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PROMINENT PRESS MEN DIE IN CRASH

C. V. Brainerd, Relative of Clinton W. Gilbert, Among Those Killed

"LOU" STRAYER ALSO DEAD

Washington, Jan. 30.—The fact that the Knickerbocker Theatre is situated in one of the most popular residential sections of Washington is responsible for the presence within its walls last night of so many persons prominent in the social and public life of Washington.

Among the dead and injured, in addition to those prominently connected with the official life of the capital, were many persons well known because of their long residence in Washington and their personal acquaintance.

Louis W. Strayer, correspondent of the Pittsburgh Dispatch, and Clayton V. Brainerd, correspondent of the Brooklyn Eagle, were among those killed. Both had been in Washington a great many years and, in addition to prominence in their own profession, they were identified with the life of the city.

Strayer was friend of Knox "Lou" Strayer came to Washington as a correspondent of the Pittsburgh Dispatch in 1908. He became correspondent of the Washington bureau staff of that paper. He was a native of Princeton, Ill. He covered virtually all the great political conventions of the last twenty years.

Brainerd was a native of New York City, where he was born April 18, 1874. His father was Miss Edith Rathbone Jacobs, of Mount Vernon, N. Y. They were married in 1907.

Mr. Brainerd became the secretary of St. Clair McKelway, editor of the Brooklyn Eagle, in 1908. Later he became a reporter and city editor and finally assistant managing editor of the Washington bureau staff of that paper.

Other important victims of the disaster were as follows: Dr. Andrew Jackson Barchfeld, former Congress member from Pennsylvania in 1883. He was educated in the grade schools and the Central High School here and was graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1888.

Guy S. Eldridge, 1824 Belmont street, was a brother-in-law of Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah. Mrs. Smoot's maiden name being Miss Alpha M. Eldridge. Mr. Eldridge was forty-two years old. He was a native of Ohio and was educated there. Prior to coming to Washington, he was employed by the Winchester Arms Company and the United States Steel Corporation.

Captain William E. R. Warner, of the United States Army, was a native of Alameda, Calif. He entered the army at the outbreak of the World War and served three years overseas. He was one of the young officers selected by the Pershing Commission for permanent rank in the regular service and had been on duty in this city about six months. His wife, who was also killed in the Knickerbocker disaster, was Miss Isabel Wilson, of New York.

Colonel Charles C. Tucker, fifty-two years old, born in New York City and educated at Columbia University, practiced law in Washington for many years. During the World War he served in the Judge Advocate General's office and saw brief service abroad. He was associated in the practice of law with Senator G. Donaldson, with offices in the Commercial National Bank Building.

Mrs. Charles C. Tucker, before her marriage, was Miss Helen Zimmerman, of Baltimore. Two children survive her, Mrs. E. France and Miss Jean Tucker, both of Washington.

Howard G. Kneiss, thirty-four years old, was vice president and treasurer of the Seaman Motor Company, of Washington. He was born in Illinois and was graduated from the Central High School. He is survived by a wife and one child.

Mrs. Anna H. Wesson was the wife of Colonel Charles M. Wesson, of the Ordnance Department. She was a daughter of the late Brigadier General George H. Dutton, who was for many years the chief advocate general of the army. She married Colonel Wesson in 1901. Besides her husband she is survived by three children, the Misses Nancy and Helen Wesson, and one son, Lincoln Wesson, who was with her mother and sustained fractures of both legs when the roof of the theatre collapsed. Colonel Wesson, who was with them, was injured about the head.

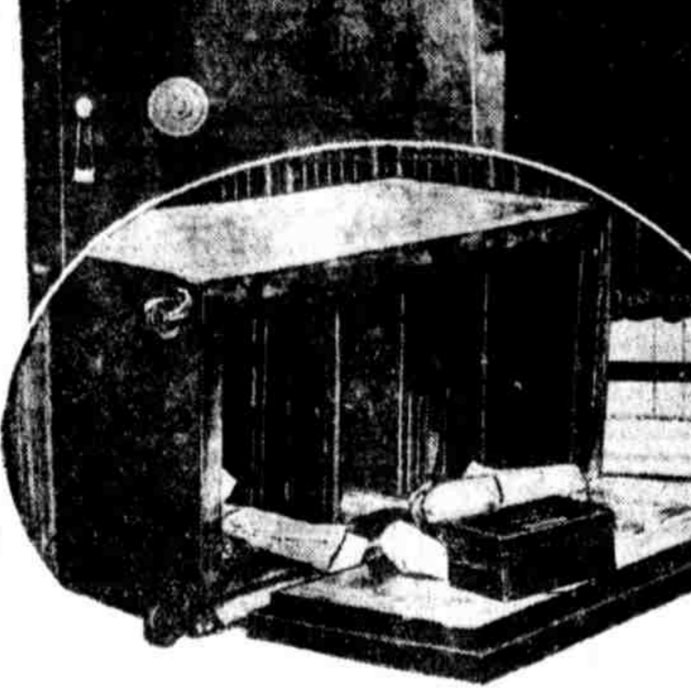
Captain Reginald C. Vance, forty-nine years old, was president of the Planters' National Bank of Fredericksburg, Va., and was well known in Virginia as a member of the House of Commons in the British Army during the Boer War. He came to this country about fifteen years ago. Captain and Mrs. Vance were in Washington on a pleasure trip. Mrs. Vance, whose first name was Cora, was also killed.

