

BIG COOKER BLEW UP

Terrible Accident at Corning Distillery in Peoria.

FOUR MEN KILLED

MANY MORE WOUNDED AND THE PLANT WRECKED.

Disaster Occurred at 9 O'Clock This Morning—Loss is Estimated at \$75,000.

PEORIA, Ill., October 3.—A terrible accident occurred at the plant of the Corning Distilling Company, at the extreme south end of the city, at 9 o'clock this morning, when one of the immense cookers in the main building exploded with a deafening report, killing several of the employees, maiming many more and completely wrecking that portion of the distillery.

Owing to the completeness of the wreck the search for bodies was extremely difficult.

The following is believed to be a complete list of the dead:

James McManus, instantly killed.
Neil Powell, assistant engineer.
James O'Keefe, badly injured, died in ambulance on way to the Cottage Hospital.
George Schaeffer, aged sixteen years, scalded all over his body; died on the way to the hospital.

Fire Alarms Turned In.

Fire alarms were immediately sent in for the entire department, and patrol wagons and ambulances hurriedly summoned. Fortunately the fire did not take fire, and the firemen immediately assisted the distillery employees who had escaped in the rescue of their less fortunate fellow-workmen.

The cooker is a steel contrivance about twenty feet in diameter and eighty feet in length, used in cooking molasses. It is thought a vacuum was formed, and when the steam was turned on the explosion followed. The cooker was hurled through the north wall of the four-story structure, a distance of 250 feet. The entire north wall of the distillery was blown down, and the south and east walls badly damaged. The wreckage was distributed all over the neighborhood. The distillery owners estimate their financial loss at fully \$75,000, and it will be several weeks before the plant can be repaired sufficiently to resume operations.

Hundreds of people quickly gathered at the scene to assist in the work of rescue. James McManus, an employe of the cooker, was first removed from the wreck. He had been instantly killed. O'Keefe was still alive when rescued, but was badly scalded and died a few minutes after his removal to the Cottage Hospital. Neil Powell, the assistant engineer of the cooker, was dead when taken out. George Schaeffer, a boy sixteen years old, was alive when taken out, but died on the way to the hospital. An unidentified man was rescued and taken to the hospital unconscious. There seems to be no hope of his recovery.

FAILED TO REACH TOP

DR. COOK'S PARTY PARTLY SCALDED MT. MCKINLEY.

Stopped at Altitude of 11,000 Feet by an Impossible Granite Slope.

NEW YORK, October 3.—An attempt made by Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn, the well-known explorer, to scale Mount McKinley in Alaska has failed. Dr. Cook, accompanied by several other men, among them a Columbia University student, left the city several months ago. The following dispatch, signed by the head of the party, was received by the Associated Press today:

VALDEZ, Alaska, October 2.

The assault upon Mount McKinley resulted in our making an altitude of 11,000 feet on the northern side. At this point we were stopped by an impossible granite slope, which extended 5,000 feet above us. We searched the entire western side of the mountain for a route to the summit which might offer a prospect of success, but no opportunity was found and the ascent from the western slope seems practically impossible. On September 28 signs of snow already were far advanced and, although we should have liked to search the northwestern ridge as well as Muldrow glacier, we rapidly advancing toward the east to a point where we could get over the country without our horses. Therefore it was decided to cross the McKinley range at the first northern break in the mountain.

Our previous travels had been over the trail made by the geological survey party under Brooks last year, but we traveled over unknown territory, marching about forty-five miles northward and swinging eastward in the mountains at every available opportunity. We crossed the divide September 9 over a new pass at an elevation of 6,000 feet and camped in the valley of Chulitna. Our aim was to reach the eastern slope of Mount McKinley, and on our way out, if the season permitted, to make another attack from that side.

A forced march was made down the Chulitna. It being necessary to ford and swim the river many times, but we were compelled to abandon our horses and build rafts twenty miles north of a great glacier. The latter afforded the first easterly route to the great mountain peak. We explored it and made a rapid examination of the eastern slope, but the rapidly approaching winter would not permit of another attempt to climb the mountain. We were forced to take to our rafts September 21 and to seek the head waters of Cook Inlet, which lay 150 miles to the south.

