

Tell people what you want; you're pretty sure to get it in The Journal want columns. Only 1 cent a word.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 14, 1904.

24 PAGES—FIVE O'CLOCK.

FIERCE FIRE IN THE RETAIL DISTRICT WIPES OUT TWO HUMAN LIVES AND NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS

PLUNGER OPENS WAR ON LAWSON

Gunfighter Greene Threatens Man of Frenzies with Dire Vengeance.

HARRIMAN SPARES BOSTONIAN AWHILE

Accordingly the Nemesis of the "System" Continues to Emit Telegrams.

Boston, Dec. 14.—Boston is horribly disappointed because Colonel William G. Greene failed to descend upon Thomas W. Lawson, as he publicly advertised he would. The colonel, who is president of the Greene Consolidated Copper Mining company and whose stock dropped nine points in the market on Monday, is said to carry a pistol with four notches on it. In his open letter to Mr. Lawson, he denounced him as a liar, a fakir and a charlatan, and closed with this ominous sentence: "Tuesday in Boston I shall call upon you."

Boston waited all day for the tragedy and so did Mr. Lawson, but the colonel failed to come from New York. Lawson on Greene. Mr. Lawson issued a statement declaring that he had offered thru Colonel Greene's brokers to assist him if he needed assistance to prevent the crash in Greene copper stocks. Talking about Colonel Greene and the stock market, Mr. Lawson said yesterday: "He is a great, big-hearted fellow, who would start before doing a wrong. He has told me many a time that he killed four men, but they needed it. I believe it. Two were shot in the back, but, as he explained it, that was the only way he could get them."

I know the curs who put Colonel Greene up to writing that letter. They are getting desperate, but they will be separated before this situation develops much further.

The Standard Oil system thinks it is fighting Lawson's market. Fools, they are fighting the whole people of the United States. It is the people who are offering back their stock which they refuse to buy. If I should drop dead today it would do the Standard Oil crowd no good. The people have taken up the work and will carry it on until the whole corrupt system of "frenzied finance" is swept away. I thought this afternoon, when the price of Amalgamated stock went up, they had at least found their brains. To test their courage I bought 5,000 shares myself. The moment that order was put into the market the price dropped. They unloaded when they found the real money in sight.

In Many a Deal. The men who put up the prices at the time Mr. Morgan and his friends unloaded Steel stock on the public are the same men who put the price up and repeat the operation. In that downward movement of the market there was a shrinkage of one billion dollars.

They can organize and advertise and do what they will, but the test of the situation will remain the same. They will sell their stocks and see whether they will buy at present prices. The Standard Oil crowd has millions of money. It has been selling the people the Amalgamated worth \$150 a share. Yet today, when my money appeared, they were glad to unload at nearly \$50 a share lower. Why? Because they confessed to me that it was only worth \$45 a share. They were working the price up for another milking process. But this time the people were too quick for them.

WHY GREENE IS ANGEY

The Colonel Says Lawson Has Cost Him \$1,500,000.

New York Sun Special Service. New York, Dec. 14.—A report is current on Wall street that the real cause of the clash between Thomas W. Lawson, the stock operator, and Colonel W. C. Greene of Greene Consolidated Copper, was as follows: On Monday Lawson telephoned from Boston to Colonel Greene: "Say, Greene, I've got 20,000 shares of Greene Consolidated."

"Oan't have it," replied Colonel Greene. "Why?" "Because I haven't got it."

"Nonsense, man; I must have 20,000 shares."

"I haven't it," replied Colonel Greene.

The telephone rang off and later it was announced that Lawson and his assistants had gone into the market and sold short 200,000 shares, which forced the market down 11 points, after which Lawson bought in the shares he was after.

This so aroused Colonel Greene that a startling advertisement appeared yesterday in the newspapers, in which he threatened to call upon Lawson personally. But he had not gone to Boston to call Lawson a liar, fakir and charlatan, as he said he would do. He was ready and willing to go, but the officers of the copper company objected. Chief among the objectors was E. H. Harriman, one of the largest individual holders of the copper company's stock and a distinguished member of the Standard Oil group of capitalists who have been the targets of Lawson's wrath for six months.

Will Fix Lawson Yet. Greene hasn't given up his plan of going to Boston and telling Lawson some things, in the hope of making him fight. The ex-frontiersman says that he will attend to Lawson in good time. When asked why he had attacked Lawson, the colonel said:

He cost me a million and a half dollars in two days. What made me put that Lawson business in the papers was this. I began to think of the way Lawson was

THROUGH AWAITS CHADWICK WOMAN

Entire Police Force of Cleveland to Be Thrown Around Station.

