

DOFFS JAIL STRIPES  
WORN FOR 27 YEARS

Warden Lines Up Convicts for a Good-Bye to "the Old Man," Whom Everybody Liked

JOY WHEN HE IS RELEASED

Killed Man, He Says, to Save Young Girl's Honor—Considers Harry T. Law Beneath Him—Released, Laughs at Anything and Everything

Leavenworth, Kan.—One at a time the 800 inmates of the Kansas Penitentiary bade a veteran doorman farewell. It was John Rodgers, the oldest in point of service among them, who had just finished putting in twenty-seven years. It was a holiday and the convicts had the freedom of the yard to talk and enjoy themselves at will, and when "Dad," as they called him, walked down toward the iron-gated entrance, dressed in a new suit of citizen's clothes, under escort of Warden J. K. Coffey and Mr. and Mrs. Artliff, there was a line-up and all of them gave him the friendly outward hand salute in farewell. Rodgers was released on a Governor's parole, not a paid broker, and was to live in prison rules in a quarter of a century, and all the officials from the Warden down have the same confidence that the old man will make good and never come back. He leaves the prison meek and submissive, for twenty-seven years under the close discipline of penitentiary guards had stamped out nearly all his individuality and spirit. Rodgers was so happy to get out that he was nearly starting off without getting \$160.12 due to him from his earnings at 3-4 cents a day as a prisoner. After buying newspapers he had saved this much. When he was asked the money he was asked what he would do with it, when he replied: "I don't know, but whatever Mr. and Mrs. Artliff, my friends say."

When asked if he had any plans, he replied: "I can work, and my friends will not regret keeping me. I know that I will not be a burden on them. I have no relatives."

When he left the prison and boarded an electric car for Leavenworth, Rodgers' face wore a constant smile. He laughed at any and everything. When he boarded a passenger train for Topeka, he was sure and sure beginning to feel that he was free. On reaching St. Joseph he went to the home of Mr. Artliff, a prosperous shoe merchant, where he revealed in a Thanksgiving dinner. Rodgers felt that he was a martyr; that he killed a man to protect a woman, and that he netted an honorable part instead of committing a crime. He considered himself high above Harry T. Law, whose plea of justification he said were contemptible.

The defenseless woman, Rodgers refers to as protecting, married nineteen years ago, and has a family of five children. She lives with her husband and family in the State of Wisconsin, and will not likely have any part, one way or the other, in the remainder of the life of the old man who Rodgers committed in the spring of 1859 is as follows: He was courting a girl when her stepfather, Littleton Wallace, objected and demoted that his daughter, Mary, the mother of the girl favored Rodgers as a suitor for her child, and domestic trouble followed. Finally Rodgers, the mother and the girl fled to a farm in Leavenworth, where a quarrel followed, and Wallace was shot by Rodgers, who claimed that he acted in self-defense, and that Wallace was trying to strike him with a cane. Rodgers was sentenced to be hung. Under the old Kansas law, repeated 20 years ago, a prisoner sentenced to death was to be brought to the penitentiary, and remain one year and then to be executed at any time after when the Governor fixed the date. None were hung since 1872, as no Governor ever set a date after a prisoner started serving time in the penitentiary. At one time there were sixty-five hangings or death convicts in the Kansas penitentiary.

Rodgers being free to discuss the killing of Wallace, maintained that Wallace was conspiring to ruin his stepdaughter, and that the mother of the girl knew it, and that she, as well as the girl, appealed to Rodgers to save her. He claimed that when he visited the Wallace farm near Fort Scott, Wallace was so enraged over the balking of his plans that Wallace started at him with a cane, and the killing followed.

Teachers Buy Piano with Nut Profits. West Orange, N. J.—The teachers of the St. Mark's Public School wanted a piano, but had no funds and they got it straight from the Board of Education that there was nothing doing this year in the piano line. Therefore they purchased some raw nuts, roasted them in a Utahine and sold them at a good profit to the pupils and their friends. They now have the piano.

Has a Frisk Chicken. Shelbyville, Ind.—Is the possessor of T. A. Russell, the president of the Waldron Poultry Club, is a Plymouth Rock pullet which has no bill, but has a mouth and perfectly formed pug nose and nostrils. The eyes are set in the head just like any other chicken's eyes. The bird is almost full grown.

PICKPOCKET ROBS DETECTIVE.

Was Caught Because He Could not Work as He Did Years Ago

New York City.—Charles McKenna, a detective, told how he had his pocket picked by one of the best known "dips" in the country.