Before we started a journey of sixty miles down the Chulitna river, of which nothing was known as to the possibility of navigation on a raft. Considerable apprehension was felt on this score, but the river proved navigable and the expedition reached Tyonekin in six days. The net result of the expedition was a march of 900 miles in boats and rafts, the exploration of a good deal of new territory, the discovery of several mountain peaks, glaciers and rivers. The summit of Mount McKinley was not possible for us, but the members of the expedition feel that we did all possible in the worst winter season of an Alaskan summer. Every member of the party has enjoyed good health and will return shortly to the United States.

Dr. Cook was accompanied on his trip by Ralph Shulward of Columbia University and Robert Dunn.

Marconi on the Lucania.

NEW YORK, October 3.—The name of William Marconi, the inventor of the wireless telegraph, is being mentioned today. On the way across Mr. Marconi will make a practical test of several improvements in his wireless apparatus in use on the Lu-

AS TO CORPORATIONS

More Specific Powers to Be Asked of Congress.

INFORMATION SECURED

BY COMMISSIONER GARFIELD'S EXPERTS ALREADY.

One Line of Inquiry — As to Price of Trust-Made Goods—Not Yet Attempted.

During the coming Congress the proposition that more specific powers be given the bureau of corporations of the Department of Commerce and Labor will be brought up for consideration.

When the last Congress authorized the formation of the Department of Commerce and Labor and provided for the bureau of corporations, it was recognized that the powers given the bureau would have to be revised and added to. There was not at that time a sufficiently well-defined idea as to the needs of the new bureau to allow the framing of legislation entirely satisfactory to the advocates of the measure, and the general desire to have such a bureau established overcame all questions as to the established over the power that it would need in carrying out the plan for the supervision of the acts of corporations.

There was at that time great pressure that something should be done as a curb upon monopolistic powers of trusts, and it was believed that if a certain amount could be made by providing general legislation there would be no difficulty in the future, after experience had made plain just what should be done to allow the bureau to work effectively to enact proper legislation. In order to provide a beginning of the work the bureau was in a general way given those powers of investigation into the affairs of corporations that at that time applied to the interstate commerce commission in relation to the railroads.

Difference in Railroad and Industrial Corporations.

It was recognized then, and is still more apparent at this time, that the difference in railroad and industrial corporations was such that there would be difficulty in making this application of the interstate commerce powers to the industrials through the bureau of corporations.

Just what legislation should be enacted has been one of the leading questions that have been studied by Commissioner Garfield and his associates in the bureau of corporations. The result of this study will in due time be placed before Congress. Men who have studied the law relating to the enforcement of the publicity provisions of the act authorizing the bureau of corporations are confident that if an effort should be made to secure by legal process information that the corporation would be many difficulties in the way.

In many respects the interstate commerce act has been ineffective from time to time. That being so, attorneys are convinced that in the application of the powers possessed by the bureau of corporations to the bureau of corporations in securing publicity still greater difficulties will be encountered whenever resistance is determined upon by the corporations.

Additional Powers to Be Asked.

It has not been decided when Congress will be asked to give the additional powers for the bureau. It is not likely that that will be done early in the session. Up to the present time the force of experts employed under Commissioner Garfield has been engaged in collecting data giving every variety of information concerning the corporations of the country, together with the national and state laws relating to them. This information has been, to a large extent, so classified that it is in fact a ready reference of information on the subject of corporations.

Requests have not yet been sent out by the bureau to corporations asking for information concerning their business. The information has been, to a large extent, and have classified all data wherever found in a reliable form. For this purpose hundreds of reports have been made under the authority of Congress and of state legislatures, reports by corporations for purposes of taxation throughout the states, and various other documents have been and are still being reviewed.

When Congress meets a very large part of this information will be in such form that, with very little revision, it will be available for transmission to the Senate and the House of Representatives. It is called for. It is likely that a resolution calling on the President for such information would meet with a response in a very short time.

Price of Trust-Made Goods.
One line of the investigation by the bureau which has not yet been made as complete as might be desired, but which is more comprehensive in its scope than any other known compilation on a similar subject, relates to the price of trust-made goods in this and foreign countries. It has been sought, in compiling this information, to show the prices at which products of trusts in this country are sold here and abroad. Much difficulty has been met in gathering this data because of the manner of making sales, which often causes difficulty in tracing exact prices.

