



ESTABLISHED 1857. VOL. 77—NO. 56.

HARRISBURG, PA., MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 8, 1915—14 PAGES.

PRICE, ONE CENT.

BLUECOAT TO PEN. FOR 12 TO 20 YEARS

Robert F. Scott, Patrolman Who Killed Nathan Banks, Sentenced by Judge McCarrell

HAD NO RIGHT TO USE HIS GUN

Court Cautions All Policemen With Regard to the Proper Use of Weapons—Prisoner Swears As Sentence Is Pronounced But Makes No Comment

Robert F. Scott, colored, the patrolman who on August 1, last, shot and killed Nathan Banks, colored, and who was convicted of murder in the second degree, was this morning sentenced by Judge McCarrell to the penitentiary for a term of not less than twelve years and not more than twenty. The court announced that the clemency recommendation of the jury along saved Scott from getting the maximum sentence of twenty years provided for second degree murder.

The prisoner spoke not a word while in the court room. He spoke neither to Judge Kunkel nor to Judge McCarrell. He had nothing to say even to his counsel. He gave some signs of nervousness, however.

Judge McCarrell's presence remarks to Scott were in the nature of a reprimand. This seemed to make the prisoner nervous and caused him to sway back and forth, indicating that the ordeal was a trying one.

Scott's wife was in the big crowd of spectators, occupying one of the rear benches in the court room. She departed immediately after her husband was sentenced. During all the time that his attorneys argued for a light sentence and during the court's review of the case, Scott stood up at the bar, his hands folded in front of him and his gaze fixed on the floor. He looked up only once and that was when he was addressed by the court.

Says Witness "Made Eyes" at Lawyers

That there was sufficient evidence in the Commonwealth's testimony at the time of the trial to warrant a verdict of murder in the first degree—which would have carried a sentence of death by electrocution—and that, if such a verdict had been rendered, the Court could not rightfully have set it aside, was the gist of one of Judge McCarrell's remarks.

District Attorney Stroup said he thought the verdict might justly have been one of murder in the first degree, yet both the Court and the Prosecutor announced that they had no criticism of the decision of the jury.

W. Justin Carter, who, as counsel, with Harry B. Saussaman, defended Scott, thought differently and said:

"The testimony of some of these witnesses, most of whom were relatives of the deceased, was pure, deliberate perjury."

Carter added that one of the Commonwealth's witnesses made "Goo Goo" eyes at him when she was leaving the witness stand during the trial. Judge McCarrell said he thought she told a clear story.

"Well," said Carter, "she rolled her eyes at me in a terrible manner when she left the stand."

"Inexcusable," says the Court

Besides saying that the murder of Nathan Banks was inexcusable; that Scott acted too hastily in firing his revolver and that the defendant had no reason for using his "mace and pistol," Judge McCarrell said that the shooting climaxed an argument which resolved itself into nothing more than a dispute over a personal matter.

"There was no occasion at all for you using your revolver," said the court. "You had a personal quarrel with Banks and for that you had no right to use any weapon. Police officers are permitted to carry a gun and

Continued on Eleventh Page.

SCOTT WILL SUCCEED SCOTT

Man of Same Name Will Get Job of Bluecoat Sentenced to Pen.

Now that Robert Scott, patrolman, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of from twelve to twenty years for the killing of Nathan Banks, the question is raised of who will succeed Scott on the police force.

City Commissioners declined this morning to discuss the subject but it was learned upon good authority that Charles Scott, the policeman who now is serving temporarily in Robert Scott's place, will be appointed permanently. The appointment, it is said, will be made at the meeting of the City Commissioners to-morrow afternoon.

PEN. FOR TWO MEN WHO ROBBED HALF WAY H. USE

Terms of From One Year to Eighteen Months Imposed on Pair Who Broke Into Tom Nalley's Hotel—Negro Pleads to Be Sent to the Pen

Tom Bonovic and John Skerbin, two of the three foreigners who, it is alleged, broke into and robbed the Half Way House, the hotel of Tom Nalley, in Steelton, pleaded guilty to burglary charges before Judges Kunkel and McCarrell this morning and each was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of not less than one year and not more than eighteen months. The third defendant, alleged to be implicated in this case, will stand trial.

