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LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

THE WEATHER

NEVADA—Unsettled with local rains Thursday and Friday; moderate temperatures.

LAS VEGAS—Yesterday: Max., 71; Min., 40.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Copper buying increased; prices continue at 18.00 cents pound domestic, 18.50 cents pound foreign. Lead prices unchanged at 6.10 cents pound. E. St. Louis, 6.25 cents. New York Zinc at new low at 5.80. E. St. Louis.

VOL. XXV LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA. THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1929. No. 149

CAPITAL OF CHINA IS IN DANGER

Revolutionaries Push Fierce Offensives Against Nationalists' Stronghold

NANKING, China, Dec. 12. (U.P.)—A great victory for Nationalist forces was reported at military headquarters here today after a twenty-four hour battle with insurgent forces in the North River region near Canton.

The Nationalists claim to have captured and disarmed 7,000 soldiers of the revolutionist forces attempting to capture Canton.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Chinese revolutionaries pressed fiercer offensives in four sectors of China today, threatening the capital of the Nationalist Government at Nanking with drives to the north and southeast.

With General Chiang Kai-Shek concentrating thousands of his troops for a determined defense of Nanking, rebels were reported to have launched offensives at Chuchow, important rail point 40 miles north of the capital. Wounded already were arriving in Nanking although the outcome of the battle was unknown.

Reinforcements were being rushed by the Nationalists to the scene of the offensive begun by the Anhwei rebels. Chuchow is slightly north of Pukow where the serious mutiny in the Nationalist ranks occurred last week.

With American, British and Japanese warships converging here and preparations being made for evacuation of foreign residents from the capital, there still remained no other word from Nanking regarding foreigners except the declarations of the government that all would be protected and that the rule of Chiang Kai-Shek was not seriously threatened.

The second rebel drive near Nanking was to the southeast in the direction of Lake Tai-Hu, midway between Nanking and Shanghai while the third rebel drive was reported from Hankow where the rebel General Tang Seng-Chi, whose arrest was ordered yesterday by Chang Kai-Shek, clashed with government troops in the vicinity of Wusungkuang Pass on the Peiping-Hankow railway.

LONDON, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—A fierce battle was being waged between Cantonese government troops and revolutionary Kwangsites today a short distance from Canton, an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Hongkong said.

The scene of the fighting was approximately 20 to 23 miles north-east of Canton, where the army of General Chang Fa-Kwei and his revolutionary "ironides" have battled the drive on the city.

Preliminary results of the battle indicated slight gains for the government troops, dispatches said, although the main body of the ironides divisions had not yet arrived on the scene.

Acceptance Of Pavement Bonds Is Completed

Acceptance of the bonds for the new paving job was completed by the city board of commissioners yesterday afternoon.

The Durite paving job is being bonded by the Southern Surety Company of New York, of which E. A. Fremont is Nevada representative. The General Construction Corporation and R. A. Watson are contractors.

P. S. Schmale, of Los Angeles, attorney-in-fact, for the bonding company was here yesterday during the meeting, returning to that city late yesterday.

The Pacific Indemnity company, of which E. W. Cragin is local representative, and attorney-in-fact, for the excavation, curb and gutter contract, for the Hazard construction corporation of San Diego.

Preliminary work on the paving job being pushed, preparatory to starting the excavation.

Night Hawks to Play For Charity Ball

Jazz Morrison's Night Hawks have been engaged to furnish music for the Charity Ball to be staged Saturday evening by the Elks.

The proceeds from the affair will go toward charity.

E. G. Adams, Union Pacific shop foreman, will leave for Salt Lake City, where he will attend the U. P. A. convention December 16.

These Reporters Kept Their Word At Cost of 40 Days

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Three reporters who preferred jail to naming the source of confidential information contained in certain news stories they wrote were at liberty here today after serving 40 days of a 45 day sentence for contempt of court.

The three, Linton Burckett, Gorman M. Hendricks and Jack Nevin, Jr., of the Washington Times, were released shortly after midnight last night. They had had five days clipped from their sentence for good behavior, on recommendation of Lieutenant Colonel William Peak, superintendent of the District of Columbia jail.

