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The Nebraska State Journal.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. LINCOLN, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 19, 1912—TEN PAGES. TWO CENTS.

TAFT IS A CONVERT

DECLARES HIMSELF FOR PREFERENTIAL PRIMARIES.

BUT SAFEGUARD NECESSARY

ANSWER OF PRESIDENT TO THE DIXON CHALLENGE.

Fullest Liberty to People Essential, While at Same Time Hasty and Ill-Considered Laws Are to Be Shunned.

BOSTON, March, 18.—President Taft played his part in Boston's belated celebration of St. Patrick's day here with an address to the charitable Irish society and a "look in" of the dinner of the bank officers' association, the Boston papers trade association and the Yale club of Boston tonight.

In many ways it was the busiest and most demonstrative day the president has spent since he entered the white house. From the time his train arrived at 7 o'clock this morning until he retired tonight, Bostonians apparently vied with each other to express their friendly feeling. The president's reception by the general court of Massachusetts this afternoon was one of the most remarkable in point of enthusiasm that most of those present ever witnessed. When he entered the hall escorted by a special committee of legislators the president was cheered to the echo. From the state house the president motored out in South Boston and for more than two hours listened to the cheering of thousands of Bostonians, saw thousands of flags waved in his honor, and reviewed one of the largest parades ever arranged in honor of Ireland's patron saint and "evacuation day."

During the day the president spoke on many subjects. Before the Massachusetts' legislature he spoke on presidential primaries, pointing out that he favored such registration of the popular will in regard to the presidential candidates where the law safeguarded the ballot. To a delegation from the Massachusetts peace society he said he did not intend to give up the fight for arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France, and added that when Secretary of State Knox returned from Central America a plan to resume the fight for arbitration would be worked out.

In his address to the charitable Irish society tonight the president praised the Irish for their adaptability in becoming Americans, and added a word about the evident belief of that race in the stability of American institutions.

In this connection the president said: "The thing of which I wish to speak tonight, however, is the well known fact that socialism and anarchy have found no lodgment among Irishmen. Not from them do we hear proposals to change the fundamental law, or take away the independence of the judiciary or to minimize in way the influence or power of constitutional authority. They welcome progress; they are enterprising and active to further prosperity. They are not full of diatribes against the existing order.

"They are not reaching out for new gods or government. They are not seeking to invent a new society and turn the present topsy-turvy. They are on the side of law and order."

The president spent the night in a Boston hotel. Tomorrow he leaves for New Hampshire to keep engagements in Nashua, Concord and Manchester.

For Presidential Primary.

President Taft today declared himself in favor of preferential primaries, surrounded by certain conditions for the coming campaign.

"Wherever full and fair notice of the election can be given, wherever adequate election safeguards can be thrown around to protect a preferential primary for the presidency, wherever the constitution of the state permits its being made applicable to the present election I favor it and welcome it."

This was the president's statement today before the general court of Massachusetts. It was his first personal reply to the challenge to preferential primaries issued some time ago by Senator Joseph M. Dixon, Colonel Roosevelt's manager. President Taft did not refer to the challenge however.

The president made a rather pointed reference to the proposition "let the people rule" and had something to say about the recall of the judiciary and the recall of judicial decisions.

Intemperate Language Condemned.

"Irresponsible assaults, upon either intemperate language or on baseless assumptions of corruption or bias or incompetency, made by those whose statements have influence with any part of our people are a serious menace to enduring government," said the president. His address in part follows:

"You recently have passed what is called a preferential primary law for the election of delegates to the national convention, upon which will fall the duty of selecting the presidential nominees of the respective parties. I have not had opportunity critically to examine the new law, but I am sure it makes proper provision to meet the obvious requirements.

"I am glad you have done this. The question of how delegates are to be selected to any political convention, or how nominees are to be selected by a party, originally was a matter merely of voluntary and party agreement, but so important to the public at large did the character of the candidates to be selected by each party become that the state properly has interfered so as to throw safeguards around the exercise by all those who belong to a party of their privilege to have a voice in the choice of their party candidates.

