

LXXVII, NO. 132.
THE STORY OF CACHE COUNTY
Depravity as Well as Effort to Evade the Law.
OF FOUR NAMES ARE INVOLVED
Case of Man Protected by Account of His Religion.

\$1,000,000 BLAZE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Destruction of Gas and Electric Plant Cripples Business and Puts Out Lights.

HOTELS AND NEWSPAPERS WITHOUT POWER OR LIGHT

Sixteen People Injured During the Great Early Morning Conflagration.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—A fire early this morning in the central station of the San Francisco Gas and Electric company caused a loss estimated at \$1,000,000, besides crippling many commercial and manufacturing establishments, though not so seriously as would be the case were not this a holiday. All the evening papers for hours were without power to run their machinery, even the linotypes being rendered useless. Candles and kerosene lamps were used to illuminate many dark offices, elevators were closed and business was almost at a standstill in some places. Nearly all of the telegraph wires leading out of this city were crippled, both the Western Union and Postal wires, and having obtained their power from the station which was burned.

Sixteen Persons Injured.
During the progress of the fire sixteen persons were hurt, only one, William Kan, however, sustaining any serious injury. He was taken to a sanitarium and it is said will recover.

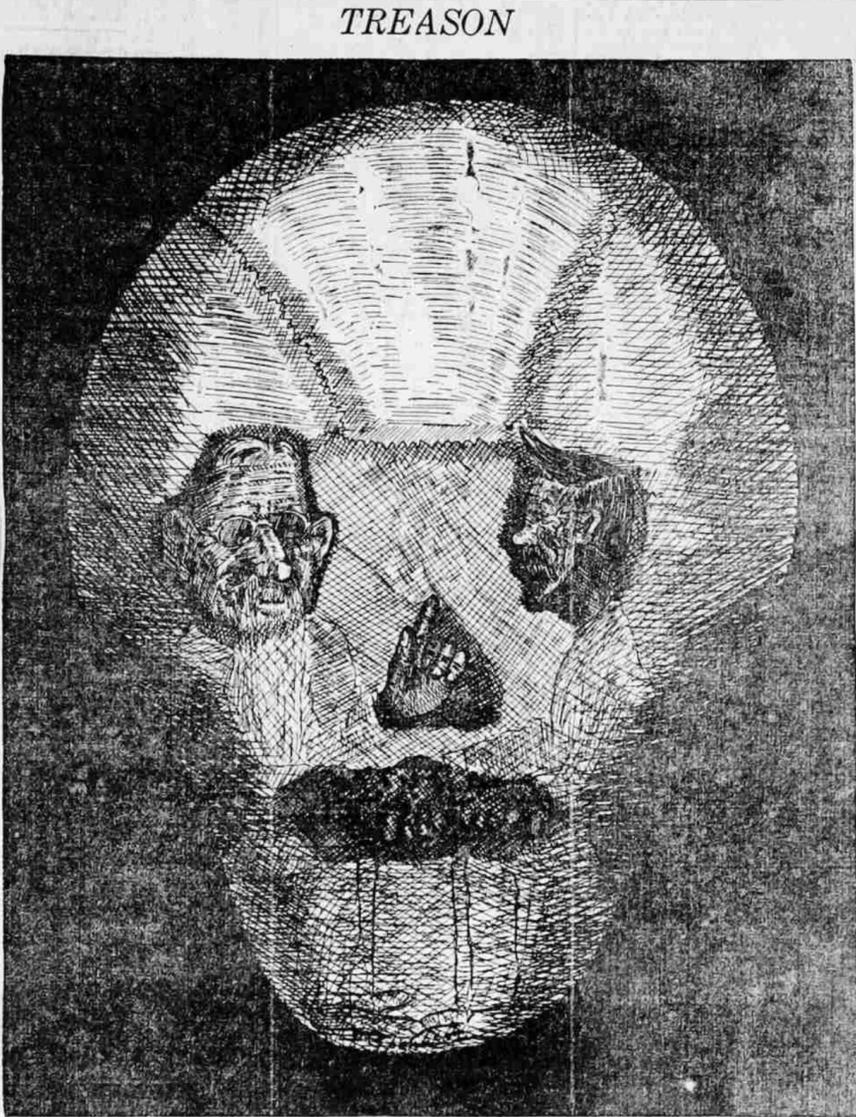
The officers of the gas and electric company state that their loss will be about \$500,000, but others place the figure at \$1,000,000. Six engines, valued at from \$60,000 to \$150,000 each, were destroyed, as also was the generating plant, worth \$125,000.

