

NO STATE ACTION ON CAMP LEWIS MURDER MYSTERY

TACOMA, Dec. 15.—No action will be brought in Pierce county as the result of the killing at Camp Lewis in October 1918 of Major Alexander F. Crockett. It has been definitely determined by Prosecuting Attorney James W. Selden after an exhaustive examination of reports and records included in documentary evidence submitted to him by the department of justice.

The prosecutor now is preparing a comprehensive statement regarding the results of his investigation. Copies will be sent by him to Major Adolph Crockett, New York, father of the dead officer, who has been informed that the matter is fully investigated and to Captain Robert Rosenbluth, New York, arrested by federal authorities on the charge of having slain Major Crockett after Sergeant Roland E. Pochler had spoken in a reported confession in which he declared he had shot Major Crockett at the instigation of Captain Rosenbluth. Pochler later retracted this statement and as the result of his repudiation of the so-called confession Captain Rosenbluth was released.

In beginning his statement the first part of which has been prepared, Prosecuting Attorney Selden says:

"This report is submitted for the purpose of definitely determining the

portion of the prosecuting attorney's office of Pierce county, Wash., with reference to the conviction of Captain Robert Rosenbluth and Roland Pochler with the killing of Major Alexander Crockett. Also to state our reasons why from the investigation we have been able to make the entire matter has now been completed and why no prosecution will be undertaken in this county."

Mr. Selden's statement on the results of his investigation is accepted as an explanation of Captain Rosenbluth. At the time of Major Crockett's death a military board of inquiry at Camp Lewis found that his death resulted from an accidental self-inflicted wound caused by shooting himself in the right breast with a pistol during target practice.

The finding of this board of inquiry was not questioned until Pochler made his so-called confession more than two years later.

Captain Rosenbluth has been endeavoring for several months to have the matter cleared up and his name cleared. The federal authorities left the matter with Prosecuting Attorney Selden when they decided they had no jurisdiction in the matter by reason of the title to Camp Lewis not having passed from Pierce county to the government at the time of Major Crockett's death.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 15.—George Hart, architect situated at the University of California, have signed contracts whereby California will appear at London in 1922. The Illinois school will invade Berkeley the following year. An attempt will be made to arrange the date so California will be the attraction when Memorial Stadium is dedicated at Urbana in 1922.

POPOCATEPTL IN VIOLENT ERUPTION

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 15.—(By Associated Press.) Popocatepetl, the great volcano southeast of this city, burst into violent eruption yesterday afternoon, a column of smoke and ashes being thrown 2000 feet above the mountain summit. President Obregon was entertaining a party of friends at Chapultepec castle, and had straggled with them on the balcony when he observed the eruption. He called for straining field glasses, and after closely observing the column of smoke rising forty miles away, directed that two aviators be sent to the mountain to ascertain the seriousness of the outbreak.

The aviators reported upon their return that they had heard heavy rumbling in the mountain and that lava was flowing down the slopes below the crater. Warnings have been sent to the residents of villages near the mountain but reports indicate that these small towns have been deserted for weeks.



Miss June Evans

Miss June Anne Evans, named by Dan E. Hanna in a scintillating introduction of his will as the woman he intended to make his fifth wife, is in New York preparing to start for a share of the estate of the Cleveland millionaire. She has appeared on the stage and was formerly a society belle at Swanton, N. H. At the time of Hanna's death, Miss Evans said her mother was living at the Hanna estate in Waterbury, N. Y. Hanna's estate is said to total \$11,000,000.

CONFESSION SHOW UP DRUG RING

SEATTLE, Dec. 15.—Operations of an alleged "ring" of narcotic smugglers were laid bare today, in a confession they said they had obtained from Harshbarger Meads, alias the steamer "Shannon" Meads, who was captured at Keyport, Wash., Tuesday night after a battle in which one alleged smuggler was killed.

Meads' confession disclosed, the federal agents announced, that unlimited supplies of narcotics, obtained from French sources for legitimate purposes have been furnished to agents of the ring who, unknown to the owners of vessels chartered places as members of the crews. The "ring" Meads is alleged to have organized, maintains its headquarters in Seattle.

Nine 15-ounce cans of cocaine of French manufacture were seized on the Houston waterfront after Tuesday night's pistol fight, the officers said.



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LADY CASHIER PICKS BANDIT SUSPECT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Federal Agent Gahr, in custody at Riverton, Wash., is charged with robbery of the State bank of Spangle, Wash., last October, in a warrant issued here. Miss Ruth Jennings, assistant cashier of the bank, was declared by officers to have stated that Gahr answered the description of the robber who obtained over \$6,000 from the institution, after having shot her through the arm.

YUKON WIRES ALL DOWN FROM STORM

DAWSON, Y. T., Dec. 15.—(Via Report, Alaska, and Seattle.) Nearly every telegraph line in the Yukon has been disabled by storms for a week past, but the best information available on the result of the election is that 16 out of 26 election districts in the territory vote Captain George Black, conservative, a majority of 28 over F. T. Congdon, liberal candidate for parliament.

The figures for Major Silver camps which will decide which candidate is elected are coming in by dog sled over the Dawson trail.

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SPokane, Wash., Dec. 15.—An application was made by the Union Pacific railroad to the inter-state commerce commission today for authority to guarantee payment of interest and principal of an issue of \$11,412,000 in Oregon Short Line railroad bonds. The money is to be used to pay off a maturing obligation of the Oregon Short Line, which is a subsidiary of the Union Pacific.

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