

# WIRES IN SUBWAY CRIPPLED BY FIRE

Telephone and Telegraph Conduits in Front of Western Union Building Ruined, Smoke and Sputtering Connections Driving Workmen to Street.

A thirty-minute blaze in the timber of the subway extension under Broadway at Fulton street early to-day resulted in paralyzing telephone and telegraph communication throughout the greater part of the city.

Both the financial and business centres of the city were seriously affected and the Wall street ticker service was completely crippled. The upper section of the city, including the big hotel centre, was entirely cut out of communication from the lower city, and so great was the damage to the mass of wires burned out and cross-circuited in the conduits leading from the Western Union Building that repairs cannot be completed for several days.

The fire started either from crossed electric wires or through the flame of a "banjo" lamp igniting the timbers supporting the roof of the subway and abutting buildings. Before the exact source of the flames could be ascertained the excavation was filled with dense smoke and a terrifying hissing of sparking wires that drove the fifty tunnel workers to the street in a wild scramble.

The first alarm the Subway workmen had of the fire came with the crackling of electric sparks and explosive flashes of fire. The men were several hundred feet from the shaft leading to the street in front of St. Paul's Church when the flames burst forth above their heads. The fire found its way directly to the great cables of electric and telephone wires radiating from the Western Union Building and ate off the paraffine cloths and asbestos windings, cross circuiting the entire network of wires.

The men had hardly seen the fire when a dense volume of smoke poured down upon them. As they groped their way through the smoke the electric wires began to give forth flame. This was followed by volleys of sparks and explosive flashes as the larger wires crossed.

## ESCAPED HALF SUFFOCATED.

The men rushed pell mell to the ladders leading up the shaft through Broadway and Fulton street and, half suffocated, managed to ascend to the street.

When the firemen arrived great clouds of smoke were pouring from the shaft, and it was impossible for them to descend through it until they had torn up the timbers at several places on Broadway and Fulton street. They were also compelled to break open several of the glass lights in the Fulton street pavement.

Then twenty-four firemen, dragging hose, climbed down the shaft and turned their streams on the blaze. By the time they had descended into the excavation a great quantity of timber support to the Broadway buildings on both sides of the subway had caught fire and was blazing fiercely. As there was no other inflammable material for the flames to spread to, however, the firemen worked rapidly in extinguishing the fire, though they were unable to prevent the incessant blazing of the crossed electric wires.

John Griffin, of No. 12 East One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street, and James McKenna, electricians employed by the New York Telephone Company, were at work in the subway repairing a telephone cable when the fire started. They were working by the glare of a big "banjo" light, and according to McKenna, without the least warning there was a burst of flame over their heads, followed by explosions that threw them to the ground.

Their hands and arms were severely burned, but they managed to climb up the Fulton street shaft after the subway workmen and their burns were dressed in a neighboring drug store.

## 6,000 WIRES DISABLED.

As soon as the fire was put out a force of Western Union and telephone electricians were sent down to learn the extent of the damage. They found sixty cables, containing from 200 to 800 wires to the cable, entirely exposed and cross-circuited. More than 6,000 wires were completely disabled. The greater part of the damage was among the telephone cables and electric light wires, only sixty of the Western Union wires suffering.

The repairing of the damaged wires will take from two to three days and be accompanied with great risk because of the proximity of the trolley trolley rail and the great number of exposed electric light wires.

The Cortlandt Exchange of the telephone company, the largest trunk line in the city, was crippled completely by the fire. This cuts off the greater part of the financial district from telephone communication. The John, Thirty-eighth street, Plaza and Williamsburg Central were also cut out of communication, though officers of the telephone company declared after investigating the damage that the service could be restored before night.

The 350 stock tickers on the Broadway circuit of the Gold and Stock Ticker Company were even more seriously damaged than the telephones and cannot be repaired under two days. The superintendent of the company said after the fire that the ticker conduits were burned out and the service would have to suspend until new conduits were laid.

## SECOND SUBWAY FIRE.

Samuel Rosaria started a second subway fire to-day and lost his shirt and several patches of skin by so doing. He was working in the tunnel at Forty-second street and Seventh avenue, smoking a cigarette in his own make. Throwing it back of him it landed on a gasolin lamp. An explosion followed.

The burning fluid splattered over Rosaria's red shirt and set him afire. When half way out of the hole some of his friends went to his rescue and extinguished the flames, which had burned Rosaria's hands, his back, his arms and the back of his head. Policeman Brady helped the subway laborers bring Rosaria to the surface. The injured man was taken to Roosevelt Hospital. He lives at No. 8 Second avenue.

# DEVERY ROASTS HILL AND SNEERS AT THE LID

"Big Bill" Devery, after a whirl around town following his return from Atlantic City, last night decided to pass up a few remarks on the national political situation.