PRISONER PLEDGES MORE SENSATIONS

Declares She Will Call Things by Their True Names in Statement.

Buffalo, Dec. 14.—The Buffalo and Cleveland special which is carrying Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, reached here at 8:20 o'clock, more than an hour late. The train is due in Cleveland at 11:10, but owing to the severe cold which prevented the engine from keeping up a full head of steam, time was steadily lost in crossing New York state, and it will reach Cleveland at least two hours late.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 14.—In anticipation of the excitement certain to result from their coming of Mrs. Chadwick, United States Marshal Chandler asked Chief of Police Jester to order the entire police force to be at the railroad station on the arrival of the woman. It is believed that the disorder will be so great that the services of not only the police, but of the federal authorities as well, will be required to preserve order.

Chief Kohler announces that he has arranged for details of police to surround the station and to escort the prisoner and her keepers to the federal building, and Marshal Chandler says that he will have his office defended by a strong force of deputy marshals. Otherwise, it is quite certain that the place would be taken by storm, as the interest already exhibited upon hearing that Mrs. Chadwick was coming is so intense as to justify extraordinary precautions.

SENSATION IS PROMISED

Mrs. Chadwick Will "Call Names" When She Talks in Cleveland.

New York Sun Special Service. New York, Dec. 14.—Declaring that, not if any indictments confronted her, she would give the names in the list which she had set her heart, Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick left for Cleveland last night. She made this statement before her departure. I am going home for the sole purpose of facing my creditors, and facing whatever charges they have brought against me. I am going back voluntarily and not because I am not satisfied with it. I have had bail offered to me by many persons. Today bail was offered to me by one of the most prominent men in this country. I am going to the Holland house. It is my place to be there, and I shall not give bail after I get there. I have the best motive for not giving it. The history of the case will be published from beginning to end later. Nothing will be kept back.

I will give names, won't I, Mr. Carpenter? Yes, I shall. I shall not be a silent partner out, but it certainly will not appear until every obligation I have made is paid. I have not tried to flee from any one. We have not tried to flee from any one. I was sick at the Holland house I walked right by you, went to the Fifth Avenue hotel and then took a cab uptown to my hotel and then I left the Holland house. I have not tried to flee from any one. I have not tried to flee from any one. I have not tried to flee from any one.

To Give Out Statement.

Inasmuch as my Cleveland lawyers have never practiced before the criminal bar, I do not know whom I shall employ to represent me in the criminal charges recently brought against me. I shall take several days to think that matter over, but when I do make the fight people will know that I never received one dollar dishonestly. Within the next few days I shall give out a most complete statement of all my transactions from beginning to end, and I will tell everything that has occurred, and I will call things by their proper names. Furthermore I will give the names of those who will show that not only have I stood by my creditors to this time, but that I will stand by them till the very moment of my death. I intend to pay every dollar of my indebtedness.

Not a Dollar from Phipps.

I wish to deny emphatically that I ever received one dollar from Henry Phipps. I further wish to state that while I have had money from Pittsburgh people I have never had a particle of money from Henry Phipps. I have not tried to flee from any one. I have not tried to flee from any one. I have not tried to flee from any one.

Mrs. Chadwick was asked: "Is it true, as published, that \$5,000,000 securities held by Reynolds are worthless?"

She said, "Now, you are asking me questions," and refused to say any more on the question of securities.

Speaking in reference to the closing of the Oberlin bank, she said: "I could not borrow enough money to break a bank without having some security back of it."

Won't Show Up Securities. But she declined to say what this something might be. She was asked if

A WE-STROCK CROWDS WATCH FIERY DISASTER



THE BOUTELL CORNER AFTER THE WALLS FELL. —Photo by Journal Photographer.

STOCKS OF THREE BIG FIRMS ARE REDUCED TO WHITE ASH

Salvage Will Be Practically Nil—Safes Are Intact and Business Will Be Continued—Rebuilding Already Talked Of.

Table titled 'LOSSES AND INSURANCE' with columns for BUILDINGS and STOCK, listing various companies and their respective loss and insurance amounts.

The burned buildings were erected by H. H. Thayer for the Hale Homestead company, of which he is treasurer and manager. Mrs. Irene Hale, Clifton avenue, is principal stockholder. She has not yet decided upon rebuilding.

