

The Revival of the Order of Molly Maguires; Believed to Be Extinct, It Reappears In Idaho

THE recent outbreaks of violence in the mining districts of Idaho and elsewhere seem to establish the fact that the organization known as the Molly Maguires is still in existence. The methods which have culminated in the assassination of a former executive of Idaho are precisely the same that were employed by that band of revolutionary enthusiasts during their reign of terror in the Pennsylvania mining regions. The ultimate object of the Molly Maguires seems to be vengeance. There is no pretense of a resort to extreme measures in order that mankind or any part of it may benefit. The avowed purpose of the organization is not the attempted righting of the wrongs of men, but the infliction of punishment upon those who have opposed its methods.

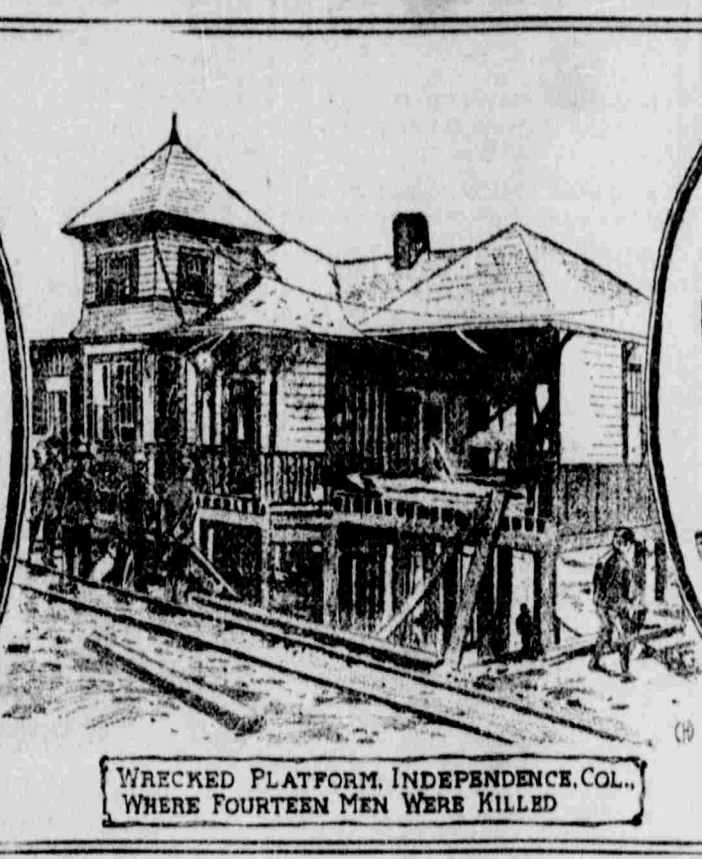
That was the only apparent condemnation for Frank Steunenberg, the latest victim of Molly Maguire ferocity. He was governor of Idaho from 1897 to 1899. He was a man who had been allied closely with labor interests, a union printer. When he was elected governor the lawless element believed that his union affiliations would work to its benefit and that he would wink at its illegal tendencies.

The new governor was not at all that sort of man. He was a man of high order of intelligence, fairness was his motto and the enforcement of the law was his chief aim in life. One of his first official acts threw consternation into the camp of the enemies of law and order. When he sought the aid of the general government to protect mine owners against acts of violence, he forced the good will of every man who had expected to profit from his nomination.

From the time when Steunenberg



THE LATE EX-GOV. STEUNENBERG OF IDAHO



WRECKED PLATFORM, INDEPENDENCE, COLO., WHERE FOURTEEN MEN WERE KILLED



HARRY ORCHARD, ACCUSED OF THE MURDER OF GOV. STEUNENBERG

called in the United States troops to do the work his militia and civil officers could not perform he was doomed. When his dismembered body was scattered almost at the very threshold of his dwelling by the explosion of a bomb no one doubted that he had fallen a victim to his effort to maintain the law, and no one who was well informed charged union labor with the crime of

his taking off. There were those, however, who remembered the Molly Maguires, and Harry Orchard, the man suspected of the crime, has a record that the authorities declare is warrant enough for his arraignment.

Driven from Pennsylvania after a period of violence that horrified the nation, the Molly Maguires left a trail of wreck, ruin and murder wherever they

went. With bloody axes they blazed a path across the continent. With dynamite they blew up the station at Independence, Colo., and other structures. Ultimate defeat has met them everywhere, and at times they have seemed extinct, but the murderous spirit of the Molly Maguires appears to be unquenched. When one died or was imprisoned another rose to take his place.

Secret recruiting went on constantly. In every mining camp, those favorite hiding places for criminals who are eluding the penetrating eye of the law, there were always men who were willing to attend midnight meetings, bind themselves by appalling oaths and vows of vengeance and accept commissions to add still further to their burden of guilt.