"I am not going to discuss in detail the question of direct primary elections—their uses and abuses. I think everyone will admit, however, in order that they may accomplish the good they are intended to accomplish they should be safeguarded by effective provision as to the party eligibility of voters who participate in them and by penal provisions, securing conformity to rules of such eligibility and the honest casting and counting of the ballot.

Some Worse Than None.

"I don't hesitate to say that, in my judgment, a voluntary primary outside the law, known by its informal character as a 'Peap hog' primary, is worse than none, for it gives full opportunity to the ineligible electors of the other party to cast unfair votes, and without the sanction and safeguard of penal provisions in respect to casting and counting the ballots is an open avenue for fraud and violence.

"It is eminently appropriate that in every election and in the discussion of all issues that affect the republic we should discuss and hear much of the popular will and the rights of the people. This is a government based on popular control.

"We all concede that the operation of elections and the operations of government are not perfect and sometimes are subject to corrupt influences and control, and that it is the part of patriotism to remove, as far as possible, the obstacles which prevent honest primaries, honest elections and the honest administration of the government in the interest of the people.

"But the continued iteration and reiteration of the proposition, 'Let the people rule,' if it has any significance at all, and is intended otherwise than to flatter the people, is intended to be a reflection on the government that we have had down to the present time. Now, in spite of all the corruption, in spite of all the machine politics, in spite of every defect in the operation of our government that can be pointed out, I do not hesitate to state that the history of the last 135 years shows that the people have ruled. They may have been defeated at times by corrupt and corrupting influences; congresses and legislatures may have been baited by subterranean methods in carrying out what the people desire, but in the end, under our present constitution and our present laws, we have had a really popular government.

People Still Rule.

"I don't mean to say we cannot make it better. I do not mean to say we may not remove some obstacles by which corruption or machine methods may be encouraged, but what I do say is that the cry that the people do not rule and are not in control or in intimate to that effect, does not do justice to the American people or their history and holds up to the world at large in a way that does not do us justice. Certainly there is nothing in the growth of this country from the adoption of the constitution until now or with the last twenty or thirty years that justifies any attack upon the structure of government or any part of the foundations that have stood so firmly or upon which our whole popular civilization has been reared.

"The occasion for these remarks is the attack on our judiciary and the proposal to limit and recall or recall of judicial decisions, to destroy its independence and thus to take away from the people a government of the Bastone.

"I deny that there is in the decisions of the courts or the character of the judges or the result of litigation, from which justifies such a radical innovation. I do not consider it the necessary for the judicial reform, but that depends not upon changing the character of the judges but upon the change of procedure, the expedition of judgments and the reduction of the expense of litigation.

"One easily can discover a tendency in modern society to treat laws as a written law and above the written constitution which is called 'popular will' as if that were a higher law to which we must all submit without by obeying it and ignore or transgress statutory and constitutional limitations.

"This tendency is not exactly in the form of an assertion that judges and others are to ignore statutes and constitutions because of a conflicting popular will, but it is in the more insidious proposition that plain construction of the statute or of the constitution is to be defeated and a strained and otherwise impossible construction put on the language of the statute or constitution in deference to what is supposed to be the popular will."

Quotes Western Governor.

The president here quoted a western governor whom he did not name, who had declared "whatever is right is constitutional" and who had taken Lincoln's "the life of this nation is greater than any constitution" to sustain this view.

"It is impossible to escape the meaning of such a view," said the president, "and that is that the plain construction of the constitution is to be perverted because it is thought the people at present would prefer not to be subject to the limitations contained in the constitution lawfully adopted. The quoted words of Lincoln have no application. It is not true that 'whatever is right is constitutional' means the declaration of the right is contained in the constitution or is not forbidden by it.

"Popular will, to be effective and controlling with courts, must be embodied in statutory enactment or constitutional law.

"It is not left to executive officers of the state or of the nation or to the judge on the bench, whether state or federal, to decide what is right when there is no declaration of right in the statute book. The law is the guide of the judge and the governor, and not his individual opinion as to whether the law is good or not.

"This is a government of law, not of changing economic and political theories of judiciary or executive officers, when those theories are to be enforced with the express letter of the law. Suggestions of that sort are dangerous because they put the ship of state on a sea of trouble without a rudder. They destroy that respect for constituted authority that is essential to well-ordered liberty.

