



ADmits MURDERS

Mueller Says He Killed Three Confiding Women.

ALL FOR THE SAKE OF MONEY

Wife Says That After He Slew Anna Luther He Tried to Murder Her Because She Refused Him \$300.

Islip, N. Y., Oct. 28.—In the jail here, where he is held as the slayer of Anna Luther, Otto Mueller, alias Gebhardt, admitted to Coroner Savage that he has been guilty of three such crimes, all against confiding women, for the purpose of securing their money.

Mrs. Mueller, after visiting her husband, declared that on the night of the Sunday he had taken her to the scene of Anna Luther's death, three weeks prior to the discovery of his crime, and attempted to murder her on returning to their home in Astoria because she refused to give him her savings, \$300.

"I hope he goes to the electric chair," she almost shouted. "I hate him. He can't be made to pay for his crimes any too soon to suit me."

These are the crimes for which Mueller is now believed by the police to be responsible:

The desertion of Minnie Rosenau, whom he married as Otto Mueller in Russia in 1895. He secured all her money, amounting to \$400.

Desertion of Lena Wessner, whom he promised to marry under the name of Fritz Scharferlein in 1896. Convicted of grand larceny on evidence furnished by her and served in Sing Sing until Aug. 18, 1905. The prisoner confessed this charge. Secured from the girl \$340.

The murder of Mrs. Marie Katz of Jamaica, N. Y., who was lured from her home in January, 1905. The woman died three days later, and Mueller disappeared with \$700 of her money.

In February, 1906, married Anna Melnik, with whom he was living as Frederick Gebhardt in Astoria, Long Island City, at the time of his arrest on last Sunday. Secured \$800.

In February, 1908, married Anna Luther in Newark, N. J. She is reported to have had about \$1,000. He admits he murdered her in the woods near Islip.

In February of the same year is said to have married Katie Lanz, who disappeared immediately thereafter. Used the name of Mueller.

At the time of Mueller's arrest in 1896 it was discovered that he had a wife living, although he was putting advertisements in the matrimonial column of a German newspaper.

These advertisements bore the heading, "After Cash—Not a Wife." How many young women he duped and robbed in these operations the authorities are unable to ascertain. But two of them combined to undo him and set the trap which finally caused his sojourn in prison. It is definitely known that he has married three times.

"Mueller is the most dangerous customer I ever handled," said Coroner Savage. "I believe he has made a business of swindling women with his promises of marriage."

WOMAN FLIES WITH WRIGHT.

Wife of Army Officer in the Passenger's Seat in Aeroplane.

College Park, Md., Oct. 28.—Wilbur Wright practically concluded his work as dean of the government school of applied aeronautics here and took up in his aeroplane Mrs. H. H. Van Deman, wife of a captain in the Twenty-first United States Infantry. The flight lasted four minutes, the aeroplane making two circuits around the track.

Mrs. Van Deman had the honor of being the first woman to make a flight in a heavier than air machine in this country. She is a close friend of Miss Katherine Wright, who made a flight with Wilbur at Pau, France, and was almost a daily visitor both at the Fort Myer flights and those at College Park.

Mrs. Van Deman later expressed briefly some of her sensations.

"I know why the birds sing when they can fly through the air," she said. "I know of no sensation to compare with it. I was not afraid. Why should I be? It was too delicious to make one afraid. I don't know how long I was up, except it was too short a time."

Jail For Savings Bank Officials.

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 28.—Justice Edward Bartlett of the court of appeals has refused a certificate of reasonable doubt in the case of Colonel Edward E. Britton and former Quarantine Commissioner Fred H. Schroeder, whose conviction and sentence to jail for misapplying funds of the Eagle Savings and Loan company was affirmed by the court of appeals.

ASTOR TESTIMONY ALL IN.

Referee Said to Have Decided in Wife's Favor in Suit.

New York, Oct. 28.—Charles H. Young, referee in the suit for divorce brought by Mrs. John Jacob Astor against her husband, has completed his taking of testimony and within a day or so he will make his report to Justice Mills of the supreme court. It is said that he has decided in favor of the wife and will recommend that a decree be given to her.

Further, it is said that a financial agreement has been reached between the attorneys for Mrs. Astor and those representing the colonel and that there will be a division of property in lieu of alimony.

