

# LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH

## Domestic

Arthur P. Heinz, brother of F. Augustus Heinz, the Montana copper man, obtained a further delay in the execution of the sentence of 10 days imprisonment and \$250 fine imposed for impeding the administration of justice by the mutilation of the books.

The will of Henry Dexter, millionaire founder of the American News Company, bequeaths \$10,000 reward for the murderer of his son, Oswald P. Dexter, killed in the Adirondacks in 1903.

The steamer James Swinton, from New York for Boston, of the Metropolitan Line, went around on the Middle Ground in Vineyard Sound with her cargo on fire.

The Lackawanna Railroad management has come to an amicable agreement with its engineers, granting them an increase which will average 13 per cent.

Nothing has happened in the Pennsylvania strike situation to indicate that the breach between the employees and the officers of the road is closing.

Dr. D. K. Pearson, of Chicago, who has given away \$6,000,000, is about to sell his home in an effort to die peacefully.

Arthur Darmstadter, of Detroit, was killed by being thrown out of an automobile racing with an electric car.

An attempt to blow up the West End Belt Line's new bridge shook the city of Pittsburgh.

United States Commissioner Shields, of New York, held for extradition to Washington, D. C., Edward S. Boggs, Richard E. Preusser, Leo Mayer and Robert A. Guy, members of the firm of E. S. Boggs & Co., with offices in New York, accused of being connected with the operation of a chain of bucketshops.

The Pennsylvania Railroad wage conference resulted in no agreement. It was announced that the railroad men have left the time for calling a strike in the hands of a committee of six, headed by Presidents Garretson and Lee.

Colonel Roosevelt announced his itineraries for his Western tour, to be made during the late summer, and the Southern trip, to be made in October.

President Taft will attend the dedication of the monument to the Pilgrim Fathers at Provincetown, Mass., on August 5.

Former City Councilman A. V. Simon, of Pittsburgh, was sentenced to serve eight months in jail on graft charges.

Three hundred spectators were overcome by the heat while watching the Elks' parade in Detroit, Mich.

One human life was lost and 150 horses were burned to death in a fire at Portland, Ore.

The French colony in New Orleans celebrated the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille.

Joseph R. Stauffer, a millionaire coal and lumber operator of Pennsylvania, is dead.

Pastures withered by the heat may increase the price of milk for New Yorkers.

Mayor White, of Salem, Mass., was sentenced to three years in the house of correction and fined \$1,000 for conspiring to secure confirmation of his appointment for chief of a fire department.

The body of Col. Silas E. Comfort, Vice president of the Pennsylvania Military College, and prominent in city affairs, was found in Leipsville Creek, in the rear of the Colonial Hotel at Leipsville, Pa.

Theodore Roosevelt says he hopes the Jeffries-Johnson fight will be the last in the United States, and that the exhibition of moving pictures of the contest will be stopped.

Mrs. Antoinette Sikora, of New York, was shot by a former lover in a suicide pact, the latter falling to end his life because the revolver missed fire.

Howard Oswald, who was injured in the Big Four wreck at Hamilton, O., is dead, making the twenty-third victim of the accident.

The gunboat *Castine*, rammed by the submarine *Bonita*, during maneuvers off Provincetown, Mass., has been floated.

William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., is being appointed assistant to the president of the Vanderbilt railroads.

Ralph Wescott was killed by lightning striking an iron boat during a cloudburst at Lime Lake, N. Y.

# HE STOLE OVER \$30,000 A MONTH

## And Kept This Up For More Than a Year and a Half.

### LOUISVILLE HAS A BIG DEFAULTER.

More About the Methods Employed by August Ropke in Robbing the Fidelity Trust Company—Would Have Left Only an Empty Shell If He Had Not Been Found Out. He Was Very Economical in His Private Life.

Louisville, Ky. (Special).—Little would soon have been left of the Fidelity Trust Company but an empty shell if the busy hands of August Ropke, now in jail on the charge of making false entries, had not been stayed in their dishonest operations. The partial report of the expert accountants now in the hands of J. W. Barr, Jr., president of the institution, shows that Ropke was dipping into the bank's funds at the rate of \$30,000 a month for the past year and a half.