"The strength of the government and the strength of the judiciary must rest ultimately on the confidence of the people in their integrity."

At the City club breakfast the president declined to talk on public questions because he was to address the legislature in the afternoon, but gave intimation that he was brought up in Ohio, and educated in the Philippines, he was of thorough Massachusetts stock.

"In the town of Mendon there is a tablet which has been in name of seventy-seven of the founders of the town and I am proud from sentiment of them," he said. In the City club Mr. Taft was greeted by a group of men who came over from the Harvard law school.

Calls It Answer to Challenge.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Congressman William H. McKinlay, director of Prosecutor Taft's campaign for renomination, declared in a statement tonight that President Taft's pronouncement upon presidential primaries made at Boston today constituted the answer of the Taft forces to the "challenge" of Senator Dixon, manager of the Roosevelt campaign. He said that inadequate state laws would open the door of the republican primaries to democrats and "nullify the will of the republican masses."

All grades of refined sugar were reduced 10 cents a hundred pounds.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Forecast for Nebraska: Fair Tuesday; local snows and colder at night on Wednesday.

Minnesota: Cloudy Tuesday, snow and colder in north portion and at night in south portion.

South Dakota: Increasing cloudiness Tuesday, snow and colder at night and Wednesday, with a cold wave in north portion.

Iowa: Fair Tuesday; local snows or rains and colder at night or Wednesday.

REFUSE TO GIVE UP

ROOSEVELT FORCES CLAIM VICTORY IN NORTH DAKOTA.

HARD BATTLE IS ADMITTED

STRENGTH DEVELOPED BY LA-FOLLETTE NOT DOUBTED.

Managers of Wisconsin Senator's Campaign Confident of a Triumph—Interest at Washington End.

FARGO, N. D., March 18.—Supporters of Theodore Roosevelt, on the eve of tomorrow's first presidential preferential primary election, admitted that Senator Robert M. LaFollette had aroused enthusiasm in nearly all quarters of the state and had cutted up much additional support within the last week. They declared, however, that they believed the strength of Colonel Roosevelt's name, in its close association with the early days of the state, would bring victory from a hard fight. Campaign managers for both LaFollette and Roosevelt tonight concluded one of the hardest political fights in the history of the state and relaxed to await tomorrow's vote.

The last act of the Roosevelt managers here to send the following telegram to all newspapers in the state for republication in last editions today:

"Voters of North Dakota: Preserve yourselves throughout the United States are looking to you for support in the endorsement of the only progressive republican who can be nominated and elected president of the United States—Theodore Roosevelt.

"This is signed by the following:

Henry J. Aldrich, governor of Nebraska.

Joseph B. Carey, governor of Wyoming.

W. R. Stubbs, governor of Kansas.

R. F. Bass, governor of New Hampshire.

Herbert S. Hadley, governor of Missouri.

LaFollette Forces Active.

LaFollette forces continued their mass meetings in various sections of the state today and tonight. Their speakers expressed confidence with much more fire than at any time during the campaign. Considerable of this was due to the presence in the state of Senator LaFollette and the enthusiasm that has been accorded him at many points.

Manager for Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in the North Dakota presidential preference primary campaign today decided to get a message to the voters of the state from the seven men who caused Colonel Roosevelt to become a candidate for the presidential nomination at this primary. This was the final effort of the Roosevelt men to affect sentiment for Senator LaFollette.

FARGO, N. D., March 18.—Predicting that he would be in the white house after March 4, next, Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin, on the eve of the first state presidential preference primary election, delivered addresses at Minot and Rugby, which are two of the largest towns of the country were on the election day tomorrow in North Dakota. He "the first state to express its choice for a presidential candidate by a direct vote of the people."

He scored Colonel Roosevelt for having failed, as he said, as president, to do his duty, instead of prosecuting eight or ten trusts a year, he said that Roosevelt should have compelled the United States district attorneys and the attorney general to enjoin the trusts from forming combinations.

