PENNA. IS AT TOP IN LEGION DRIVE

Department Heads Exerting Unusual Endeavors in Membership Race

8500 NAMES ARE NEEDED

The final stages of the membership drive of the American Legion in Pennsylvania to place the organization in this State at the head of the national list has set in. Department Commander Joseph E. Thompson will visit meetings arranged by a score of posts in the western part of the State this week.

Officials of the department are determined to go to the next national convention at New Orleans October 16 to 20 with the largest membership of any State and a greater membership than was recorded in Pennsylvania.

A report from national headquarters, issued Friday, showed that Pennsylvania was in the lead in the drive, with 31,856. New York was second, with 29,449; Ohio third, with 24,126; Illinois fourth, with 23,609, and Iowa fifth, with 21,853.

From January 27 to February 10 New York enrolled more members than any other State, 7546. During this period Pennsylvania enrolled 6286 members.

Eleven States had enrolled more than 80 per cent of their last year's membership, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Vermont.

It will be necessary for Pennsylvania to enroll 5582 members during the balance of February in order to equal our last year's membership March 1. This is an average of about ten members for every active post.

Post elections and the installation of new officers are now completed in the 655 posts of the American Legion in the Department of Pennsylvania, according to announcements sent to William G. Murdock, the Department Adjutant. These reports and the financial returns, showing unusual activity that presages the success of the membership drive now in progress, are being tabulated by John H. Dervin, the new assistant adjutant and Department Finance Officer, who took charge February 1.

At the next meeting of the Walter M. Gearty Post, 135, there will be a "good-fellow" feed. There also will be a representative gathering of the members of the Veteran Corps of the old First Regiment, N. G. P. The post string band will furnish the music and help celebrate a 100 per cent paid-up membership. Comrade Van Osten, chairman of the Athletic Committee, has plans for a Gearty bowling team for the new Legion League, and all bowlers in the post are urged to get in on the tryout.

The Stern-Price Post, 417, will hold its meeting on Thursday evening, February 23, at the P. O. S. of A. Building, 1317 North Broad street. An invitation is extended to all former service men to be present. The principal officers of the Stern-Price Post, 417, are: Post commander, Dr. Charles S. Shafer; Morris H. Starr, post adjutant; Benjamin H. Simons, finance officer.

The Thomas Roberts Reath Marine Post had as speaker at its meeting on Monday Councilman Roper. The post passed a resolution reaffirming its stand in favor of adjusted compensation. The quarterly dance of the post was given Tuesday at the Rittenhouse.

Taylor's Oil Stock Reported Missing

Continued from Page One

investigators. Previously Davis had been questioned only as to Miss Normand's testimony. He corroborated her statements that she left the director's home shortly before 8 o'clock on the night of February 1 and that Mr. Taylor walked out to her car to bid her good night.

Think Woolwine Has Theory

Indications that Woolwine is now directing the investigation along a line to develop his theory of a motive for the murder were seen in the closely guarded activities of his investigators. They were scattered over the city on secret missions yesterday, reporting hourly to the District Attorney by telephone.

Woolwine declined to name any of the witnesses who have been examined in secret, asserting that but little progress has been made in the investigation.

At the same time detectives, with the aid of a girl sweetheart in Los Angeles, have set a trap for Edward F. Sands, former secretary of the slain man, sought as a suspect in the murder case. In an effort to locate Sands the girl, whose name is withheld at the request of the authorities and who is working in the closest co-operation with them, has written to every point where she believes he may have gone into hiding.

Questioned soon after the murder, when suspicion was first directed against Sands, the girl agreed to "tip" the detectives as soon as she heard from him. Since the trap was set the girl has worked industriously with the detectives to find some trace of Sands and to locate him through mutual friends.

The San Francisco police lost interest yesterday in the story of Charles Carson, retired sea captain, that he knew of two men whom Sands had employed to "get even" with a Los Angeles motion-picture director. Carson, after telling his story concerning the Taylor case, declares now that he knows a man who can clear Roscoe ("Fatty") Arbuckle of the manslaughter charge against him in connection with the death of Virginia Rappe. Investigation of Carson's story about Sands continued, however.

Woolwine's investigation of reports that a bootlegger delivering liquor to the Taylor home had heard the shot and saw a woman leaving the house has shown the story to be without foundation. The so-called "bootlegger" was a man who denies ever having sold liquor and who says he heard the story second hand.

The theory that blackmailers may have killed Taylor was weakened when it was discovered that reports Taylor drew $2500 from the bank the day before the murder and redeposited it a few hours before he was killed could not be confirmed. Checking over Taylor's bank accounts, investigators were unable to find any trace of the $2500. It was found, however, that Taylor deposited $1600, his salary for two weeks, in the bank on the day he was slain.

Information concerning Taylor's early life and his family has been received in Kennebunkport, Ireland, the informant being William Coss, an old coachman, who knew Taylor as a boy under the name of William Cunningham. Coss said that Taylor was born in Carlow in 1877 and had two sisters and a brother, Dennis Deane-Tanner. He said Major Deane-Tanner, his father, was very harsh to his son William.

