

Danish West Indies Purchase

Investigation Into the Alleged Scandal Begun—Gron on the Stand—Details Method of Securing the Christmas Report—Parties Who Sent Him to Washington Members of the Danish Upper House.

Washington, April 1.—The investigation of charges made in connection with the Danish West Indies purchase was begun today before the special committee appointed by Speaker Henderson. Besides the members of the committee there was present Niels Gron, who brought the charges to the attention of Representative Richardson and quite a number of interested spectators.

The British ship Maxwell, of 1,135 tons, Capt. Young, left San Francisco October 30 for Hull.

Mr. Gron was the first witness sworn by Chairman Dailzell. The witness swore to good English with a slight Danish accent. He said that in February last parties in Copenhagen who opposed the transfer of the Danish West Indies to the United States conferred with him and brought to his attention the Christmas report.

Chairman Dailzell asked who these parties were. The witness said they were members of the Danish upper house, but he did not know their names. Mr. Gron said he was at present the representative in this country of these parties.

Mr. Gron gave way temporarily to Representative Alexander of Buffalo, who desired to make a complete disclaimer of any knowledge of Christmas or the Danish transaction. Mr. Alexander said he had never seen Christ-Grøn had never spoken to anyone in or out of Congress as to the Danish treaty, and never heard it discussed by anyone, until the recent presentation of the matter to the house.

Continuing his statement, Mr. Gron explained how the Danish parties opposing a sale of the islands had persuaded him to come to Washington and place the Christmas report before Congress and the public, so that the facts would be known. He told of having secured a note of introduction to Gen. Grosvener of Ohio, of arranging to meet the latter in Washington, his purpose being, he said, to carry out assurances given at Copenhagen that he would place the matter before influential men and thus bring it to the attention of Congress and the public. Mr. Gron told in great detail of bringing the matter before Gen. Grosvener, who at first seemed quite indignant, Mr. Gron said, and spoke of laying the matter before the proper parties in Denmark. This was done and Mr. Gron said he learned that the state department held that it could take no action and that the authorities here had placed the matter committed themselves to Christmas.

Gron said that after Gen. Grosvener had decided not to proceed with the matter he (Gron) had pressed a statement for the Associated Press and had asked Mr. Crane, a newspaper man, to send someone from the Associated Press to him for the statement, and also to Gen. Grosvener for assurance as to Gen. Grosvener's standing. He learned later through Mr. Crane that Gen. Grosvener

Collins Tragedy Still a Mystery

Officers Cannot Throw Any Light Upon It—Inquest Not Expected to Disclose Anything New—Murder or Suicide?

The county attorney was busily engaged this morning having witnesses summoned to testify at the inquest which is now being held in Justice Nelson's court, over the body of Samuel Collins.

The first act of the jury selected, was to view the remains and then hear the testimony of the various persons who were on the scene of the tragedy when the body was removed from the cave.

As yet the opinions of the authorities are greatly divided as to whether Collins committed suicide or was murdered. Some of those who were inclined to the former theory last night, now express a belief that the aged man was murdered. Probably a majority of the police officers hold to the suicide theory, but nevertheless they admit there are many things that point to a murder, and they are following up with great care every semblance of a clue.

Early this morning Officers Roberts and Gillespie, who have worked untiringly on the case, went to the scene of the tragedy, for the purpose of making a more thorough and systematic search for the missing clothes, grip and the knife with which the deed was committed.

As some of the officers say, the facts leading up to the killing point to suicide, but after that they point to murder. The developments of today show that Collins possessed a very sharp knife and a razor. Officers Gillespie and Roberts were informed this morning by persons who were acquainted with the dead man, that several days ago Collins exhibited a knife, and to convince those whom he talked, that he had a razor, he showed them a razor which he had with him.

Where is the knife? If he killed himself with it, what did he do with it? Some of the officers think it quite probable that he threw it out of the cave and that some boy picked it up and is afraid to make that fact known.

Officer Collins said that he saw a chase that on one occasion Collins brought a razor to town and had it sharpened. He asked Collins to shave him, but Collins refused to do so. He would cut the old gentleman, Collins replied, says the boy, that it didn't matter he didn't care. He also said he never shaved himself before.

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WILL MAKE INQUIRY.

National Guard Officers Want an Ordinance Accounting.