Then, too, the reason for accepting a low price for goods abroad is recognized as an important element in considering the significance of a sale of an article abroad at a price lower than in this country. If such low prices introduces an article in a country where it has not before been known and tried sufficiently to give it a standing in the market, and if it should lead to a remunerative trade, there would be absolutely no significance in the fact that it was in some instances or even for a considerable time sold at a rate lower than in this country. It would be claimed that the lower price was merely in the nature of an advertisement.

Important for Tariff Action.
The information relating to prices here and abroad of the products of the trusts will be of the greatest importance in the consideration of any proposition to reduce the tariff rates on trust-made goods, which is likely to be debated. Congress has never had accurate and full information on this subject. The data that has been presented from time to time in the Senate and in the House of Representatives has been fragmentary in its nature and frequently from partisan sources, which has resulted in having it fall to make as great an impression on legislators as would have been the case had it been of a different kind.

But if the bureau of corporations succeeds in doing what it is now working on, this obstacle to a clear understanding as to the prices here and abroad will be removed. Information as to the reason for discrepancies in prices so that a judgment may be formed as to the advisability of legislating on the subject of the tariff, especially in reference to trust-made goods.



U. S. MARINE CORPS

Transfer of the Command to General Elliott.

CEREMONY AT NOON

ALL OFFICERS IN THE CITY PRESENT.

Pleasant Speeches by Both the Retiring General and New Commandant — Gen. Elliott's Career.

The formal transfer of the command of the United States Marine Corps from Major General Charles Heywood to Brigadier General George F. Elliott took place at noon today at the headquarters of the corps in the Mills building, and was attended by all the officers of the corps stationed in this city.

There were no special formalities beyond the reading of the official orders for the retirement of General Heywood and the assignment of General Elliott to the command. Each of the officers made a short address suitable to the occasion, and at their conclusion the two held a short reception to allow the members of the corps to take official leave of their retiring commander, and to pay their respects to the new commandant. The clerical force of the office also called in a body and paid its respect.

General Elliott has selected as his aid during the Spanish-American war in 1898, General Elliott commanded Company C of the marine battalion during the four days' battle at Guantanamo, Cuba, and later, while in command of a battalion of 250 men, defeated the Spanish in a spirited battle at Cuzco Valley, after killing and taking a number of prisoners in addition to destroying the wells which were the source of the enemy's water supply. This fight resulted in giving security to the marine camp on Guantanamo Hill, and the advanced General Elliott three numbers for "eminent and conspicuous conduct in battle."

In the Philippines.
Gen. Elliott having been ordered to the Philippines, in command of a battalion of marines on October 8, 1899, defeated the enemy over very bad ground, and captured, by direct assault, a position at Novalota which had been deemed impregnable by the Spanish and before which they once lost an entire regiment. For this service he received a commendatory letter from the Secretary of the Navy. He has had almost fourteen years of sea and foreign service and has always rendered a good account of himself.

Extending Free Delivery Service.
The free delivery division of the Post Office Department has authorized additional carriers at the following post offices on October 15: Kingston, N. Y., two; Owensboro, Ky., one; Stapleton, N. Y., two; Scranton, Pa., four; Bloomfield, N. J., one.

Virginia Postmasters Appointed.
Lydia E. H. Humphreys has been appointed postmistress at Inles, Culpeper county, Va., in place of Wiley B. Johnson, resigned. Ola H. Ruffner succeeds Benjamin F. Ruffner, dead, as postmaster at Rileyville, Page county.

The New Commandant.
Gen. Elliott is one of the most popular and efficient officers in the service. His

MERCY TO HAMILTON

THE PRESIDENT COMMUTES HIS SENTENCE OF DISMISSAL.

Will Go to the Foot of First Lieutenant—Findings in Other Cases Approved.

The President has acted on the cases of First Lieutenants Louis M. Hamilton, 14th Infantry, and Hamilton Foley, 5th Cavalry, and Second Lieutenants Thomas E. Murtagh, Coast Artillery, and Shelby L. Rucker, Philippine Scouts, convicted by courts-martial of serious offenses.

Leut. Hamilton is a grandson of Alexander Hamilton and a son of Dr. McLane Hamilton of New York. He was convicted of making an insulting remark in the presence of the wife of a brother officer while under the influence of liquor, and was sentenced to be dismissed. The offense was committed in the Philippines. In consideration of his youth, inexperience and sincere repentance, the President commuted Lieut. Hamilton's sentence to a reduction in rank of 116 numbers, which places him at the foot of the list of first lieutenants. He is also required to make a public apology to the offended persons.