Interest at Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The presidential primary in North Dakota tomorrow was the subject of comment at various political headquarters in Washington today. The LaFollette headquarters, basing their prediction on reports from Senator LaFollette and Manager Walter L. Houser, predicted a plurality of the votes for Senator LaFollette. Senator Dixon, made no claim of a plurality for Colonel Roosevelt, but predicted a heavy "anti-Taft" sentiment.

"Unfortunately a fierce factional fight between republican leaders in that state for control of the state organization has caused a temporary check to the anti-Taft ranks," said Senator Dixon. He added that "no matter whether Hanna-Roosevelt ticket or the Grosna-LaFollette ticket wins, the North Dakota delegation will be anti-Taft at Chicago."

Gifford Pinchot, in a telegram sent from Fargo, N. D., at 8 o'clock today, has made specific denial of the statement credited to Walter L. Hunter and others that Colonel Roosevelt pledged his support to Senator LaFollette as a progressive candidate for the republican presidential nomination, and declares that Mr. Hunter, manager of LaFollette's candidacy "was himself among the first LaFollette supporters to urge that the senator should abandon his own candidacy in the interest of the progressive cause and join with others in urging Colonel Roosevelt to accept the nomination because Roosevelt alone would carry these policies to victory."

Five Visitors at the Hill.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., March 18.—Five visitors appeared at Sagamore Hill tonight. Colonel Roosevelt said he was very politic in talking with them, and that he was not talking politics, and that he was not talking politics, were naturalists. Earlier in the day Colonel Roosevelt attended a St. Patrick's day dinner at the home of Father Lyons of York, pastor of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church at Huntington. Colonel Roosevelt made a speech to 500 school children, addressing them he said he was going to borrow a simile from the football field. "Don't flinch; don't foul and hit the line hard," he told them.

Tomorrow Colonel Roosevelt is to go to New York to meet Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Ethel Roosevelt on their return from Central America.

Colonel Roosevelt tonight received a telegram from Senator Dixon, his campaign manager, suggesting that he make a reply to President Taft's speech in Boston today. Colonel Roosevelt said he would be unable to formulate a reply tonight, but would give one out tomorrow.

CLAIM MOST OF KANSAS MEN.

Managers of Woodrow Wilson Insist He Has Majority.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Woodrow Wilson's headquarters here issued a statement virtually claiming the majority of the Kansas delegation to the Baltimore convention for Governor Wilson. The headquarters claims that Wilson's delegates have been elected in six of the eight congressional districts of Kansas and claims a total of twelve of the sixteen district delegates. Two of the four delegates-at-large are also claimed.

SEEKS TO SET HIMSELF ARIGHT.

Champ Clark on the Floor to Explain His Vote on Sugar.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Speaker Clark, when the house convened today, turned the gavel over to Representative Cooper of Indiana and took the floor to ask the consent of the house to have recorded his vote on Friday against recommitment of the free sugar bill for the reason that he had eliminated his vote from the record wrongly in order to curry favor with delegates from the sugar-producing states, which had fought the bill bitterly.

CHARGE OF BRIBERY MADE

Four Members of New Mexico Legislature Arrested in Connection With Senatorial Fight.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., March 18.—Four members of the New Mexico legislature were arrested tonight in Santa Fe on charges of offering bribes to vote for certain candidates for United States senators, the first vote on which will be taken by the legislature tomorrow. Bribes amounting to $100 each are said to have been paid them.

The arrest of the legislators, all members of the house of representatives, was effected by means of a ruse by the police. Following the climax to dickerings extending over several days, it is alleged.

Those arrested were Representative Julian Trujillo and J. P. Lucero, of Rio Arriba county, and Representative Luis Montoya of Taos county. They are alleged to have been caught with the money in their possession. The charges against the Rio Arriba Mounted Policeman A. A. Sena in a room at the Palace hotel in Santa Fe, where the men met by appointment. Immediately after their arrest the four legislators were taken to the county jail. After their arrival there they wrote their resignations, which will be presented to the house when it meets tomorrow morning.

According to details obtainable tonight, the trap to catch the men was laid by Elfego Baca of Albuquerque, manager for Judge Albert B. Fall, one of the leading candidates for United States senator. State Chairman Venceslao Jaramillo, of the republican central committee, also mentioned for a senatorship; Joseph D. Sena, clerk of the state supreme court, and A. A. Sena of the mounted police.

