

APPALLING ACCIDENT NEAR BUTTE.

Triple Train Collision--Hon. Sam Word Narrowly Escapes Death.

BUTTE, November 29.—There was a triple train collision this morning between Butte and Silver Bow. The Anaconda ore train broke in two near Rocker. The Helena passenger train was coming a short distance behind, but managed to stop before running into the ore train. Another train, a heavy freight, was also on the road from the Butte depot. A man went back to flag, but it had approached so near it was impossible to stop on the icy rails. Conductor West rushed into the passenger car and shouted to those on board to jump, which they did. The freight locomotive crashed headway through the passenger coach, raising it on the top of the locomotive. While trying to straighten out matters another train came along and wrecked the caboose of the first freight train. Several train men were slightly injured, Conductor Minty being the worst hurt, getting his nose broken and a bad bruise and cut on the head and shoulder. The freight engineer had his spine hurt. The wreck has not been cleared away. The Hon. Sam Word, attorney for the Union Pacific, was interviewed by a reporter regarding the catastrophe. "Well," said Mr. Word as the two entered the hack, "I don't care to talk about this business now. If you want an honest story to go to the train boy. He is a member of the Young Men's Christian Association, and will tell you the truth. I feel ugly!" But the reporter persisted and finally Mr. Word's good nature prevailed and he made the following statement: "It was almost a massacre," began the narrator, "but all there is about it is that I was a passenger on the Montana Union train that left Butte at 7:20 this a. m. We got down about opposite the Blue Bird mill when the engineer discovered that the Anaconda freight was on the track, and subsequent investigation showed that a wheel was off the track. Of course we stopped, and a brakeman was sent back to flag the Utah & Northern freight, which was due in a few minutes. As luck would have it a dense fog and smelter's smoke prevailed heavily at the time and the engineer of the freight did not discover the flagman until close upon him. On seeing the signal of danger he sounded his whistle and reversed brakes, and seeing that a collision could not be avoided, jumped from the engine. All attempts to stop the freight were futile. Fortunately the conductor of our train was in the last car, and hearing the whistle of the approaching locomotive made a dive for the adjoining car followed by the passengers, many of whom jumped from the platform. I was in the next car and in the act of seating myself. It was a terror! I shot down on Haldron and another attorney sitting opposite me, hit him on the cheek but never phased him; caromed on the support of the seat, knocked it out, and the next I knew half a dozen persons were picking me up and caring for me. Yes, it was a narrow escape. The freight locomotive virtually cut the rear passenger car in two, threw the stove clear to the opposite end of the car and set fire to it. It took tall rustling to subdue the flames. As soon as possible a dispatch was sent to Supt. Dickerson who started to our relief with a caboose and engine. Meanwhile the freight locomotive started back to Butte, leaving behind it the wrecked car. Certainly in this matter due precautions were used on both sides, but it could not be avoided. Owing to the prevailing fog and the slippery condition of the rails it was only by accident that a second collision was avoided."

Death of Mayor Overholtz.

ST. LOUIS, November 29.—Henry Overholtz, president of the defunct Fifth National bank and ex-mayor, died this morning of heart trouble. He did not know the bank had suspended. The flags of the city have been ordered at half mast.

Postal Affairs.

WASHINGTON, November 18.—The report of the third assistant postmaster general for the last fiscal year shows the total ordinary postal revenue for the year was \$48,118,273. The revenue from money order business was \$719,346. Total revenue, \$48,837,619. The total expenditures for the year, including actual and estimated outstanding liabilities, \$53,133,252. Deficit in revenue, \$4,295,542. In addition to this there was certified to the secretary of the treasury for the credit of the Pacific Railway companies \$1,187,027, earned by them in carrying the mails. The total excess of the cost of the postal service over the revenue was \$5,482,570. The receipts of the year were 11.1 per cent. greater than the previous year, while the increase of expenditures was at the rate of 3.6 per cent. The special delivery system has made considerable advance during the year. The total value of all stamped paper issued by the department during the year was \$46,619,680, an increase of nearly 7 per cent. The postage collected on second-class matter was \$1,262,348, representing a weight of over 63,000 tons, an increase of 15 per cent. over the previous year.

New Use for the Incandescent.

WASHINGTON, November 28.—Experiments with the incandescent electric light, which have been made at the torpedo station at Newport, have developed a novel use for the little lamp, and one that is said to promise to be one of great importance in naval warfare. With lamps of about 100 candle power fastened on the ends of poles submerged in the sea to a depth of twenty feet, the water is so illuminated that objects in it can be distinguished within a radius of 150 feet. There is little or no glare from the submerged light to betray the presence of the boat's spars, and it is believed that by this means a boat might countermine an enemy's field of submarine mines by cutting their cables or sweeping them to one side, and it is probable that torpedo launches will be equipped with these lights in the future.

The Government Telegraph Scheme.

PHILADELPHIA, November 26.—Mr. Powderly, in a lecture last night, said the Knights of Labor would soon be called upon to sign a petition asking congress to own a line of telegraphy, and operate it in connection with the postoffices. "We do not ask that it shall purchase the wires of any corporation, but that it shall put up its own lines," he said.

For the Jews of Europe.

LONDON, November 28.—Baron Hirsch's offer of £2,000,000 for the benefit of the Jews in Europe was made in a letter to the czar, his object being the founding of primary schools in Russia. The czar has accepted the offer and the money has been deposited in the Bank of England. Baron Rothschild and Baron Henry De Worms have been appointed trustees.

The Fidelity Bank Failure.

CINCINNATI, November 29.—The legal investigation of the great Fidelity bank failure commenced this morning before Judge Sage with the impugning of a jury. Harper was present in court. His appearance has not materially changed since his imprisonment.

Frozen to Death.

HURON, Dak., Nov. 29.—The bodies of John Gowan and his 16-year-old daughter were found frozen stiff at 10 o'clock to-night at their home. From all appearances they were suffocated by coal gas last Friday night.

Elijah Smith Resigns.

New York, November 23.—Elijah Smith has resigned the presidency of the Oregon Transcontinental company, the materialization of the famous blind pool, and Sidney Dillon, who was for many years president of the Union Pacific, has been chosen as his successor. It has been known for some time that radical changes in the management of the Oregon Transcontinental were about to be made, and the return of

Henry Villard to the control of the Northern Pacific at the recent election was merely a prelude to his future restoration. It has been supposed that Mr. Villard would take the presidency of the Oregon Transcontinental, as he might have taken that of the Northern Pacific. His agreement with his Berlin friends was modified so that he could become a director of the Northern Pacific and possibly it might have been stretched to enable him to be in name as well as fact the controlling power. The fact that Mr. Dillon and not Mr. Villard succeeds Elijah Smith in the presidency of the principal Oregon company, will be a surprise to Wall street. The change will not take place until Dec. 1, but it was agreed upon to-day.

Lottery Tickets Furnish a Wedding Outfit.

PORTLAND, Me., October 19.—South Portland, just across the harbor, is all agog over a bit of romance. For months Louisiana State Lottery tickets have been extensively dealt out here, and a few persons have had windfalls of fortune. A young man named Cole and his betrothed, Miss Jackson, in somewhat poor circumstances concluded to try their luck, and each paid fifty cents for one-tenth of a whole ticket. At the October drawing they found by reading the schedule of winning tickets that theirs had drawn \$5,000. It is understood that their wedding cards are now in the hands of the printer.—New York Sun, October 20th.

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