The President approved the sentences in the other cases and they will be put into effect. Leut. Foley is the son of John P. Foley of New York and a nephew of the late John Russell Young. He was found guilty of having embezzled soldiers' money and of other financial irregularities. The court sentenced him to dismissal and two years' confinement in the penitentiary. He will probably be confined at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Leut. Murtagh is the officer who disappeared from duty in Cuba and who was subsequently arrested in Chicago and brought before a court on charges of embezzlement and other offenses. In his case the sentence is dismissal and two years' confinement in the penitentiary. He will probably be confined at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

The President has deferred action in the case of Lieut. Knute Knudson until he can hear Senator Spooner's appeal for clemency. Lieut. Knudson was convicted of certain irregularities of commissary funds in Alaska and sentenced to dismissal and one year's imprisonment.

OCEAN POSTAL SERVICE.

Mail Will Be Taken From New York Four Days in the Week.

The Post Office Department, after correspondence and conference with the International Mercantile Marine Company, has announced a very desirable improvement in the transatlantic mail service. At the present time the department has three sea post services from New York—the North German Lloyd, sailing Tuesdays; the American line, sailing Wednesdays; and the Hamburg-American Packet Company, sailing Thursdays. At the request of the department the International Mercantile Marine Company has arranged to fit the mail boats of the White Star line with sea post offices, and to avoid two mail-services from New York sailing on Wednesdays, the sailing day of the American line from New York will be changed to Saturdays. This will give the department sea post sailing on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from New York.

THE BRISTOW REPORT

Will Be Forthcoming Soon After Grand Jury's Work.

TEN DAYS FROM MONDAY

THAT IS THE TIME GIVEN BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Mr. Taggart Going Over Indictments to Be Reported—Mr. Cotter to Succeed Scott Towers.

"When the grand jury of the District of Columbia adjourns Monday the investigation of affairs in the Post Office Department may be considered as having been completed." Postmaster General Payne said to an Evening Star reporter this afternoon.

"When will Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristol have his report of the investigation completed?" was asked.

"I presume it will be forthcoming very soon after the grand jury is through."

"Within a week?" was asked.

"I hardly think it will be ready in that time, but surely within ten days. Mr. Bristol has been working for four weeks on the preliminaries of his report. He has gone over the cases where indictments have been returned, and as soon as the work of the grand jury is over he will be able to bring his report to a finish without much trouble."

This is the first official statement that has been made by the Postmaster General concerning the completion of the investigation and the report of the fourth assistant postmaster general.

In the Grand Jury Room.

The grand jury was not in session today and on the surface all was quiet at the city hall, so far as the Post Office Department investigation was concerned. Mr. Taggart, assistant United States attorney for the District of Columbia, was in the grand jury room behind closed doors and the doors were locked from the inside during the greater portion of the day. It is presumed that Mr. Taggart was engaged in completing the preparation of the indictments that the grand jury are expected to report Monday, and which will complete the question of party loyalty investigation in the Post Office Department. Mr. Taggart's assistants and other writer operators were also busy at work under Mr. Taggart's direction.

Quiet at Post Office.

This was a quiet day about the Post Office Department. Postmaster General Payne received a few callers, among them Representative Hemway of Indiana and Hughes of West Virginia. The latter came to the city yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by his two young daughters, who will attend school here.

J. Edward Addicks was a caller on the Postmaster General this afternoon. He is a member of the Senate and has been in charge in Delaware in general and the case of Miss Huddah Todd, who was dismissed as a member of a small office in that State, in particular.

To Succeed Scott Towers.

City Postmaster Merritt today recommended that J. W. Cotter be appointed superintendent of Station C, vice W. Scott Towers, removed. Mr. Cotter was designated acting superintendent night before last, and the city postmaster asks that his appointment be made permanent.

The promotion of Mr. Cotter has made necessary some other changes along the down line. In consequence of which Postmaster Merritt has made the further recommendations that J. Wharton be promoted foreman of Station C, vice Cotter, promoted, and that J. W. Sherwood be promoted from substitute to regular clerk, to fill the vacancy caused by Wharton's promotion.