James Duncan, a Middletown colored man, who one day had pugilistic proclivities and was fairly successful at that "avocation" so long as he remained within his class, pleaded guilty to a larceny charge and told Judge Kunkel that he would like to go to the penitentiary as the penalty for his offense. The Judge gave him six months in jail, saying that the next time he will be sure to go to the Philadelphia institution.

"I wish you would send me there now," returned Jim

Arthur Hughes, Duncan's accomplice, also got a six months' jail term. The pair stole coal from Pennsylvania railroad cars.

George W. Lewis, another Middletown man, who has been up before the Judges four times on charges of false pretense, got eight months in jail. Lewis, while a solicitor for Harrisburg newspapers, appropriated to his own use money which had been given to him by prospective subscribers.

John Hughes and William Brady, hucksters, would not admit that they knowingly cheated their patrons while they were selling produce in this city, and the Court would not accept their pleas to charges of false pretense. They were remanded to jail and must stand trial.

TO PASS SUFFRAGE TO-DAY

House Will Take Final Action on the Measure, Which Will Then Be Sent Over to the Senate

The Senate will meet to-night at 9.30 o'clock and the House at 9 o'clock, when a regular calendar of bills will be taken up in each branch after the introduction of resolutions and new bills, of which many are expected.

One of the most important measures that will come before the House for final passage is the resolution proposing that an amendment to the Constitution granting the right of suffrage to women be submitted to the voters at the polls next November. It is understood that the House will pass this without serious opposition, but it is not likely that its action will be unanimous, as a number of Representatives have expressed their intention to vote against it. However, the Republican members of the House say it is a platform measure and as such should be passed at once and gotten out of the road. It will be sent at once to the Senate and referred to committee.

The House will also consider on final passage the bill making an appropriation of \$50,000 to pay for the killing of cattle to prevent the spread of the foot and mouth disease.

In the Senate the Clark bill providing for the care and treatment, at the expense of the county, of indigent persons who are habitual inebriates or drug fiends will come up. The Clark bill requiring mortgages to be recorded within ten days in order to have priority of lien will also come up in the Senate on final passage.

ODD ILLNESS GRIPS YOUTH

Boy Believed On Saturday to Be Drunk Is Reported To-day to Be Losing the Use of His Legs

Mystery to-day surrounds the case of Howard Diller, colored, 16 years old, who was found in a shanty on Cameron street, late Saturday afternoon by two men who took him to the Harrisburg hospital. There he was believed on Saturday to be intoxicated and he was sent to jail.

Physicians became alarmed at his condition this morning and asked the police to take him again to the hospital, believing heroic measures were necessary if his life was to be saved. Diller is gradually becoming paralyzed, according to a statement by an ambulance patrolman. The bluecoat said that by noon the boy had lost all sensation in his legs below the knees.

Diller is suffering to a great extent and is unable to tell much about himself except to assert that a man on Cameron street, gave him some whiskey. He does not know how he got to the Cameron street shanty where he was found. He lives alone at 1118 Hickory street.

Physicians at the hospital this morning admitted him to a ward for treatment. The belief was expressed at the hospital to-day that whiskey could not have caused the peculiar illness that is gripping the youth.

LaFollette's Peace Resolution

Washington, Feb. 8.—An international conference of representatives of neutral nations to discuss means of ending the European war, to establish neutral trade routes at sea and propose ultimate creation of an international tribunal for establishment of world peace, was proposed in a resolution to-day by Senator LaFollette.

Trying to Avoid Extra Session

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 8.—President Wilson told callers to-day he was making every effort to avoid an extra session of Congress.