Hotels in Darkness.
Three hundred men and fifty teams are at work clearing away the debris. All of the leading hotels and restaurants in the downtown district are without light and power, but are hopeful of being in good running order within a few hours. The origin of the fire, which completely gutted the building in which it originated, had not been positively determined. Workmen who were in the building at the time say that there was a small fire, followed by a sheet of flame, and in a few moments the flames had broken through the roof. It was the impression that some of the dynamo were overcharged and exploded.

Gas Pipe Suspected.
Another theory is that the fire, which started in the battery storage room, was caused either by the crossed wires of a lead pipe used to convey gas.

The flame communicated at once with waste and oil and was immediately beyond control. In imminent danger of their lives, the employees "plugged out" before trying to make their escape, thus preventing a heavy draft and weakening of the other power stations.

The fire was accompanied by a series of explosions, followed by a sheet of flame, and in a few moments the flames had broken through the roof. It was the impression that some of the dynamo were overcharged and exploded.



TREASON

Administering the Oath of Vengeance

SENATOR HEYBURN IS TURNED DOWN

Likewise Congressman French and Chairman Brady of Idaho G. O. P.

PRESIDENT JUMPS ON TRIO OF IDAHOANS

Declines to Appoint Their Man Postmaster at Nampa, and Fight Will Result.

MAJ. HAMMOND DEAD

Third Cavalry Officer Succumbs at Presidio General Hospital.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—Maj. A. G. Hammond of the Third United States Cavalry died at the general hospital at Presidio Tuesday evening after an illness of several days.

MAJ. HAMMOND DEAD

is cognizant of some of the facts in the Nesler case, but so far has said nothing about it. He is reported to have intended to investigate the facts and bring the alleged criminal to justice, he said, not only in a complaint to the prosecuting attorney. The reason which he gave for his refusal to act was want of jurisdiction.

Sheriff Has Jurisdiction.

When informed that the Tribune's representative had seen the County Attorney and that it is his judgment that the Sheriff has jurisdiction and can act in the premises, the Sheriff seemed to change his mind.

Sheriff Finally Defines Position.

The representative of the Tribune then asked him for a statement of his position as to what he would do in this case. Sheriff Smith said he had no intention of investigating that case because no one has made a definite complaint on the subject, and in legal form charging crime. I could not go out there to College and dig into things about which I know nothing nor can I take any one's bare word unless it is supported by sworn statement. If, however, the County Attorney will not instruct me to go and investigate the matter I will be glad to do so.

County Attorney to Investigate.

A little later, when seen on the subject, County Attorney J. C. Walters said to the Tribune that he would investigate the case and do his best to ascertain all the facts, stating at the same time that in his judgment there is no doubt as to the Sheriff's jurisdiction and duty in the matter.

Matter Hushed Up.

It is alleged that when Mrs. Nesler came to know of her husband's depravity she left him, vowing that she would never live with him again, but that since the matter was hushed up she has gone back and they are now living together. It is also alleged that this conduct of Nesler's at College Ward is not the first of the kind in his life, but that he brought his lewd habits with him from Europe.

RECORD CLEANED UP BY CHIMNEY SWEEP

Lowers Ascot Track Time by One-Quarter of a Second.

FOUR FAVORITES WON AND PLEASED TALENT

Borghesi Just Misses Breaking Up Speed Standing for Two-Mile Course.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 22.—Borghesi, carrying 115 pounds, won the Ascot cup race today, covering the two-mile course in the remarkable fast time of 3:57 1/2. This is five and a quarter seconds faster than the previous record for Ascot and within one and a fifth seconds of the world's record for the distance, which is held by Judge Deming, made at Oakland in 1886. Borghesi was 5 to 1 in the betting. The mile handicap went to Chimney Sweep in the very fast time of 1:38 1/2, which is a record for the track a quarter of a second below the one established by Gold Rose last year. Four favorites won. Weather clear; track fast. Results:

Fast Going at Ascot.

First race, four and a half furlongs—King of Spades, 10 (Miller), 2 to 1, won; Alaska, 10 (Hosier), 5 to 2, second; Comitia, 10 (Aker), 4 to 1, third. Time, 55 seconds. Early Flower, Norsk, Indiana, Hot Cakes, Yellow Top and Blanche C. also ran.

