

BLIND WOMAN BURNS TO DEATH IN HER KITCHEN

Daughter and Granddaughter Faint and Are Unable to Help Her.

Her clothing in flames and dashing madly about her little kitchen, unable to find her way to the stairs, Mrs. Maria Downward, a blind woman, twenty-nine years old, was burned to death to-day in her daughter's home at No. 150 West One Hundred and twenty-eighth street, while the daughter, Mrs. Flora Kerr, and her grandchild, Mamie Kerr, fainted when they ran to the aged woman's aid.

Three men who were passing on the street heard the screams and broke in the basement door. They came too late, and though they rolled the agonized woman in their overcoats she was dead before an ambulance surgeon arrived. Her death was due to her desire to help in the housework. Her daughter is a widow, and for several years has conducted a boarding-house. The aged Mrs. Downward was anxious to do all she could to lighten her daughter's labors, and was so familiar with the house that, although she had been blind for ten years, she was able to find her way about freely and do much of the minor work.

In the kitchen she easily found the dishes and placed it in the sink. She knew where the dishes were piled on the table, and so began to get everything ready for her work. The water from the hot faucet was not warm enough, and after drawing the dishpan half full she went to the stove to get the kettle. In her hurry she forgot her calculations of space, or perhaps neglected to feel her way with one hand on the wall. She went too near the stove. Her flimsy skirts brushed against its surface, but in her blindness she did not know what happened until she felt the scorching flames about her hands and arms.

Her cries rang through the quiet house, of which the only other occupants at that time were her daughter and her grandchild. The little girl, quicker than Mrs. Kerr, was first down the stairs, but when she came within range of the kitchen door the sight was too horrible for her. She covered her face with her hands and fell on the stairs crying.

"Grandma's burning up!" Mrs. Kerr, close behind, took one look and saw the aged woman running madly back and forth among overturned chairs with her skirts and her streaming white hair outlined in red flame. Her daughter fell down beside the blind unconscious.

Even at that time men on the street heard the cries and were breaking in the basement door. George R. Smith, a decorator, of No. 165 West One Hundred and Sixty-fifth street, and Albert Williams, a milkman, of No. 266 Brook avenue, finally made their way to the kitchen. The old woman, burned almost beyond recognition, was lying in the wreck of the kitchen furniture with the embers of her garments smouldering about her.

The men tore off their overcoats and rolled the gasping woman in them. Meanwhile Policeman McDonnell, of West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street station, had heard the cries and rushed in an ambulance. When he called an ambulance from the J. Hood Wright hospital, Dr. Sully stayed in the kitchen but a moment. There was nothing he could do, for Mrs. Downward had died long before he arrived.

COCKRAN RAPS HIGH HEADS IN RATE BILL TALK

Morgan, Harriman and Rogers Hit on Favoritism to Corporations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The Hepburn Railroad Rate bill was taken up promptly in Congress to-day for the last general debate. The programme included speeches by Bourke Cockran (N. Y.), Mr. Mann (Ill.), Mr. Williams (Miss.) and Mr. Hepburn (Ia.). A short speech in favor of the bill by Mr. Bankhead (Ala.) preceded Mr. Cockran, who was limited to an hour and a quarter. Mr. Cockran announced his position in favor of the bill. While he did not consider it a panacea for all evils, it was a most wholesome manifestation of a unanimous public determination to deal with the rail.

It was the only means by which public ownership could be stopped and checked, the most plausible argument of the socialist. Mr. Cockran had been speaking but a few minutes when he had a full audience on the floor, and the galleries were also occupied to their capacity. Mr. Cockran gave simple analysis of favoritism and discrimination to show its inherent injustice. Favoritism was always granted corruptly.

"Sir," he continued, "the history of railroad management in this country is the history of favoritism, of corruption and of fraud." In spite of this he would not say the railroads had not rendered enormous service, but they had not been as efficient as they should be. His next assertion was that railway influences predominated both political parties.

Illustrating this, he showed how the representatives of wealth ignored the courts and dominated State administrations. The very court which had dropped the proceedings against H. H. Rogers had the next day issued a most vigorous injunction against striking printers.

In this connection he reviewed the Northern Securities decision which, he said, declared criminals and conspirators responsible for that combination. Harriman and Morgan, he said, quarreled over the control of several railroads in the Northwest which threatened to interfere with their plunder. The President directed an action against them. The Court declared a conspiracy. "What was the result?" he asked. "It was to reduce the control of these properties from two to one. What they had not been as efficient as they should be. His next assertion was that railway influences predominated both political parties.

Compromises were paid to Rockefeller "at once the richest and most despised of our whole population." Mr. Williams, the Democratic floor leader, who followed Mr. Mann, presented a host of congratulations on the rate bill. He took up in turn his felicitations on the Democratic members of the committee reporting the bill, the whole committee, the Democratic party, the Republican party, the President and the country.