SOLONS IGNORING ECONOMY PLEAS

Law-Makers Showing Little Regard for the Charities Board Recommendations

PUTTING IT UP TO COMMITTEES

Should Latter Bodies Cut Down Amounts, Legislators Talk of Combining and Forcing Brumbaugh to Weild Veto Ax

A glance at the appropriation bills already introduced in the Legislature, in both branches, shows that members of that Legislature are paying little if any attention to the economy recommendations of the State Board of Charities and the sums that Board recommended for the various institutions.

The Board announced that it would recommend no buildings for any state or other institutions that it did not regard as absolutely necessary, and its figures which show what was asked for by the institutions and what was recommended by the Board indicate that in almost every instance where money was asked from the state to construct new buildings the items were stricken out.

But that does not, apparently, concern the average legislator. In the appropriation bills thus far introduced it is found that in almost every instance where the board cut out the item for buildings the bills, as presented to the Legislature, restore them, and it will be up to the Appropriations Committees to say whether or not these items shall be retained in the bills.

Some of the Legislators have threatened that if the building items are cut from their appropriation bills they will form a log-rolling organization among the members of the House and endeavor to amend the bills by restoring the building items when the bills come up on second reading. A bare majority can amend, but in the case of private charities it takes two-thirds of the entire House to pass a bill finally.

It is estimated that at the rate State money is being asked for by private institutions the amounts cut from similar measures by Governor Tener's veto ax at the close of the last session of 1913 will hardly be a marker to what Governor Brumbaugh will have to veto.

Told that they are in danger of having their appropriations cut down, some of the legislators have remarked that it is no concern of theirs so long as they get the bills through, and that it would be up to the Governor to do the cutting.

Chairman Woodward, of the House Appropriations Committee, is endeavoring to stop the flow of such bills.

'NOSHAK-UP'-BRUMBAUGH

Governor Intimates That Capitol Hill Employees Who Are Making Good Have Nothing to Fear

Governor Brumbaugh said in effect this afternoon that he plans no general shake-up among Capitol Hill employees.

He said that in his letter to the department heads asking for lists of attaches he had not requested information as to their political backing, but had merely requested information concerning who had recommended them. He said that the matter of politics had not entered into the request.

As to a story that his intention in obtaining the lists was to have some persons dismissed and others appointed in their place, he said that it was purely imaginary.

He intimated that attaches of this administration who are qualified for their positions and who perform their work faithfully will have no cause to worry about the future, so far as he is concerned.

SAUL IS AFTER RE-ELECTION

Announces To-day He Will Seek to Be Returned to School Board

Millard F. Saul, whose term in the School Board expires in December, this morning announced his candidacy for re-election. Saul was first elected to the board in 1907 to fill a vacancy from the Sixth ward and was later re-elected from that ward. Under the act of 1911 he was elected for a term of four years from the city-at-large.

George Kennedy, another director whose term expires next December, recently announced his candidacy for re-election. Charles S. Fohl, the third member of the board whose term expires next December, has not announced whether he will seek re-election.

KANSAS CITY BELLE TO WED WEALTHY CALIFORNIAN



New York, Feb. 8.—Miss Sidi Wirt, charming daughter of the late Edward C. Wirt, of Kansas City, admits she is engaged to marry John D. Spreckels, Jr., a wealthy resident of San Francisco. The story started in the baggage room of a hotel in this city where she is stopping when a fine tiger skin, about sixteen feet long, arrived there from San Francisco. It was said that the name of John D. Spreckels, Jr., was on the box containing it. Miss Wirt, in her apartment on the twenty-first floor, sitting in a chair with her tiny feet on the head of the tiger, was asked about this. "Why, yes, that is perfectly true," she said. "But the formal announcement has not yet been made. You see, it is only six months since that affair of his divorce."

VALLEY MAN IS RICH ON WHEAT

John N. Foust of Shippensburg, on Way Back From West With His Fortune

LEFT HIS HOME 20 YEARS AGO

Made Futile Quest of Gold in Alaska, but Took Up Farming and Now Has Become Immensely Wealthy by Upward Turn of Grain Market

(Special to the Star-Independent.)

