

"There is not an excursion steamer running out into the lake from Chicago that is properly manned. In case of a fire on any one of them the result will be awful.

"I predict that it is only a matter of time and chance until two steamers collide at the mouth of the river. When this happens the easiest thing for an injured boat to do is to topple over, just like the Eastland did.

"One thing should be done without delay. Every water ballast boat on the lakes should be tied to the dock and kept tied.

"I watched the test of the Christopher Columbus. I noticed this, that all the portholes were closed and the 6x6 hatches were battened shut. With this done the Christopher Columbus could have been tilted more than twice as far as it was with perfect safety.

"Next day I saw the Christopher Columbus pulling out with an excursion load. The hatches and gangways were all open. If the boat had listed half as much as it did under the sandbag test it would have capsized from the rush of water.

"It was the rush of water into open ports and gangways that capsized the Eastland, not the listing. Had the Eastland been obeying the law its ports and gangways would have been closed while it was loading, except one gangway.

"From present indication I will say that it looks as if the tests of lake boats is going to turn out a farce."

"The federation will protest to the board of tax review against the inequality in increased assessments between loop and outlying property which will permit the loop to pay \$1,000,000 less yearly in taxes.

"The loop taxpayers claim a reduction on the ground that they are being forced to lay off men," said the resolution, "but something should be done for the men who are being laid off."

BITS OF NEWS

Charges of perjury will be filed Thursday against Detective Serg'ts John O'Keefe and John Dempsey by the state's attorney's office. They were leading witnesses for convicted police grafters.

Elgin, Ill.—Fire, believed of incendiary origin, swept home of James A. Dorsey, wealthy cattle dealer of Gilberts, north of Elgin.

Quincy, Ill.—John Roth, 50, tinner, drowned in Upper Quincy bay in Mississippi river when he fell from top of motorboat.

Springfield, Ill.—Fire destroyed the superstructure of North mine of the Springfield Co-operative Co. Loss \$50,000. No lives lost.

