

# THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

AND SUN-TELEGRAM.

VOL. XXXII. NO. 334.

RICHMOND, IND., WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 15, 1908.

SINGLE COPY, 2 CENTS.

## RELATIVES IDENTIFYING THE REMAINS

All of Today, Tearful People Filed Into Morgues in Attempt to Secure the Bodies Of Their Loved Ones.

## BOYERTOWN STUNNED BY THE AWFUL BLOW.

Of the Borough Administration Only One Official Suffered Neither Death Nor Injury of A Loved One.

## ENTIRE TOWN IN MOURNING

WIVES MOURN FOR HUSBANDS, AND HUSBANDS MOURN LOSS OF WIVES AND CHILDREN WHO MET SAD DEATH.

## MANY PATHETIC SCENES.

Men With Grave Faces and Women With Tear Stained Eyes Stand Before the Hideous Tomb of Their Friends and Relatives.

Boyertown, Pa., Jan. 15.—Pennsylvania state police are now on guard at the doors of the four morgues in which lie the charred bodies of 188 victims of the Rhodes opera house fire, where identification of the remains began today. Early today Jacob Johnson died at his home as the result of burns received. Besides one hundred volunteer grave diggers, others will be engaged tonight. A public meeting will be held to arrange for the burial of the dead.

Boyertown lies stunned by the blow, of the borough administration but one official, Burgess Kiedler, suffered neither the death nor injury of a loved one.

## Town's Civil Arm Is Crippled.

Whole families have been wiped out of existence; one orphaned child remains of a family of six or seven. Wives mourn husbands, husbands mourn wives. The civil arm hangs practically powerless. The state police are in charge. The saloons are all closed. Business otherwise is suspended. A pall hangs over the place. From door after door in the best residence sections of the city streamers of black dangle. The streets are silent though thronged.

Men with grave faces, women with tear-stained eyes, through the hotel corridors, gather on the street corners, or stand before the hideous tomb of their friends and relatives.

All the talk is of death. They meet on the highway and speak thus in hushed tones:

"Isn't it terrible? How many of yours were there?"

"My father and sister."

"I have lost my wife and boy."

To one who does not understand, it would sound pathetic, commonplace, heartless. It is none of these. They don't realize it yet. They are numb from surprise and grief. They cannot comprehend. Those who have gone entered the ill-fated hall. They never emerged again. It is like a ship lost at sea. We know that our loved ones sailed on the ship and the news has reached us that the ship has gone down with all on board. They went to this entertainment and they never came back.

## Churches Turned Into Morgues.

That's all. For the rest in course of time there may be a complete list of the dead prepared by process of elimination. All efforts to secure such a list failed. From the break of day yesterday, until long after sunset, all who were able to lift a hand, devoted themselves to digging from the ruins the bodies of victims. School houses, undertaking establishments and churches were turned into morgues, and in these places a force of undertakers recruited from Reading and Pottstown worked, endeavoring to restore to these corpses some semblance of humanity, for today through flood in to attempt the identification of the victims.

Meanwhile Coroner Robert Strausser of Berks county, who has been laboring at the scene, is seeking men for his jury of inquest who do not feel the burden of personal grief and loss. The jury will fix the responsibility for the calamity. They will have a serious task. Indeed, save for the fact that the hall appears to have been crowded beyond its capacity, there does not seem to have been any direct individual responsibility.

Surveying the ruins now and listening to the stories of the few who escaped unscathed, there is absolutely no reason to be found why a solitary soul should have perished. The hall

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## MEN OF AFFAIRS IN RICHMOND



DR. M. W. YENCER.

## WILLS WAS CRUEL TO HIS WIFE AND SHE WANTS DIVORCE

The Last of the Many Troubles Heaped on Druggist's Shoulders Was Today When His Wife Brought Action.

## MAN IS A FUGITIVE AND CANNOT BE FOUND.

If Captured and Brought Back to Wayne County He Will Have to Face Charge of Violating Blind Tiger Law.

Mrs. Flora E. Wills has filed suit for divorce and alimony against John B. Wills, late proprietor of the People's drug store at Cambridge City, who suddenly disappeared the first of this week, fearing prosecution for a violation of the blind tiger law. Mrs. Wills makes many grave charges against her husband. The divorce action is the latest trouble that has been placed on the shoulders of the fugitive druggist. Within the past few weeks he has been convicted and fined for assault and battery on his wife, and Mrs. Jeannette Merrick, and for selling liquor to a minor. When he took to parts unknown the state was preparing to prosecute him for violating the blind tiger law.