Ellensburg, Wash., Feb. 8.—When John N. Foust left his home in Shippensburg, Cumberland county, about twenty years ago he went north into Alaska, hoping to make his fortune in the gold fields, but failed. Subsequently he became a wheat grower and has now piled up a good-sized fortune because of his foresight in holding onto his grain, the price of which has skyrocketed in recent weeks, having gone as high as \$1.67 a bushel. Foust, who has a horse, plans shortly to visit the home in Shippensburg of his father, John A. Foust, who is now on a trip west to see him.

Foust did not pan out very strongly as a goldminer, according to his own admissions, but he has made a remarkable record, according to his business associates, since establishing himself here a few years ago. He first took hold of the telephone troubles of Kittitas county when the lines were in a bad way and service abominable. Associated with him at the time was C. C. Churchill. Foust was in active control and management and in a short time he brought the system out of chaos, rehabilitated the plant, lines and equipment, established long-distance connections with the Bell system, and now controls, as well as actively directs, one of the largest independent lines in the State.

The telephone business, however, does not engage all of his activities, for he has found time to engage in farming on a big ranch north of this city, where he raises wheat, hay, oats, barley, horses, cattle and hogs on a large scale.

According to business intimates "in the know"—Foust himself is reticent in regard to the killing he made in wheat when the price soared—he was more than amply repaid by his foresight that caused him to hold his wheat when the war broke out.

Mr. Foust says he plans to visit his father in Shippensburg this summer, when he buys a new automobile. Likewise, he plans to plant much more wheat this year than last. Foust is married and has three children.

BACKENSTOSS IS A CANDIDATE

Mayor's Secretary Will Seek Democratic Nomination for Alderman

Clarence O. Backenstoss, who was secretary to Mayor McCormick and Mayor Gross, and who is now secretary to Mayor Royal, to-day announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for alderman of the Ninth ward. This is one of the largest wards in the city and there are usually a number of candidates for the position. George A. Hoverter, Republican, is the present alderman.

Backenstoss was first appointed to the police force by Mayor McCormick, Democratic, in 1902 and was the youngest man ever to be appointed to that position. He did district duty for six months and was then appointed secretary to Mayor McCormick. He was retained for a year by Mayor Gross, Republican, and was selected again for the post when Royal became Mayor.

Local Option Bill For To-night

It is quite likely that the new local option bill, as prepared under Governor Brumbaugh's direction, will be introduced to-night in the House.

BANKER'S SUICIDE DUE TO OVERDRAFTS BY PATRONS

Three Overdraw Accounts for \$15,000, Which Drove Cashier to Death—Trio Concerned Trying to Balance Up and Escape Litigation

INMATES OF HOME INTERRED ALIVE?

Startling Rumor in Connection With Deaths of Aged Odd Fellows at Yonkers

CORONER PROBES HORRIBLE STORY

Embalmer Confirms Statement of Fred Mors, a Nurse, Who Confessed He Caused the Deaths of Eight Persons in Institution

P. W. WILLIS, LAWYER, DIES

Prominent Carlisle Official and United States Commissioner Succumbs in a Baltimore Sanitarium

LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

The German army in the Argonne has begun another of the repeated attacks which have made that section of Eastern France one of the most bitterly contested battlefields of Europe. The official German statement of to-day announces the capture of a portion of the allies' positions in the Argonne. The French war office says that one German attack was repulsed and that the fighting is still in progress.

In Northern France, near Labassa, there was a violent artillery engagement yesterday but along the western front as a whole it was comparatively quiet.

Slackening of the attack along the Warsaw front by the Germans and their transfer of troops to East Prussia, are expected in Warsaw to lead to a general onslaught by the Russians in the endeavor to clear Poland of the invaders. A forward movement already has been undertaken in one section of the line, near the Bzura river, and is reported to have won some successes for the Russians.

Premier Asquith announced in the House of Commons that British losses

Continued on Thirteenth Page.

Chicago Cattle Quarantine Lifted

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—The Chicago Union Stock Yards, which have been under partial federal quarantine since January 29, because of a threatened outbreak of foot and mouth disease, were reopened to-day for the interstate shipment of cattle.

