

DEATH PENALTY FOR

JAMES E. WILCOX

Guilty of Murder in the First Degree is the Jury's Verdict.

THE PRISONER'S LAWYER WEEPS

His Father, Too, is Deeply Affected—The Local Opinion Considers the Punishment Just—Judge George A. Jones Sentenced Him to Be Hanged on Friday, April 28—Appeal to Be Taken to State Supreme Court.

Elizabeth City, N. C., (Special).—James E. Wilcox, charged with the murder of Ella Maude Crosey, was convicted of murder in the first degree by the jury.

Judge George A. Jones sentenced him to be hanged by the neck on Friday, April 28, between the hours of 10 and 3 o'clock.

The jury filed into the courtroom at the town clock tower at the hour of 10 P. M. G. J. Derrows was made spokesman. Henry Jennings, clerk, commanded Wilcox to stand, raise his right hand and face the jury.

"Gentlemen," said the clerk, in the usual form, "have you agreed upon your verdict?"

"We have," was the reply of the spokesman.

"What say you—guilty or not guilty?" "Guilty."

"In what degree?" "First."

"So say you all?" "We do."

This fell like a death knell upon the ears of the prisoner. But he never moved a muscle. A deathly pallor overspread his face, yet no emotion was apparent.

In delivering his sentence the Judge said the duty had to be performed.

"No one save yourself," he continued, addressing Wilcox, "knows whether or not you committed the deed. We do not say anything to wound your feelings; no, nor the feelings of your father, nor the feelings of the Crosey family. I hope the jury in coming to a verdict was not influenced by public opinion. The sentence of the Court is that James E. Wilcox be hanged by the neck until he is dead."

The Judge went on, referring to the scene that occurred in the courtroom when Lawyer Ayldett was making the last plea for Wilcox's life and when the crowd deliberately left. He had been informed that it was great, and he hoped this was not true. If he knew it was he would jail every man, woman and child for contempt who took part in it. He paid the people of Pasquotank county a high compliment on their general good behavior.

Ex-Sheriff Derrows, father of the prisoner, sat with Lawyer Ayldett near him. They were both affected deeply. Lawyer Ayldett wept while the sentence was being passed.

There is general sympathy for the Wilcox family, but the verdict is justified by most of the people here as just. Wilcox's lawyer will appeal to the State Supreme Court.

A MONOPOLY OF THE AIR

Germany Fears England Will Get It for Marconi Messages.

Berlin, (By Cable).—Professor Slaby, who, with Count Arco, invented the Slaby-Arco system of wireless telegraphy, is advocating international agreement to regulate the wireless transmission of messages on the ground that otherwise the greatest good cannot be obtained from such telegraphy.

He says that with his backing of British capital Marconi may obtain a monopoly for aerial transmission, as has already been done in the case of ocean telegraphy. In this connection Professor Slaby mentions the refusal of the Marconi station at Nantucket to receive wireless dispatches from the Hamburg-American steamer Deutschland.

Professor Slaby says he has the highest respect for Mr. Marconi, whose system of wireless telegraphy he believes to equal his own.

COSSACKS SENT TO ORIENT

Russians Preparing to Meet the Anglo-Japanese Move.

St. Petersburg, (By Cable).—In connection with the eastward movement of Russian troops it is announced that the first section of Cossacks is already in the Far East and that the second section has been mobilized. The movement has been extensive recently.

On the subject of the Franco-Russian declaration the Novoye Vremya says:

"The Franco-Russian alliance was compelled to restore the balance of power in the Pacific, which was distributed by the Anglo-Japanese agreement. The policy of a free hand expressed in the declaration is, in accordance with Russia's interests."

BOERS ARE WELL SUPPLIED

Burgers of Western Transvaal Are Full of Fight.

London, (By Cable).—A dispatch to the Times from Kierdorp, Transvaal Colony, says that the Boers in the Western Transvaal are well supplied with guns and ammunition and have unlimited support and a large amount of stock, that their Boer forces, which are not yet extended enough to alarm them.

What is possible has been done, continues the correspondent, but owing to the insufficiency of troops, the British columns have been unable to give any confidence, while the blockhouse system has not yet been extended enough to alarm them.

Charges were filed in Pekin against Minister Wu and his brother-in-law, Consul-General Ho Tow, in San Francisco.

The political situation in Hayti is becoming critical. The authorities continue to arrest the agitators.

General Chemical Company has declared 1 1/2 per cent. regular quarterly dividend on preferred stock, payable April 1.