The following order from National Guard headquarters was issued today: A board of officers will convene at the armory in Salt Lake City on Monday, April 7, 1902, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to take evidence and if possible fix the responsibility for the loss of certain articles of ordnance stored for which the government of the state of Utah is accountable, also to take testimony as to how certain articles of ordnance became in an unusable condition, and report conclusions and recommendations.

Detail for the board—Capt. J. A. Greenwald, Lieut. W. G. Williams, Lieut. Nathan A. Ray.

H. S. Smith, Lieut. Geo. W. Lunt, company A, first infantry, is hereby granted a leave of absence for a period of three months, ending May 25, 1902. By order of the commanding officer, CHAS. BURTON, Adjutant-General.

OTHER ORDERS.

The following orders were issued today from national guard headquarters: Lieut. Colonel Edward Perry is hereby granted a leave of absence for a period of ten days, dating from today, with permission to leave the state of Utah on or before April 10, 1902. At an election held by company E, first infantry, at Bonifield, Utah, on Saturday, March 23, 1902, Corporal John Dunbar was elected second lieutenant. This officer will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

PREPARING FOR A TELEPHONE CONCERT.

General Superintendent D. S. Murray of the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company will make a series of experiments, as soon as Organist McClellan is ready for him, with the placing of megaphone telephones in front of the choir gallery in the Tabernacle. There will be four or more of these instruments, all connected with a trunk wire to receive and conduct the combined sounds from the megaphones along the county roads. The life of the franchise is set forth in the petition as being 15 years. The routes of the proposed lines lie between Payson at the south and Lehi to the north, in addition it is proposed to build two roads, paralleled by the telephone line from Provo to Utah Lake, one over the Provo bench and one through Lake View and Incey. It is the intention to operate the roads by electricity, the storage battery system being utilized as motive power. Work on the new lines is promised as soon after the granting of the franchise as it is possible. The cost of construction and equipment is set forth as half a million dollars.

The names of the petitioners are Reed Smith, James E. Smith, C. E. Loane and Samuel B. Thurman.

The county commissioners took the matter under advisement, the general sentiment, however, is that the necessary franchise will be granted.

Peace Movement In Transvaal.

Steyn and Delatoy to Meet Schalkbarger—Military Operations Not Suspended—De Villiers Sends in Flag of Truce Asking for Terms—Albotts Calls Meeting to Discuss Proposal for General Surrender.

Pretoria, Monday, March 31.—President Steyn and Gen. Delatoy have been located and a meeting between them and Acting President Schalkbarger is expected to be arranged without further delay. It is reported that Gen. Delatoy will also attend the conference. Commandant Meers has sent in word that his command will abide by the decision of the Boer government.

Commandant De Villiers, who has been operating in the Kimberley district, has sent in a flag of truce, asking for terms.

The peace movement, however, has in no way interfered with the military operations. The British are again sweeping

RAILROAD FOR UTAH COUNTY.

Reed Smoot and Associates to Build One Between Lehi and Payson—Will Cost \$500,000—Franchise Asked For—Ready to Begin Work.

(Special to the "News.")

Provo, April 1.—A petition was presented to the commissioners of Utah county this morning asking for a franchise for railroad and telephone lines along the county roads. The life of the franchise is set forth in the petition as being 15 years. The routes of the proposed lines lie between Payson at the south and Lehi to the north, in addition it is proposed to build two roads, paralleled by the telephone line from Provo to Utah Lake, one over the Provo bench and one through Lake View and Incey. It is the intention to operate the roads by electricity, the storage battery system being utilized as motive power. Work on the new lines is promised as soon after the granting of the franchise as it is possible. The cost of construction and equipment is set forth as half a million dollars.

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ELEVEN MEN DROWN IN A SHIP COLLISION.

London, April 1.—Eleven men were drowned in the collision between the steamship Alma and the British ship Cambrian Princess, Capt. Roberts, from Peru for Antwerp. The latter sank immediately and eleven of her crew perished. The Alma returned to Southampton badly damaged. The collision occurred at 2:30 a. m. during foggy weather. The Alma struck the Cambrian Princess on the starboard quarter, ripping her side

NO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS.

Returns Received Up to This Afternoon Show That Proposition Has Been Defeated—Superintendent Ashton Favors Submitting It Again.