The great bulk of his pecuniations came in the last two years, during which period he is alleged to have stolen more than \$500,000. The examination by the experts who have been at work on the books shows that his early thefts were in large part restored and were comparatively insignificant alongside his operations since 1908.

From this period up to the time of his detection the size of the amounts taken grew by leaps and bounds. They started at a few thousand a month and increased until they ran as high as \$25,000, \$35,000 and even as high as \$50,000 were stolen in a single month. The books tell in minute detail how August Ropke, the \$1,800-a-year clerk, bookkeeper and assistant secretary, became stricken with a frenzied fear, only to steal staggering sums in the hope of winning back the easy losses. At the rate Ropke was withdrawing money from the bank in increasing sums, had he gone on undetected for another two years, it would have taken millions to replace the pecuniations.

Nearly A Million.

Although Mr. Barr has issued no statement of the exact amount of the thefts from the bank's strong box, he has figured it is said, which are within a few thousand dollars of being final. When the official statement is given out by Mr. Barr it will be seen, it is said, that the bank's total losses run in excess of \$1,000,000. From one source comes the statement that the total losses reach \$850,000, but will not go as high as \$700,000. The directors of the trust company, it is stated, have decided to issue \$1,000,000 of additional capital stock at par, and in well-informed circles this is taken to mean that the shortage will be in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000.

The examination of the books have taken a backward course. The size of the shortages of the present year filled the bank's officials and directors with a panic which continued to lessen as the thefts rapidly decreased upon a further retrospective examination. It was thought at first that Ropke had been stealing at the clip of \$30,000 a month for years, and the thought of what the directors might be liable to indictment upon as many as 20 counts. Following a conviction upon each count and the assessment of the minimum penalty of two years for making a false entry, Ropke now faces a cumulative sentence of 40 years. The opinion around the Criminal Court is that Ropke and the bank officials will probably agree upon certain of the counts, possibly a maximum length of imprisonment.

Sentence May Be Forty Years.

There has been much speculation as to the maximum punishment that might be meted out to Ropke upon conviction. It is apparent from the examination of the bank's books that Ropke is liable to indictment upon as many as 20 counts. Following a conviction upon each count and the assessment of the minimum penalty of two years for making a false entry, Ropke now faces a cumulative sentence of 40 years. The opinion around the Criminal Court is that Ropke and the bank officials will probably agree upon certain of the counts, possibly a maximum length of imprisonment.

Foreign

Earl Grey sailed on the Empress of Britain, from London for Canada, where he will temporarily resume the duties of his office as governor general.

Lieutenant General Viscount Terachi left Seoul to resume his duties as Japanese resident general of Korea.

The pirates on Colowan Island hoisted a flag of truce in order that they might remove their wounded.

The American, British, French and German legations at Peking presented notes to the Chinese Foreign Office, asking the investigation of an edict compelling the Hankow Sze Chuen Railway contract.

Premier Asquith stated in the House of Commons that it was the British government's desire to come to a friendly agreement with Germany looking to the curtailment of armaments.

Some 750,000 people, including thousands of American tourists, witnessed the usual French military review at Longchamps.

The United States cruiser *Tacoma* has sailed from Cuba for Bluefields to relieve the *Peduchac*, which has been ordered home.

The fire from the Portuguese gunboat dislodged the Chinese from their fire on Colowan Island, and many of them were killed.

It is reported that Dr. Lawrence Burghelm, at American, is held a prisoner by the Madriz forces in Nicaragua.

A Rawlison, the English aviator, fell with his biplane at Bourne, England, and was seriously injured.

Thirty-five thousand shipyard workers at Hamburg have demanded an increase of 10 per cent in wages.

Herr Strack, an aviator, fell with a monoplane at Duisberg, Rhenish Prussia, but escaped injury.

# THE MURDER OF MRS. BELLE ELMORE

## Detectives Hunting Dr. Crippen, the Actress' Husband.

### The Finding Of The Battered Body Of The Once Beautiful Music Hall Artist Covered With Quicklime In The Cellar Of Dr. Crippen's House In London—He Wrote His Wife's Relatives In Brooklyn That She Died In California—They Were Married In This Country.