Mrs. Astor will not receive the Astor mansion at Rhinebeck-on-the-Hudson nor the big house on Fifth avenue facing the park. Both these mansions will be kept by Colonel Astor for his young son, Vincent.

Certain other valuable properties, however, will come into the possession of Mrs. Astor.

Mrs. Astor has not been required to give any testimony before Referee Young. All the testimony necessary to prove the charge made against the colonel was given by other persons.

NEW HAVEN R. R. STOCK ISSUE

New Shares to the Amount of \$62,500,000 Voted Unanimously.

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 28.—At the annual stockholders' meeting of the New Haven road in this city it was voted unanimously on motion of J. Pierpont Morgan to issue 500,000 shares of new stock instead of 400,000, as had been originally planned.

This new stock will be issued to stockholders at \$125 per share, payable in four installments at intervals of six months. The sale of this stock will bring to the road \$62,500,000.

It is provided that the directors are to expend the funds obtained by this issue of new stock as follows:

"First.—To pay all the floating indebtedness of the New Haven road.

"Second.—To invest the balance of the proceeds in such manner as in their judgment will be best adapted to insure the prosperity of the company and enable the corporation to earn and thereby maintain in the future the same rate of dividend as is at present paid to the stockholders."

TO IMPEACH EX-PREMIER.

New Danish Cabinet Accuses Three Former Ministers.

Copenhagen, Oct. 28.—The new cabinet has resolved to impeach ex-Premier Christensen, ex-Minister of the Interior Berg and ex-Minister of Agriculture Hansen for misusing their ministerial powers.

The former ministers are accused of protecting in the commission of frauds P. A. Alberti, who was minister of justice in the Christensen cabinet and who resigned under pressure about a year ago after it was discovered that he was an embezzler to the amount of several million dollars.

ROAD TO SPEND \$85,000,000.

New York Central Says Its Traffic Is Expanding Enormously.

New York, Oct. 28.—The New York Central railway system has started on a campaign of extraordinary expenditures for improving and extending its lines in order to meet the enormous increase of traffic demands. President W. C. Brown said:

"We have placed contracts during the past few days for new equipment to be delivered during 1910 involving an expenditure of about \$25,000,000. In addition, we shall spend about \$60,000,000 in reducing grades, straightening curves and for new trackage. The electrical and terminal improvements in New York city have cost so far been \$45,000,000 and \$50,000,000. They will be pushed rapidly to completion."

"These improvements are absolutely necessary to meet the demands of business. The expansion of traffic during the past few months has been simply extraordinary."

MC'CARREN'S ESTATE SMALL.

It Will Not Exceed \$50,000, It Is Thought—Aged Mother to Get It.

New York, Oct. 28.—The will of the late Senator McCarren, which was made in St. Catherine's hospital while he was ill there, will be presented for probate tomorrow.

The estate will be much smaller than was generally supposed, not exceeding, it is said by those familiar with the late senator's affairs, \$50,000.

The aged mother of the testator is the sole beneficiary. The senator's holdings of bonds, stocks and securities were considerable, but his liabilities were also large.

Will of Ward McAllister's Widow.

New York, Oct. 28.—The will of Sarah T. McAllister, widow of Ward McAllister, leaves all her property to her daughter, Louise, and her son, Hayward Hall McAllister. The value of the estate is \$200,000.

COULD WEDDING?

"Mr. and Mrs. Frank J." Leave London For Paris.

DIVORCE ONLY RECENTLY GOT

Millionaire's Puzzled Friends Recall the Suddenness of His Former Marriage to Miss Helen Kelly of New York.

London, Oct. 28.—"Has Frank Jay Gould secretly married again, following the divorce decree granted to his wife only recently?"

This question is puzzling Americans in London after the announcement from the Savoy hotel, where the young American millionaire has been stopping for several days, and which reads like the announcement of a marriage. It was as follows:

"Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Gould and suit left the Savoy hotel today for Paris."

The announcement was issued after the departure of Mr. Gould, and he could not be located by telegrams to Paris. The hotel management says Mr. Gould's marriage is no secret and that he was stopping at the hotel with Mrs. Gould and their servants. They fail to identify the woman they call the wife of Mr. Gould except that she is Mrs. Gould and a remarkably beautiful woman.