The returns already received by County Superintendent Ashton of the vote taken last night on the matter of establishing high schools in three districts in the county, indicate that the proposition has been defeated in all the districts. It is thought that the only objection to the proposition was that it would increase the taxation. The returns as received are as follows:

First district—Draper, 7 for, 21 against; Riverton, 23 for, 3 against; East Jordan, 21 for, 19 against; Union, 5 for, 27 against; Bufordale, South Jordan, West Jordan, Butterville and Crescent precincts have not been heard from.

Second district—Murray district 34, 11 yes, 41 no; Murray district 25, 14 yes, 10 no; Murray district 23, 14 yes and 14 no; Taylorsville and South Taylorsville not reported.

Third district—Hunter, 12 yes and 3 no; Granger districts 46 and 59 and Pleasant Green districts have not reported.

Mr. Ashton is of the opinion that the districts not heard from will nearly all be against it. It is his intention to resubmit the proposition for another vote as soon as the returns are all in.

The residents of East Jordan voted in favor of levying a tax of 15 mills for the purpose of raising a fund for a new school building. It is proposed to erect an 8-room building to cost about \$10,000. The proposed tax would raise about \$5,000 and the district has \$2,000 on hand and it would be necessary to borrow \$3,000 to complete the building. The vote on levying the tax was 25 for and 19 against.

APPROPRIATION FOR FISH HATCHERY

[Special to the "News."] Washington, D. C., April 1.—Senator Hard from the committee on fisheries reported favorably the bill of Senator Rawlins making an appropriation of \$25,000 for the establishment of a fish hatchery and fish stations in Utah.

Senator Rawlins presented in the senate a number of petitions from laboring organizations in Utah, praying for the enactment of a law for the further restriction of immigration to this country.

PENSIONS.

Pensions granted: Utah—Oren J. Rogers, Salt Lake City, \$10; renewal, \$10.

HAYES WILL SUCCEED NOYES

[Special to the "News."] Washington, D. C., April 1.—The president has decided to appoint A. B. Hayes of Oregon as the successor of Judge Noyes at Nome, Alaska. Dr. S. H. Allen and wife of Provo are in the city.

TWO SHIFTS NOW.

Quincy Makes Change Today—Will Have New Foreman.

[Special to the "News."] Park City, Utah, April 1.—Foreman Mike Harrington of the Quincy resigned

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

In Chicago a Hot Fight Made on "Bathhouse John"—Voting on Township Government—Much Interest in Milwaukee—Church People Take a Hand in Kansas.

Chicago, April 1.—The official address election is being held today. The polls opened at 6 o'clock and will close at 10 o'clock. The early vote was light, as had been expected. The hottest fight has been waged in the first ward, where Alderman Coughlin, better known in many cities as "Bathhouse John," is running for re-election against David L. Frank, who has the support of the reform organizations. The Frank forces have made many charges of illegal registration against the Coughlin camp, and on some of them the grand jury has acted.

A feature of the day in the first ward was the absence of the regular policemen on their accustomed beats. A complaint was made to the mayor that the regular policemen were working for Coughlin. Yesterday the mayor issued an order transferring the policemen for the time being, and bringing into the ward policemen from the outside district who could have no affiliation with either camp.

Besides the vote for aldermen, the citizens are voting for or against the establishment of township governments within the city. This townships are of the Chicago's smaller days.

A separate ballot was provided to allow the voters to express their opinion regarding municipal ownership of public utilities and the nomination of party candidates by direct vote of the people.

INTERESTING TIME IN MILWAUKEE.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 1.—Municipal elections are being held throughout Wisconsin today. Great interest centers in the contest in Milwaukee after perhaps the hottest campaign in the history of the city. Mayor David S. Rose (Democrat) is striving for re-election with Chas. Hanson (Republican) and Howard Tuttle (Social Democrat).

At 10 o'clock the election was over. The results were as follows: Mayor, David S. Rose; aldermen and supervisors and a circuit judge in place of Judge Warren D. Tarrant, who was appointed temporarily to succeed the late Judge Eugene S. Elliott, are also being balloted for. The weather was cloudy and cold. A heavy vote was cast early. At Madison a heavy vote is being polled and the party line is being cut to pieces.

IN MISSOURI.

St. Louis, April 1.—Charter elections are being held in many municipalities and towns throughout the state today. The weather is cold and threatening.

CHURCH PEOPLE TAKE A HAND.

