

ANOTHER MINE HORROR AVERTED

Four Hundred Lives Imperiled by an Explosion of Gas in Coal Shaft in an Illinois Town.

NINE LIVES ARE LOST

Open Lamps Caused the Explosion and the Greater Part of the Miners Made Their Escape.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Nine men were killed and the lives of 400 others imperiled by an explosion of gas in mine "A" of the Chicago and Cartersville Coal company near Herring, Ill.

The dead are: W. T. Pierce, mine engineer; Eugene Barrett, assistant engineer; unidentified boy, aged 16 years; George Snyder, Salvatore Grecco, Thomas Harber, miners; Pietro Remo, laborer, and an unidentified man.

James Guinney, superintendent of the mine, and Robert Hueston, manager, headed the first rescuers. Despite the black damp flowing into the chambers adjoining those they were in, Pierce and companions plunged into the workings. The prostrate bodies of three men who were alive blocked their path.

EXPLOSION IN POWDER PLANT

One Man Was Blown to Pieces and Five Others Were Injured Slightly.

HANNIBAL, Dec. 24.—Ollie Fugate, residing at Ashburn, was blown to atoms by the accidental discharge of a quantity of dynamite at the plant of Du Pont Powder company at La Motte, near Ashburn.

Like similar accidents of this nature, it will never be known just how the accident was caused. The men were working with the dynamite, when a large charge of it exploded, tearing up all the property within its radius, killing the one workman and injuring the others.

EIGHT BURNED IN THE HOME

Christmas Tree Was the Cause of the Blaze Which Last Night Wiped Out the Entire Family.

CHILDREN LIGHTED IT

It is Supposed That the Little Ones Awoke and Started the Blaze Which Was So Fatal.

NEW CASTLE, Pa., Dec. 24.—The first fatality due to Christmas tree fires, today wiped out the family of Guitano DeGerbo and took the lives of three of his boarders.

KILLED BY WABASH TRAIN

Man With an Armload of Christmas Presents Was Struck by Locomotive.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—Carrying an armload of packages, intended for Christmas presents, John Meyers, of Railroad avenue, Ferguson, was instantly killed by an east bound Wabash train.

HUSBAND AS HOT WATER BOTTLE

Court Rules That He is Not and That Wife Must Not Think So.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Man is not a human hot water bottle. This has been officially decided by the Municipal Court of Chicago which has ruled that husband has a right to kick if his wife places her cold, clammy feet in the middle of his back to keep them warm.

TICKLED HORSE WITH FEATHERS

Animal Replied by Kicking the Woman and Broke Her \$2,500 Leg.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A jury before Supreme Justice Goff returned a verdict for \$2,500 in favor of Clara Martin, and against Nicholas Althaus, because the latter's horse kicked the woman and broke her leg when she was crossing a street.

DIDN'T EVEN WRITE ABOUT IT

It is Now Charged That Dr. Cook Hired a Man to Fix up His Story of Finding the Pole.

HAD PUBLICITY AGENT

Who Was Banqueting With Dane His Agent Was Grinding Out the Story.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Capt. Loose, the navigator who made affidavit a few weeks ago that he took Dr. Cook from Bronxville to the pole and back again without causing the Bushwick explorer the discomfort of even putting his foot outside the door of the Gramatan Inn, can not claim priority in the discovery of Dr. Cook.

A Danish law student who holds high office under the government of the king at home and who is at present spending some time in study in New York, said today that he knew that a hustling publicity man of Copenhagen, who, though a Dane, was thoroughly fluent in the use of English, had written for Dr. Cook in Copenhagen the long account of the journey to the pole which appeared in the New York Herald and other papers throughout the country during the month of September under Cook's name.

The authority for this bit of news, which helps to illumine the backward trail of the Brooklyn explorer, gave the name of the enterprising ready writer of Copenhagen, but under the stipulation that it should not become public. It would be embarrassing for the Copenhagen publicity man, he explained. Yet he believed that the individual whom he so screened had been proud of his work.

Henry Arctowski, who was a companion of Dr. Cook on the Belgian expedition to the Antarctic, writing in criticism of Cook's claims to having discovered the pole, stated that the whole Cook propaganda had been the work of a clever publicity agent in Copenhagen.

RED CROSS STAMPS ARE ALL RIGHT

Can Be Affixed to Mail Going to Germany or to Great Britain. Orders Issued.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24.—Letters bearing the Red Cross Christmas stamps will be accepted in Germany, whether affixed to the face or back of letters from this country, according to the announcement of Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States.