SANTA FE, N. M., March 18.—The first skirmish in the contest in the first New Mexico legislature for the first senatorships tonight resulted in a victory for W. H. Andrews and the adherents of A. B. Fall and T. B. Catron, when the joint evening session refused to cover in the rules adopted by the house and senate on joint balloting on senatorships and appointed a conference committee. The point of difference was the provision that the house and senate should be voted on at the same time, a provision that is being fought by the supporters of Catron.

GREGORY JUMPS INTO FRAY

President of Bar Association Pitted Against Wickersham.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—S. S. Gregory of Chicago, president of the American bar association, has taken a hand in the fight over the membership of the association, which has been challenged and an assistant attorney general of the United States, Lewis was ousted by the executive committee. President Gregory has called a letter to every member of the association. Attorney General Wickersham, who is conducting a vigorous fight for his assistant, Lewis, says the association is a bar association who are said to be negroes. One is a Minneapolis lawyer and another lives in Boston. The attorney general says that it is the duty of the bar association to reconcile the membership of these men to their action in ousting Lewis.

"Notwithstanding all argument, an issue not involved," says President Gregory, "the fact remains that Mr. Lewis was ousted from membership in the association under a misapprehension, and he now finds on retaining the advantages of an election thus obtained."

BENCH IS MADE COMPLETE

Mahlon Pitney Sworn In as Associate Justice.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Mahlon Pitney of New Jersey today took the oath of office and assumed the duties of the associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, as the successor of the late Justice Harlan. It was the first time since the illness last October took Justice Harlan to his home that the bench was filled.

Every step of his elevation to the supreme court was marked with dignity and old time customs.

A tentative assignment of the justices to the Ninth circuit was made by Chief Justice White. Justice Pitney was assigned to the Ninth circuit, consisting of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Justice Lurton was transferred from the Third to the Seventh, including Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. Justice Day was given the Fourth circuit, consisting of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Tennessee.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

The Senate.

In session 1 p. m.

Senator Root introduced a bill for a national military school.

President Taft asked congress to authorize a memorial service for battleship Maine day.

Senator Lorimer's counsel submitted his argument on his seat in Lorimer investigation.

Adjourned at 1:24 p. m. until noon Tuesday.

The House.

Met at noon.

Resumed debate on excise tax bill.

Speaker Clark asked that his vote against recommitment of sugar bill and for its passage be recorded.

Former Secretary of War Wright, before Ways committee, passed responsibility for non-commercial of Major Ray to Former Chief of Staff Bell.

Adjourned at 5:40 p. m. until noon Tuesday.

DEATH AT THE END OF CONVICTS' ROAD

GRAY SHOT DOWN AND DOWD KILLED SELF IN BATTLE NEAR GRETNA.

FOUGHT ON COUNTRY ROAD

ESCAPE OF PEN DESPERADOES TRAGEDY TO THE END.

MORLEY THREW UP HANDS

LEADER GAME TO THE LAST BUT PALS LACKED NERVE.

INNOCENT FARMER KILLED

MORTALLY PIERCED BY SHOT FROM UNKNOWN SOURCE.

Bodies of Dead Convicts Taken to State Penitentiary and Convict Morley Placed in His Cell.

The dead:
CONVICT "SHORTY" GRAY.
CONVICT JOHN DOWD.
ROY BLUNT, a farmer.
Surrendered:
CONVICT CHARLES MORLEY.

The lifeless bodies of Convicts Gray and Dowd, killed in battle at Gretna, were brought to Lincoln last evening. Morley, who surrendered, was landed in the penitentiary, which he had left Thursday afternoon, after assisting in blasting the prison gates and killing Warden Delahunty and two assistants.

The relief at the killing and capturing of the desperados was followed by a terror during their four days of liberty, was not unalloyed. The killing of Roy Blunt, an innocent farmer, who had been forced to drive them across country toward Omaha, cast a shadow that neither could dispel.