In her complaint, Mrs. Wills states that she was married to the defendant in 1875 and that since that time he has been guilty of cruel and inhuman treatment. She asserts that Wills repeatedly cursed her, ordered her out of the home and begged and insisted on her applying for a divorce. In the complaint Mrs. Wills specifies four occasions on which her husband cruelly beat her and threatened to kill her. Last November, the plaintiff avers, Wills beat and kicked her, threatened her life and then drove her from the house in her night clothing. On December 20, last, she states Wills became enraged as he saw her after striking her a vicious blow in the eye, kicked her in the side. For this assault Wills was arrested and fined.

Prosecutor Jessup has indignantly, but unsuccessfully, refused to issue a warrant for his arrest. It is thought that he can be easily located. If arrested, Wills will be brought back to this county and prosecuted for selling beer at his drug store. Last year Mrs. Wills brought suit for divorce, but this suit was dismissed later on the petition of the plaintiff.

## MAN WILL FACE DOUBLE CHARGE

On Release, Second Will Be Filed Against Him.

In the city court this morning, James McGuthrie was fined \$1 and costs for intoxication. When arrested McGuthrie was armed with a revolver and a rusty butcher knife. After he has served time for the charge on which he was convicted today, he will be arrested on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

## COLOR MAN HELD ON SUSPICION

Police Think He Stole Gold Watch.

William Woods, colored, is being held by the police on a charge of suspicion. The police are of the opinion that Woods stole a gold watch from the home of Clara Rickman, 712 North Fourteenth street. Up to the present time Woods has refused to admit his guilt. The prisoner is not the well known bootblack.

## BARON TAKAHIRA HAS QUIT ROME

Departure of New Ambassador for America.

Rome, Jan. 14.—Official announcement is made of the departure from Rome of Baron Takahira, Japan's newly appointed ambassador to the United States to take up his duties.

## PROMINENT FRIEND DIES IN MUNCIE

He Was Well Known Among Local Quakers.

Fountain City, Ind., Jan. 15.—Rev. Alexander Purdy of New York, who held meetings here at the Friends church a short time ago, died in Muncie recently.

Mr. Purdy is well known among Richmond friends. He attended the sessions of the Indiana Yearly and Five Years' meeting last fall. He took an active part in all sessions.

## IRRATIONAL WAS THAW PREVIOUS TO THE FATAL NIGHT

Defense Witnesses in New York Trial Testify That He Was Nervous and That His Eyes Were Glarry.

## THAW WAS SUFFERING INSANITY WITHOUT DOUBT

Newspaper Reporters, Editors And Others, All Adding Testimony Favorable to the Defense Plan of Battle.

New York, Jan. 15.—The first witness in the Thaw trial today, was Horatio C. Wood, prosecuting attorney of Philadelphia, who testified that he examined Harriet Alice Thaw for insanity. Prosecuting Attorney Jerome tried to make the witness admit that he visited her as medical man, but he failed in this. Wood declared Harriet Thaw was of unsound mind. He signed the papers committing the woman to an asylum. Harriet Thaw, whose insanity the defense sought to prove was a half sister of Wm. Thaw, the father of the defendant. She is an inmate of the Friends Home for insane, located at Frankfort, Pa. She has been confined there for three years. Christopher Bragan, a witness, testified that he had known the defendant for years. At the club the day before Thaw killed White his eyes were glarry and he was nervous. He complained of a cold although it was a very hot day.

Miss Matilda Stein, telephone operator at the Grand hotel in 1906, testified that Thaw stopped at the hotel while Evelyn Nesbit was living there. His conduct about the place was irrational. Harriet Lowery, newspaper reporter and Wm. A. Johnson an editor, both testified on seeing Thaw on the roof garden on the night of the tragedy and they thought him irrational.

## THE WEATHER PROPHET.

INDIANA—Snow and much colder Wednesday night; Thursday clearing and colder.

OHIO—Warmer with rain or snow Wednesday night; Thursday rain or snow and colder.

## ELECTIONS HELD IN CONVENTIONS INDICATE HARMONY

Everywhere in Indiana Yesterday Where District Republican Gatherings Were Held, Good Fellowship Shown.

## GOODRICH WILL BE THE NEW STATE CHAIRMAN.

The Followers of the Present State Chairman Cleaned The Platter in All Districts Except Three.

## BIG SURPRISE OF THE DAY.

CROMER DOMINATED CONVENTION IN EIGHTH DISTRICT AND HIS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR CONGRESS IS EXPECTED.

## BEVERIDGE MEN SUCCEED.

It Was Only in a Few Districts, However, That They Succeeded in Dominating Affairs—The Successful Men in Race.