The Boutell building was put up in 1894. The second building was that occupied jointly by Boutell Brothers and the Bintliff Manufacturing company in 1896. The Peck building—the first to burn—was built in 1900. S. Sedgwick was the architect and Pike & Cook the contractors. The main structure was of steel column and beam construction and cost \$75,000, insured at \$50,000. It was five stories high and measured 91 by 132 feet. The addition was of mill construction, five stories high and 66 by 132 feet. It cost \$40,000 and was insured at \$30,000. The Peck building was of mill construction, five stories high and 50 by 157 feet. It cost \$35,000 and was insured at \$25,000.

Between the two parts of the Boutell building was a firewell pierced by five openings and separating the Bintliff building was a solid brick firewell. The three buildings are practically a total loss and the stocks are a total loss.

Boutell Papers Intact. The vault and safe of Boutell Bros. was found late today to be unharmed. The safe cannot be opened yet, but the contents, as well as those of the vault are known to be intact. This is regarded as a great piece of good fortune, as all the firm's contracts were in the vault and it was feared for a time that these and other valuable records had been destroyed.

The firm opened quarters immediately in the New York Life arcade. Without stock and with no incoming freight due, with \$10,000 worth of Christmas goods sold in ashes, the members of the firm with smiling faces said they were not out of business. W. D. Boutell said:

Peck Plans Indefinite. The O. H. Peck company has opened offices at 518 New York life building. The company's stock is totally destroyed. Mrs. H. W. Kimmoller, wife of the president, said that her husband was away and would not reach Minneapolis until afternoon and that until then no plans would be made. The company occupied half the base and half of the first and second floors. Packing boxes and old records were stored in the basement. On the first floor were the offices, retail stock and a line of very expensive lenses. On the second floor was the card stock.

The Powers Store Flooded. The Powers Mercantile stock presents a sorry appearance as a result of water damage. Water stands deep on the floors and the counter goods are covered with tarpaulin. Secretary Thomas Armstrong said today that the company was still in business and would open as soon as adjustment is made with the insurance companies. The adjusters will begin first on the Powers stock and building as the loss is only partial. The Powers' loss is estimated at about 30 per cent of the total insurance of \$550,000, and the building loss at about 20 per cent of the total insurance of \$300,000.

Lessons of the Fire. Business men, architects, builders and insurance agents learned many lessons from last night's big fire. While the Baltimore fire and the Toronto conflagration threw into bold relief the general insufficiency of business district construction in the average city, it took

CHANGES IN CONSTRUCTION AND ORDINANCES

Suggested by Last Night's Fire. An ordinance requiring wire glass windows on all rear and side window openings. New form of fusible link sliding door on outside wall openings. Covered elevator shafts. Complete sprinkler system. Where runways exist double fireproof doors at both ends of the runway, or doors on both sides of each wall.

The disaster that visited the city last night to bring certain lessons home. Minneapolis came very near to losing its retail business district. One or two favorable conditions headed the fire before it spread beyond the buildings that were destroyed. Several adverse conditions, which should be eliminated, according to insurance authorities, operated to hamper the fire department and resulted in the ruin of the Boutell and Bintliff buildings and stock.

The fireproof and extra strong construction of the new Northwestern National bank building stopped the fire toward the east, and, according to the best authority in the city, the sprinkler system in the Powers building saved the day for all that part of the town lying towards Hennepin, between Fourth and Fifth streets, and perhaps more. Just as the Powers building appeared to be about to burst into flames from the terrific heat of the burning building across the street, the automatic sprinklers began to work, and with the help of the hose lines, the fire was checked. But it was none too soon. After causing practically all the damage to the Powers stock and a good proportion of the loss on the building, but the day was saved for Minneapolis.

Insurance Analysis. Enumerated in concise form the adverse conditions were thus put by an insurance agent who was heavily interested. There were no fire shutters on the windows between the Peck and the Boutell buildings. The doors at each end of the four runways connecting the two buildings were only single and the fusible links releasing the doors did not appear to operate quickly enough, as is often the case. Had the buildings been equipped with sprinklers, such as saved the Powers building, the conflagration would never have existed. The fire would have been, undoubtedly, re-

Continued on Second Page.



JOHN FELLOWS, Pipeman Who Lost His Life in the Fire. —Photo by Larson.



JACOB F. MILLER, Insurance Patrolman Who Lost His Life in the Fire.

The Conflagration a Spectacle of Fearful Grandeur.

The Fire Started in the Peck Building and Spread by Short-Circuited Electric Wires to Boutell Bros.' Big Store Which Burst Into Fierce Flames Almost Without Warning—Powers' Building Saved by Heroic Effort.