Quirk of Fate Doomed Four Girls in Fire

'Extras' in Studio for Single Day, Young Women Were Caught in Studio Tragedy.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—A tragic combination of circumstances, seemingly trivial when separated, but fraught with horror in their entirety, emerged today as the background of the Pathe Movie studio fire.

Four of the 10 who were crushed and burned to death in a wild scramble toward the exits were chorus girls—young dancers from Broadway musical shows who were seeking extra Christmas money by pinning in a gas sound picture of night club life.

In this setting of youth and abandon and tinsel, a tiny mishap—probably the spitting out by an arc light of a chip of incandescent carbon—proved the difference between life and death, between a day's work at the studio and New York's worst fire disaster of recent years.

Whether the arc light was actually the cause of the fire may never be known definitely, for the electrician who had charge of it lost his life. It was certain, however that a bit of blowing carbon did fall from the lamp—and a minute later a great velvet drape at the rear of the stage was ablaze.

At 2 p. m., the battle at the prison was still in progress, with the attacking force using gas bombs, rifles and machine guns and the prisoners returning a desultory fire. Up to that hour, Jennings had been slightly stabbed as well as overcome by gas, and seven guards had been injured. They were: William Dempsey, stabbed. Albert Holshauer, shot. Vanhusen, shot. Hudner, stabbed.

Milton J. Ryther, abrasions about the face. George Atkin, shot in the face and believed dying. Check of the guards revealed that one time during the day 80 of their number had been locked in cells by rioting convicts. At 4 p. m., 14 of them still were missing and believed still held in cells.

Volney Ellis, teacher of the prison school, was brought out during the afternoon, overcome by gas. He was taken to a hospital.

Alfred Rowlands was shot in the neck and painfully injured during an exchange of shots with the prisoners.

Four guards, held in the bathhouse by prisoners, were released this afternoon. They were taken to the prison kitchen, then to the outdoor hall and then turned loose. They were Captain George Hickey, Paul Hess, Joe Murphy and George McDermott.

By 5 p. m. they had cleared the main hall and the prison yard of mutineers and were in the cell houses, locking up prisoners as rapidly as they could.

Probably 60 shots were fired when the force surged through the main yard. Sniping and desultory firing, and the tossing of tear gas bombs marked their progress into the cell blocks.

The mass movement and its attendant shooting brought the death list up to four, according to best estimates. Perry Johnson, serving a long term from Birmingham, N. Y., was shot to death, as was an unidentified prisoner. Earlier in the day James Sullivan, a leader in the rioting, had been killed and Chief Keeper George Durnford was shot to death at the start of the riot.

Students to Sing Here In First Broadcast

Lewis E. Rowe of the high school faculty will present some of his students in the first radio broadcast to emanate from station KGLX.

Besides singing a number or two himself, Mr. Rowe probably will present Miss Serene Abbott, Wendell Bunker, Teddy Homan and Howard Warden for numbers.

"We have a Christmas cantata which we might sing," he said yesterday.

'He'd Wake Baby So I'd Have To Get Up And Care For It'

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Lucille Cameron qualified her husband as the world's cruelest man when she testified at her divorce hearing that he would "slip out of bed and awaken the baby just so I'd have to get up and take care of it." Judge Walter Gates granted the decree.

PRISON WAR SCENE AS RIOT ENDED

Eight Slain Before Machine Gun Hail of Guardsmen, Police Quells Big Mutiny

AUBURN, N. Y., Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Sweeping through the shot-torn yard of Auburn prison and scattering a deadly hail of machine gun bullets as they went, national guardsmen, reinforced by police squads, brought to an end tonight the resistance of a band of convicts—desperados, quelled a murderous mutiny that raged all day, and drove the prison population to bay in their cells.

In the warlike attack that ended one of the most violent attempts to break prison ever recorded in this country, five ringleaders of the rebellion were killed, bringing the death toll to eight, including the head keeper, George A. Rufford.

The end of the mutiny came with all the dramatic fury of a wartime trench raid.

