

ers prior to the wrecks.

After getting Mooney's side of the story, the Examiner asked Kline for a statement, which he gave, defining his position. Not a line of it was printed, but the story inferred that 14 men had been definitely connected with the wrecks, and that Kline was in a badly worried state over these damaging "discoveries."

As far as can be learned from the police and I. C. officials, the investigation has fallen flat, as far as fixing the blame for the wrecks on any individual. Strike leaders say that one of the wrecks was caused by a flange on the locomotive wheels being worn so thin that it split a switch.

The burning of a pile of rubbish on a vacant lot at 97th street and Champlain street was extinguished last night before it did any damage. But it gave the Examiner and the Tribune a chance for a difference of opinion.

According to the Tribune, the fire was lighted by a workman employed in the shops, who went away and left it burning. There was no damage to adjoining buildings.

As the man was working in the shops, presumably he was a strikebreaker.

The Examiner smokes a more imaginative pipe, and says "a fire of incendiary origin, which for a time threatened to wipe out the shops at Burnside, broke out in the dry kilns shortly after 8 o'clock. Prompt arrival of the fire department confined the blaze to the dry kilns. This is the sec-

ond mysterious fire since Saturday night. On that night about 150 feet of the fence around the building and two day coaches were destroyed by fire."

No mention is made of the last night's fire having been started by a workman in the shops.

The following statement, sent by President Kline of the Blacksmiths to every paper in the city, indicates his attitude toward the investigation of the recent wrecks, now being made by the police:

#### To the Public Press.

In Wednesday morning's issue of the Chicago newspapers, we were informed of a supposed attempt to wreck the Illinois Central passenger trains, which was immediately charged to the labor unions now on strike. The witnesses consists of boys fourteen and fifteen years playing in the back yard in the rain and fog, who were supposed to have seen two men running out of the Illinois Central yards.

According to a statement of Lieutenant Mooney of the Kensington police station, which statement he made to the undersigned, it was dark and foggy; a rather peculiar time for children to be playing in the back yard, and being able to see out in the railroad yards.

This morning's Examiner, December 28th, prints a statement from Lieutenant Mooney of Kensington police station in which he says that it looks like another McNamara case. If that is the opinion of the Chicago police, I hope