Gray died in battle. He fell first of the convicts, pierced mortally by a bullet from a rifle in the hands of Sheriff Hyers. Dowd, on seeing Gray, the leader, fall, shot himself. Morley, with his hands in the air, indicating surrender to the posse, was shot by Blunt was struck by a bullet from an unknown source.

Dowd received probably as many as fifty or more shots were exchanged none of the posse was injured. Morley was not injured, having come through both yesterday's fusillade and that of Thursday afternoon at the prison without being hit.

Fight Northeast of Gretna.

Trailed from Murdock, Neb., where they had robbed two stores during the night, the three convicts were hemmed in by posses from Lincoln, Omaha and nearby towns, making escape a difficult feat. They were overtaken by Sheriff Hyers and his assistants three and a half miles northeast of Gretna, and there the battle took place.

The fight began after the three desperate men had been chased by the posse over fourteen miles of horse-killing roads. The posse became strung out over two miles. In the lead was a buggy containing Sheriff Chase of Sarpy county, Chief of Police John Briggs of South Omaha, John C. Trenton, deputy fire commissioner, and a driver.

When the buggy drew up within about two hundred yards the convicts opened fire, lying down in the bottom of their wagon. The driver for the Omaha men then decided he did not wish to go on, and turning the lines over to one of the others, he jumped from the vehicle.

Running Fight for a Mile.

A running fight was kept up, both sides firing, for over a mile. Sheriff Hyers of Lancaster county had taken a fresh saddle horse from a farmer and was in advance of the Lincoln posse, though closely followed by Deputy Sheriff Eikenbary. Hyers ran his horse and soon caught up with the leading man-hunters. Riding to the side of the road, he opened fire with his Winchester rifle and automatic revolver.

At the bottom of one hill the wagon rest of the convicts' wagon was dumped out and it was seen by the passing deputies that there was blood on it. They then knew that some of their shots had reached home. It was later learned that the boy driver was the one hit. Whether or not a bullet from the gun in the loading carriage caused the death of Roy Blunt, or whether the hostage was killed by one of the fusillades is not known. He was the first man killed, and Morley says he was killed by the first shot fired by the posse.

Hyers Killed "Shorty" Gray.

"Shorty" Gray was the second man killed. He was struck by a bullet from the gun in the hands of Sheriff Hyers. Hyers dismounted and using his horse as a shelter and a telephone pole as a rest for his rifle, he fired the shot which brought down the leader of the gang.

Gray's death left Dowd and Morley alive in the wagon and the team without a driver racing down the road, the posse in hot pursuit. Morely continued firing at the officers, but it was only a few minutes until Dowd placed his gun to the side of his head and killed himself.

By this time Morley had emptied the six cartridges in his revolver at the officers. When he glanced around and saw Dowd was dead and he alone in the wagon was alive, he jumped out of the wagon and raising his hands above his head, ran toward the officers. He had exhausted his ammunition, he later told the officers, the only remaining cartridges being in the pockets of the clothes on "Shorty" Gray.

Wanted to Shoot Morley.

Deputy Sheriff Eikenbary of Lancaster county jumped from his buggy and Morley surrendered to him. Eikenbary taking him by the collar and leading him toward the posse. Some of the posse wanted to kill Morley then after he had surrendered and made an effort to shoot the convict. Deputy Sheriff Eikenbary prevented these men with a revolver and said:

"This man is my prisoner and I will kill the first man that harms him."

Sheriff Hyers also came to the protection of the captive and his two officials, with drawn revolvers, marched their man to their wagon.

Directly following the shooting and the threat to take the life after his capture, Morley was nervous, but he soon regained his composure and was as cool as any in the posse on the return to Lincoln. When placed in the bottom of the sled, with the bodies of Dowd and "Shorty" Gray and guarded by Hyers, Eikenbary and other deputies, his manacled hands trembled and he grouched down in the sled bed, his eyes shifting and showing fear. But he early regained his composure.

Brought Back to Lincoln.

Following the battle, the posse, with Morley manacled and under guard, and crowd while the latter chased. Then the bodies of "Shorty" Gray and Dowd, drove to Gretna. There Morley was kept in the baggage-room until the special train arrived from Lincoln.