As the gates of the prison swung open, nearly 300 guardsmen and police officers—of a total of 850 on duty—hurled themselves across the prison yard, while a machine gun detachment formed a barrage of steel ahead of them, and into the cell windows, where the besieged desperadoes were still holding out.

The battle was short and sharp. The convict were unable to cope with the attack.

One by one they fell, surrendered, or ran for cover in another cell house.

AUBURN, N. Y., Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Prisoners, led by 15 desperate men, rioted at Auburn state penitentiary here today, killed George Durnford, principal keeper, and for three hours held Varden Edgar F. Jennings and 12 guards as hostages while they demanded freedom on the alternate of killing Jennings and the guards.

Finally massed forces of state troopers and police from Auburn, Syracuse and nearby cities, attacked the north cell block where the prisoners were standing siege, routed them with tear gas bombs and rescued Jennings and the 12 guards.

In the attack Henry Sullivan, one of the riot leaders, was reported killed when he attempted to flee from the gas filled cell block.

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AIMEE DEMURRER FILED

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Arguments on a demurrer filed by Aimee Semple McPherson to a \$24,000 breach of contract damage suit filed against her by her former attorney, Crownwell Ormsby, were postponed on stipulation until next Wednesday.

MUST SAVE WATER FOR L. A. MAYOR

Porter Says Aqueduct Not Final Solution Of City's Problem; Urges Re-using

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Conservation of water by re-using it for industrial purposes wherever practicable, was advocated today by Mayor John C. Porter, as a partial solution to the metropolitan water problem.

His statement followed an extensive inspection of the water system, particularly supply.

The mayor's statement on the water situation followed an extensive inspection of the water system, particularly supply.

His statement pointed out that the constitution of the Colorado aqueduct probably would not be the final solution to the water problem; but urged that every conservation measure be worked out to insure water supply for a tremendous population, which he predicted will fill the coastal plain in future years.

Young Changes Finance Staff

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—The resignation of A. R. Heron as Director of Finance and appointment of Lyman M. King of Redlands as his successor, was announced today by Governor C. C. Young.

Heron, one of the youngest members of the Governor's cabinet and holder of one of the two \$10,000 a year directorships, is leaving the state service to accept an executive position with the crown Zellerbach company of San Francisco.

As chief of the state division service and supply, King has been preparing for the finance post for more than a year, the governor disclosed in his announcement.

King was former state senator from San Bernardino county, and is best known for his authorship of the King Tax Bill in 1921, which revised the rates on public utilities.

Heron joined the governor's cabinet in 1927, when the first of Governor Young's reorganization bills did away with the old board of control as governing body of the finance department. He prepared the \$215,000,000 state budget that year and the \$245,000,000 budget adopted by the 1929 legislature.

The governor paid high tribute to the retiring director in accepting his resignation.

Floods Follow British Storm

LONDON, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Rising flood waters, following in the wake of a week of devastating storms, which claimed 166 lives at sea and on land throughout the British Isles and western Europe, threatened additional damage to Great Britain today.

The storms, which raged for a week with a destructiveness unparalleled in a century, had abated considerably today, although isolated distress calls continued to trick in from the sea. Preparations were made to search by airplane for unreported fishing boats and trawlers which might have survived the battering of the waves.

Ida Harris Elected To Head Rebekahs

Ida Harris was honored last evening by the Rebekahs, who elected her Noble Grand at an election meeting held in the Eagles' hall.

Nola Burkhardt was elected vice grand, William Mott secretary, Josephine Johnson treasurer and Grace Colville long term trustee.

Miss Vera Dodge was initiated into the organization at the meeting. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

The Rebekahs accepted the invitation of the Odd Fellows to hold joint installation with them on the first Monday in 1930.

Elmer Hampton, of the construction department of the Union Pacific, is in Kelso for several days on business.

Feminine Artist Sues Former Actor For \$100,000, For Breach of Promise

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Vivienne Sengler, 25, musician and artist, filed a suit yesterday through her attorney, against Maurice Costello, stage and screen star of a past generation for \$100,000, charging breach of promise to marry.