CAUSE OF DEATH

Ed McCartney Was Engaged in the Harness and Buggy Business For Long Time.

[Special to The Gate City.] BLANDINSVILLE, Ill., Dec. 24.—Ed. C. McCartney, aged fifty-six years, died at the residence of his son, Ray McCartney in this city at 5 o'clock Tuesday evening.

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[Special to The Gate City.] JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 24.—William J. Bryan, who has been in this city for several days as the guest of his cousin, William S. Jennings, was too ill last night to deliver his scheduled address at the Duval Theatre for the benefit of a local hospital.

Bryan is Sick. JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 24.—William J. Bryan, who has been in this city for several days as the guest of his cousin, William S. Jennings, was too ill last night to deliver his scheduled address at the Duval Theatre for the benefit of a local hospital.

HEAVY PURSE OF SANTA CLAUS

Several Million Dollars Will be Distributed From Wall Street to Employees of Big Concerns.

SHOULD BRING MUCH JOY

Steel Trust Heads the List With Two Millions to be Given Away At This Season.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—It is estimated that several million dollars will be distributed as presents from Wall Street this year. The U. S. steel corporation heads the list of Christmas givers with two millions.

HOUSE DOG WAS ON TO HIS JOB

Gave the Alarm When Woman Made an Attempt to Hang Herself.

UNION CITY, Ind., Dec. 24.—A common house dog of no particular breed saved a human life near Raper Chapel, Ohio. While Jacob Miller was out at the barn he heard the dog bark so vociferously that he went to the house to see what was the matter.

BARONESS VAUGHAN WINS FIRST POINT

Daughters of Leopold Tried to Attack the Property of the King's Wife.

PONTOISE, France, Dec. 24.—The court ordered the removal of the seals placed upon Baroness Vaughan's property at Ballecourt. Leopold's daughters had sought to seize the residence by placing seals thereon, indicating a claim of ownership.

The court ordered an inventory made on the contents of the chateau with the exception of the personal effects of the baroness and her children, which were placed immediately at their disposal. In case the attorneys are unable to agree upon a person to make the inventory, a choice will be made by the court.

THE SIZE OF THE LOAF OF BREAD

Court Decision Says That City Council Can Give Baker His Orders.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 24.—In a big batch of opinions and decisions handed down by the Illinois supreme court when court adjourned the December term, was one upholding the right of a city council to pass an ordinance fixing the size and weight of a loaf of bread.

ANOTHER BLOW TO DR. COOK

His Ascent to the Top of Mount McKinley Has Been Denied.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Explorers Club today reports that the claim of Dr. Cook to having climbed to the summit of Mount McKinley, is not substantiated by the evidence.

Gig Petition to Donaghey. LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 24.—A petition signed by ten thousand people asking the pardon for W. Y. Ellis, slayer of N. P. Willis, of Indianapolis, was presented to Governor Donaghey last night.

THOUGHT SANTA WAS IN SKY

Tillinghast Was Abroad Again Last Night in His Almost Perfect Aeroplane.

HE FLEW OVER BOSTON

Man Who Recently Made Startling Announcement of His Newly Invented Airship.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 24.—Wallace E. Tillinghast was abroad in the skies in his mysterious airship again last night, and those who were skeptical concerning the trip to New York last September have become convinced. There is no longer any question about the airship making nocturnal trips around Massachusetts.

THE SHED DISCOVERED

WORCESTER, Mass., Dec. 24.—The home of the mysterious aeroplane, which has been cruising over Massachusetts for two weeks, it is believed has been found.

Scouring the country about here for the home of the Tillinghast machine, a United Press representative discovered at West Boylston, that fourteen men in the employ of Paul D. Morgan of Worcester were busy in some secret occupation on the old estate of John B. Gough, the old time temperance lecturer.

On this estate and situated in dense woods, there is a shed more than 100 feet long believed to contain the aeroplane. No aeroplane was seen by the United Press representative. As he was advancing through the woods, he was captured by men employed on the estate, taken before a Justice of the Peace and fined for trespassing. This is the only clue to the aeroplane just discovered.

MARK TWAIN REFUSES TO DIE

Sends Christmas Greetings to Everybody and a Message to His Friends.