REAL SAFE AND DUMMY

The top photograph shows the dummy safe which crackmen placed in the window of the United Motor Service Company, at 342 North Broad street, while they looted the real one below.



UNITED MOTOR SERVICE INC. PHILADELPHIA



Paint Dummy Safe, Loot Real One

Continued from Page One The code book, all the money and some of the stocks and bonds were missing when Charles Zinc, assistant manager, made a quick inventory today.

Code Book Principal Object The code book, all the money and some of the stocks and bonds were missing when Charles Zinc, assistant manager, made a quick inventory today.

At the time of the second robbery, about six weeks ago, the burglars took the company's big catalogue, about the size of a telephone directory, apparently in the belief it contained the key code.

At a day or two after that the branch manager received an anonymous telephone call. A man's voice informed him the stolen catalogue could be found on a packing box at Thirteenth and Spring Garden streets. A clerk was sent over. He found the catalogue in the spot specified.

Then Visited Boston Office About a week after the key machine was stolen the company's main office in Boston was entered by burglars. They were detected and escaped after a pistol battle with the police.

The company has a one-story garage in the rear of its Broad street building, with an entrance on Calhoun street. The robbers entered the garage through a skylight and then jumped over the door to get into the main structure.

Detectives believe automobile thieves are planning now harvest among parked cars in the city and in suburban cities. Equipped with the key machine and the code book, the modern successors of the old-time "boss" thieves will be able to laugh at the intricacies of locks designed to baffles them.

Detectives are searching for tell-tale fingerprints either on the looted safe or on the abandoned tools. As the work develops, it is expected crackmen were responsible for the job it is feared the burglars wore gloves as a precaution.

Mayor to Shake-Up Fair Committees

Continued from Page One a member of the House, was a member of this august body. He has been succeeded by Congressman Barrows, of West Philadelphia-Germantown district.

Gets Encouragement Other members on the committee, to all of whom the Mayor talked most earnestly on behalf of the Sesqui-Centennial, are Speaker Cullis, Longworth, of Ohio; Dunn, of New York; Sanders, of Indiana, and Nolan, of California. Lacer the Mayor had a private conference with Representative Madden, of Illinois, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations. Moore and Madden are old allies in House battles. Madden spoke encouragingly to the Mayor.

When the Mayor appeared in the House cloak room at noon, upon the convening of Congress, he was warmly welcomed by his former colleagues, Representatives "Jim" Quinn, of Illinois, once the leader of the House, sent looking for the Mayor.

"Well, Harry," said Mann, "when are you coming back here?" "Oh," laughingly replied the Mayor, "I have two years more as Mayor. I can't talk about coming back to Washington as a Congressman just yet. I've been busy putting the street cleaning buses out of business."

"We're for anything you want, Harry," sang out one of the big leaders. "Well," shot back the Mayor, "give this fair a big push."

May Favor Alliance The Mayor said he expected to hold a number of political conferences when he got back to Philadelphia, particularly, it was indicated, with reference to the gubernatorial situation. The Mayor, it is believed, is in favor of a Grand-Spruille-More alliance to take a hand in the present shattered conditions in State politics.

Will the changes be in the Finance Committee? the Mayor was asked. "Yes," he replied, but quickly recalled the answer and said "No." He said that though Mr. Stofey had been in Florida while he was, he had not met the financier.

The Mayor is stopping over in Washington on his way back from a Florida vacation, for the sole purpose of bumping the fair.

Stewart Committee, the Mayor conferred with Representative Bland, of Indiana, chairman of the Industrial Arts and Exposition Committee. He asked Mr. Bland, "said the Mayor, "if he was agreeable to formal hearings. He replied at once: "Yes, very glad to make arrangements. As to site for the fair, the Mayor said he had an open mind. "I want to be fair," said the Mayor, "and will assist on all sections having an opportunity to state their case at public hearings."

As for the political situation at home the Mayor said Philadelphia had not accorded him the recognition Kalamazoo or Seattle would have granted a native son.

He indicated that any truce that had been effected with Council prior to his departure for Florida was now irrevocably past, and that he did not intend to let the Philadelphia Board of Finance and Finance Committee operate the city-built Frankford elevated without a fair payment to the city.

Seeing a plot on the part of the politicians and contractors to discredit municipal street cleaning at the outset, the Mayor said that he was going ahead prepared to battle to the limit, if it became necessary to do so, to preserve the one big, outstanding accomplishment of his Administration.

No increase in the gas rates, he declared, would appear justified, and he pointed to the fact that he had prevented an increase in gas of ten cents per thousand cubic feet to the consumer.

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