



... TOMORROW

Roosevelt Declines to Interfere with Execution of Alaskan Murderer.

... OF HOMER BIRD ... READS LIKE A NOVEL.

... Beautiful and Talented Wife ... New Orleans and Went North ... Another Woman—Killed Two ... Out of Jealousy.

Washington, March 5.—President Roosevelt, having declined to interfere with the execution of Homer Bird, the Alaskan murderer whose case has attracted widespread attention, will place tomorrow in far-off Alaska the case of Bird reads like a novel. Six years ago he was a well-to-do business man in New Orleans. He had a beautiful and talented wife, several children and a happy home. When he met the other woman, Naomi Strong, for whom he neglected his wife and children. In 1897 he organized an expedition to Alaska, taking the woman with him, and also men—Hurlin, Patterson and others. When the party reached a place near the Slaughter House, on the Yukon, Bird was seized with jealousy on account of the attentions of the other men to the Strong woman. He deliberately shot and killed Hurlin and inflicted a fatal wound on Patterson, from which the latter died several weeks afterward. Sheffer reported the facts. Bird was arrested, and at the trial the Strong woman testified against the man she had aided in ruining, and, largely on her testimony, Bird was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. His wife, who had been basely deceived, took up her efforts to save his life. She came to Washington and appealed to all the authorities here, but could do anything for her husband. An appeal was pending in the courts, however, and President McKinley would not act until the appeal had been disposed of. The supreme court granted Bird a new trial. He was again put on trial and was once more convicted. Again there was an appeal on a writ of error, and a third trial was granted by the courts. On this trial Bird was for the third time convicted of murder, and as a result his execution takes place tomorrow in the jail at Sitka, where he has been confined for nearly five years. The devotion and self-sacrifice of Mrs. Bird has been most extraordinary. She attended her husband upon all three of his trials; came to Washington to see President McKinley, when the first respite was granted, and has expended all the money which she could raise for his defense and appeals. During her recent visits she has been received by President Roosevelt, Attorney-General Knox and others with the greatest consideration, but the convincing evidence of Bird's guilt and the atrociousness of the crime made it out of the question for any further clemency to be exercised.

GROWTH OF SOCIALISM.

Professor Hawkins Thinks There are 5,000,000 Who Believe in Public Ownership.

The closing of the session of the national convention on municipal ownership and public franchises in New York City was marked by a banquet at the Reform Club, at which Mayor Ignatius A. Sullivan, of Hartford, Conn., presided. In a speech Mayor Sullivan told of the social democratic movement, he being a socialist. Professor Hawkins, of Syracuse University asserted that the socialists are growing in this country, and that only 300,000 of them voted at the last election there were about 2,000,000 more who did not vote. It is estimated, he said, that there are two and a half million people in this country who believe that public enterprises ought to be taken over and run by the people. Charles R. Bellamy, of England, and the people are deeply dissatisfied with the disposition of wealth in civilized countries, and are anxious that every man should get his share of the profits. Even so hard a rock as Montello granite, selected for the sarcophagus of the tomb of General Grant on account of its great strength, shows a porosity of 0.23 per cent.

Engineers Meet at Houston.

Houston, Tex., March 5.—Members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers are here from all the Southern states in attendance on the big union meeting which will be in session during the next two days. The list of visitors is headed by Grand Chief P. M. Arthur, of Cleveland, and a number of the other officers and members of the national executive committee are present. The business sessions, the first of which was called to order in the Auditorium this afternoon, will be interspersed with various features of entertainment provided by the local members of the organization.

Steel Works for Tennessee.

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 5.—In Wayne county Pittsburg capitalists have just completed the purchase of 72,000 acres of the richest fields in the Southern iron belt, and an initial investment of \$5,000,000 is to be made in developing the properties. Furnaces equaling in capacity any in the Chattanooga or Alabama district will be built, rolling mills and other plants for finishing will be erected and the iron will be carried from the rough ore to structural steel on the premises of the new company.

POPE SAID TO BE VERY FEEBLE

PASSED A RESTLESS NIGHT OWING TO SEVERE COUGH.