Friends of the young millionaire in London declare they have no knowledge of his marriage or even his engagement and that the announcement from the Hotel Savoy is a great surprise to all of them. They do not know whether a mistake has been made by the hotel or whether Mr. Gould was married secretly and managed to conceal the facts from his friends while he was in London.

It is recalled here that Mr. Gould showed himself to be impulsive in his wooing on the occasion of his first marriage to Miss Helen Kelly. They made up their minds to get married on a Sunday night. Mrs. Kelly told them "all right," and a minister was called to the house next day. A few of the Goulds and friends of the Kelly family were present, and they were married within twenty-four hours after they had made up their minds.

"Perhaps Mr. Gould has planned another surprise," said a friend who lodged in the same hotel.

Except for the custody of the children the divorce of Frank Gould and his wife was made absolute by the decree of Justice Gerard and by the payment by the young millionaire of a lump sum to his wife in lieu of dowry.

It was rumored here when he arrived that an understanding had been reached by which his two little girls were to be placed almost entirely in the hands of his sister, Miss Helen Gould, who has been devoted to them.

The divorce decree left Gould free to marry again. It was provided, however, that if his wife marries again the custody of the children will rest more with the father than with the mother.

SNUB FOR W. J. BRYAN.

Shallenberger Refuses to Let Him Write Nebraska's Next Platform.

Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 28.—Governor Shallenberger and William J. Bryan have had a rift over who shall write the next Democratic state platform in Nebraska, and Shallenberger has not only refused to get out of the way of Mr. Bryan, but has said that since the number of votes cast for him exceeded those cast for Bryan in the last election it is up to Bryan to stand aside and let Shallenberger write the platform.

C. W. Bryan, brother of William J. Bryan, was the emissary between Bryan and Shallenberger. He said to Shallenberger that his brother desired very much to run for senator in Nebraska and also to write the platform of the party.

Shallenberger refused and announced that as a candidate for governor he would write his own platform, and Bryan could do as he pleased about the senatorship.

SIR THOMAS LIPTON AMUSED.

Denies That He Will Build Challenger For America's Cup in Canada.

New York, Oct. 28.—Sir Thomas Lipton is very much amused with the statement that he will build a yacht in Canada and challenge through a Canadian club for a race for the America's cup. The report has been circulated in all seriousness and has grown so that he thinks it well to contradict it at once.

He is here to arrange a race if possible through one of his own clubs, the Royal Ulster or the Royal Irish Yacht club, and not to boom some Canadian club.

JOHNSON TO MEET JEFFRIES.

Negro Heavyweight Arrives in New York Eager to Make Terms.

New York, Oct. 28.—Jack Johnson arrived in town today from Chicago to talk business with James J. Jeffries in a personal interview. The negro heavyweight champion said he was anxious to agree upon terms for the fight as speedily as possible.

The mere fact that Johnson and Jeffries come together for a talk does not necessarily mean that the fight is a sure thing, because there are many points that may cause a hitch. Before a battle in the ring is a certainty the pugilists must mutually concur on these important questions to be embodied in articles of agreement:

Time and place for the fight.
Amount of side bet and dates of posting forfeits.
Selection of temporary and final stakeholder.

Date for accepting largest purse offered by a responsible promoter.
Division of said purse.
Number of rounds.

Rules to govern the contest.
Selection of a referee, timekeeper and other officials.
Wearing of bandages on the hands.
Weight of the gloves.

Even if articles containing these provisions are signed and sealed the fight can be blocked by either principal. There can be a deadlock over the purse or the selection of the referee or stakeholder.

DICKINSON FOR SENATOR.

Secretary of War Becomes a Conditional Candidate in Tennessee.

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 28.—Conditionally declaring himself a candidate to succeed Senator James B. Frazier of Tennessee, Secretary of War Jacob M. Dickinson made the following statement:

"If it should appear to me, as has been urged, that my candidacy would be the means of unifying present war-



JACOB M. DICKINSON.

ring factions in the Democratic party I should consider it my duty to sink personal inclinations and accept the situation, though my present position as secretary of war would prevent my making any unseemly scramble for the place."