"Why, Hill ain't Parker any more than Dr. Parkhurst is Tammany Hall," began Devery. "The Judge is an able man, a good man, a fine feller, but that fly-by-night Hill—why, he's got a feather in his brain. It sticks out of his skull and has pricked on it 'I am a Democrat.' That feather was carried away by the Parker gale, and Hill got busy chasing it. Talk about landing on the political band wagon—why, there's nothing to it when that acrobat Hill gets started. The big circus over at the Garden ain't complete without him."

"Well, I see them manhole covers in the street ain't blown up yet, but the gas is generating all right and when the right man hollers 'fire' and touches off the fuse, all the lids will go up high. Why, the nation roof won't be the limit then. But things are going along pretty snugly around here. The manhole covers are down all right around here.

"They ought to take the lid off all saloons while they're at it. Boost the license to \$2.00 and allow the saloons to keep open on Sunday, except during church hours. That would stop grafting for fair and the respectable saloon-keeper would be protected and the bum beer-slingers go out of business."

"How about local affairs?"

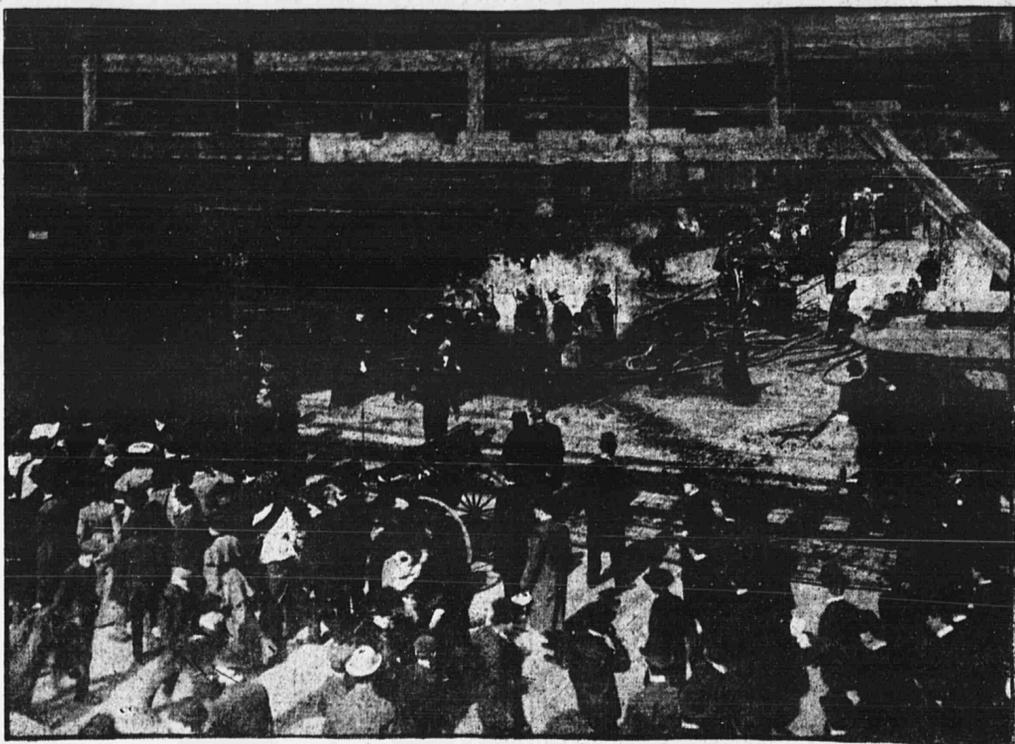
"Nothing to say to-day," and the big fellow started for his favorite barber shop.

**SNOW, PREDICTS DEVOE.**

**Jersey Weather Prophet Gives Us Cold Comfort.**

Weather Prophet Devoe, of Hackensack, said this afternoon: "The sun has been shining through snow all day and there will be a fall of snow in this section either to-morrow or Friday."

# CROWDS IN BROADWAY WATCHING THE SUBWAY FIRE, WHICH DISABLED 6,000 WIRES, CRIPPLING TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.



# BIG ARMIES MASSES FOR WAR ON THE YALU

Two Brisk Skirmishes Indicate that Bloody Battle Will Be Fought Soon—How the Russians Stopped the Japs at Port Arthur.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 6.—Reports from the officers in charge of the Yalu River district of Manchuria indicate that the Japanese are getting close to the line of fortifications. There is news of frequent skirmishes between the scouting parties of Japanese and Russian outposts.

Despatches from Japanese sources that the Russians are retreating in Korea and Manchuria are denied here. Five Japanese were killed in a skirmish on April 5 near Wiju, and six Japanese were killed in a fight with Russian volunteers on the same day on the island of Matuzo, in the Yalu River.