In the line-up before the detectives at Police Headquarters, McKenna was recognized as Sam McDonald, alias Martin, and a few other aliases, but who is best known as "Billie Joe," the pickpocket who has his picture in practically every ragged alley in all the important cities of the United States, and, according to the records of the police, he has served twenty-six years in prison at different times.

McDonald is seventy-eight years old. His hair, what he has left, is gray, and his eyes are rapidly falling. He is lame, too, and stumbles. He was John Rodgers, the oldest in point of service among them, who had just finished putting in twenty-seven years. It was a holiday and the convicts had the freedom of the yard to talk and enjoy themselves at will, and when "Dad," as they called him, walked down toward the iron-gated entrance, dressed in a new suit of citizen's clothes, under escort of Warden J. K. Coffey and Mr. and Mrs. Artliff, there was a line-up and all of them gave him the friendly outward hand salute in farewell. Rodgers was released on a Governor's parole, not a paid broker, and was to live in prison rules in a quarter of a century, and all the officials from the Warden down have the same confidence that the old man will make good and never come back.

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SAVAGELY ATTACKED BY BEAR.

Bruin Furiously Resents Being Target for Toy Pistol.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—James H. Davidson, who substituted for the Pennsylvania Rifleman, was attacked and badly wounded by a large black bear near Soneston, Columbia County. He was walking down the railroad tracks when the bear, which had been drinking from a river, burst through the bushes. Davidson foolishly drew a small revolver and wounded the animal slightly. The bear turned and furiously dashed at Davidson, and hit him down with a blow of one of its forepaws, and then mauled and scratched him as he lay on the ground. He fired a second shot into the animal and then lost consciousness.

Davidson probably would have been killed had not a freight train just then frightened the bear away. Davidson's face was cut open, his body scratched and his clothing torn to shreds.

MAKE POPocatePETL WORK.

Mexican Organizing Company to Utilize the Great Volcano's Fires. Mexico City.—Panfilo Garza Garcia is at the head of a company to harness Popocatepetl, the great volcano near Mexico City, and furnish all the power for the national capital. He proposes sinking two wells into the side of the volcano until he reaches the boiling point in the earth. Then with nitroglycerine exploded at the bottom he proposed to make an opening between the two wells. He would then run cold water down one well, and he says steam would come up out of the other. He would harness this to an engine and the job would be done.

ODD CAUSE OF "WIRE TROUBLE."

Phonies Worked All Right After Lynched Negro Was Cut Down. Macon, Ga.—Telephone men looking for wire trouble near Mountzuma, Ga., came upon the cause in an unexpected place. They found the body of a negro hanging from a pole and tangled up in the telephone wires. The negro was lynched by a mob the previous morning for the murder of Marshall Bush of Mountzuma. The "trouble" was removed.

NEW PICTURES ON FAMOUS WALLS

Six Great Panels Presented by Members of House of Lords to Be a Revelation

SHOWING HISTORICAL EVENTS

Each Work Has Been Executed by Special Commission—An Architectural Triumph Achieved in Repainting British Parliament Houses.

London.—Although the decorative historical paintings in the corridor leading from the central hall of the Houses of Parliament to the library and committee rooms were still in good view, the six panels are now definitely fixed in their respective places, and it is possible to form an idea of the effect of this carefully considered scheme.

These six panels are the gift of six members of the House of Lords, each of whom placed the commission with artists of his own choice, although due care was taken to avoid the clashing of different styles, and the supervision of the work was intrusted to E. A. Abbey, R. A. The scheme begins with H. P. P. panel, "The War of the Roses, Dispute in Temple Gardens" (the gift of Earl Beauchamp); then follow Denis Eden's "Cabot Receiving the Charter from Henry VII." (Lord Wadley) and Erasmus Visiting the Children of Henry VIII." (Lord Carlisle); F. Salisbury's "The Trial of Katharine of Aragon" (Lord Stannore); E. Board's "Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth" (Viscountess de Grey); and H. W. Winstoke's, and Hyam Shaw's "Mary I. on Her Entry into London, Receiving the Prisoners of State" (Lord Alfrede).

Although the titles here given explain the actual historical incidents illustrated, there is a deeper significance attached to each scene, the subjects being by no means chosen in haphazard fashion from among the events of the Tudor period. In the order in which they are enumerated above these six paintings stand for: I, The Origin of Parliaments; II, Expansion of English Rule; III, The New Learning in Rome; IV, The Reformation; and VI, Catholic Reaction.

There has been much grumbling in certain quarters about the selection of the artists and the style adopted by them. Other names have been mentioned as better fitted for the task, and the great Venetian decorations including Titian's have been dragged in for comparison.