Judge Dickinson declared himself highly flattered and gratified by the favorable comment of the Tennessee press and the personal opinions expressed by men of high standing all over the state. His chances are considered good.

CATAclySM ON PLANET MARS.

All Life Likely to Be Destroyed—Sunspot Upheaval Perhaps.

London, Oct. 28.—The journal of the British Astronomical association, referring to the changes observed in Mars, says these phenomena are unparalleled in past records. The obliteration of the markings on the surface of the planet by a gloomy yellow veil indicates some catastrophe on a gigantic scale, some cataclysm which dwarfs the most violent tellurian earthquake.

Perhaps the abnormal electrical conditions of the sun, which, according to Sir Oliver Lodge, the noted scientist, caused the recent magnetic storms on the earth, had a far more terrible influence on Mars. They may have unloosed forces which, if Professor Lowell's theory concerning conditions on Mars is correct, may have ended forever the Martians' struggle for life.

DUELIST FORGETS TO FIRE.

Playwright, Facing Critic on Field of Honor, Has Stage Fright.

Paris, Oct. 28.—Henri Bernstein, the dramatist, and Francis Chevassu, a dramatic critic, fought a duel with pistols at Prince park. Neither was injured.

M. Chevassu fired and missed, while Bernstein did not discharge his weapon. When he was asked later why he had not fired the dramatist replied, "I forgot to."

The duel grew out of the publication of an article written by Bernstein in which he attacked the critic. M. Chevassu issued the challenge.

CUSTOMS FRAUDS

Government Employees in League With Importers.

COURT CRITICISES COLLECTOR

Judge Holt Says Loeb's Action in Keeping Confessedly Dishonest Weighers in Public Service Is Wrong.

New York, Oct. 28.—Importers and merchants who have been held up for years by the grafting of custom house inspectors and weighers say that the whole customs service in this city is rotten from the bottom upward.

Scores of merchants who deal in imported goods have been gouged for years by the graft system in the customs service. They submitted to it, they say, because they had to get their shipments into their warehouses, and strict honesty was not possible with many customs men.

The Musica case came to an end in the criminal branch of the United States circuit court when young Philip Musica, an importer, who had pleaded guilty of participation in cheese weighing frauds, was remanded for sentence by Judge George C. Holt, who declared that Collector Loeb's action in retaining self confessed thieves in the customs service was creditable to the government and an injustice to honest men.

Judge Holt spoke very plainly from the bench. Young Musica's guilt had been settled by the testimony of three men—George Brehm, George Berge and William Hutchinson, assistant weighers on the docks—all of whom have a guarantee of immunity from prosecution and were retained in their jobs. They testified coolly that they were dishonest men when they gave evidence against the importer.

"At the end of this trial," Judge Holt remarked, "I want to refer to the testimony of these three government witnesses to the effect that in addition to their being promised immunity from prosecution they were promised retention in their offices in the custom house. I have never heard before of such a practice as promising to continue men in the public service after they have confessed the commission of crimes in the office, and I desire to express the emphatic disapprobation of this court of any such practice."

"In my opinion," continued the judge, "it not only discredits the government, but is unjust to the honest members of the public service in the same class to compel them to continue to act in the company of men who have confessed that they have committed crimes in the discharge of public duty."

William Loeb, Jr., collector of the port, who granted immunity to the three thieves, issued a statement defending his course on the score that it was necessary to keep the three larconists on his payroll because that was the only way the whole system of graft could be uprooted. He said:

"There was moral evidence before me that a wholesale system of graft and corruption had been in existence for years, by which certain merchants entered goods on false invoices, accepted as correct, thus swindling the government out of large amounts of duties. Unfortunately moral evidence is not always legal evidence."

"When the frauds were discovered all the guilty parties agreed among one another to 'stand tight.' If they were prosecuted either jointly or severally the weigher could cook up a statement about his tools being out of order, his work being too rushed for him to give it proper attention, the cases being in bad condition and all sorts of lies calculated to throw dust in the eyes of the jury. The importer would make his testimony fit into this, saying that the goods were consigned, that he never examined the invoices, etc. The government was getting nowhere in its prosecutions, and the rascals were chucking together over their helplessness."