A correspondent at Port Arthur sends a thrilling description of the latest attempt of the Japanese to bottle up Port Arthur. He says: "Following a reconnaissance our fleet returned and anchored in the interior of the harbor. After midnight the darkness became more profound and our searchlights were constantly in operation piercing the gloom. Suddenly a shot thundered and then a second and then a third. Golden Hill and Tiger Cliff opened fire when the enemy was discovered."

"From the battleship Petropavlovsk a launch put off with Vice-Admiral Makaroff and other officers, heading for the gunboat Bobr. At the same time the torpedo-boats Silni and Reshitelny signalled to prepare for action and to attack the enemy. The gunboat Otvajny discharged her six-inch guns and the torpedo-boat Silni fired a broadside while hurrying toward the enemy and let go a torpedo, which fairly struck the prow of the first Japanese steamer, carrying it away."

## STEAMERS RUN AGROUND.

"Other Japanese steamers came on at full speed, raining Hotchkiss bullets at the Silni, which fired a second torpedo at the steamers which then ran aground.

"The commander of the Silni discovered five of the enemy's destroyers further away, and the big ships valiantly rushed to the attack, firing their guns as they rushed forward. The enemy then separated and disappeared in the darkness."

"Myantime the Bobr and the Otvajny continued to fire on the stranded steamers and on the small boats putting off from them.

"Commander Travinsky, of the Reshitelny, saw a large steamer rushing toward the centre of the channel and fired a torpedo, which exploded on the side of the target."

## SILNI FOUGHT FIVE SHIPS.

"Lieut. Krinitzky, commanding the Silni, having fought five of the enemy's ships for a long time in the darkness, was himself wounded and his chief engineer and six men were killed.

"With his machinery disabled and the helm of the Silni damaged Lieut. Krinitzky decided to cease firing, but fearing to leave the open entrance to the harbor he approached the shallows near Golden Hill and got off in a boat with another officer to extinguish the fire on the nearest steamer and to render aid to twelve Japanese who had been wounded."

"The Otvajny sent surgeons to care for the wounded and boats were sent to the other steamers at a terrible risk to cut the wires connecting the torpedoes which the Japanese had arranged to destroy the steamers. The fires on the ships were extinguished."

## KUROPATKIN AT A REVIEW IN NEWCHWANG.

NEWCHWANG, April 6.—Gen. Kuropatkin, commander-in-chief of the Russian military forces in the Far East, arrived here to-day and reviewed about four thousand troops on the parade ground outside of the fort here. One battery of Horse Artillery, several batteries of Field Artillery, parts of four regiments of Siberian Rifles and detachments of Cossacks and regular cavalry participated in review.

Russian Secret Service agents reported that the Japanese intended to attack Newchwang yesterday.

## THE HELENA IS AT SHANGHAI.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The Navy Department to-day received a cablegram from Commander Mason, of the Cincinnati, at Shanghai, announcing the arrival there this morning of the gunboat Helena, from Newchwang. This is the first intimation the department has had that the Helena had left Newchwang.

# SENATOR BURTON GIVEN SIX MONTHS

Court Also Imposes Fine of \$2,500 and Tells Prisoner His Loss of Office and Station Counts in the Sentence.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 6.—Senator J. R. Burton, of Kansas, was to-day sentenced to six months' imprisonment in jail and a fine of \$2,500 for using his influence before the Post Office Department in behalf of the Rialto Grain and Securities Company, of St. Louis, and for having received payment from the company for his services.

When Senator Burton, accompanied by his attorney, came into the United States District Court, Judge Adams spoke of the motions that had been filed for a new trial and for arrest of judgment. The Court, after briefly reviewing the motions, overruled them both. The Court then said to the defendant: "Have you anything to say as to why sentence should not be passed upon you?"

Evidently suppressing his emotions with a strong effort, Senator Burton stood leaning with both hands on a chairback, as he said: "Your Honor will please allow me to respectfully decline to say anything. The court-room was almost empty. With the exception of a few persons who had remained out of curiosity and the silence was almost oppressive as Judge Adams, in a low tone began delivery of the sentence."

The court said: "After a fair and impartial trial by a jury of exception of its importance, you have been found guilty of the offenses charged in the indictment against you. A motion for a new trial in your behalf has afforded me an opportunity carefully to review and consider the evidence. As a result of this I am satisfied that the jury reached the just and true result. The evidence abundantly warranted the verdict and I find no reason either in the law governing the case or in the proceedings attending the trial for disturbing it."

"Your conviction necessarily results in your punishment. Its importance, in my opinion, is not confined to its effect upon you.

"Your exalted station in life and the character of your offense give unusual significance to your conviction. It demonstrates that the law of the land is equal to any emergency and that it can be administered regardless of the personality and station of the accused. It also demonstrated to all the people that public office cannot be prostituted to self-serving purposes and that public

office is not a sure or safe passport to private profit.

Cut Off from Office.