The International Coal Company has been incorporated with a capital of \$1,000,000 to do a general coal mining business in Ohio.

The Texas Cotton Products Company has been organized at Albany with a capital of \$1,000,000. The object of the company is to grow and clean cotton, manufacture and refine cottonseed oil, make soap, etc.

The American Locomotive Company has declared a regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent. on the preferred stock, payable April 1.

The Allis Chalmers Company have notified employees that wages will be increased 5 per cent., beginning April 1, and working hours per week reduced to fifty-five.

It is reported that the United States Steel Corporation is making renewed efforts to assimilate the American Iron and Steel Company. The latter company is at present constituted was organized two years ago, with a capital of \$20,000,000. It has five plants—three at Lebanon and two in Reading.

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THE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD.

Domestic.

A person known as William C. Howard, who died at Canandaigua, N. Y., proves to have been a woman.

The conviction of anthracite mine workers at Shamokin, Pa., favors a strike, but again deferred a final decision.

A subpoena server offended J. P. Morgan by getting into his house by a rose and summoning him to testify in a railroad suit.

Outlaws attacked the town of Lytton Springs, Texas, but a posse of residents surrounded them in an entrenched position a few miles distant.

Paterewski's special car had to be turned around on a drawbridge at Dayton, Iowa, because he would not sleep with his feet toward the engine.

A switch engine in Indiana, after a mad race, caught a freight train and prevented a collision on the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern.

Stringfellow Waller and Lieutenant Day, of the Marine Corps, on the charge of executing Filipinos without trial, was begun by court-martial at Manila, the court having decided that it had jurisdiction.

Mr. Cleveland, when shown a dispatch stating that W. J. Bryan, in the Commons, denounces him as a "traitor and ingrate," said he was not at all troubled about it.

The barge Hamilton, from Newport News, is believed to have gone down with Capt. John A. Shoemaker and his crew of four men.

On the first ballot, the jury acquitted Stewart Pife, who had been on trial in Savannah, Ga., for the murder of Frank W. Richardson.

Belated stormbound passengers from Montana arrived at St. Paul, Minn., having endured great hardships during the blizzard.

Stanislas La Croix, who murdered his wife and an old man who tried to protect her, was hanged in Hull, Quebec.

Harry J. Anderson, a postoffice robber and crackman, who is wanted in a dozen cities, was arrested in Pittsburgh.

Rev. Dr. Graves, Southern pastor of the Methodist Church in McPherson, Kan., was served with papers notifying him to defend himself at the conference on charges of heresy.

The sentiment at the convention of the miners of Virginia and West Virginia at Huntington seemed in favor of a strike unless the operators make concessions.

Rosenberg, who served under both flags in the South African war, was sent to jail in Richmond, Va., for 15 days for stealing a pair of shoes.

Prisoners say that the concentration camps in Batangas Province are very carefully maintained and the reconcentration well cared for.

Conrad Kremer, an eccentric and wealthy resident of Winchester, Va., died at the residence of his son, near Lebanon Church.

Ex-Sheriff Derrows, father of the prisoner, sat with Lawyer Ayldett near him. They were both affected deeply. Lawyer Ayldett wept while the sentence was being passed.

There is general sympathy for the Wilcox family, but the verdict is justified by most of the people here as just. Wilcox's lawyer will appeal to the State Supreme Court.

Emperor William has named a new naval yacht Alice Roosevelt.

The French Budget for this year amounts to \$720,000,000.

A Carlist rising is again feared in Spain.

Emperor Francis Joseph opened an international art exhibition in Vienna.

Colonel Grimm, the Russian officer who was arrested at Warsaw, confesses high treason.

Chinese rebels captured the town of Kan-Chow, in the province of Kwang-Tung.

The Edinburgh Association of Retail Tobacconists declines to sign the Imperial Tobacco Company's agreement not to sell American goods for a term of years.

The Belfast dealers decided to accept the American proposition. London tobacconists also refused to sign the Imperial Tobacco Company's agreement.

There was a strong agreement in the French Chamber of Deputies. After the adoption of amnesties to various offenders, the deputies, by a new vote, annulled their previous action.

Prince Henry has expressed his thanks to the members of the American Embassy in Berlin for their welcome to him on his return from the United States.

Lord Francis Hope secured a divorce in London on the ground of the misconduct of his wife, May Yolie, the actress, with Capt. Putnam B. Strong.

The Allan Line steamer Huronian, from Glasgow for St. John's, a month overdue, is believed to have foundered and all on board lost.

