTS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PRISONS IN SECRET MURDER PACT

### Inside Story of the "Ninewites" Comes to Light in Trial of Killers of Fellow Convict.

Kimberley, South Africa, Oct. 4.—A sensational story of a native convict secret society, the facts as to which are well known to South Africa judges and police authorities, has been unfolded in the course of a murder trial here. Five native convicts were indicted for the murder of a fellow-convict, named Jacob Mkaaba, at Dutchman convict station. The story for the crown was that Jacob had decided to withdraw from the "Ninewite Society," abdicating the chieftainship, and had persuaded others to withdraw also. For this, and for the fact that he was supposed to have carried tales to the station superintendent, he was sentenced to death. He resisted endeavors to get him into a certain cell, but eventually went, and was set upon and stabbed to death.

One of the accused was the society's doctor, another a "judge," a third succeeded Jacob as chief, the fourth belonged to an opposing faction, known as "The Scotchmen," and the fifth was neutral.

Close Organization Exists. The Ninewites are a native convict secret society. The evidence showed that they have their own king, chief, general, judges, doctor and other officers, and hold secret courts, sentence fellow-convicts to death, and issue the orders for the execution of their sentences.

Judge Lange said that the Ninewites originated in Pretoria, convicts, and were represented all over the country. A native witness said that nearly all the convicts in Johannesburg were Ninewites. The deceased had been chief of the society. Secret meetings were held on the stables, and those appointed to execute orders were liable to punishment if they failed. This witness said the rule was "Once a Ninewite, always a Ninewite." Jacob's death warrant was "verbally signed," and it was ordained that should the knife not be forthcoming, he should be killed while working on the De Wet floor.

Superintendent Dyson said the Ninewites caused immense trouble in the stations, and although watched continually, held meetings, and reported to their king. The head of the society was in Pretoria, and was recognized throughout the Union prisons. Jacob's fellow-convicts had recently called him a detective to watch and protect Jacob. Witness added that the lives of the witnesses in the present case would certainly be endangered after the proceedings.

One of the accused admitted stabbing the deceased "under orders from Pretoria," because it was thought that it was through him that two convicts had been shot at the Cindersla prison. If he (the witness) had not killed Jacob, he would undoubtedly have been killed himself. He did it in "self-defense."

Four of the accused were sentenced to death by Judge Lange.

## FRENCH WOMEN ASK TO BECOME MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ARMY

### Franchise Idea in France Breaks Out in Plea for Military Service.

(By the International News Service.) Paris, Oct. 4.—Just as the idea of granting suffrage to French women is taking a different course, and is calling out for soldiers' rights. "We have a right to serve in the army as well as the boys," say the young French maidens, and some of the more elderly ones in the chorus. The "Grand National," a special paper edited by Paul Viart, publishes a letter containing an appeal to the Minister of War, signed by 900 young ladies, who describe themselves as patriotic daughters of France.

Woman Enter Field. The letter says: "The undersigned young French ladies have the honor of submitting to you their patriotic desire, to follow. When the three years' service law comes into effect our active army will still be smaller than that of our eventual enemy. The shortcoming might be made up by utilizing all soldiers employed in the auxiliary services, the sanitary and commissariat departments. We, on the other hand, could be willing to undertake the duties of the auxiliary services. French women have in the past illustrated our history, and we do not wish to do less than they. Many of us have been enrolled in the Red cross services, but this is not sufficient, as we can perform other tasks as well and besides, not all of us have the time to be trained for that service."

Want Share of Burden. "Our fondest hope is to be able to offer to France our youth, and so share the honor of defending our country with our brothers. We, the daughters of France, beg you to have a sympathetic that effect, permitting us to enter the military service, and to co-operate in the defense of our country."

M. Paul Ybert, in speaking of the petition, asks quite nationally that 200,000 men, now employed as cooks, tailors, cobblers, potato peelers, clerks, mustangs, etc., could be turned over to the active service, and he seems to suggest that 100,000 girls, who could sew, clean, cook, and make music for the army as well as the young men. He hopes that the Minister of War will at once put the idea into practice.

## LONDON LETTER CARRIERS WOULD OUST SUPERIOR

London, Oct. 4.—A London magistrate recently commented on the fact that no one had ever heard a letter carrier or postal employee using bad language and it is quite sure that until

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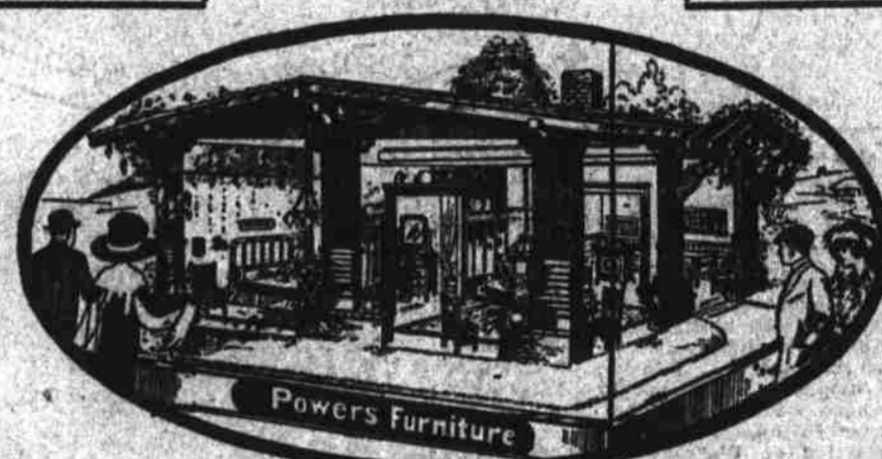
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## BEILISS MURDER TRIAL COMMANDS ATTENTION

St. Petersburg, Oct. 4.—As the date of the Beiliss ritual murder trial approaches, increasing applications are being received from Russian and foreign newspapers for seats in the Kieff court. Many of them will inevitably be rejected, owing to lack of accommodation.

Interest in the affair is enhanced by an interview published in the "Ruskoje Slovo" with Senator Meisner, president of the Kieff law court, who is represented to have admitted that the alleged proofs against Beiliss were very weak, and that many of the witnesses for the prosecution were of little account.

Mendel Beiliss, a Jewish clerk, is charged with the murder in March, 1911, of a boy named Andrew Yushinsky. The Russian reactionaries seized on the murder as an excuse for an anti-Jewish agitation, alleging that the boy was murdered in order that his blood might be used in making Passover cakes.

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