BALL ON WARSHIP. NICE, Feb. 7.—The officers of the second squadron of the American Atlantic fleet gave a ball last night on the cruiser Brooklyn, flagship of Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigbee.

The affair was a very brilliant one and was attended by many people, including representatives of the British and American colonies and prominent visitors here.

MAY LOSE JOB BY ATTACK ON COLER

"No Pass" Baker Has Held an Official Position Three Days and There Is Trouble.

Only three days in office and already in trouble is the record of Robert Baker, secretary of the Dock Department. Although a friend of Mayor McClellan, with whom he served in Congress, and where he was known as "no pass" Baker, he is in danger of losing his official head.

When appointed secretary three days ago there was a broad intimation that Borough President Coler, of Brooklyn, was behind him. To-day Mr. Baker issued a statement to the newspapers, attacking Mr. Coler, repudiating the intimation that the latter was back of his appointment and charging the Borough President of Brooklyn with being untrue to the M. O. people who elected him.

Mr. Coler replied that Baker was sore because he had not been appointed Commissioner of Public Works for Brooklyn. Dock Commissioner Bense heard of the document Mr. Baker had issued, and was angry.

"I will not permit any one attached to this department to make any statement derogatory to any other member of the city government," he said. "If any one does anything of the kind he cannot last here."

CASINO FIRE; TWO CHORUS GIRLS GONE. Three Fled, Clad in Tights, from Burning Stage and Two Are Still Missing.

Two of the three chorus girls who last night escaped in their tights during a fire on the stage of the Casino Theatre, were reported missing to-day. The Earl and the Girl manager by the third was picked up by a catman on the sidewalk outside the stage door and was hurried to a restaurant with the cabby's great coat about her. When last seen, the other two were screaming in a cab going up Broadway.

The flannel drop-curtain, through which the stars of the piece poke their heads and sing in the finale of the first act, and which caught fire, was destroyed and will have to be replaced. Little other damage was done. All the excitement was confined to the stage. The fire started as the asbestos curtain was being raised. It was quickly lowered, and few in the audience knew the reason for omitting the last scene and for the delay of ten minutes in producing the second act.

On the stage one hundred persons became excited, with the exception of a few of the principals. The chorus girls rushed about madly, and in several instances stage hands had to restrain them with force from screaming. It was said that no time was lost by the audience in danger.

The Nicest Thing You Have Ever Seen For the SKIN

Popular Massage Liquid

I WISH YOU Would Try LEAURELLE (LAUREL) BALM - If only the sample, 15c., or small 25c. size, that you may know of its merits, its peculiar excellence and worth.

FOR CHAPS, CHAFES, ABRASIONS OF THE SKIN, DRY, CRACKED OR ROUGH SKIN.

It Will Please You—Because it gives quicker and better results than you have had from the use of any liquid, or from use of creams which may clog up the pores of the skin rather than open and stimulate them to give up and throw off impurities. Its special merits are, that while it dries quickly, one application will instantly smooth the skin, leaving it soft and pliable. No oil or grease. Is not sticky or musty. Pure and clean. Soils nothing. Harmless even to the skin of a babe. Kneading the skin with this Balm, rubs away blackheads, pimples, freckles and prevents tendency to wrinkle, drying, withering or aging of the skin. Frees from blotches and other scaly and eczemic conditions. After shaving it is great, quickly soothes and smooths the skin, cooling, refreshing and healing. Ask for LEAURELLE (LAUREL) BALM.

Sample (2 oz.), 15c.; Small (4 oz.), 25c.; Medium (10 oz.), 50c.; Large (25 oz.), \$1.00 at Druggists. E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J., U. S. A.



Wells' Hair Tone

Is What Its Name Implies, DISTINCTIVE IN CHARACTER, RARE IN ELEGANCE AND MERIT A DELIGHTFUL SHAMPOO

FOR Dandruff and Hair Coming Out

A trial will convince as to its excellence and worth.

It is particularly well adapted to use by women, and those who do not like greasy preparations. Contains no oil or grease. dries fairly quick, soils nothing, cooling, refreshing. Stops itching; Frees Head from Dandruff; Makes the Hair Pluffy; Prevents Cracking, Splitting; Improves the Shaggy, Uneven, Sickly Growth; So Tones the Scalp as to Stop Falling and Prevent Tendency to Premature Grayness. The Tone Does Not Restore Gray Hair to Original Color. For this purpose use Wells' Hair Balsam. (See below).

The Tone comes: Sample (2 oz.), 15c.; Small (4 oz.), 25c.; Medium (10 oz.), 50c.; Large (25 oz.), \$1.00. E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J., U. S. A.