In the baggage-room of the station Morley was perfectly calm and cool at his capers with cold, dispassionate eyes. When asked by the newspaper men if he would tell his story of the chase, he smiled and said "Yes." Looking at their mud-smeared clothes, he asked them what posse they were with and was questioned about the last act.

Calmly rolling a cigarette, with his hands still handcuffed, Morley smilingly told the reporters that he was done for life, after he surrendered, to the two men by his side. Deputy Sheriff Eikenbary and Sheriff Hyers, when they had led out. When asked who killed Gray, he said he did not know the man's name, but indicated Hyers and said he was the man.

Cynically gazing out at the crowd which had collected at the station, Morley said if he were free and had one revolver he could make a scattering among them. He talked freely with the newspaper men and his guards, frequently smiling and asking questions himself. He had read an account in a paper, he said, of the conduct of the officials at the pen, and he seemed anything to eat, and immediately Mrs. Blunt conceived the idea of the ruse that was to give the alarm to the officers. In a courteous manner she asked the convicts if they had time to wait until she went to the chicken coop for fresh eggs. They said that they had, whereupon she immediately left out the back door and, going past the chicken coop, walked a mile and a half to the nearest neighbor and phoned the alarm.

Took Man as Hostage.

It was when Mrs. Blunt failed to return that the convicts received the first intimation that they were in danger. They commanded the young husband to continue with the breakfast, and as hurriedly. They then commanded him to hitch his team and drive them to Albright. While two of the convicts went to the barn with Mr. Blunt to assist him to get the wagon ready, the third sat in the house and wrote the note found a short time afterward by the officers.

With the three murderers lying flat in the body of the heavy farm lumber wagon, and with young Blunt in the driver's seat, the convicts drove the team out the road.

At 2:11 p. m., Thursday, the convicts had made their escape. At 2 p. m., Monday, they were engaged in the battle which they lost. After ninety-six hours of liberty, suffering great privation, Morley was again taken within the grey stone walls and placed in solitary confinement to await the time when he must answer for his participation in the crimes.

Took Trail at Prairie Home.

Word was received by Sheriff Hyers early yesterday morning that the three convicts were between Prairie Home and South Bend during the night and that a store at Murdock had been entered and some shotguns, cartridges, overshoes and duck coats stolen, probably by the three escaped men. A posse of about twenty-five men, armed with Winchester long-range rifles and with revolvers and shot-guns for close range work, was collected. There was also added six militiamen under command of Lieut. Harry Gilmer, with long-range army rifles. The party were taken east on a special train.

The three men were divided into four posses and it was planned to let each off at different stations and work between stations, searching every house and barn or other possible hiding place. This plan was changed when at a station enroute, Sheriff Hyers received a message that the men had crossed the Platte river and passed South Bend. It was stated that after walking about three miles, they had left the track and headed north through the timber.

All of the posse left the train at South Bend and twelve men under Sheriff Hyers crossed the river on handcars. They were met at the place the fugitive struck north by Dean Applegate, with a team and bob-sled. He said the men had headed north about an hour before, and were apparently going toward the Blunt place, four miles north of the track. As the way was wooded, with good places for the convicts to hide in the drawn and under the culverts, a careful search was made on each side of the road, the men with the long-ranges rifles being placed in the front part of the sled.

Left Note For Posse.

Farmers met on the way confirmed the statement of Dean Applegate that the men were headed for Blunt and when the posse arrived there the house was surrounded. The blinds were drawn and when Hyers and Eikenbary went to the doors and knocked, no one responded. Deputy Eikenbary then forced the back door and alone entered the house with drawn revolver. He soon came out with a piece of paper on which was written:

"To the Posse—We have taken your hostage for a ride. If you do not follow us or report the matter, he will not be injured."

The sheriff's posse had reached the Blunt home about 10:30 in the morning, after having sailed the three miles from the Platte river, between the track and the Blunt home. They entered the house and asked that they be given breakfast.

The men were accompanied by the youthful victim, was the first to give the alarm regarding the exact location of the escaped convicts, and it was through her forethought and coolness that the officers were set on the trail that ended in the death of her husband. When the three men walked into the kitchen of the Blunt home they demanded something