London (Special).—Police and music hall circles in this city are worked up over the murder of Belle Elmore, the beautiful and popular singer and vaudeville performer, whose body has been found in the cellar of the residence of the woman's husband, Dr. Hawley Harvey Crippen, at 39 Hilldrop Crescent, North London. The woman was an actress, and her husband, who has had a varied career in American cities. The detectives of Scotland Yard are hunting for him and they have called the New York department to keep a close watch upon all incoming steamers for him, as it was reported that he sailed for New York Saturday.

The case is strikingly similar to that of the Charlton murder at Lake Como, Italy. Both women were actresses who left their American homes to meet death by violence in a foreign land. In each instance the police pursued the American husband to the shores of his native land. Porter Chadron was arrested in Hoboken, but in the absence of an extradition treaty between the United States and Italy specifically providing for the return to either country of a citizen of the other country who has committed a crime abroad, may go free.

No Legal Loophole.

In the present case no such complications are probable, as the British-American extradition treaty leaves no loophole of which a suspected criminal may avail himself. The London police have made a definite charge against Dr. Crippen, and propose to get him with the co-operation of the American authorities.

Dr. Crippen, who is a dentist, 50 years of age, has made his home for several years in the east of England, North London. Sometime ago his wife, Belle Elmore, a vaudeville actress and treasurer of the Music Hall Artists' Guild, disappeared, and subsequently a notice of her death appeared in the local papers. The fact of her demise was generally credited, but there was more or less gossip among the woman's intimates, and this finally reached the ears of the police. The latter visited Dr. Crippen and the interview appeared to be satisfactory.

It is very much regretted that to conserve all of my estates, a receiver-ship became necessary. This course affords absolute protection for all of my obligations, as well as protection for myself.

My assets are more than double the amount of my obligations. I don't expect the receivership to continue any great length of time. I have properties of great value, and it is only a question of being permitted to dispose of them without sacrifice to pay all my obligations.

# WASHINGTON BY TELEGRAPH

Steps have been taken by the Department of Justice for putting into effect the law enacted by Congress for paroling United States prisoners.

Investigation has shown the State of New York to be a large loser in revenue from stock transfer stamps by an illicit business.

Brodie L. Duke, the tobacco magnate, has given his young bride a handsome business building in Durham, N. C.

It is believed that a complete reorganization of the Marine Corps will result from the recent controversy.

James Pierson, a farmer, was killed while in a buggy by a trolley car near Logansport, Ind.

William Lyon, a handbook maker, committed suicide in his cell.

The State of Utah is granted title to 34,823 acres of public lands.

They are located in the Salt Lake City and Kane districts and represent indemnity to the state for the loss of school lands.

The President has pardoned Rev. James R. Kaye, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for making molds in the similitude of silver coin.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has announced that advances in freight rates on cattle and dressed beef had not been suspended.

The foreign commerce of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30 was \$2,250,000,000.

Another period of watching importations from South American countries to prevent the introduction of the foot and mouth disease, has been inaugurated by the Departments of Agriculture and Treasury.

The Interstate Commerce Commission announced its intention to suspend all tariffs, including general and important rates advances, pending investigation into the reasonableness of the proposed advances.

The international office conference to be held at The Hague next week will have a very general representation of the powers, according to the latest information reaching the State Department.

The Treasury Department abolished the post of surveyor of customs at Port Jefferson, N. Y., out of pity for A. N. Randall, who wanted to resign the office, but could not do so.

An arrangement has been effected between the United States and Canada by which a conference will be held shortly in respect to international railway rates.

William Pittman, an American, captured by the Madriz forces in Nicaragua, was found starving in a ditch near in Mangua by Consul Olivares.

# COLONEL J. M. GUFFEY IN DIFFICULTIES

## Millionaire Pennsylvanian in Receiver's Hands.

### IS SAID TO OWE ABOUT \$6,700,000.

Democratic National Committeeman and Oil and Coal King of Pittsburgh Has Unsecured Obligations of \$6,700,000—Worth Seventeen Millions—The Colonel Declares His Assets Double His Obligations and That He Will Pay Every Cent He Owes.

Pittsburgh, Pa. (Special).—Col. James M. Guffey, a multimillionaire oil man, has gone into the hands of a receiver, who was appointed by Judge Joseph M. Swearingin, in the Common Pleas Court of this county. The action was taken upon a bill in equity filed by J. H. Galey and John S. Willard, who is familiar with Colonel Guffey's affairs, was named as receiver.