Film Star's Friend

(c) International

MISS JULIE COURTELL

Formerly secretary to Miss Mabel Normand and now manager of a California automobile agency. Miss Courtell says that Miss Normand has had only one real love affair in her life and that the man in question, while a motion-picture director, was not William Desmond Taylor

SCRANTON CELLARS RAIDED

Burglars Carry Off Only Good Whisky and Choice Wines

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 16. — Burglars bent on taking whisky and choice wines only made a raid on the Hill, the city's fashionable residential section, last night. Many cellars were entered. A number of barrels and jugs containing liquor, a lot old vintage, were rolled into the yards, placed on trucks and carted away.

The finding of gold-mounted fountain pens and pencils with monograms, dropped by the whisky thieves, has furnished a good clue to the police.

DEFENSE SCORES IN OBENCHAIN CASE

Judge Rules Out Testimony Regarding Burch's Possessions Following Murder

LOVE LETTERS REVEALED

Los Angeles, Feb. 16.—The defense won a point today in the trial of Mrs. Madalynne Obenchain, charged with the murder of J. Belton Kennedy. When adjournment was taken yesterday Thomas Haley, hotel proprietor, was on the stand testifying for the State. Haley's hotel was across the street from an office occupied by Kennedy and it was testified in the trial of Arthur Burch, co-defendant with Mrs. Obenchain, that Burch had taken a room in Haley's hotel and had thence watched Kennedy for several days.

When Haley testified yesterday he was asked what he found in Burch's room the morning after the shooting. The defense objected and today Judge Reeve sustained the objection.

At the trial of Burch, which resulted in a disagreement, Haley testified that Burch had a woman visitor at various times, who shared his vigil. He also testified that after the shooting he found numerous newspapers, carrying full accounts of it, in Burch's room. It was this last evidence that was shut out today.

At yesterday's session love letters written by Mrs. Obenchain to Kennedy were read. According to the State's theory, these letters showed the motive for the slaying. The prosecution attributes to Mrs. Obenchain the rage of a "woman scorned." It is contended this is shown by such passages as:

"I wouldn't give two cents for the rest of life if anything happened to you," written in 1917, in the early part of the romance, and "you are a coward, laughing at a bleeding heart," written a short time before Kennedy was killed.

Extracts from the letters follow:

"I'd like to lie quietly in your arms and sleep—sleep till God sends me a better dream."

"You seem so close to me; even when sleeping, I feel you near and you press my lips so hard you wake me up."

"When I turn out my light, please come and let me rest close to your heart."

"These mountains are tiresome. The ocean, my first love and you, my last, are the only things that never tire me."

"Good night, I love you much."

"X x x x till God sings my weary heart to sleep."

"Don't fear your letters will not reach me. Mr. O. understands this situation too thoroughly and me too well to ever open my mail."

"Love is all that makes this earthly life worth while."

"I want you strong enough to do what you want to do, or I don't want you at all."

"We both should have been big enough and square enough to have played square after my marriage. Mr. O. is too big to stoop to deceit. I am unworthy of him. I would have gone back to him and done my duty, but I listened to your love words, not your acts."

"Why did you take me in your arms and tell me you loved me and beg to get a divorce?"

"Why couldn't you let me go?"

"Did you ever try to make me happy?"

"I never want to marry you unless you love me."

"Unless you come to me by the 15th, it will be the end. This is final."

Elkton Marriage Licenses

Elkton, Md., Feb. 16.—The following were granted marriage licenses here today: George Scheiber and Catharine Moyer, Anthony Piacontini and Amanda German, Joseph Lynsky and Margaret Meibaum and Jacob Tomarchio and Theresa Corne, all of Philadelphia; Joseph McCormack and Helen F. Davis, Trenton, and David M. Hers and Anna M. Eshelman, Stroudsburg.

Patrolman Fires Seven Shots at Boy

Continued from Page One

there, came running out of his place blowing a policeman's whistle.

"Saggese, I am informed, drew a revolver and at its point made the patrolman let the boys go. I am told Saggese chased the patrolman nearly two squares before he could catch up to him.

"Then my nephew ran. McCullough then drew his revolver and fired seven shots at him. Fortunately all the shots went wild.

"I am informed that McCullough terrorized other neighborhoods besides the one where I live. I am told that it was necessary for the lieutenant to send out details from the Twentieth and Federal streets station all through the neighborhood to round him up. They found him at last and brought him in. His lieutenant suspended him immediately and ordered him up for a hearing at 8 o'clock this morning. I am on my way there now to appear against him.

"You cannot put it too strongly that I am going to see that justice is done and that this patrolman is punished. It is outrageous for a man who is sworn to uphold the law and protect the citizens to act in this manner. I shall appear against him and I am going to go the limit in prosecuting him."

Patrolman McCullough's story, told to Lieutenant William Knoell at the station house, is different from that told by the magistrate.