Costello, when he learned of the suit against him, denied there ever had been an understanding between himself and the girl, asserting the girl had told him she wanted to marry him and that he had not seen her since, as her proposal startled him.

Sengler alleged Costello promised to marry her, the date of April 22, 1929, having been set. Later he refused to marry her, she charged.

Mortenson's Car Airplanes 30 Feet

"Most That Far," Says A. B., Who Measured Auto Damaged in Making Landing

If you don't think a thirty-foot jump in a speeding car can give you a thrill, ask A. B. Mortenson. He knows.

In a close call which might easily have resulted in complete wreckage of his almost-new car and possibly death, Mortenson was the victim of a mishap yesterday which bent one of the axles of the car, threw the wheels out of alignment and broke open the gas tank, with other damages.

Driving toward Sloan with C. P. Barry yesterday, half a mile before reaching that community, Mortenson hit a dip which was deeper than he contemplated.

Going at a fast clip, the car bounced when it left the dip, and landed at an angle, leaving the axle and hitting terra firma again at exactly twenty-nine feet eleven inches from where it left the grade.

Not only that, but on the second bound the car traveled six feet in the air before it stayed on the ground where it belonged, he said last night.

And the car was only four months old! It is now in the garage getting ready to convalesce.

Wealthy Cuban Arizona May Now Sought in Teacher's Death

ROCKFORD, Ill., Dec. 11. (U.P.)—The love affair with a wealthy young Cuban sent police off on an entirely new track here tonight in the mysterious murder of Miss Cordelia Gummershimer, high school teacher who was battered to death in her apartment.

The love affair, one of the many in the crowded life of the popular language teacher, culminated with the arrival of her Cuban admirer here Saturday, police revealed. Soon after he appeared, her dead body was found upon her bed.

Dick Hyland, filling station man, reported that at about 2 a. m. Sunday, not more than an hour after Miss Gummershimer was beaten to death, he had served an excitable and nervous foreigner with gasoline. The mysterious motorist raced off in the direction of Chicago.

The combination of circumstances led State Attorney Wm. C. Knight to announce that renewed efforts would be made to locate Nicholas Diaz, Mexican, reported son of a wealthy Havana leather dealer.

Grace Perry, waitress, informed authorities last today that she had seen the teacher and Martinez together a few hours before the murder. Martinez fell violently in love with the teacher here three years ago while studying American production methods in Rockford.

Sonnenberg Wins Go With Stecher

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Cus Sonnenberg, possibly defending here tonight when he defeated Joe Stecher, two falls out of three.

Sonnenberg took the first fall in 24 minutes 46 seconds, with a flying tackle and, after Stecher had won the second, with a body scissor in 12 minutes and 27 seconds, scored with another leap. The last fall came in 7 minutes and 7 seconds.

N. Y. Fight Fans Come Back For More

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—New York fight fans today were preparing a strange answer to the unhappy deal they got Monday when Phil Scott won from Otto Von Porat, a second round foul in an advertised 2-round bout, by insuring a sellout for Friday's fight between Jimmy McLarnin and Ruby Goldstein.

Both McLarnin and Goldstein are terrific hitters. Both crowd everything they have into the front of the fight at hand.

If everything works out according to schedule one of the men should be counted out within five rounds.

RENO, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Concluding a three days' session of the Association of Western States Engineers, composed of state engineers of 17 western states, elected M. C. Hindender, state engineer of Colorado, president, and selected Denver as the 1930 convention city.

ACTORS ILL

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Two of Hollywood's film celebrities were incapacitated by illness today.

James Cruze, director, was to undergo an operation for appendicitis some time during the day, while Pauline Frederick, stage and screen actress, was ill at her home of ptomaine poisoning.

Cruze was taken to a hospital yesterday. He will be operated on by Dr. James Beggs.

Miss Frederick became suddenly ill a few minutes before the curtain was to have risen on a play in which she has been appearing at a downtown Los Angeles theater. The attack was said to be mild.