Pay F. Lewis has tendered his resignation as clerical assistant at Station C, and is recommended by the postmaster to fill the vacancy.

MUCH DAMAGE TO COTTON.

Condition 65.1 September 25, While August 25 It Was 81.2.

The monthly report of the chief of the bureau of statistics of the Department of Agriculture will show the average condition of cotton September 25 to have been 65.1, as compared with 81.2 one month ago, 58.3 September 25, 1902, 61.4 at the corresponding date in 1901, and a ten-year average of 67.4. These figures indicate the condition anticipated the results from future weather conditions.

Reports of damage during September from rust, shedding, drought, caterpillars and worms are general throughout the cotton states, the damage in Texas being caused more particularly by boll weevil and boll worm. The crop is reported as from two to four weeks late, and many correspondents report that there will be no top crop.

The following table shows the condition of cotton, by states, September 25 in each of the last three years, and August 25, 1903, with the ten-year averages:

States.	1903.	1902.	1901.	10-yr. av.
Alabama	68	81	62	73
Arkansas	62	62	62	62
California	62	62	62	62
Florida	62	62	62	62
Georgia	62	62	62	62
Illinois	62	62	62	62
Indiana	62	62	62	62
Iowa	62	62	62	62
Kansas	62	62	62	62
Kentucky	62	62	62	62
Louisiana	62	62	62	62
Mississippi	62	62	62	62
Missouri	62	62	62	62
Montana	62	62	62	62
Nebraska	62	62	62	62
Nevada	62	62	62	62
New York	62	62	62	62
North Carolina	62	62	62	62
Ohio	62	62	62	62
Oklahoma	62	62	62	62
Oregon	62	62	62	62
South Carolina	62	62	62	62
Texas	62	62	62	62
Virginia	62	62	62	62
United States	65.1	81.2	58.3	67.4

DEWEY TO BE IN COMMAND.

Will Observe Only the Most Important of the Maneuvers.

Admiral Dewey will assume personal command of the North and South Atlantic and European squadrons during a part, at least, of the winter maneuvers in the Caribbean sea. He does not contemplate remaining in the Caribbean the entire period devoted to the maneuvers, which may be from the middle of December until March, but will leave Washington probably on the Mayflower so that he may exercise command during the most important part of the maneuvers. Real Admiral Henry C. Taylor, chief of the bureau of navigation, probably will go with Admiral Dewey as chief of staff.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

The Newark has arrived at Santos, the Newport at Boston, the Stewart at New London, the Peoria at Newport and the Vicksburg at Taku. The Amphitrite has left Newport for Norfolk.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Vain Attempts to Avert Extra Session of Congress.

PRESIDENT IS FIRM

WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE THE REPUBLICAN PROGRAM.

Return of Three Cabinet Members—Lunched at Executive Mansion—Preparing Message to Congress.

From numerous influential men in the last few months President Roosevelt has received the suggestions that an extra session of Congress might be avoided and that the work that it will do could just as well be done by the regular session. There has also been considerable pressure on the President to induce him not to call an extra session, but he has consistently taken the position that this country is committed to the proposition that Cuban reciprocity should be discussed during the next session. He thinks that good faith must be kept. No proposition will be considered by him that looks to abandonment of his plans for an extra session.

The President is sustained by many republican leaders in his views as to keeping faith with Cuba. These leaders also think that an extra session will be an opportune one for the tariff debates to be threshed out. That a democratic program will be to debate the tariff considerably between now and the next election is well understood. The republicans do not care to have too much of this discussion during the next part of the regular session and they are willing that the democrats shall use the Cuban reciprocity question as the one on which they may talk as long as possible on the tariff. The debates will then be partly out of the way so that the regular session may go along with ordinary business.

The Republican Program.

The republican program, as near as one can be made out this far in advance, is for a short regular session of Congress, and if possible an adjournment by April 1. That is what some of the leaders now hope to accomplish and the President is understood to agree with them that a short session, devoted to necessary business, will be both wise and expedient. The party legislation preceding a presidential election has frequently been a serious blunder and it is not proposed to repeat any blunders of that kind.

Senator Hansbrough of North Dakota paid a call on the President this morning. Representative Hemway of Indiana and Hughes of West Virginia, who were in the city yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by his two young daughters, who will attend school here.

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