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## STATE NEWS

**Watska.**—State's Attorney John H. Pallisard has undertaken to solve the mystery surrounding the burial of Delvina Nichols in the costume of a ballet dancer at Iroquois, nine miles east of here, a week ago. The body was brought ostensibly from Youngstown, O., by a woman who said she was the girl's mother. When the expensive casket was opened by the Rev. Crumbacker, a Methodist minister, the gay-colored shroud was exposed. It was lownecked and reached the knees. Silk stockings and satin slippers were on the body. The woman, who was the sole mourner, got off the same train, saying she came from Houston, Tex. She left the next day. There was no undertaker and no hearse at the lonely funeral, only the minister and a few curious bystanders.

**Peoria.**—With 50 days of idleness already passed since April 1 and with a prospect of a prolonged period of idleness in the future, the coal situation in Illinois has reached a serious point, both for the miners and operators. The large mountains of coal industrial establishments had on hand prior to the joint convention are diminishing rapidly. The 75,000 miners who are idle can obtain no relief from their funds until the expiration of 30 days under the laws of the United Mine Workers of America. There is said to be actual want in families in several communities. The strike fund at the present time is said to be about \$750,000, or \$10 per man. President Walker of the miners' union declares that the men are out "until the snow flies."

**Watska.**—State's Attorney John P. Pallisard notified the chief of police at Youngstown, O., in a letter sent that Miss Delvina Nichols, the ballet girl in the death mystery at Iroquois, died probably as the result of an operation at Youngstown. This opinion was based on an investigation made. Examination of the certificate of death and shipment permit revealed that death came as the result of an operation, preceded by a sickness of 11 days. The girl's mother told conflicting stories about the expensive casket. At one time she said it was worth \$160, but she had bought it for \$60. On another occasion she said it was bought by the theatrical troupe to which her daughter belonged.

**Joliet.**—James Ryan, alias Kelly, serving a second term in the Joliet penitentiary for attempted burglary in Chicago, hanged himself from a pipe in the prison boiler room. His body was cut down by keeper E. P. Rowley. Ryan broke the parole granted to him last August and was resentenced in the winter. He was received February 10 and became such a model prisoner that he was made "runner." This gave him freedom of the grounds and enabled him to be absent for an hour without being missed.

**Joliet.**—Sylvester Lally, aged nine, was trampled to death by his horses, which had been frightened by an automobile driven by P. E. Carhardt, 6053 Monroe avenue, Chicago. Lally was going home up the incline two miles west of Lockport when the automobile was coming down at a lively clip. The horses up set the wagon and Lally was thrown under their feet. Mr. Carhardt, who was accompanied by his son, William, picked Lally up and took him to Lockport, where he died an hour later.

**Chicago.**—Owen McGoorty, forty-five years old, sneezed himself to death in the "in" freighthouse of the Illinois Central railroad at the foot of South Water street. After he had sneezed continuously for several minutes he fell unconscious and died before medical aid could reach him. Dr. C. D. Wall of the Harrison Street Emergency hospital, made an examination and said the sneezing spell

may have burst a blood vessel, causing death.

**Champaign.**—Horace B. Wild of Chicago had a narrow escape while making a flight in a Curtiss biplane. The aviator was making a preliminary test before a scheduled flight. After he had sailed about 1,500 feet a strong gust of wind was encountered, which drove the plane to the ground on the university south campus. Wild was 30 feet in the air at the time, but was uninjured. The machine was badly damaged, but is being repaired.

**Bloomington.**—The eleventh annual debate between teams from Oshkosh, Wis., and the state normal school here was won by Oshkosh, making four victories for Oshkosh to seven for the normal. Oshkosh took the negative side of the subject that graduated income tax is a desirable modification of the federal system of taxation.

**Peoria.**—Attorney Louis Greenberg of Chicago, acting for Newton C. Dougherty, former superintendent of schools of Peoria county, serving a sentence at Joliet, filed a petition for a writ of supersedeas from the supreme court for Dougherty's release, based on the recent ruling declaring the parole law unconstitutional.

**Chicago.**—The fifth annual convention of the Illinois Mayors' association closed its business meeting here by the election of the following officers: President, Joseph E. Paden, Evanston; vice-president, W. F. Marshall, Geneva; secretary, George H. Andersen, Elgin; statistician, Hugo S. Grosser, Chicago. Directors, E. S. McDonald, Decatur; George Parsons, Cairo; Albert Fehrman, Elgin; George S. Schnepf, Springfield; E. N. Woodruff, Peoria; John H. Howard, Lake Bluff; Silas Cook, East St. Louis; George W. McCaskrin, Rock Island; A. R. Hendricks, Sterling.