Third race, mile and a sixteenth—Miss Betty, 10 (Roe), 5 to 1, won; Ponca, 10 (Miller), 10 to 1, second; Mattie Spencer, 10 (Dunbar), 15 to 1, third. Time, 1:38 1/2. Lord Badge and Philie Lily also ran.

Fourth race, the Ascot cup, two miles, handicap, 150 added—Borghesi, 115 (Kunz), 5 to 1, won; Wire in the Hand, 115 (McDaniel), 2 to 1, second; Hanky, 115 (O'Neil), 5 to 1, third; and Marshal Ney, Courant and Bill Curtis also ran.

Chimney Sweep Makes Good.

Fifth race, handicap, mile—Chimney Sweep, 115 (Miller), 11 to 5, won; Chuck Hedrick, 10 (Harris), 3 to 2, second; Gilpin, 10 (Booker), 11 to 5, third. Time, 1:38 1/2. Lord Badge and Philie Lily also ran.

Sixth race, six furlongs—Alamo, 10 (Booker), 11 to 5, won; Fencerest, 10 (Miller), 15 to 1, second; Mattie Spencer, 10 (Dunbar), 15 to 1, third. Time, 1:15 1/2. Sully Christy, The Roundabout, San Lattin, Santhy Kane, Little Albatross, Bonnie Reg, Sandy Andy and Regal also ran.

WOMAN TRAIN WRECKER

Member of Prominent Ohio Family Has Peculiar and Vicious Mania.

TIFFIN, O., Feb. 22.—Mrs. Cora Carpenter was arrested here today accused of wrecking a Pennsylvania freight train a week ago Wednesday night and attempting to wreck a passenger train on the same night and the night following.

BOISE'S NEW POSTMASTER

W. C. Fenton Nominated for the Place by President Roosevelt.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The President today sent the following nominations to the Senate: Postmasters: California—E. P. Stephenson, Hollister; H. W. Whitman, Orland; T. I. Parker, Heraldsburg; Idaho—W. C. Fenton, Pocatello; A. C. Nettleton, Nampa; Montana—E. S. Towers, Miles City; Washington—E. L. Brunston, Walla Walla.

BURROWS TIRES OF SMOOT'S TACTICS

Impatient at Delay of Apostle in Furnishing List of Witnesses.

DETERMINED THAT THE CASE SHALL BE PUSHED

Will Make Another Request for the Names of Witnesses Desired.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 22.—Senator Burrows is getting rather impatient at the dilatory tactics of Senator Smoot and his attorneys.

Will Make Another Request.

He will pay another visit to Attorney Worthington tomorrow morning and request the names of his witnesses be forthcoming without further unnecessary delay.

Will Not Brook Delay.

Mr. Burrows is determined the case against Smoot shall not be delayed until it is too late to act upon it.

Smoot and Attorney Notified.

Smoot and Worthington were told several days ago that the committee desired the names of witnesses at once.

STUDENTS IN DEBATE

University of Wyoming's Program in Honor of Washington.

LARAMIE, Wyo., Feb. 22.—Washington's birthday was observed at the University of Wyoming this afternoon with a musical and literary program, including an address on "Prospects for International Arbitration," by Dr. Quaintance of the university, and a debate between members of the senior class on the proposition, "Resolved: That International Arbitration Should Be Compulsory," followed by a patriotic address.

OLD DOMINION FIRE

Miners Succeed in Controlling the Flames; Gas Is Still Bad in Mine.

GLACE, Ariz., Feb. 22.—A decisive change for the better has taken place in the Old Dominion mine. The danger point has been passed and rehabilitation of the mine will now proceed.

The tenth level was reached at 9 o'clock today by the men lining the pump compartment with concrete.

The gas is not quite so bad in the mine, but when it will be opened by removal of the timbers is hard to say. There is a great deal of timber in old workings of the burned shaft, which will smolder for some time.

LETTER FURNISHED CLUE TO MURDER

Document Alleged to Have Been Written at Headquarters of Miners' Federation.

DIRECTED ASSASSINATION OF GOV. STEUNENBERG

Was Addressed to Man in Silver City, Idaho; Detectives Secured It.

BOISE, Ida., Feb. 22.—A story is published here today to the effect that a letter written at the headquarters of the Western Federation of Miners in Denver was the foundation upon which the detectives worked to secure the evidence which will be used against the prisoners now charged with the murder of former Gov. Frank Steunenberg.