C. E. Pembroke returned yesterday from Los Angeles, where he spent several days on business.

WORK ON NEW \$300,000 HIGH SCHOOL BUILDINGS TO BE STARTED TODAY

Excavation Will Be Begun This Morning For Three New Structures; Two Carloads of Equipment, Several Loads of Lumber Being Unloaded; Sub-Contracts Are Let

Modernist Poet, Student's Wife In Suicide Pact

Nephew of Late Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan Found Dead With Woman in Studio.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—Henry Drew Crosby, modernistic poet and a nephew of the late Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, ended his grotesque career by firing a bullet into his brain in the studio apartment of a Manhattan painter.

With him in death went Josephine Rotch Bigelow, attractive young wife of a Harvard post-graduate student.

There were no notes to tell the story. Crosby, married and father of two children, had on previous occasions secretly met Mrs. Bigelow in the apartment.

Tuesday he called his friend, Stanley C. Mortimer, Jr., portrait artist, and asked if he might use the apartment for a few hours, "to meet a friend." Mortimer assented, and shortly after 1 p. m., Crosby and Mrs. Bigelow arrived. Crosby had been drinking and produced a quart bottle of whiskey upon his arrival.

Late in the night, when Mortimer returned, he found their bodies. Crosby and the girl lay in bed. Crosby's arm encircled Mrs. Bigelow's neck. The left hands were clasped. In Crosby's right hand was a pistol. There was a bullet hole in the woman's temple, and one in Crosby's.

Crosby recently, with his wife and children, returned from Europe to spend the holidays in New York. He made his home in Paris, where he followed his career of revolt against the "machine age," and where he served as advisory editor of "Transition," a morbidly modernistic publication.

Mrs. Bigelow was 22, while Crosby was 32. She was a former student of Bryn Mawr. Her husband, Albert Bigelow, arrived from Boston today to claim her body. He declined to discuss his young wife's death. They were married six months ago.

Mrs. Crosby, who is stopping at a local hotel, was joined today by Crosby's mother, Mrs. Stephen Van Rensselaer Crosby, sister of the late Mrs. Morgan. They refused to discuss the case.

It was clear, however, that the deaths came as distinct shocks to everybody.

Crosby and Mrs. Bigelow first met in Paris five years ago, but it was not known that their acquaintance was intimate.

Beckley Store Has Brilliant Opening

Big Crowd Fills Store; Music and Flowers Make Occasion Festive; Lucky Ones Win Gifts.

The formal opening of Beckley's store and the dedication of the newly remodeled building last evening was a festive occasion.

A great crowd thronged the store all the evening extending congratulations to the host and admiring the beauties of fixtures and stock. Many also inspected the handsome office suites in the two upper stories of the building.

Thirty-five baskets of flowers sent by congratulating friends added color to the scene, while the music of Jazz Morrison's orchestra made the evening gay.

Handsome gifts were distributed to the holders of lucky numbers, among the fortunate ones being: Wally Ribaudo, \$10 Stetson hat. O. A. Kimball, \$5 Grayco shirt. Clarence Craner, \$2.50 Grayco tie. Murma Nay, two pairs silk hose.

Car Burns Up on Road Near Apex

Fire destroyed a large sedan a few miles north of Las Vegas on the Arrowhead Trail last night.

The car was a mass of raging flames when Julian Anderson, a Pirckick stage driver, came upon it. It was standing on the side of the road and the intense heat made it necessary for Anderson to keep his stage as close as possible to the opposite side of the road while he drove by at a rapid pace.

While it was believed that the car could have been burning only a short time, there was no sign of the driver near the scene.

The car was an old Studebaker sedan with a Nevada license, No. 24-799.

THEY'RE RECONCILED

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11. (U.P.)—A complete reconciliation between Robert Thorne, prominent Chicagoan, and his daughter, Mrs. Katherine Gillespie, was reported here today.

Mrs. Gillespie, whose marriage to Thorne has enabled him to create in George Gillespie, Arizona dude rancher and present motion picture player, caused the disagreement with her father, was reported visiting in Pasadena with the father. Thorne just arrived from the east. It was said that Gillespie was said to have accompanied his wife to meet her father.