Rome, March 5.—The pope passed a restless night owing to the increased severity of his cough and bronchial symptoms. He still insists that he will be able to see the English pilgrims. When Rev. Barrett, of Brooklyn, who came to Rome upon a special mission, asked this morning at what date he could expect an audience with the pope, he was told by a member of the household: "You are not likely to see him at all unless you remain in Rome a long time. He is very feeble."

BALL PLAYER TO HANG

"Bud" Taylor, of Kansas City, to Pay the Penalty for Murdering His Sweetheart, Ruth Nollard.

Kansas City, March 5.—Unless there is unexpected intervention on the part of the executive power, "Bud" Taylor, formerly a well known ball player, will be executed tomorrow. Taylor's crime was the murder of his sweetheart, Ruth Nollard, March 2, 1901. The deed was one of the most cold-blooded crimes ever committed in Kansas City. Taylor, who was married and had one child, became infatuated with Miss Nollard and their intimacy lasted several months. They had many quarrels, followed by threats of violence, warrants for Taylor's arrest, and usually by reconciliations. But the girl finally transferred her affections to another, and this so enraged Taylor that he determined to take her life. In fulfillment of his plans, he rested an upstairs room in West Ninth street, through which thoroughfare he was sure the girl would pass, and, armed with a repeating rifle, he patiently lay in wait for his victim for three days. Finally his vigil was rewarded by the appearance of the girl and her younger sister, coming down the street arm in arm. He took deliberate aim and fired three times in rapid succession. The girl fell, pierced by two bullets, and she died soon after being removed to her home. After his arrest he made an unsuccessful attempt at self-destruction. At his trial epileptic insanity was urged as a defense by his attorneys. He was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. The condemned man is not yet 25 years of age. His mother died soon after his conviction, but he has other relatives in this city. Chicago and New Orleans. Strenuous efforts have been made to save him from the gallows, but four weeks ago final hope was abandoned when the state supreme court reaffirmed the decision of the lower court.

To Aid Starving Norwegians.

Chicago, March 5.—For the benefit of the famine sufferers in Scandinavia and Finland, the Norwegian National League gives a mammoth concert and entertainment in the Auditorium tonight. The Hon. Luther Laffin Mills is to deliver the oration, and the United Norwegian Singing societies will render patriotic songs. It is hoped the relief fund will be increased several thousand dollars by the entertainment.

A new device to prevent locomotive wheels from slipping magnetizes the drivers so that they stick to the rails.

EXTRA SESSION OF SENATE CONVENED TODAY AT NOON

President Sends a Message Asking Special Attention to the Colombian and Cuban Treaties.

Washington, March 5.—The senate convened in special session at noon. A beautiful display of flowers was made for the newly elected members. The gallery was crowded to its limits. Marylanders particularly were in evidence. When Gorman appeared on the floor he was saluted with loud applause.

Tillman Scores Cannon.

Benjamin Tillman took the floor and answered the speech made by Cannon concerning the senate. He denounced it in unmeasured terms. He declared that the dignity and honor of the senate was at stake. Questions of official integrity, responsibility and character were involved. He characterized the speech as wholly contemptuous, indecent and outrageous, made in a body tyrannical in dealing with its own rights and privileges.

CRUM NOMINATED.

To Be Collector of Customs at Charleston, S. C., Subject to Approval of Senate.

THE WEIGHT SITUATION.

Anthracite Arbitration Commission Confers With President John Mitchell and the Attorney for the Operators.

Washington, March 5.—The anthracite commission today is conferring with President Mitchell and the attorney for the operators behind closed doors, arguing the weight question. Mitchell arrived at 2 o'clock this morning.

TOLSTOI APOLOGIZES.

Characterizes His Former Letter to Crown Princess Louise as Heartless and Thoughtless.

London, March 5.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg this morning quotes a long letter sent by Tolstoi in which he earnestly apologizes to the Crown Princess Louise for his expressions in a former letter. He characterizes his former letter as cruel, heartless and thoughtless. He says he does not condemn her in her sufferings, and concludes with a wish for her of that peace which is always possible for one who believes in God and appeals to Him.

ALMON H. SMITH DEAD.