The bill filed alleges that Colonel Guffey's indebtedness is about \$6,700,000, of which about \$3,900,000 is unsecured; that the defendant has no ready money with which to meet the payments due, and that certain creditors are threatening to sell his collaterals and enter suits.

It is further asserted that Colonel Guffey has assets of over \$17,000,000, a large part of which is stock of the J. M. Guffey Company and the West Virginia Company, two coal companies, which own 136,700 acres of coking coal in the State of West Virginia. These properties are valued to be worth at least \$15,000,000, and the bill in equity maintains that they are estimated to contain 2,000,000,000 tons of coal, which, at a profit of 1 per cent per ton, would realize \$20,000,000. Other assets of Colonel Guffey are valued at \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 consist of stocks and bonds of other corporations.

All of these stocks and bonds are pledged as collateral, and the receiver-ship was found necessary to prevent a series of sales of the collaterals. The order of court restrains all creditors from disposing of any of the collateral securities or other assets of Colonel Guffey pending further order of the court. Colonel Guffey in a statement said:

"I have much regret that to conserve all of my estates, a receiver-ship became necessary. This course affords absolute protection for all of my obligations, as well as protection for myself.

My assets are more than double the amount of my obligations. I don't expect the receivership to continue any great length of time. I have properties of great value, and it is only a question of being permitted to dispose of them without sacrifice to pay all my obligations.

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Assistant Paymaster Lawrence G. Haughey, of Indiana, was dismissed from the Navy on a charge of embezzlement.

Postmaster General Hitchcock sailed from New York for Europe.

# BALLOON BURSTS AND FIVE MEN ARE KILLED

## A Frightful Aerial Disaster in Rhenish Prussia.

### Oscar Erbsloeh, the Inventor Of The Wrecked Dirigible, Who Won The International Cup At The St. Louis Exposition Races, One Of The Victims—The Balloon Had Met With Two Previous Accidents Gloom Caused In Aviation Circles By Disaster.

Leichlingen, Rhenish Prussia (Special).—Falling through space a distance of nearly 1,000 feet Oscar Erbsloeh, noted aeronaut and inventor, winner of the international balloon race held in America in 1907 and one of the most promising of German experimenters in aerial flight, and four companions were dashed to death in a field near Opladen.

The dead are: Oscar Erbsloeh, inventor and balloonist; Herr Toelle, a manufacturer of Barmen; Engineer Kranz; Engineer Toeppke; and Motorman Spiecke.

The bodies of the aviators were frightfully mangled. The gondola was torn to bits and the motor buried itself beneath the surface of the ground.

The victims were men well known to German experimenters in aerial feats, and Erbsloeh gained an international reputation when, in 1907, at St. Louis, he won the international cup in the distance race for balloons.

The Erbsloeh was constructed last year and had had a dubious career. The first time it descended it crashed into a clump of trees and its occupants narrowly escaped injury.

A few days ago, during a trial flight, a propeller was broken. The balloon, which was of the nonrigid type, had to be inflated over preparatory to the establishment of a passenger service between Elberfeld and nearby points. Today it was inflated for a final test by the crew. The ascent was made near Opladen and during a fair breeze.

According to these the start was well made. The Erbsloeh rose gracefully, pushing its way through the fog to a height estimated at several hundred yards. At this altitude a series of evolutions was begun. To the onlookers the airship appeared to obey her helm perfectly.

Suddenly there was a loud report, and at the moment the fore part of the vessel crumpled up and the gondola was twisted about until it appeared as though it were standing on one end. As the gas escaped from the forward compartment the prowsay downward. For a flash the airship fluttered like a wounded bird and then fell swiftly to earth.

The bodies of the victims were removed to the morgue. That of Erbsloeh would not have been recognized had it been found alone. One of the engineers was pierced through the breast by a piece of the wreckage. The eyes of the other engineer were gouged out. The hands of all five were tightly clutched as though they had held desperately to the car as it shot downward. All their limbs were broken. Their shoes were torn from their feet. A group of peasants who left their work in the fields and rushed to the scene of the disaster, standing on one end. As the gas escaped from the forward compartment the prowsay downward. For a flash the airship fluttered like a wounded bird and then fell swiftly to earth.

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