M. Delcasse, foreign minister, denied in the French Senate that a proposition for a Franco-Russian understanding had been made to him. Senator Gotteron returned from St. Petersburg, giving the British an intimation that France is supporting Russia in the Manchurian question, which caused Great Britain to conclude an alliance with Japan.

John Dillon, Irish nationalist, was suspended in the British House of Commons for calling the colonial secretary, Joseph Chamberlain, "a d—d Irishman."

The civil tribunal in Paris, on application of the Panama Canal Company, approved the eventual cessation of the canal property to the United States.

Germany, it is stated, would not have joined in the Franco-Russian declaration as to Eastern Asia even had she been asked to do so.

The steamer Elbe arrived at Southampton from the Azores with the passengers of the disabled Cunarder Etruria.

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MANILA HAS NEW

CASES OF CHOLERA

Rigid Precautions Believed to Have Averted an Epidemic.

SENDING COLONISTS TO MANILA

Men of the Third Infantry Hurried Aboard Transport to Escape Running the Risk of the Pest—The Ship to Sail for San Francisco a Week Ahead of Time—Signal Corps Men Attacked by Mors.

Manila, (By Cable).—There have been four more cases of cholera here, and two more deaths from the plague are reported. The health authorities believe that their rigid precautions have averted an epidemic.

As General Chaffee did not want the men of the Third Infantry to run the risk of cholera as a result of contact with the city, that regiment has already been taken aboard the United States transport Grant, which will sail for San Francisco one week ahead of her schedule time.

Five cases of cholera have been reported from the provinces.

Gen. George W. Davis, stationed at Zamboanga, Island of Mindanao, reports that a detachment of the signal corps, consisting of 17 men, has been attacked by 200 Moros near Parang-Parang, Mindanao. One of the signal corps men was killed. The Moros captured the transportation of the detachment, including four pack-mules.

San Francisco, (Special).—Efforts are being made by a number of local capitalists to take advantage of the low railroad rates from the East to send a number of colonists to Manila. The promoters of the enterprise hope to get up a rush to the islands that will equal, if not eclipse, the rush to the Northern gold fields.

As soon as the legislation relating to the islands now pending before Congress shall be finally passed a wholesale descent will be made upon the islands. It is the expectation of the promoters that the land laws of the United States will be applied to the islands, and that thousands of acres now idle will be filled with American farmers and miners.

President Roosevelt and Representative Mercer, of Nebraska, chairman of the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, discussed the enlargement of the White House business.

Heretofore there have been plans for remodeling and enlarging the White House in order to meet present requirements. It appears, however, that President Roosevelt is opposed to changing in any way the arrangement of this historic structure. Under these circumstances enlarged facilities would have to be provided elsewhere. At one time there was a suggestion of a presidential residence outside of the White House, which would be devoted to official business. But the tendency now is in favor of making the White House a residential establishment for the President, locating the official quarters elsewhere.

Senator Fairbanks has proposed that the new Department of Justice have a branch at Caracas without defeating the revolutionary general.

It is believed that if the revolutionists win one important battle all Venezuela will rise against the government of President Castro. Castro is recruiting day and night. Every man and boy capable is being pressed into the service.

Dynamite Blew Up in Boring House.

Houghton, Mich. (Special).—A terrible explosion of dynamite occurred near Oskar, eight miles north of Houghton, resulting in the death of two men and serious injury to another. The scene of the explosion was in the house of John Bonillard. The building caught fire while the family was at church, and when the fire broke out the dynamite was detonated, which were stored away for blowing up stumps, exploded, Jenkela and Kalkanen were killed, being struck by flying timbers. They were neighbors of the Bonillards and met death while fighting the flames.

Physician Killed by a Fall.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—The dead body of Dr. Harry Whitesell, a rising young physician of Sewickley, was found resting on a ledge of rocks along the Ohio river bank, near his home. At first it was thought he had been murdered, but investigation by the coroner showed that he was killed by a fall. His family say he was called to see a patient at 6 o'clock, and it is supposed that in walking along the high bank at that point he slipped and fell to the rocks below.

Florence Burns Free.

New York (Special).—After six weeks in prison, the center of interest in a sensational hearing in a crowded court, the agony of being picked to pieces, and having even her emotions dissected by those who feed on criminal cases, Florence Burns was set free. The pretty young Brooklyn girl who was charged with the murder of Walter Brooks, who was found dying in the Glen Island Hotel the night of St. Valentine's day, was discharged from custody by Justice Mayer.