Passed Away Last Evening at Home of His Daughter—Afflicted With Dropsy.

Almon H. Smith, aged 78 years, died last evening at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Rose Campbell, in this city, at 806 College street. Mr. Smith has been a great sufferer for a year. He was first afflicted with a liver trouble which terminated in dropsy. His recovery was expected by the family, or at least seemed probable until he was attacked severely with the grip about a week ago, when he took a violent relapse from earlier complaints. Mr. Smith had been all his life a Wesleyan Methodist, and is said to have lived consistent with the most advanced professions of that faith. He was born in New York and came to Oregon from Ohio about 20 years ago, and had made his home for the most part since at Ione, at the home of his son, W. S. Smith. Last fall

Smoot, who flushed at so much attention. When Smoot was escorted to the desk to take the oath he was given considerable hand clapping by friends in the galleries.

President's Message.

Washington, March 5.—Roosevelt sent the following message to the senate this afternoon: "I have called an extraordinary session of the senate to consider the treaties concerning which it proved impossible to take action during the session of congress just ended. I ask your special attention to the treaty with Colombia securing to the United States the right to build an isthmian canal and to the treaty with Cuba for securing a measure leading to commercial reciprocity between the two countries. The great and far-reaching importance attached to these two treaties for the welfare of the United States and the urgent need of their adoption requires me to impose upon you the inconvenience of meeting at this time."

STRUCK BY FREIGHT TRAIN WHILE CROSSING TRSTLE.

Dense Fog Prevents a Woman and Three Children From Seeing an Approaching Train While on Big Four Trestle at Springfield, O.

Springfield, O., March 5.—A woman and three children, the oldest a girl of 18, and the youngest a boy of 11, who were walking across the Big Four trestle west of the city, this morning, were struck by a fast freight. The mother and eldest daughter were instantly killed and the other two were fatally injured. All were knocked from the trestle into the water, 50 feet below. A dense fog prevented them from seeing the train.

FROM THE IRRIGATION CENTER.

O. D. Teel and J. W. Mead, of Echo, in the City Today.

Two of Echo's well-known citizens, O. D. Teel and J. W. Mead, are in the city today on business. They report considerable activity in the vicinity of Echo, on account of the excellent prospects for government irrigation in that district. The survey of reservoir sites is being prosecuted by Government Engineer J. G. Camp and assistants, and inquiring settlers are looking over the ground daily, in view of locating as soon as the project is assured. In regard to the plans of the government at present, Mr. Teel ventures this opinion: "There is plenty of land set aside for the purpose; water is plentiful for all the needs of this tract of land; reservoir sites can be had at a dozen convenient places; a cheap and permanent ditch route can be secured, leading around the brow of the hills, and every natural feature of the proposition is entirely feasible. But the opinion of those nearest to the government on this question is this: The government recognizes the excellence of the site; it fully realizes the great benefits that would come from the early irrigation of this land, and but one thing is lacking; Oregon must perfect her irrigation laws before the project will be completed. The government will, most likely, await the action of another legislature before proceeding further, than to survey the ditch and reservoir sites."

HOW TO TAKE ECHO LAND.

Irrigation Reservation Lands Subject to Homestead Entry Only.

E. W. Bartlett, register of the La Grande land office, arrived in the city this evening on business connected with his office. In reply to inquiries regarding the entries on the government irrigation reservation at Echo, Mr. Bartlett said: "This land is subject to homestead entry under the special act of congress of June 17, 1902. The homesteader must improve and make permanent residence upon the land, as under the general homestead law with this addition: The actual cost of putting the land under irrigation will be estimated and the homesteader will be required to pay the government this price, whatever it may be, upon making final proof. The land cannot be taken under the desert land act nor under the timber and stone act."

Addition to Orphan Home Dedicated.

Berea, O., March 5.—This was a gala day at the German Methodist Episcopal Orphan Home here, the occasion being the dedication of the additions to the already large stone structures. The additions include a chapel and dining hall, both memorials to the late Margaret Elizabeth Nast, of Cincinnati. The participants in the dedicatory ceremonies included Rev. Dr. A. J. Nast, of Cincinnati, President E. O. Buxton of Baldwin University, and Rev. J. J. Keller, of Chicago.