THE CASUALTIES

- DEAD: Jacob F. Miller, Fire Insurance Patrol. John Fellows, pipeman Engine Company No. 18. INJURED: Fred Kerchoff, substitute pipeman, Engine Company No. 18, burned about face and bruised. Tony Wilson, Engine Company No. 18, bruised limbs. Lieutenant J. P. Barrett, Engine Company, No. 22 back injured.

Minneapolis was last night visited by the fiercest and probably the most costly conflagration that has ever occurred in its retail business district.

For five hours the firemen literally looked into the jaws of death as they held their ground and kept the futile streams going from every nozzle that the fire department could muster.

Early in the fight Jacob Miller of the salvage corps, and John Fellows, pipeman of Engine company No. 18, paid the penalty for their loyalty and zeal with their lives.

That there was not greater loss of life is a miracle, for from time to time large sections of wall came crashing down with terrific force and the tangle of wires in the street was for a time heavily charged with a strong electric current which would have been instantly fatal to the unfortunate thru whose body it passed.

The awful ravages of the fire did not become fully apparent until this morning, when daylight revealed the ruin wrought at what was yesterday one of the most imposing group of business buildings in the city.

Boutell Bros.' big furniture store at Fifth street and First avenue S. is literally wiped out. The walls are nearly all down and the inflammable portions of the structure are reduced to a little heap of white ashes in the basement.

The store and plant of the Bintliff Manufacturing Company, adjoining on First avenue, is gutted from top to bottom and part of the walls are down.

Around on Fifth street, across the narrow alley from the Boutell store, the building of the O. H. Peck Photographic Supply Company is a charred ruin with nothing left but the calmed, cracked walls.

At the Fifth street corner of the Powers Mercantile company the top of the tower has been burned and hacked away, showing evidences of the hard fight and the notable stop made by the firemen.

All the buildings were five stories in height, of heavy tile not slow burning construction, and had nearly uniform fronts of red pressed brick.

This briefly marks the boundaries of the fire, but no words can adequately describe the fierceness and rapidity with which it did its work and the horror with which thousands watched the awe-inspiring spectacle.

By some strange fatality, the fire found waiting for it the very materials for a great conflagration and it took them in the order to make the calamity the greatest possible in the district involved. Apparently originating in photographic chemicals on the second floor of the Peck building, the flames found food to live on in the furniture stored by Boutell Bros. on the three upper floors of the building. Windows unprotected by fire shutters allowed the fiery blast to beat upon the walls and windows across the narrow alley and superheat the air in the upper stories of the big furniture store. Then just at the crucial moment when the devilish distillation of varnish fumes and gases from baking wood was at its height, the electric wires short-circuited and became red hot. It was like firing a blast. The fire spread everywhere on every floor with incredible swiftness and a score of firemen had to run for their lives. The very air seemed to burn, while the crowd looked on and shuddered.

THE STORY OF A FIERCE FIRE

The Blaze Was Slow at First, but Gathered Headway and Long Defied Suppression.

About 10:30 p.m. smoke was seen issuing from the rear of the second floor of the Peck building, on Fifth street, and an alarm was turned in. Only such fire-fighting apparatus as responds to the first call in the district responded and there would get away from control. The smoke was thick and black, but no flames could be seen. There seemed to be some delay in getting the streams started and for half an hour it appeared that there would be nothing worse than a smudge. The smoke increased in volume, pouring out of the rear windows and the windows opening on the Boutell alley like streams of dirty wool. The stubbornness of the problem now developed and a call was sent in for more apparatus. Before it arrived, there was a dull explosion followed by a significant puff as an angry tongue of flame burst thru the roof near the rear of the building. Crowds which had turned away when the early stages of the fire seemed to give no promise of a spectacular blaze,

turned back. Down every thoroughfare came clanging fire engines, hose wagons, turrets and towers, which were hastily disposed. The theaters belched forth their crowds and of a sudden every citizen of vantage became black with people. The biggest fight of years was on. The windows from the third floor up began to glow red as the fire sought its way toward the front. Serpentine lines of fire would appear at a window, flicker uncertainly for a moment, gain in strength and finally the aperture would look like the eyehole of a blast furnace with continuous, roaring flames. It was a slow fire in its early stages, but every inch it gained in the tough hard wood of the furniture it held.

Poor Miller's Fatal Fall. Meantime the lower floor of the building showed black in contrast with the scene of destruction above. The salvage corps had come charging down the

Continued on Third Page.