McCullough said he had been visiting friends in the neighborhood of Twentieth and Moore streets, and had been drinking. He was off duty, he said, and in plain clothes.

Says He Was Attacked

"I was attacked by a crowd of young men," said McCullough, when brought to the station house, "and I drew my gun and fired all the shots in it, hoping to attract some other patrolman who would come to my rescue." McCullough was bleeding from the nose when brought in.

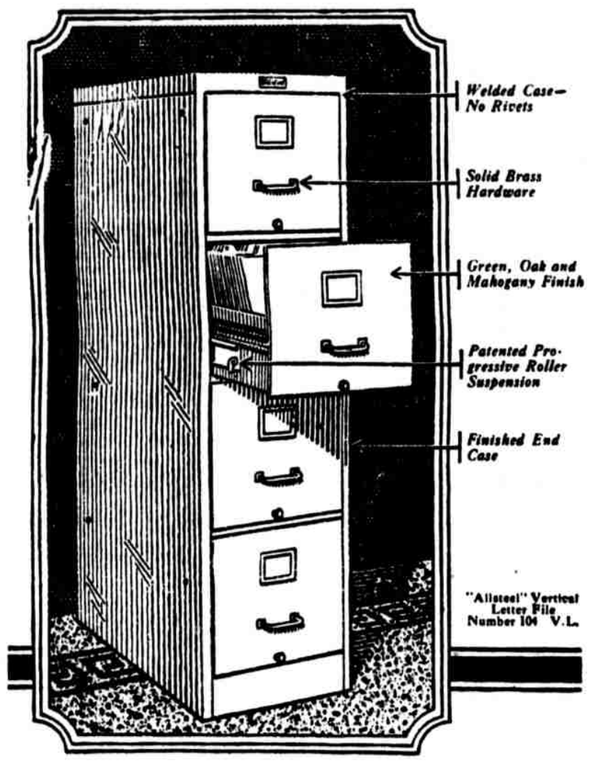
The sergeant on duty at the station house received several telephone calls from neighbors, who said a drunken man was shooting up the neighborhood. Sergeant Snell found McCullough standing at Twenty-fourth and Moore streets, and took him to the station house. He was not put under arrest.

Dr. Freund, district surgeon, was called to examine McCullough, and pronounced him drunk. Lieutenant Knoell thereupon suspended him, and says he would order him up before the Police Trial Board.

McCullough is an overseas veteran and is said to have a good record as a patrolman.

Underwood Better; Back in Seat

Washington, Feb. 16.—(By A. P.)—Senator Underwood, of Alabama, minority leader, who has been ill for several days, returned today to the Senate.



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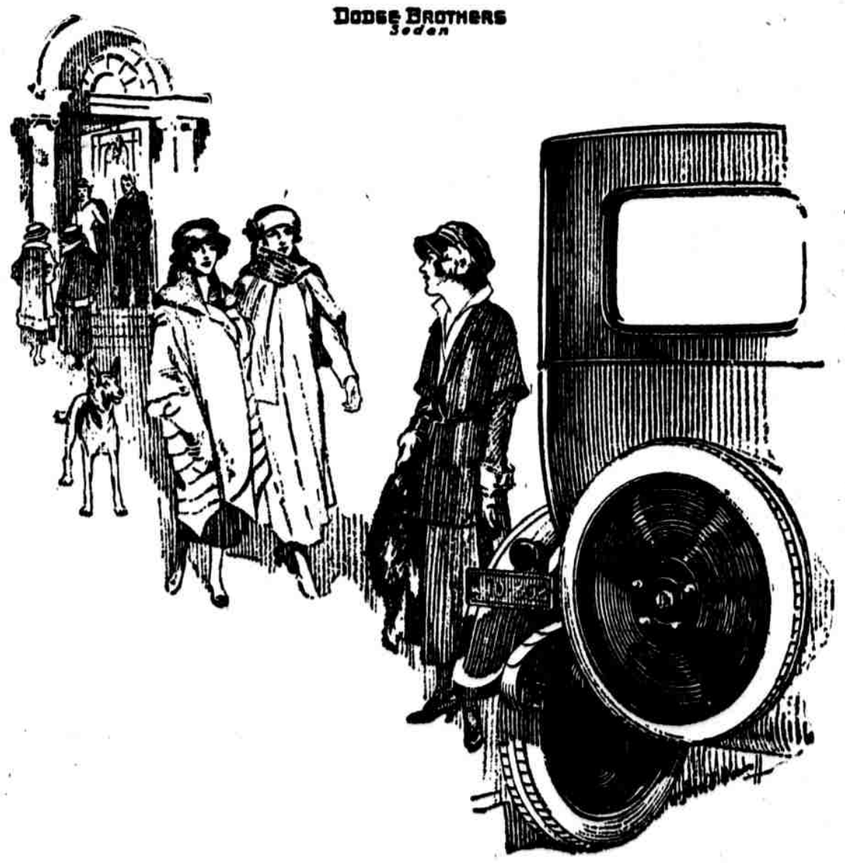

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