Kaiser Inspects His Troops

Amsterdam, Via London, Feb. 8, 5.18 P. M.—A telegram received here from Berlin says that Emperor William yesterday inspected the German troops who are fighting in the Baurka-Ravka river district.

WALL STREET CLOSING

By Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 8.—Reading declined again in the late trading, the entire list reacting with some recovery in the final dealings. The closing was firm. Stocks were dull and irregular during the greater part of to-day's session. Specialties gained 1 to 8 points.

RUSSIANS IN PURSUIT OF AUSTRIANS

Hard Fighting Continues in the Carpathians With Advantage to Czar's Troops

TAKE MORE THAN 2,500 PRISONERS

Petrograd Also Reports Capture of Additional Troops After a Retreat North of Uzkok Pass Where Austrian Attacks Were Repulsed

Petrograd, Feb. 8.—Hard fighting continues in the Carpathians with successes of considerable importance for the Russian troops according to an official communication issued here to-day. A pursuit of the Austrians after their resistance had been broken at these fortified positions near Mezolobez is said to have resulted in the capture of more than 2,500 prisoners. The capture of additional troops after a retreat north of Uzkok Pass also is recorded while it is stated Austrian attacks were repulsed at other mountain passes.

Minor Russian victories are claimed in East Prussia and Northern Poland. The text of the communication follows:

"On the right bank of the Vistula some skirmishes favorable to us have taken place. On a broad front near the village of Nadroz Cossacks attacked a squadron of the enemy supported by infantry capturing twenty Hussars.

Bayonets Dislodge Germans

"Our cavalry at 3 o'clock in the morning dislodged by a bayonet attack the Germans from villages of Podlesje and Prondylstary capturing a quantity of arms, ammunition and wire.

"An important encounter took place on the road from Sierpce to Rypyn where we delivered a successful night attack in the vicinity of the village of Ursulewo.

"On the left bank of the Vistula, on the Bzura and Rawa rivers, cannonading continued on February 5, neither adversary undertook active operations. In the region of the village of Kamionka we began an offensive and made some little progress in spite of an obstinate resistance by the enemy. Our artillery successfully bombarded a column of Germans who were moving.

Continued on Thirteenth Page.

OWNERS OF WILHELMINA WILLING TO SELL TO U. S.

London, Feb. 8, 1.57 P. M.—Indications are more favorable to-day that the American Commission for Relief in Belgium will be successful in its efforts to purchase the American steamship Wilhelmina and her cargo of food supplies, which the vessel is taking from New York to Hamburg. The owners of the Wilhelmina are said to be willing to sell the vessel and her cargo, but the price has not yet been agreed upon.

The American Relief Committee is badly in need of the grain carried by the Wilhelmina and also needs the ship because of the scarcity of bottoms. It is generally believed in London that the American owners will sell the ship and her cargo at a reasonable price because of the sympathy felt in the United States in the movement to prevent the Belgians from starving.

Steamer Dacia Ready to Sail

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 8.—The steamer Dacia was ready to start on her long heralded voyage to Rotterdam with cotton from Galveston for Bremen. Captain McDonald took out his clearance papers early to-day and said he would sail before night on the usual steamer lanes. Five members of the crew left the ship here.

British Casualties Thus Far in War

London, Feb. 8, 3.30 P. M.—Premier Asquith, speaking in the House of Commons to-day, said the British casualties in all ranks in the western area of the war from the beginning of hostilities to February 4 amounted to approximately 104,000 men. This includes killed, wounded and missing.

Kaiser Inspects His Troops

Amsterdam, Via London, Feb. 8, 5.18 P. M.—A telegram received here from Berlin says that Emperor William yesterday inspected the German troops who are fighting in the Baurka-Ravka river district.

WALL STREET CLOSING

By Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 8.—Reading declined again in the late trading, the entire list reacting with some recovery in the final dealings. The closing was firm. Stocks were dull and irregular during the greater part of to-day's session. Specialties gained 1 to 8 points.