## THE LUCKY THIRTEEN.

First District—Phelps F. Darby. Second—Joseph H. Barr. Third—Joseph P. Throop. Fourth—Albert A. Tripp. Fifth—Daniel Chapin. Sixth—Edgar M. Haas. Seventh—Oliver P. Ensley. Eighth—Grant Newcomer. Ninth—George T. Dinwiddie. Tenth—Andrew J. Hickey. Eleventh—Harry L. Bendell. Twelfth—James M. Henry. Thirteenth—John L. Moorman.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 15.—Seven old members of the republican state committee and six new ones were elected at district conventions held yesterday. The results leave no doubt of the re-election of James P. Goodrich as state chairman, as his followers cleaned the state in every district, with the possible exception of this one, the Fourth and Twelfth.

J. H. Henry, new committeeman from the Twelfth, is reported to be a straightout Goodrich man, but it is said that the forces that have tried to defeat Goodrich did not attempt to turn Henry against him. So far as the old fight between the Beveridge and the Hemenway-Fairbanks forces for control of the organization was concerned, there was no outward evidence of it today.

Elam Neal, revenue collector, who is at the head of the Beveridge organization in the Eleventh district, has controlled it for several years, but he was badly beaten in the selection of delegates to the Peru convention, which elected Harry Bendell, of Huntington, chairman. Bendell belongs to the Hemenway line-up, but both factions are trying to harmonize the district so as to redeem it from the demerits. The result in the Eleventh is said to be very favorable to the candidacy of Colonel George Lockwood for congress.

Tripp Was Elected.

The Beveridge forces elected Albert Tripp, of North Vernon, in the Fourth, but Tripp has been neutral between the rival factions. The greatest surprise of the day was in the Eighth district, where ex-Congressman Cromer absolutely dominated the convention. He sprung the candidacy of G. V. Newcomer, of Elwood, and elected him easily.

The announcement of the candidacy of Cromer for congress is now expected.

The conventions were marked with evidences of good feeling. Vice President Fairbanks' boom for president was endorsed with varying degrees of enthusiasm, but sufficient to indicate that he will be supported loyally. The Fourth district endorsed the candidacy of Hugh T. Miller for governor. The Thirteenth showed its loyalty to Charles W. Miller by endorsing him. Several districts endorsed the administration of Governor Hanly without reserve, but said very little along that line.

The old committeemen re-elected are: Darby, First district; Barr, Second; Throop, Third; Chapin, Fifth; Ensley, Seventh; Dinwiddie, Ninth; Moorman, Thirteenth. New committeemen: Tripp, Fourth; Haas, Sixth; Hickey, Tenth; Bendell, Eleventh; Henry, Twelfth.

The committee will meet here Thursday to complete its reorganization.

In the First.

The expected happened in the First district, as it has been the understanding that Phelps Darby would be re-elected Chairman. He is one of Senators.

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## RELATIVES UNITED AFTER 34 YEARS

Mrs. Eliva Nuss and Brother Long Separated, But Are Now Together.

## FAITHFUL TO ONE ANOTHER

DURING THIS LONG PERIOD OF TIME A CORRESPONDENCE WAS KEPT UP BETWEEN THE TWO—BOTH PAST SIXTY.

There is a happy reunion at the home of Mrs. Eliva Nuss, South Seventh street. Her brother Joseph Connor, of Morrow, O., is her guest. When brother and sister met the first of this week it was the first time that they had seen each other for thirty-four years. A correspondence, however, has been faithfully maintained during all these years. Mr. Connor is now sixty years of age while Mrs. Nuss is four years his senior.

When a young man twenty-six years of age Mr. Connor bade farewell to his sister and went to Kansas. There he lived for twenty years and then moved to Morrow, O. Not long ago Connor and Mrs. Nuss decided to hold a reunion so under the arrangement made Mr. Connor and his wife arrived here the first of this week for a short visit.

## ROOSEVELT IS FOR SECRETARY TAFT SAYS W. D. FOULKE

The Local Man Has Just Returned From Eastern Trip On Which He Called on the President at Washington.

## BY TIME HONORED CUSTOM IS PLEDGED TO SECRECY.

He Made No Statement as to What the President Said, But Thinks Roosevelt Favors Taft Above All Others.

## SECRETARY OF WAR'S RACE.

THE MANY LITTLE UNPLEASANT INCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH HIS FIGHT FOR NOMINATION WORRY BIG STATESMAN.

## ROOSEVELT ACTED WISELY.

Mr. Foulke Thinks the President Could Have Done Nothing Better, Than When He Said He Would Not Be a Candidate Again.