## ILLINOIS NEWS

### BY TELEGRAPH

### WIRE REPORTS OF HAPPENINGS OF THE STATE.

### PATIENTS FLEE FROM FIRE

**Men and Women at Passavant Institution Leave Beds to Escape Smoke-Filled Rooms—Alarm in Orphans' Home.**

**Chicago, May 26.**—Sixty patients at the Passavant hospital and its annex at 140-142 West Superior street, were panic-stricken by a fire that started in the drying room of the laundry in the annex. Prompt arrival of Assistant Fire Marshal Arthur Seyferlich and Captain Pierce, who ran into the building and assured the patients that there was no danger, prevented a crush.

When the firemen arrived 20 women patients on the first floor of the annex were fleeing in night garments into the hospital adjoining. On the third and fourth floors, nurses and attendants were having their hands full in checking a panic among 20 other patients who were seeking means of exit.

The firemen reassured the women patients and also quieted 20 men patients in the hospital, who were preparing to leave their sick beds.

The fire was discovered when smoke from the drying room penetrated the wards occupied by the sufferers.

Those who were able left their beds. In vain the nurses tried to reassure them, telling them that there was no danger.

The first assistant fire chief, realizing the danger of a serious panic, called on Captain Pierce and a number of other firemen and entered the building. The sight of the firemen and their reassuring words had the effect of

calming the terror-stricken patients. A small panic occurred among children in St. Vincent's orphan asylum, near the hospital. The children were startled by the clanging of the fire engine gongs. They were prevented by the sisters in charge from leaving the building.

**Pick Connolly State G. A. R. Head.** Freeport, May 26.—Maj. James H. Connolly of Springfield was elected department commander of the G. A. R. on the second ballot, receiving 241 votes, as against 174 for Maj. H. M. Peters of Watska. John H. Varley of Chicago, senior vice-commander, withdrew from the race after the first ballot. With reference to the much-disputed statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee in the hall of fame at Washington, the committee on resolutions, while deploring the fact that a statue of Gen. Lee now stands in the hall of fame at Washington, thought it unwise to submit any resolutions to the present encampment regarding it. The motion of a comrade that the encampment take more time to think the matter over and that the recommendation of the resolutions committee to delay action on the Lee statue be concurred in was carried unanimously.

**Are Hotels on Wheels.** Chicago, May 26.—The Pullman company operates hotels on wheels, it does not sell transportation, but runs lodging houses and sells sleeping accommodations. Therefore, it is not engaged in interstate commerce and the interstate commerce commission has no power to order the cost of upper berths reduced, or in any way interfere with the company's business. This is the argument the Pullman company will present to the United States court when the hearing of its application for an injunction against the interstate commerce commission begins.

**Osteopaths in Demand on State.** Springfield, May 26.—The Illinois Osteopathic association met here for its eleventh annual meeting. The most interesting feature of the program was the report of the legislative committee. The association again went on record as favoring a separate examining board for applicants for licenses to practice as osteopaths in the state. A bill for this purpose will be presented at the next meeting of the general assembly and a determined effort will be made to enact it into a law.

**Husband's Blows Fatal, Charge.** Chicago, May 26.—Mrs. Kate Lewandowski, thirty-eight years old, 1628 McHenry street, who, it is charged, was kicked and beaten by her husband, Frank, because she did not have supper ready for him, died at the county hospital, and the police say Lewandowski will be charged with murder. The husband is locked up at the Rawson street station. He was arrested at his home shortly after his wife died.

**Saloons Open After Two-Year Drought.** Marion, May 26.—After two and one-half years of local option, the Marion city council has granted licenses to four saloons and the new concerns are open. One wholesale liquor house is also licensed. The ordinance provides that one saloon only to each 1,000 inhabitants shall be licensed. Eight applications have been favorably considered.

**Henry Erz Acquitted.** Chicago, May 26.—Henry Erz, who was held by the Chicago police on the charge of swindling, has been acquitted. He was held for alleged swindling in Wisconsin cities. He was an agent for a Missouri publication.

**Insurgents Crushed Is Report.** San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua, May 26.—A report has just been received here from government sources of the complete defeat of the insurgents at Bluefields Bluff. The telegraph lines are working badly and details are lacking.

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