REDDING, Conn., Dec. 24.—Mark Twain gave out the following statement yesterday as a result of the various reports concerning his condition of health, following his recent return from Bermuda:

SHOPS WRECKED; MANY KILLED

Seven Bodies Already Taken Out and Fifty More Are Thought Dead.

SHAWNEE, Okla., Dec. 24.—Seven bodies have already been taken from the wrecked Rock Island shops here. The explosion of a stationary boiler at noon today, wrecked the plant, sending the men to their death and wrecking the large plant.

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ESTRADA WILL ENTER CAPITAL

Nothing Much in the Way Now to Stop the Revolutionists in Their Long March to Victory.

AMERICANS HELPED OUT

Soldiers of Fortune From the United States Took an Active Part in the Crushing of Zelaya.

BLUEFIELDS, Dec. 24.—With the last vestige of former President Zelaya's army, either killed or captured, nothing stands in the way today of Estrada's march against Managua.

The completion of the annihilation of Zelaya's army came Wednesday evening in another fierce battle between the revolutionists and government troops, at Lecreo. The government troops, which fled from Rama, made their last stand at Lacreo. They were overwhelmed. After a two hours engagement, in which scores of government troops, recklessly threw away their lives, the government troops raised their white flag. American soldiers of fortune played a leading part and were largely responsible for the victory.

The heroism shown by John Grainsfort of North Dakota, is a sample of the bravery of Americans, who inspired the revolutionists to a valor rarely displayed by Central American soldiers. Grainsfort, three times wounded Monday, crawled into Estrada's camp last night with his head bandaged in an American flag. He had been left for dead. Grainsfort was sent to Bluefields.

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CRUSHING BLOW TO MARK TWAIN

His Youngest Daughter Who Was His Only Companion at Home, Was Found Dead in Bath Tub.

EPILEPSY THE CAUSE

Her Maid Discovered the Girl After Waiting For Her to Come to The Dressing Room.

REDDING, Conn., Dec. 24.—Miss Jean L. Clemens, youngest daughter of Mark Twain, was found dead in a bath tub at the home of her father here at 8 o'clock today by her maid.

The maid became anxious when her mistress failed to appear in her dressing room at the usual hour. Miss Clemens began her morning bath as usual shortly after 7 o'clock. At 7:30 the maid had instructions to be in the dressing room to assist her. The maid, this morning, waited until nearly 8 o'clock before going to the bath room to learn why Miss Clemens was delayed.

She knocked at the door but there was no response. Then she became alarmed and forcing open the door, found Miss Clemens dead in the tub. Epilepsy is given as the cause of Miss Clemens' death. She had been a sufferer for several years, but in the last few months her condition seemed improved. It is said that Twain is almost prostrated with grief and fears are entertained that the shock will prove serious to him.

Lamphere Dying. LAPORTE, Dec. 24.—Ray Lamphere, who burned Mrs. Guinness' house, incinerating the murderer and children is dying of tuberculosis in prison at Michigan City, according to a report of the warden to the governor. The warden recommended that Lamphere be included in the Christmas pardons.

THE WEATHER.

For Keokuk and vicinity: Snow tonight and Saturday. Warmer tonight. Colder Saturday. For Illinois: Rain in south; snow or rain in north portion tonight and Saturday. Warmer tonight. For Iowa: Unsettled with snow tonight and in east portion Saturday. Warmer in east and colder northwest portion. Colder Saturday. For Missouri: Threatening with rain or snow tonight and probably Saturday morning. Warmer east portion tonight. Colder west portion Saturday.

Weather Conditions. The southwestern depression has moved northeastward, and is central in western Kansas, its advance being attended by snow from the Central mountain region to the lower Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys, with rising temperature. It is followed by a field of high pressure, and somewhat colder weather in Utah and southern Montana. Over the eastern portion of the country the temperature has risen slightly, the field of high pressure reaching from the Ohio valley to the southeastern states, and the pressure continuing low in New England. Conditions indicate snow continuing tonight and probably Saturday in this section, with warmer tonight, and becoming colder Saturday.

Local Observations. Dec. Bar. Ther. Wind. Weather. 23 7 p.m. . . . 30.45 23 S City 24 7 a.m. . . . 30.25 26 SE Snow Rainfall for past 24 hours 3 hundredths. River above low water of 1364 7 feet 4 tenths. Change in 24 hours rise 1 foot 1 tenth. Mean temperature, 19. Maximum temperature, 24. Minimum temperature, 14. FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.