In the given conditions, however, it would have been difficult to find a band of men better qualified for the work. The architectural setting is Gothic, and the decoration had to be adapted to the surroundings. That this has been done successfully stands beyond doubt; and one has only to compare the strong design and rich color of these panels with the theatrical and dinginess of the earlier paintings in the other corridor if one wishes to realize this fact. Strangely enough, the richest and most interesting effect has been achieved by the two artists who adhered most closely to the scheme of red, black and gold—F. Cadogan Cowper and Hyam Shaw. In their panels all other colors are subordinated. Where they are coordinated, as in Board's and in Salisbury's, the effect is a little restless and spotty. Still, on the whole the units harmonize and form a distinctly pleasing scheme of decoration.

The whole idea was started by Lord Stannore, who was the first peer to make an offer of a picture.

MEALS A CENT APICE.

Chicago Stars to Feed Poor Children in Schools.

Chicago, Ill.—The first step toward feeding the thousands of school children from the poorer districts of Chicago was taken by the school management committee, when it decided upon establishing lunch rooms in six of the largest schools. The committee limited the meals to soup and bread and butter.

It is supposed to charge one cent for the food, which will be served both in the morning and at noon. If a hungry child is without money, however, it will be fed. The children will get all the soup and bread and butter they want. The girl pupils will be taught to set the tables and to serve the food. The committee was told that the physical and mental progress of thousands of children was retarded by lack of nourishing food.

Amazed by Country's Greatness.

Los Angeles, Cal.—The further West I travel the more astonished I have over the greatness of the United States," said "N. J. Jussend, the French Ambassador, when visiting here recently. "If the people of France had such rivers as are in the West they would dam them all and allow none of the water to go to waste. Irrigation is a great thing, especially for the Western part of America."

COFFINS SAVE CHINESE CITY.

Used by Magistrate to Form Dam to Hold Back Waters.

Shanghai, China.—Travelers arriving in Shanghai from surfer gave a pitous account of the destruction by flood witnessed at a place called Filizro, some thirty miles above Anking, the capital of Anhui. At this place artificial walls had been erected to supplement the banks. But the water gradually rose above these and rushed down upon the houses beyond. The last thing seen, says one eyewitness, before the steeper pressed on, was an entire family, not omitting the family cat and dog, swarming upon the roof of a house to escape from the rising water, and this was but a sample of what might be seen almost anywhere on the river between Shanghai and Hankow.

At Chang-Teh-Fu the city was only saved by the energy of the magistrate, a man named Niao. Chinese officials are so often rebuked for inertia that the vigorous action of his official deserves to be emphasized. When the carpenters who had been sent to strengthen the north gate—the south, where the water is always expected to rise at certain seasons, is strong enough to do all the work it has to do—deserted their task before the rushing floods, Niao leaped waist deep into the water, and by raising coffins he brought from the United States a large quantity of bricks and tiles, and with these he built a barrier that eventually held back the torrent.

This official some time ago saved the city from a rice famine and riot, and on this occasion all the gentry and business men went in a deputation to thank him.

SAD "NEVER DUEYS."

Gloomily Mourn the Spread of the "Never Treasts."

Kansas City, Mo.—Gloom prevails among the receptive and later for free critics of the local folk club because of the organization of the "Never Treast club," an auxiliary of that fraternal organization. The "Never Treast club" was organized in 1913.

It has grown so rapidly and absorbed so many of the best "spenders" among the Elks that the "What'll you take" invitation threatens to become obsolete.

There is a perceptible decrease in conviviality at the local club, it is said.

SMOKE COSTS MAN'S LIFE.

Match Ignites Gasoline in Boat, Drowning Him in Deep Water.

Ogdensburg, N. Y.—While entertaining four friends in a motorboat near Huckleberry, C. T. Harris set fire to the craft by striking a match to light his pipe. Flames from the resultant explosion of gasoline burned the boat to the water's edge and resulted in Harris' death.

The men clinging to the boat until the flames forced them to let go. Four swam ashore, but Harris, who could not swim, was drowned in 30 feet of water.

WOMEN TO BOYCOTT SUGAR.

Townsend Housewives Use Soccharine and Appeal to Congress. Wilmington, Del.—Townsend housewives, are so incensed over the increase in the price of sugar that they have combined to boycott the product and to petition Congress. The women declare that though this is the season for preserving fruit, they will wage the boycott vigorously.

A petition addressed to Congress is being prepared, in which it is urged that the sugar be put on the free list. The petition will be circulated throughout Delaware, and will be largely signed.

Wilson Message is Sent To Foreign Governments

Washington.—Through American diplomatic representatives abroad that portion of President Wilson's message to congress referring to relations with Mexico was sent to all foreign governments represented at Mexico City. This was done in accordance with the policy of President Wilson of keeping all other governments informed of important acts for announcements of this government in regard to Mexico.