Detectives Secure Letter.

This letter, it is stated, was addressed to a member of the Federation in Silver City, Ida., but he did not call for it, and detectives secured the missive. It is stated that this letter directed the assassination of Steunenberg, and as an encouragement to the detectives to look for other crimes which had been committed and the perpetrators of which had escaped punishment. The name of the person to whom the letter was addressed is withheld.

Other Letters Intercepted.

Other letters from the Denver office of the Federation are said to have been intercepted, and it is stated that these letters have been used in securing damaging statements from one of the prisoners under arrest.

Kept in Separate Cells.

The prisoners Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone are confined in separate cells. They are permitted to have books, but no newspapers, and they are allowed to consult together once each day in the presence of officers.

DETAILS OF SLAUGHTER.

How and Where Assassination of Steunenberg Was Planned.

DENVER, Feb. 22.—Additional details of the case against the officers of the Western Federation of Miners, now imprisoned in Idaho were published by the Denver Post today.

"Charles H. Moyer, William D. Haywood and George A. Pettibone planned the assassination of Ex-Gov. Frank Steunenberg of Idaho in Denver last summer, according to the detectives who have worked up the case against the Western Federation of Miners leaders.

Orchard Worked Out Details.

"The actual details of the assassination, they say, were worked out by Harry Campbell and L. J. Simpkins, a member of the executive board of the Federation living at Wardner, Ida. In his confession Orchard is said to have admitted that he spent three weeks in last October with Simpkins, hunting and fishing on the latter's timber claim on the Upper St. Joe river, in northern Idaho.

Called on St. John.

"Orchard also confessed, they declare, that he visited Vincent St. John, president of the Burke Miners' union at Burke, Ida. Orchard declares that St. John and Simpkins spent a week together shortly before the assassination of ex-Gov. Steunenberg, and that the plans for the murder were perfected by them.

Orchard Planted Bomb.

"In his confession, it is said, Orchard admits that he actually placed the bomb that he was assisted by Stephen Adams, alias Stephen Dickson.

One Still at Large.

"All the men wanted are now under arrest, with the exception of L. J. Simpkins, who is being searched for in the neighborhood of Haines, Or., and for whom a reward of \$500 has been offered by Gov. Frank Gooding of Idaho. Information reached the detective agency today that Simpkins' whereabouts have been ascertained.

What Officers Will Prove.

"The detectives claim to be able to prove that during the fall and immediately preceding the meeting of the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners, in Idaho, in the month of December, several members of the board visited the Cour d'Alene street in Idaho.

Object of Visit.

"At that time the members of the executive board gave it out that their visit was for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with the district for the purpose of planning the assassination of Steunenberg. This, the detectives declare, was nothing but a blind, the real purpose being the plotting of plans for the Steunenberg assassination.

Say Proof Is Conclusive.

"The detectives, while not being able to find if President Moyer was in the northern district of Idaho at that time, declare that they are confident that he was in this city in the middle of December, several members of the board visited the Cour d'Alene street in Idaho.

Foreign Mutuals Barred.

Section 200, permitting the incorporation of companies under the cooperative or assessment plan, should be amended so as not to permit such companies to be incorporated in the future and foreign companies of this sort not already transacting business in this State should not be permitted to enter the State.

Abuses by Officials.

"Notwithstanding their theoretical rights, policy-holders have had little or no voice in the management. Infringed behind proxies easily collected by subservient agents and running for long periods unless expressly revoked, the officers of these companies have occupied unassailable positions and have been able to exercise despotic power. Ownership of the entire stock of an unbanked stock corporation scarcely could give a tenure more secure. The most fertile source of evils in administration has been irresponsibility of official power. However much this may be expected in the case of absolute stock control in that of a mutual company, it proceeds from a flagrant disregard of the law of its being. While it would be plainly unwise that the management of a life insurance company should be rendered unstable or that its personnel should be frequently changed, it is of the first importance that officers should realize that their direct responsibility to those whom they represent and should rely for their continuance in office upon proved efficiency and not upon a practical inability of the policy-holders to depose them.

Steiner to Go to Laramie.

Special to the Tribune.