GRAY HAIR.

WELLS' HAIR LUXURY. This is also a valuable Tonic Invigorator for the hair, well suited to those whose hair is prone to too great dryness, and who do not object to some oil. Has a tendency also to curl the hair, and gives a fine gloss. Does not restore gray hair, for which purpose use WELLS' HAIR BALSAM, TONE or LEAURELLE BALM, prepared by express on receipt of \$1.00. Not sent C. O. D. E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J., U. S. A.

WELLS' HAIR BALSAM.

If your hair is turning gray, and you wish to restore it to original color, black or brown, WELLS' HAIR BALSAM is what you want. (IS NOT A DYE), acts gradually, in 3 to 4 applications; the hair retaining a natural look. Contains no oil or grease. Is not sticky nor greasy. Frees head from and prevents dandruff, stops itching. In use 40 years. It will please you because it does the work and does it right, best made. 50c. and \$1.00 bottles. Sold by druggists or prepaid by Express. (I guarantee complete satisfaction to every purchaser.) E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J., U. S. A.



CANE GROWERS MEET.

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 7.—The Interstate Cane Growers' Association, composed of the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, convened here to-day and will be in session three days. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson and Gov. Sikes, Blanchard and Broward will be in attendance. Eight hundred delegates are here.

BALL ON WARSHIP.

NICE, Feb. 7.—The officers of the second squadron of the American Atlantic fleet gave a ball last night on the cruiser Brooklyn, flagship of Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigbee.



The Siegel Cooper Shoe Store A Sensational Sale of SHOES For Men, Women and Children. Ten Thousand Pairs of Winter Shoes at These Low Prices.

Women's \$2 Shoes for \$1. Almost any other store in New York would call these \$2.50 shoes, and wouldn't be far wrong. In fact, there are among the lot several hundred pairs of shoes from our own stock on which the prices have been \$2.50. But the majority are shoes that we would ourselves sell at \$2. Patent leather button and lace shoes. Kidskin button and lace shoes, with kidskin tips. Kidskin button and lace shoes, with patent tips. All sizes; A, B and C widths, Wider widths in the last-mentioned lot only.

Women's \$2.50 and \$3.50 Shoes at \$1.95. Every style you have seen in high-grade shoes this Winter is represented in this lot. The shoes are all perfectly fresh and new. The lot includes, besides several special purchases, all our own \$2.50 shoes. Patent leather, in button, lace and Blucher shoes. Kidskin shoes, button and lace, kid and patent tips. All good styles in heels and toes. All sizes in everything from 2 to 9, and widths from AA to EEE.

Men's \$2.50 Shoes at \$1.95. These would be called \$3 shoes anywhere else, and would, in fact, sell at \$3 in most stores. They are all of box calfskin, Goodyear welt, made on the modified flat last that has been chosen by three men out of four this season. A shoe essentially for service, but stylish in model and honest all through in workmanship.

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Advertisement for Siegel Cooper Co. The J. V. Brooks Piano. Three Prices, the Highest of Which Is \$275.00. Acknowledged the best Piano value in America. The superbly artistic cases, the unequalled touch and exquisite tone—all brought about by the skill and thoroughness of the experienced workmen—using the best possible materials.

Saks & Company. The Final Clearance Sale of Suits, Coats & Dresses FOR WOMEN AND MISSES. At Unprecedented Price Reductions. With us the term "final" means much. How much the extraordinary price reductions will help you to determine. Not merely in part, but our entire stock of outer garments is under the ban.

The Final Clearance Sale of Fur Muffs & Neckpieces for Women. Rather than have them with us beyond the season for which they were designed, we have gone to the extreme with the price reductions—extreme enough to make certain an absolute clearance.

The February Sale of Petticoats. The weaves are those which the edict demands for spring service; so are the models. That makes the price concessions all the more extraordinary. \$2.98 Taffeta Petticoats At \$1.98. In black and a variety of colors with deep accordion flounce with section flounces.

Sale of Shoes & Slippers for Women. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8th. Formerly \$5.00 and \$6.00 At \$3.45. Formerly \$3.00 and \$3.50. At \$1.95. Those who are conscious of the high character of our shoes—who know the grace and style which mark them—need but know that the shoes and slippers offered are from our regular stock and that the reductions are from our standard prices.

New Lingerie & Shirt Waists. Extensive in numbers, diversified in models and authoritative in style, we present what we believe to be the most representative collection of waists for the new season's service to be found the whole town over. They include lingerie waists of sheer batiste, mull and linen, with hand and applied embroidery and lace trimmings, together with waists of baby Irish, German Val. and Cluny lace insertions, and hand made waists which have had the benefit of intricate and elaborate needle work.