To Be Launched in April.

London, March 5.—It is now learned that Shamrock III will not be ready for launching March 17, as was originally planned, and the event will have to be postponed until next month, when the builders are confident that everything will be in readiness. The ceremony will be an elaborate one.

Accusey of Piracy.

Liverpool, March 5.—For the third time four sailors who are charged with piracy on the bary Veronica, are again remanded. The prosecution announced that it was looking for more proof.

The liquor from oysters, being salt and water simply, has no nutritive value.

RAIDED COTTON MARKET.

Bears Cause Consternation in Wall Street Today—Sully Loses Many Thousands.

New York, March 5.—The bears again raided the cotton market this morning, still further shading the paper profits and Sully dropped 17 points. Sully was as cool as an iceberg, although his losses at times were \$100,000 per minute.

Stock Show at Fort Worth.

Fort Worth, Texas, March 5.—A fat stock show, the best of its kind ever held in the Southwest, opened in Fort Worth today and will continue through the remainder of the week. The entire state and Oklahoma and Indian territories as well are represented among the numerous exhibits. The city is filled with stockmen from far and near and several conferences of importance to those engaged in the cattle breeding industry will be held during the next two or three days.

Wheat in Chicago.

Chicago, March 5.—Wheat—71 3/4 @ 75 3/4 cents per bushel.

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The number of trusts in Germany exceed 400.

WANT TO IRRIGATE

Claimed That the Proposed District Can Be Easily Irrigated at Little Expense.

FARMERS PETITION FOR DISTRICT BELOW MILTON.

Will Be the First District Organized in Oregon Under the Irrigation Laws of 1895—Will Hold a Special Election and Choose Directors.

Jonathan Talbert and other farmers living along the Walla Walla below Milton, are petitioning to have an irrigation district established under the law of 1895.

They expect to have the requisite number of signatures very soon, following which a special election will be called for the people living in the proposed district, at which they will choose five directors. The directors will complete the organization by the choosing of a secretary, treasurer and collector.

Mr. Talbert states that this will be the first district organized in the state under the irrigation law of 1895, of which E. J. Davis, of Milton, was the author. The amount of bond required of the officers provided for by the law has hitherto operated as an obstacle to the formation of districts. The law requires each of the directors to give \$5,000 bond, the secretary or clerk of the board \$20,000, the treasurer \$30,000 and the collector \$50,000. The very great absurdity of such bonds being required is apparent, when it is expected that there will not be possibly more than \$300 per annum to be handled by the collector and treasurer of the proposed district near Milton. Mr. Talbert and others hold that the clause requiring the excessive bonds was worked into the law by emissaries of the ditch companies, which handle large sums and have immense investments, and that it was done to discourage the public co-operation aimed at by the promoters of the district scheme. This bond clause, it appears, is responsible for irrigation districts under the law not being organized heretofore.

The promoters of the plan to organize a district adjacent to Milton say that 6,084 cubic inches of water per second flow in the Walla Walla River at Milton at almost extreme low water. Also that scientifically and carefully used two miners' inches will carry the average crop through the average season. Above the territory laid out by the petition for the proposed district, it is claimed that practically all the water available for irrigation purposes is now exhausted by 140 property owners who distribute it upon about 1,000 acres of land. Whereas, the most careful estimates show that this amount of water scientifically used will sufficiently irrigate 3,000 acres; or in other words, that enough water is every year being turned onto the 1,000 acres mentioned to irrigate 2,000 acres more were it properly used. Of course, the promoters of the proposed district allege great wastefulness in the present use of the water which is practically exhausted. Under the district system the water would of course be carefully measured and have to be accounted for to the other residents of the district.

It is claimed that the territory in the proposed district can be very easily irrigated—that is, at a very light expense. It is proposed, according to the petitions, that the district shall contain practically four sections or 2,560 acres, more or less. There are some old ditches in the territory that can be utilized with some inexpensive repairs. All the old ditches and all the new ones that will have to be dug, are short. The eastern boundary of the proposed district is in the edge of the city of Milton.

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