"The humiliation attending your conviction and the statutory disqualifications resulting therefrom which forever incapacitate you from holding any office of honor, trust or profit under the Government of the United States, are in themselves heavy punishment for your offenses and leave but little in the way of severity which could be added.

"It is neither my pleasure nor purpose to impose any unnecessary punishment. I think the majesty of the law will be sufficiently vindicated and the public welfare sufficiently safeguarded by imposing a single sentence, warranted, as it is, on any one of the six counts under which you were convicted."

"This sentence will be that you be confined in the Iron County Jail for a period of six months, and that you pay a fine of two thousand five hundred dollars."

At the conclusion of the sentence, Senator Burton, who had been taking his eyes from the Court, and who had scarcely moved as he supported himself by the chair back, turned and sat down, with his head bowed and his eyes on the floor.

His attorney, Judge Krum, immediately filed a bill of exceptions in the case and offered a bond for \$10,000, which was accepted.

Senator Burton and Judge Krum then left the courtroom.

Senator Burton walked to his hotel. He declined to discuss the sentence, but said he would leave to-night for his home in Kansas.

The case now will be appealed to the United States District Court of Appeals.

Senator Burton, who is a senior Senator from Kansas, was convicted after an exhaustive trial, in which various letters from him to the Rialto Grain and Securities Company, the checks which he received in payment for his services in behalf of the concern before the Post Office Department, and the testimony of numerous agents of the Government were introduced.

# IRISH BOY CAME HERE AS BAGGAGE

Tagged at Queenstown He Crosses the Ocean and Is Duly Delivered to His Relatives in Morristown, N. J.

(Special to The Evening World.) MORRISTOWN, N. J., April 6.—Coming to this country checked as a piece of baggage and consigned from the baggage master at Queenstown, Ireland, to the baggage master of Morristown, John J. O'Conner, fourteen years old, has arrived with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. John Hannon, at No. 54 Sussex avenue, this place.

Little John O'Conner is an orphan, his mother having died several weeks ago. He was anxious to come to this country, but had no money, still he could not remain in the old country very well, as he had no relatives there.

He wrote to his aunt, Mrs. Hannon, who was his mother's sister, and told her of his great desire to come to America. Mrs. Hannon, at once sent him the money and little Johnny was shipped as a piece of baggage.

When he arrived in Morristown, the baggage master, John Geary, was obliged to sign for the boy. The check was exchanged and the lad was delivered to his uncle as "one piece of baggage." D. L. & W., 6597.

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Women's Tailor-made Walking Suits—Panama Cloth, Cheviots, light gray and dark mixtures—Eton Coat unlined—pleated skirt.

Women's Black, Blue and Brown Broadcloth Suits; also in Cheviots and Mixtures, handsomely trimmed; Coats, taffeta-silk lined; unlined skirt—new Military Coat effects—

\$25.00  
Were \$32.50 and \$35.00

Women's Tan Covert Cloth Coats—fine quality tan Covert Cloth, handsomely lined and richly tailored—

\$10.00 \$12.75 \$15.75  
Values \$15.00, \$18.75 and \$22.50

Women's Silk Coats—Black Taffeta Silk and Peau de Soie—Eton Blouse and long effects—

\$9.75 \$15.75 \$18.75  
Values \$15.00, \$22.50 and \$25.00

Women's Silk Shirt Waist Suits—Check, Stripe and Fancy Taffeta Silk and Satin finish Foulards—

\$15.75 Value \$19.75

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# Clothing Sale



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Men's Top Coats, made from English covert cloth, satin lined, made to sell at \$12.00; this sale... 7.50

Men's Coats, made from imported cloth, tan, green, black and blue, made to sell for \$20.00 and \$22.00; this sale... 10.00

Men's Fancy Worsteds, Suits, single and double breasted, stripes, plaids and fancy tints; made to sell at \$12.00; this sale... 7.50

Men's Fancy Worsteds, Suits, latest designs, single and double breasted, hand made colors, hardscloth fronts; made to sell at \$15.00 and \$18.00; this sale... 10.00

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EXPERIENCED GIRL for collar ironing machine. Adelphe Laundry, 27 De Kalb av., Brooklyn.

ROSEBERG—Wanted, new shirt ironer, woman of exp. Model Laundry, 27 Fleet st., Brooklyn.

ROSEBERG—2 family ironers who can iron shirt waists; \$8 for 5 days. Snowflake, 500 State st., Brooklyn.

# LOST, FOUND AND REWARDS.

LOST—On 6th av. "B" bundle of contracts. Reward if returned to W. E. Godfrey, room 703, 253 Broadway, tel. 3002 Cort.

# HELP WANTED—MALE.

SHOEMAKER WANTED for "Turns." W. Neff, 274 Bridge st., Brooklyn.

# Two-Headed-Boy Seaten.

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