Thus the unholy propaganda spread and the ranks of the wielders of dynamite and apostles of secret murder were kept filled. There was never a lack of men sufficiently desperate to be intrusted by the chief conspirators with any commission. Dynamite and giant powder were the only arguments offered, and there was no appeal from the decision of the hidden tribunal. Colorado, Montana and Idaho have been the recent fields of operation. That the end is not yet may be indicated by the fact that many persons who have been prominent and outspoken in the industrial disturbances are in frequent receipt of intimidating messages and warnings of impending disaster.

This famous and infamous organization, the Molly Maguires, is a secret order which came into existence in 1854 in the anthracite coal mining region of Pennsylvania. There were at the time over 400 collieries in the northeastern part of the state at which 60,000 men were employed. One-half of this army of miners was made up of Americans, Germans, Welshmen, Englishmen and Swedes, and the other half was Irish.

It was among these men that the Molly Maguires made their appearance. The society was originally a branch of the so-called Physical Force party of Ireland. It is alleged that it was at one time affiliated with the Ancient Order of Hibernians, but this has been shown to be without foundation in fact. About 1865 the Molly Maguires began to be regarded as a dangerous organization. Previous to that the true character of the society was unsuspected and the order had succeeded in maintaining a reputation for harmlessness, although the Roman Catholic clergy had denounced its secret methods and unchurchly affiliations. In 1875 the order was instrumental in forcing a general strike in the anthracite country and at that time had acquired a certain influence in the councils of the miners.

From that period it began to be the leader in lawlessness and various outrages committed on the persons and against the property of justices of the peace, police officers and mining bosses. The firing of houses, the flooding of mines and even assassination became lamentably frequent. The order was organized in regular divisions, each having a commander known as a "body master." The fountain head of the institution seems to have been in Europe. This fact was made clear by the discovery of the method of transmitting the signs and passwords. These mysterious signals were given to the members by the body masters, who had them from the county delegate, who received them from the state delegate, to whom they were furnished by the national board in New York city. To the latter they came quarterly from abroad by the hand of one of the stewards of a transatlantic steamer.

The exposure of the Molly Maguires was due largely to the energy and perseverance of Franklin B. Gowen, president of the Pennsylvania and Reading Coal company. He employed a detective named James McFarlan, who joined the order and became possessed of all its secrets. Many Molly Maguires were convicted and executed—so many, in fact, that the others were frightened into an apparent abandonment of the organization. The monstrosity ceased to have any extended influence in Pennsylvania, but there is no doubt that it flourishes in some of the newer communities.

CONSTRUCTED PORT ARTHUR.
Major Weitscho, under whose supervision Port Arthur was fortified, is regarded as the greatest living military engineer. He is now forty-eight years of age. It was he who outlined the entire plan for the fortified circle of mountains and hills surrounding the fortress, and most of the work was carried out under his eye.

OFFERS TO BUILD A "HALL OF SHAME."

New York.—A hall of shame, to be erected and maintained as a deterrent to graft and capitalistic oppression! This is the public offer of "Moll Servich," a wealthy resident of Silver Lake, N. Y., who offers to give \$200,000 outright to aid his project in the city that takes it up.

Servich is an eccentric Russian immigrant, who was driven from his home by Russian oppression 40 years ago, when a young man of 20. He formerly resided in Toledo, O., but is now living in retirement at Silver Lake. In addition to the comfortable fortune which he had when he left Russia, all of Servich's relatives there have since died and he has come into the possession of an estate valued at several million dollars. Despite his wealth, Servich is an ardent disciple of Count Tolstoy, with whom he maintains a constant correspondence, as is simple in his methods of living as his famous master.

LIMITED TO THREE CITIES.
In his offer towards the erection of a hall of shame, Servich limits his choice of a site to New York, Boston and Chicago. He excludes Chicago because of a strong prejudice arising out of the deaths of the Haymarket anarchists who, Servich maintains, were road men and real benefactors of the people, who still stipulates that the city which meets the requirements of his offer shall get the hall. He will give the \$200,000 towards its erection, however, only on condition that the

city in which the hall of shame is to be built will undertake to maintain it for at least a century.

Servich's plan provides that in the hall of shame there are to be placed each year five names and statues of men who have been most active in injuring the well-being of masses of their fellow men. He makes no provision for women, for he maintains that no woman can seriously injure the masses except as a tool in the hands of designing men and for this she is not to blame. Servich would have the candidates for the hall of shame chosen by a board of directors to be selected by popular vote.

CANDIDATES NEED NOT BE DEAD.
With regard to the candidate himself, Servich says it would not be necessary that he be dead when elected. Only those, however, who work against property and the rights of the masses would be eligible to admittance and their endeavors against the well-being of their fellow men must be something more than spasmodic.

Servich's condition that the hall of shame must be maintained for at least a hundred years is based on his conviction that nothing less than that time could witness the beneficial effects of his idea. He believes that publicity prolonged for a century would cause even the most hardened to falter before betraying a public trust. The impetus of public scorn for a century, moreover, Servich argues, would work a radical cure in the evil of criminal money getting, by causing a candidate's descendants to look back with shame and loathing upon his ancestors.



HISTORIC OLD SING SING CONDEMNED AS DEATH TRAP TO GO.