"Under these conditions it was deemed imperative to break into this combination to get the truth from somebody on the inside who knew; to get in an entering wedge and break down this system."

"Judge Holt says that while it might have been proper to grant immunity it was creditable to the government to retain these men in the service. The answer is that without that their testimony could not have been secured. The weighers knew perfectly well that if they were discharged from the service and then testified in court to taking bribes it would be practically impossible for them to secure employment elsewhere, and they and their families might starve."

"It was not a question of choice between having all honest men in the

ent service and keeping four admittedly dishonest in the service. The choice was between keeping dishonest men in the service who they could be easily watched or allowing a great many dishonest men to remain in the service and have them and all the corrupt merchants who had bribed them escape punishment."

CRUELTY CHARGES UPHELD.

Committee Asks Governor Hughes to Clean Out Training School.

New York, Oct. 28.—The state board of charities committee of investigation into charges of cruelty at the Brooklyn Disciplinary Training School for Boys has sent a report to Governor Hughes recommending the "cleaning out" of the institution by the dismissal of the superintendent and other officials.

At the continuation of the inquiry Patrick McCarren, supervising caretaker at the institution, testified that upon the order of the superintendent he had taken a boy inmate to the library, and stripped him for punishment. The superintendent beat the naked boy with a stick until the blood flowed so that when the beating was over McCarren, at the superintendent's order, had to mop the blood up from the floor.

Abraham N. Fauer, stenographer and clerk, testified that the books of the institution did not keep a record of all of the corporal punishments inflicted upon inmates. He had seen the superintendent beat an inmate named Charles Bachelier with his cane, gashing his scalp open until it bled freely. The superintendent, he said, had in his office a bunch of bamboo sticks, and when a boy was reported for an infraction of rules the superintendent selected a stick according to the boy's age.

"Is there not something printed on the rules about the rod and child?" he was asked.

"Spoil the rod and spare the child," he replied, "and they spoil the rods all right on the boys' backs."

ESTRADA TO ZELAYA BACKERS

Says Revolt Aims Only to Depose Nicaraguan President.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Oct. 28 (By wireless to Colon).—General Juan Estrada, the insurgent leader, has sent the following dispatch to adherents of President Zelaya, who condemned his action in heading a revolution:

"We are sure of victory. We fight not against Nicaraguans nor the Liberals. We seek the sole solution of the deplorable situation prevailing in the country. If Zelaya will resign power we will lay down our arms at once. Not having honor or patriotism he will not do this, and we will arrive at Managua and force him from the presidency, which he so discredits, at the point of the bayonet."

"He destroys society and menaces civilization. We will fight against our brothers and fathers if the welfare of the nation so requires. This is our irrevocable decision."

A majority of the government troops who were defeated in the engagements at San Carlos have joined General Chamorro, one of the rebel commanders, who is guarding the coast from attack by way of the San Juan valley.

GEN. BOOTH PARTLY BLIND.

One Eye Sightless, the Other Weak. Cheerful Public Address.

London, Oct. 28.—General William Booth, head of the Salvation Army, has resumed his activities, appearing for the first time since he underwent an operation on his eyes at a largely attended meeting of Salvationists at Clifton, which he addressed with his customary cheerful energy.

He has lost completely the use of one eye, and the other is imperfect, but his doctor has told him that it may last for five years.

PIERCE WELCH DIES IN PARIS

New Haven Bank President Succumbs to an Attack of Pneumonia.

Berlin, Oct. 28.—Pierce M. Welch, president of the First National bank of New Haven, Conn., died suddenly at a hotel here of pneumonia.

His wife and daughter, who were with him, will take the body to America on board the steamship George Washington, which sails from Bremen next Tuesday.

BOY BURIED IN CAVE-IN.

Subsidence Over Old Mine Engulfs Youngster and May Cause Death.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 28.—One of the many subsidences of the surface over old mine workings which have been doing much damage at Edwardsville engulfed ten-year-old Hugh Hughes. A number of other children had narrow escapes.

While playing in Center street the youngsters felt the ground giving way and ran. Young Hughes was swallowed up, however, only the heel of his shoe showing. Some miners risked their lives by jumping into the hole and got the boy out alive, but unconscious. He was injured internally by the weight of the earth which covered him and is in a critical condition.