Topeka, April 1.—The election in this city today is for six councilmen and members of the school board. A fair sized vote is being polled. The school board, whose son was expelled from the Quincy school for refusing to take part in the religious exercises, is a candidate for member of the school board. A fight is being made on his election by many of the church people.

At noon it was estimated that only 10 per cent of the registered vote had been cast. In the first ward both sides claimed a victory. Detectives acting for the Municipal Voters' league reported to Chief of Police O'Neil that a gang, headed by a local prize fighter, had been organized to intimidate voters known to favor Mr. Frank.

The chief said he believed the report to be true and forthwith issued an order that any member of the gang or other persons seeking to intimidate a voter should be arrested and locked in a cell in the Central station, where, instead of at the armory, which is the levee police station. This order is an unusually stringent one. Up to noon no violence had been reported.

Two saloon keepers were arrested for keeping their places open.

Dr. Thomas Dunn English Dead.

Newark, N. J., April 1.—Dr. Thomas Dunn English died early today. Dr. English was a writer of some note, was widely known as the author of "Ben Holt."

He was born in Philadelphia in 1819 and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania as a doctor of medicine in 1838. Later he studied law and was admitted to the Philadelphia bar. He engaged in journalism in New York from 1844 to 1858 when he came to Newark to practice medicine. He was a member of the New Jersey legislature in 1862-64. He served two terms in Congress from New Jersey.

JUST ESCAPED ASSASSINATION.

St. Petersburg, April 1.—The police prefect of Moscow, M. Trepoft, had a narrow escape from assassination yesterday. While receiving visitors, a governor named Alkoff, suddenly drew a revolver, pointed its muzzle at the official's breast and pulled the trigger. The weapon, however, misfired. In the subsequent excitement the woman tried to shoot in the air, but she believed that the attempt was connected with the recent student troubles.

Great Damage by Flood.

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 1.—The flood damage in Shelbyville and Bedford counties, Tennessee, is estimated at from one and a half to two million dollars. Relief committees are doing everything possible, but there is great suffering and assistance will have to be secured.

Hundreds of families are homeless, it being impossible even at this time to give the correct number. Many houses are being washed away. The only deaths reported were three negroes. The damage to Harrison is estimated at \$200,000.

PASSENGER TRAIN KILLS THREE.

Topeka, Kan., April 1.—A special to the State Journal from St. Mary's, Kan., says:

Three persons were instantly killed and another perhaps fatally injured shortly after 1 o'clock this morning at Bond's Crossing, two miles east of Topeka, by the Union Pacific passenger train No. 8 westbound.

THE DEAD.

Fred Smith, Edward Smith, Miss Minnie Maloney.

Mrs. Fred Smith may recover, although at 9 o'clock this morning she was still unconscious, and was in a deplorable condition. Mrs. Smith was married last Sunday and Miss Minnie Maloney was to have been married next Sunday to Edward Smith, one of the men killed. The young people had been to St. Mary's to attend a Woodmen dance and were returning home when the accident occurred.

The bodies of the killed were terribly mangled. Miss Maloney's head was completely severed from her body. Both the horses were instantly killed, and the carriage was splintered. The engineer did not see the carriage until after the engine had struck it.

Believe It Murder.

Residents in Vicinity of Tragedy Think Collins Was Slain for Money.

Residents in the vicinity of the Warm Springs hang to the belief that Collins was foully murdered, and that the motive was robbery.

The fact that he was reported to be a miser, and that two suspicious looking men were seen hanging around his place either on Monday or Tuesday night, led them to believe that Collins had not given up his money, but that he was following them to his departure, that he was followed there by his murderers and subjected to torture for the purpose of forcing a confession from him as to where he hid his money.

That the bruises and cuts on his body indicated he had been inflicted with a sharp instrument, probably the same which ended his life.

The majority of those who saw the body and noted the marks upon it, and who visited the cave and made an examination of the same, unhesitatingly pronounced the suicide theory as absurd. It would have been impossible for the old gentleman to have bound himself where he hid his money, and the cuts in his body, cut his throat and

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AGAIN WIELDS HIS VETO PEN.

Mayor Thompson Disapproves of Resolution Passed at Special Council Meeting Regarding Rights of City and Canal Companies—Why the Executive Dissents.