Abandon famous old Sing Sing prison and its less widely known companion, Auburn prison, is the unqualified report made to Gov. Higgins by the state prison improvement commission which was appointed last summer to investigate the condition of these institutions. They have become breeding places for consumption and fever, killing many an unfortunate prisoner confined to their cells. So beyond all hope of cleaning up and repairing have they become that they must be wiped out completely and new prisons built on other sites.

The commission found Sing Sing to be a dreadful place. Its cells are damp, insufficiently ventilated and too small. The plumbing and drainage system creates an atmospheric condition productive of lassitude, prison fever, consumption and many other diseases. The same conditions exist in Auburn, though not quite so bad. Taking all things into consideration, the commission declares that it would be inadvisable to attempt reconstruction of modern cell houses on the present site.

Two new prisons in the same relative regions are recommended. The one to take the place of Sing Sing should have a plot of ground not less than 500 or 600 acres, somewhere south of Poughkeepsie, convenient to New York, where could be obtained proper water supply, good drainage, water and railroad communication and an area suitable for cultivation.

hotels ain't got nothing on that, eh? Friend (from New York) should say not! By the way, you haven't shown me the library? Portland—Libby? Wake up, wake up! Why, Carnegie's made 'em so common, all the best families are cutting them out!—Puck.



STEPHEN FERDIG
PREFERRED JAIL TO HOME.

Thirteen-year-old Stephen Ferdig, of Sioux City, Ia., was arrested, charged with setting fire to his father's house. When the little fellow was haled before Judge Thomas he declared that he'd see fire to his home again if not sent to jail. The boy told a pitiful story. He toiled all day in a local packing house and was always tired. "Send me to jail, Judge," said the little chap, "for there I'll get good food. All the others who work in the packing houses want to go to jail too." The boy's strange request was granted, and he was committed to a reformatory.

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The Inevitable.
Portland of Chicago, showing friends his new residence—Now, what do you think of that for a Looney Quinny dining-room? I guess then Aster-Astor

INDIANA'S MAGNETIC FIELD.

Piece of Ground in Lake County Seems to Draw Storms.

A MYSTERIOUS magnetic field in the southwestern part of Lake county is attracting no little attention among local scientific minds and arousing much interest because of queer pranks cut up by lightning in that neighborhood. The territory covered by the strange and weird electrical manifestations embraces only a few square miles in West Creek township, one of the south tier of townships, and is located a few miles north of the great Kanawake marshes.

More havoc is created annually in

this one spot, with a radius of less than two miles, than in any four entire counties in this part of the state.

Every thunder storm in this vicinity is sure to pass over the spot, no matter in what direction the wind may be, and its passage is sure to be marked by terrible bursts of lightning.

At night time the displays are at times grand and magnificent, yet terrifying to the bravest heart and extremely dangerous. Bolt after bolt of molten fire is shot from heaven to earth, lighting the country up for miles with a dazzling glare of light. So much havoc has been wrought by lightning that some insurance companies refuse risks in the district and others are

about to impose additional rates to cover extra cost.

Four large hay barns within half a mile radius were struck one day recently, and burned, causing a loss of \$1,500. Only one of these, that of Henry Brant, was insured, and it only for about one-half its value. The others, belonging to Volney Foster, William Hutton and James Hayden, were uninsured.

It has been found impossible to keep a telephone service in operation in the territory, as every storm that passes leaves wrecked lines and blackened and shattered poles as a reminder of the lightning's wrath.

Numerous horses and cattle have been killed and there is not a building or a tall tree that does not bear evidence of the destructive forces of nature's electrical energy. Three fatalities have occurred in the last three years and every inhabitant of the spot has felt the lightning force to a greater or less degree. It is said that a wire-

less telegraph would be inoperative and messages intercepted by the weird forces that seem to be concealed in the ground. Even in fair weather a telephone system using the ordinary grounded wires is useless and even a metallic circuit is operated with difficulty.

Many theories are advanced, but the most plausible one seems to be that a large body of strong magnetic ore crops out near the surface and attracts the electrical forces of the clouds. Another theory is that a large body of meteoric ore lies in this neighborhood and is the attracting medium.

How to Become a Journalist.
There is at least one journalist who makes \$50,000 a year, and there are many who make \$15,000 or \$20,000. Hence innumerable young men and women would like to know how to enter into a profession so successful.

A young man just back from London asked W. T. Stead, a most successful newspaper man, how to become a journalist.

Mr. Stead answered thoughtfully: "There is only one way to enter journalism, and that is to do work that is wanted just when it is wanted. You think you have a gift for writing. Well, you may have, but it does not follow that you have the gift for making people pay you for writing, which is another gift altogether, and which has often been very much lacking in some of those who had the greatest gift for the other kind of thing.

"Editors are only too glad to take any copy they can get that will help them to sell their papers."

"What kind of article should the beginner try?" asked the young man.

"He should try the kind of article which is most likely to be accepted."

"But how can he find out what subject the editor likes?"

"The editor will think today on the same lines as he thought yesterday, and what he thought yesterday you have spread out before you in this morning's paper."

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