Link for Philippine Cable.

The Hague (By Cable).—The Government of the Netherlands has submitted to the States General an agreement with Germany providing for a joint subsidy for cables extending to the Dutch colonies in the far East. It is proposed to connect the islands of Menado and Celebes, in the East Indies, with the American Philippine cable, which will be completed by the end of the year. The importance of the agreement lies in the fact that communication will thus be established with Europe via America by cables belonging to different nationalities.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS.

Making Mailed Money Safe.

The bill recently introduced in the Senate by Mr. McMillan, of Michigan, to prevent robbing the mails, provides a safer and easier method of sending money by mail and to increase the postal revenues, has been introduced in the House by Mr. Gardner, of Michigan.

The bill is endorsed by the American Newspaper Publishers' Association.

It provides that a paper money hereafter issued by the United States of the denomination of \$1, \$2 and \$5, except national bank notes, shall be of the form known as the post check and shall be convertible by the holder thereof into a check to a named payee. These post checks will be exchangeable at any United States money order postoffice for current funds, after which the postmaster will cancel them and forward them to a repository designated by the Postmaster-General and shall receive credit therefor. This paper currency will have appropriate blank spaces in which the holder may write his name and postoffice address of a payee, and wherein the payee may give receipt.

Protest From Gompers.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has sent a letter to the Senate protesting against the "Conspiracy," or Anti-Injunction, bill, as reported to the Senate by the Committee on the Judiciary.

He says that when the bill was first reported, February 3 "it was received by me in great interest as a measure calculated to rob the people of their property. This feeling, however, was entirely changed, he says, by the latest report.

He quoted the opinion of an attorney to the effect that the bill as now reported "is completely subversive of all principles of liberty," and added: "Organized labor is not in favor of the law applicable to all other citizens and people of our country, but must insist that those things which are legal when performed by other citizens ought not to be illegal when performed by members of organized labor, and it was to secure these rights to the members of organized labor that the original bill was drafted."

He concluded by saying that the labor interests would prefer the defeat of the bill as amended to its passage. He asks, however, that the original bill be favorably acted upon.

More Room for President.

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FAST TRAIN RUNS

INTO LANDSLIDE

Disaster on the Southern Railway, Near Charlottesville, Va.

PORTER AND ONE MAN KILLED

Thirteen Men, the Majority of Whom Were Postal Clerks, Were Injured—The Passengers in the Pullman Cars Were Asleep, and Luckily Escaped Without Serious Injury—The Wrecked Cars Caught Fire.

Charlottesville, Va., (Special).—The "Washington and Southwestern Vestibule Limited" train, due here at 3:37 A. M., was wrecked by a landslide in Coleman's Cut, 15 miles south of Charlottesville.

The train is one of the finest on the Southern Railway and runs straight through between New Orleans and New York. It consisted of six Pullman sleeping cars, one baggage and two mail cars, all of which were destroyed by wrecking and burning, except two sleepers. The engine and the train were pulled out to make up lost time, it being 40 minutes late.

The deposit on the track made by the landslide was small, amounting to probably two tons of earth, and in all likelihood would not have derailed the engine if it had not been at a sharp curve. The engine turned crosswise on the track and the two postal cars and baggage car were driven over it. In these three cars and the engine, all of which were wrecked, occurred the injuries.

The heap of wreckage took fire at once, the flames spreading to the sleepers. Two sleeping cars were pulled out of danger by a wrecking engine.

Wrecking trains from Charlottesville and Monroe went to the scene of the accident and the road was cleared. A train was made up here and sent to the wreck on Washington, except John W. Turner, the colored fireman, who was taken to the University of Virginia Hospital, and Postal Clerk A. L. Holton, who was left at his home at Culpeper. The dead were brought here.

The loss of mail was one of the heaviest that has occurred in the South. Only about a dozen letters were saved from the fire.

KILLED AT A SPELLING MATCH.

Young Man Shot His Rival and the School Teacher.

Vienna, Ill., (Special).—At a spelling match given at the schoolhouse at Double Bridges, this county, a desperate shooting affray occurred.

Frank Rushing and John Adams, two young men of the neighborhood, had been paying their respects to the same girl, but Rushing had no more to do with her. This so enraged him that he is said to have sworn vengeance on his rival.

At the close of the exercises, as Rushing came out of the schoolhouse door, young Adams walked up behind him and without a word of warning shot him in the back. Rushing fell off the porch, and Adams shot him twice after he had fallen, inflicting fatal wounds.