Mayor Thompson has again exercised the veto power and returned without his approval the resolution passed by the council in special session on last Thursday, which provides for the four canal companies joining the city in the water rights of Utah lake and the Jordan river, upon payment of \$15,000 for each company, and also for installing a pumping plant at the outlet of said lake.

The companies interested in the project are the East Jordan, South Jordan, North Jordan and Utah and Salt Lake Canal and Irrigation companies. They agreed to pay the city \$15,000 each for an interest in its water appropriations of January 17 and January 30, 1900, and to join in suits to protect said water rights. The city in return was to join them in the erection and maintenance of a pumping plant at the outlet of the lake to cost about \$40,000.

The mayor bases his disapproval of the resolution on the report of City Engineer Kelsey on the cost of the proposed propositions. He states that the city has already expended the sum of \$120,000 in acquiring rights and the mayor is of the opinion that the canal companies should be made to pay more than \$5,000 for an interest in the same. They should pay a sum more in proportion to the amount actually expended by the city. The mayor, however, heartily approves of the companies joining the city in defending its title to the waters.

On the pumping plant matter, he is of the opinion that \$8,000, the city's proportion of the expense, is entirely too much to expend on an experimental proposition as he considers the project, the water power, head, and the water is pumped out below low water. It would necessitate continual pumping below the low water line, especially to raise the lake to the "normal level." Hence he considers the matter too much in the nature of an experiment.

The veto must be considered by the council tonight, and it will decide whether or not the resolution shall be passed over the same.

INQUEST AND AUTOPSY.

Former Officer Held This Afternoon, Latter Held Last Night.

The inquest over the body of the late Samuel Collins was ordered to be held this afternoon in the office of Justice C. M. Nielson, and the result of the investigation will have much to do with the future action of the authorities with reference to the mystery.

Under the direction of County Physician Woodard, an autopsy was performed on the body last night, and according to the statements of those who had the matter in charge, the bruises on Collins' body indicate strongly that he made a struggle before death. The cuts and bruises were not apparently made after death.

An examination of the gaping wound in the throat showed that the jugular vein was severed and that death was due to the loss of blood.

As regards the cut, Dr. Mayo says: "The wound must have been made with a few seconds after the cut was made, and if he had cut the gash himself, the knife with which he did it would undoubtedly have been by his side, as he could not possibly have retained it so long away. If there was no knife in the cave when it was opened, then he never brought it with him."

"The man was evidently in good physical condition before he died, but his left eye had the appearance of having been struck, and the wound in the throat was probably knocked unconscious first and then his throat was cut. However that was, it is evident that the wound was cut after he was in the cave."

Negro Commits Three Murders.

Philadelphia, April 1.—Wm. Lane, a negro, colored servant, employed at Chas. S. Furush at 622 North Fifth street, today shot and killed Mrs. Ellen Furush, aged 42 years, and her daughter, Madeline, aged 10 years, and probably fatally wounded a third daughter, aged 7 years, another daughter, Lane made his escape. He had been employed by the family for some time and was sworn out today by Mrs. Furush and Eloise were on the third floor of the house, and Lane was on roller skates in front of the house. After killing the mother and fatally injuring one child Lane called Madeline into the hall and she followed him upstairs to the third story where he shot that child in the head. He then ran down stairs and made his escape.

The bodies of Mrs. Furush and Madeline and the injured child, Eloise, were found by a policeman who had gone to the house to serve the warrant on Lane.

There was a colored servant in the kitchen ironing when the murders were committed, and when the policeman questioned her, she said she had not heard the shooting and did not notice the departure of Lane. The owner has taken charge of the house. Mr. Furush has not yet been located by the police and it is stated that he has gone to New York. Lane, the murderer, who was captured at Camden, N. J., this afternoon, had been employed by the family for about two years and his home is said to be in Trenton, N. J.

Lane was brought back to this city and locked up in a cell in the city hall.

Kansas City, April 1.—The second event in the tenth annual tournament of the Interstate Shooting association's meet, the nitro powder handicap, took place at Blue River park today.

It was scheduled to be a sixteen shot, 30 entrance, and under the conditions the participants shot according to the handicap assigned them in the grand American handicap, which begins tomorrow. There were upwards of 20 entries and because of the long list it is likely that the race will be cut to 12 birds before the second round is shot. The nitro powder handicap must be finished this evening in order that the grand American handicap may have an open field. The weather conditions today were favorable.

INTERSTATE SHOOTING MATCHES.

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