LARAMIE, Wyo., Feb. 22.—Intimation today is that Ernest Steiner, superintendent of the Colorado division of the Union Pacific will be named superintendent of the Wyoming division in the first of March, when W. O. Whitney retires, and that H. L. Anderson, at present assistant superintendent of the Wyoming division will take Steiner's place and W. H. Peterson be given Anderson's position.

LAWS TO PURIFY INSURANCE DEALS

Legislative Report on Investigation Scores the Big Life Companies.

FINDS THAT MUCH COIN IS PUT INTO POLITICS

Urges Enactment of Laws to Control the Companies and Curb Officials.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 22.—The report of the Armstrong special insurance investigating committee was presented in both houses of the Legislature today. It was accompanied by eight bills designed to carry into effect in detail the recommendations of the committee.

In a statement made to newspapermen before the presentation of the report, Senator Armstrong said he hoped to have passed before April 15 the bill which will defer the annual elections in the mutual companies from April 15 to November.

This, it is believed, probably would nullify all proxies obtained up to this time by Thomas W. Lawson and the policy-holders' committee of State Governors and others, as well as those which the management of the companies themselves have been gathering through their agents.

The report of the joint committee of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New York appointed to investigate the affairs of the life insurance companies covers a printed pamphlet of 319 pages.

After reciting the regulation authorizing the work and the plan adopted for the investigation by the committee, each individual company is passed in review. There are fifteen companies organized under the laws of New York issuing level premium policies and in a single instance only the committee departed from the policy of limiting its investigation to companies organized under the laws of New York. This company was the Prudential Life Insurance company of New Jersey.

Headings of Report.

- 1.—Organization of life insurance corporations.
- 2.—Control of the rights of policy-holders in the election of directors.
- 3.—Retirement of stock.
- 4.—Investment including syndicate participations.
- 5.—Limitation of new business.
- 6.—Political contributions.
- 7.—Lobbying.
- 8.—Limitation of expenses.
- 9.—Valuation of policies.
- 10.—Rebates.
- 11.—Surrender values.
- 12.—Ascertainment and distribution of surplus.
- 13.—Remedies of policy-holders, or right to resort to the courts.
- 14.—Reforms of policies.
- 15.—Publicity and State supervision.
- 16.—Penalties.

Organization of Mutuals.

The committee recommends that article 11 of the insurance law be so amended as to permit the formation thereunder of mutual corporations without capital stock to transact the business of life insurance and for such other purposes as are authorized to be connected there within the case of stock corporations; provided, at least five hundred persons have subscribed to become members therein in the aggregate amount of at least \$1,000,000 to be insured upon their lives and shall have each paid in one full annual premium in cash upon the insurance subscribed for, and provided further, that it shall make the same deposits with the superintendent of insurance that are required of stock corporations formed for similar purposes.

Foreign Mutuals Barred.

Section 200, permitting the incorporation of companies under the cooperative or assessment plan, should be amended so as not to permit such companies to be incorporated in the future and foreign companies of this sort not already transacting business in this State should not be permitted to enter the State.

Abuses by Officials.

"Notwithstanding their theoretical rights, policy-holders have had little or no voice in the management. Infringed behind proxies easily collected by subservient agents and running for long periods unless expressly revoked, the officers of these companies have occupied unassailable positions and have been able to exercise despotic power. Ownership of the entire stock of an unbanked stock corporation scarcely could give a tenure more secure. The most fertile source of evils in administration has been irresponsibility of official power. However much this may be expected in the case of absolute stock control in that of a mutual company, it proceeds from a flagrant disregard of the law of its being. While it would be plainly unwise that the management of a life insurance company should be rendered unstable or that its personnel should be frequently changed, it is of the first importance that officers should realize that their direct responsibility to those whom they represent and should rely for their continuance in office upon proved efficiency and not upon a practical inability of the policy-holders to depose them.

Steiner to Go to Laramie.

Special to the Tribune.

LARAMIE, Wyo., Feb. 22.—Intimation today is that Ernest Steiner, superintendent of the Colorado division of the Union Pacific will be named superintendent of the Wyoming division in the first of March, when W. O. Whitney retires, and that H. L. Anderson, at present assistant superintendent of the Wyoming division will take Steiner's place and W. H. Peterson be given Anderson's position.

Rights of Policy-Holders.

"At least five months prior to each election, lists of policy-holders having at least \$1000 of insurance in force, properly classified by State and counties, giving names and addresses, between the amount of insurance, should be filed with the Superintendent of In-