Parcel Post Carriers Game.

Under aruling of Postmaster General Burleson residents of Illinois may ship game by parcel post despite the vicious action of his official deservs to be emphasized. When the carpenters who had been sent to strengthen the north gate—the south, where the water is always expected to rise at certain seasons, is strong enough to do all the work it has to do—deserted their task before the rushing floods, Niao leaped waist deep into the water, and by raising coffins he brought from the United States a large quantity of bricks and tiles, and with these he built a barrier that eventually held back the torrent.

Press Russian Treaty

Announcement is made by Dr. Stephen S. Wise of New York that neither President Wilson nor Secretary Bryan have abandoned the idea of pressing a new commercial treaty with Russia that would recognize the purposes of American citizens, "without distinction of religion or race."

Panama Canal Facts.

Figures About the Big Ditch That Are Worth Preserving.

[Popular Mechanics.] Total length of canal, 50 miles. Salt water channel to Gatun Locks, 7 miles. Fresh water, Gatun Lake and Culebra Cut, 33 miles. Width of channel, 30 to 1,000 feet. Total excavation to Sept. 30, 1913, 121,048,198 cu. yd. Remaining to be done, 21,304,502 cu. yd. Total concrete construction, 5,000,000 cu. yd. Time of passage through locks, 10 hrs. Work begun by Americans, May 4, 1914. Number of men employed, 40,000. Cost to June 1, 1913, \$225,587,538.41. Estimated total cost, 375,000,000.00. First vessel through Gatun Locks, Sept. 26, 1914. Water let into Culebra Cut, Oct. 1, 1914. Gatun Dam blown up, Oct. 10, 1914. First dike through Miraflores Locks, Oct. 14, 1914.

Red Cross Xmas Seals.

National Society, Making Effort to Raise \$1,000,000 to Fight Tuberculosis.

The American National Red Cross society is selling Christmas seals in an effort to raise \$1,000,000 to carry on its fight against tuberculosis. Every cent above the cost of distributing the seals will be used in the fight from which the money came, to combat the great white plague.

Last year \$100,000 was raised in this way, and the money was expended in providing hospitals, day camps, sanatoria, dispensaries, open-air schools, and visiting nurses all over the country. In addition, circulars, pamphlets and other literature were purchased and distributed to educate the public in regard to the disease. The campaign is being carried on this year, and certainly no cause could be more worthy of the public's assistance.

Grand Rapids to Have Huge Xmas Tree.

City Will Set Out Pine, Decorated With Electric Lights, in Fulton Park.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—A huge pine tree decorated with electric lights is to be set out by the city in Fulton street park for a Christmas celebration. The municipal Christmas tree idea will involve the presentation of thousands of gifts to the poor children of the city.

Wealthiest Woman Still Active.

Mrs. Hettie Green, the wealthiest woman in the United States, celebrated her 78th birthday by working in her office in New York. She was born in New Bedford, Mass., November 21, 1835.

Lottery Romances.

[London Chronicle.]

Lottery tickets, such as that which has just won a Staffordshire mine a prize of \$40,000, have already brought romances. A few years since the drawing of the annual Christmas lottery at Madrid brought a poor mechanic \$20,000, and on the same occasion a crossing sweeper won \$5,000 with a ticket given him by an old lady for assisting her across a busy thoroughfare. Equally romantic was the experience of a poor shopkeeper, a woman in a Berlin suburb. One day a shabbily dressed man entered her shop and, begging permission to light his pipe at the gas jet, produced a piece of paper, which he used as a spill and then threw, half charred, on the floor. When sweeping to pick up the widow, picking up the spill, found it to be a lottery ticket. A few weeks after it won her \$10,000.

Wilson Urges Provision for Rural Credit.

The Agricultural Department of the Government is seeking to assist as never before to make farming an efficient business, of wide co-operative effort, in quick touch with the markets for foodstuffs. The farmers and the government will henceforth work together as real partners in this field, where we now begin to see our way very clearly and where many intelligent plans are already being put into execution. The treasury of the United States has, by a timely and well-considered distribution of its deposits, facilitated the moving of the crops in the harvest season and prevented the scarcity of available funds too often experienced at such times. But we must not allow ourselves to depend upon extraordinary expedients. We must add the means by which the farmer may make his credit constantly and easily available, and when he will the capital by which to support and expand his business.

Cities to be Invited

Battle Creek Will Ask Money to Attend Race Uplift Convention.

Battle Creek, Mich.—The city of Battle Creek will send formal invitations to cities all over the country to attend the First National Conference on Race Betterment which will convene here January 8 to 12.

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