"There is no doubt about President Roosevelt being for Secretary Taft as his successor," stated the Hon. William Dudley Foulke yesterday. Mr. Foulke has just returned from an eastern trip. While in the east, he visited Philadelphia and Washington. Last Monday Mr. Foulke dined at the White house with President Roosevelt.

Mr. Foulke, by a time honored rule, is not permitted to state what the president had to say to him, but he remarked that he found Mr. Roosevelt in "grand spirits," and that he was enthusiastically supporting the Taft presidential boom.

The local man is an ardent admirer of the president, but unlike many of Mr. Roosevelt's friends, he is of the opinion that he made a wise move in declining to accept a third term. "On the night of his election as president, of the United States," Mr. Roosevelt stated that he would not be a candidate for a third term. The effect of this statement was to establish general confidence in him. Had he not made this statement it is probable that the sincerity of his motives and policies might have been doubted. Having announced that he would not be a candidate for a third term, the president could not very well break the pledge he had made. It probably would have destroyed the general confidence the people have reposed in him," stated Mr. Foulke.

While in Washington Mr. Foulke saw Secretary William H. Taft. He states that the war secretary is busily engaged in his presidential campaign and is making excellent progress. Taft is not an experienced campaigner and he many little unpleasant incidents connected with the political game embarrass the big secretary. He frankly admitted to the Richmond man that some of the experiences he had already met with in making his canvass, had "bored" him.

## WAYNE WILL DO HER PART IN BATTLE

County Was Never More United Than at Present and Indications Point to a United Front in Coming Campaign.

## CAMBRIDGE CONVENTION AROUSED PARTY ACTION

With Enthusiasm Which Could Not Be Confined, Republicans in Gathering Shouted For Republican Principles.

## RUPE GOT MANY HONORS.

THE LOCAL ATTORNEY MADE A MAGNIFICENT ADDRESS IN WHICH HE STIRRED HUNDREDS WITH HIS ENTHUSIASM.

## CAMPBELL WAS STRONG.

The Preacher Politician Made a Very Favorable Impression on All—Thought Jessup Hurt His Own Candidacy by Statement.

Taking the convention held at Cambridge City on Tuesday as an indication, the republicans of the Sixth congressional district are entering upon the campaign of 1908 in the best condition for harmonious and effective work that has been the case in years. That unusual interest in political affairs is being manifested, is fully shown by the fact that the attendance on Tuesday's convention was the largest ever at a convention of this kind in the district, a remarkable fact when it is remembered that the only real duty of the meeting was to select a district chairman and that there was but one candidate so that the matter was a mere formality. It was this unusual interest and enthusiasm to which John L. Rupe of Richmond, who was chosen permanent chairman, referred in his splendid speech as indicating to him a united front. Mr. Rupe made one of the happiest speeches of the convention and next to Watson, the orator for him was perhaps more marked than for any other man, absent or present.

## Wayne County United.

Mr. Rupe took occasion to tell the convention in the strongest terms that Wayne county is all right, his reference no doubt being to the slump in the last congressional campaign when Mr. Watson's vote showed such a falling off. Mr. Rupe referred to the fact that he had lived in Wayne county all his life and that he had never seen a time when the republicans were more united and harmonious. He says it is true the republicans of the county have their little differences, but that the county has its frosts, but no killing frosts. In speaking of Mr. Haas, who was latter chosen district chairman by acclamation, he said that he represents all the republicans of the county and will represent all the republicans of the district. Mr. Rupe also took occasion to refer in flattering terms to Vice-President Fairbanks and Mr. Watson and his statements were greeted with long applause.

## Campbell Makes Hit.

Much interest was shown in the "congressional live stock show" as Thomas Davidson, of Greensburg, put it in his little speech as a candidate for congress. The convention closely inspected the eight applicants for Jim Watson's shoes and seemed to be satisfied that there is no lack of men who are large enough to take on the foot-wear that Jim is about to discard. It was a contest of speech-making ability, supposed to be impromptu, but no doubt some of the candidates had prepared themselves for it in advance, anticipating and hoping they would have a chance to make a "flash" before the convention. Evidently some were at a disadvantage, as comparatively few men are free off-hand speakers, while others were just in their element and made the eagle scream with all the campaign trimmings. In all fairness, it must be said that the Rev. J. O. Campbell, Richmond's preacher-politician, made one of the very best of the speeches and received a most cordial reception. Mr. Campbell sees no reason why a preacher should sacrifice any of his rights of citizenship when he dons the cloth and his speech was a most vigorous one and that he hit the nail on the head more times than one, was evident from the laughter and applause that penetrated his address. In a jocular way, the Rev. Mr. Campbell moved that all the other speakers had said, be counted merely as the introduction to his speech. Davidson, of Greensburg, also made a very favorable impression upon the convention.

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