Adams then shot Greeley Jones, the teacher of the district, inflicting a slight wound in the shoulder.

Veteran Publisher Dead.

Philadelphia, Pa. (Special).—Charles G. Sower, president of the Christopher Sower Company, publishers of school books, died here of angina pectoris, aged 81 years. Mr. Sower was a member of a famous family of publishers, the first of whom, Christopher Sower, was the first to publish in America the Bible in the German language. The publishing house is the oldest in its line in America, having been established in 1783.

An Oil Steamer Burned at Sea.

Charleston, S. C. (Special).—The steamer reported ablaze by the crew of the Oregon Life-Saving Station, in North Carolina, was identified as the oil steamer Major Barrett, bound from Sabine Pass, Texas, to New York.

It is believed some passing vessel rescued the crew of the fire-stricken ship, though no definite information to this effect has been received here.

Committed Suicide by Fire.

Little Rock, Ark. (Special).—A special to the Gazette from Rogers, Ark., says: Mrs. B. F. Dyer, wife of one of the oldest and most prominent business men of Rogers, was fatally burned. Mrs. Dyer saturated her clothes with kerosene and then set fire to them. A daughter of the woman and a young girl were in the house, but were unable to restrain the woman, who had been mentally deranged for some years.

Getting Ahead of St. Louis.

Chicago, (Special).—A challenge for an airship race in Chicago to be held as a preliminary event to the \$200,000 aerial steeplechase at the St. Louis world's fair of 1903, was sent to M. Santos-Dumont, at Paris, by Theophilus Williams, of Chicago. Rules and regulations similar to those that are to be in vogue at the St. Louis fair grounds will govern the contest. Several successful tests of the Chicagoan's machine are said to have been made.

Five Cremated Themselves.

Kosciusko, Miss. (Special).—Five county convicts in an attempt to burn their way out of prison burned the stockade house in which they were confined and cremated themselves. Those burned to death are Robert Burr, Philip Newell, James Cullerson, Amos Ralford and James Jones, all negroes. The prisoners were led to Robert Campbell, county contractor, whose farm is situated 16 miles west of this place. All of them were charged with minor offenses.

Long Journey on Skates.

Menominee, Mich. (Special).—Two Menominee fishermen who were rounded on Chambers Island have arrived home, making the trip a distance of nearly 100 miles—on skates around the southern part of the bay on ice, which still clings to the shore. They say there are still 13 more men on the island, who took refuge there when the ice went out.

J. H. Manley Declines.

Washington, (Special).—Joseph H. Manley, member of the Republican Congressional Committee from Maine, has declined the President's offer of the First Assistant Postmaster-Generalship.

PANAMA CANAL TITLE.

Senator Morgan's Report Attacks the French Company—Charges of Fraud.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—Senator Morgan, from the Committee on Isthmian Canals, presented to the Senate the majority and minority reports of that committee on the question of the validity of the title of the new Panama Canal Company and its right to transfer the Panama Canal property to the United States for \$40,000,000.

The objections of the majority to the title held by that company are based largely on the relations of the canal company to the Governments of France and Colombia, but the committee also discusses at length many other phases of the question. Among these is the relation of the shareholders, who subscribed \$200,000,000 to the old Panama Canal Company, whose interests, the report holds, cannot be lightly regarded. On this point the report says:

"The spectacle of the United States Congress authorizing the President, as the agent of our government, to conduct a trade with such a corporation (the new Panama Company) without consulting France as to the claim of independence of the Panama Canal Company assets will be entirely new in the history of nations, and its consequences cannot be lightly disregarded."

"Among these is the serious danger of the United States being drawn into disagreeable relations with a large and influential body of the worthy people of France, whose friendship for us has been cherished during the entire life of our republic. Unfortunately the report of the Isthmian Canal Commission reveals the fact that the men who make up this offer are chief among those who defrauded the United States of \$250,000,000."

Speaking further of the obligations of the new company to the old, the majority says:

"If Mr. Eiffel and his associates get \$20,000,000 from the American people, it is well that they are sheltered from the claims of these defrauded and despoiled bondholders and stockholders by the alleged despotism of French courts. They would never escape justice in American courts and would be compelled to account for every dollar of the money to the bondholders and to the stocks bearing the profits of the speculation."

The minority report, which was prepared by Senator Kittredge, upholds the title of the new Panama Company, as will be seen from the following extract from the opening paragraph:

"The title of the new Panama Company to its concessions and other property appears from the facts and circumstances which have been laid before the sub-committee, and is clear and free from