

THE WEATHER. Forecast for December 25: San Francisco and vicinity—Cloudy and threatening Monday; light south-west winds. G. H. WILLSON, Local Forecaster.

THE



CALL

THE THEATERS. ALCAZAR—"The Prince and the Pauper." ALHAMBRA—"A Fight for Love." CALIFORNIA—"Broadway Galley." COLUMBIA—"The American Lord." CHUTES—"Vaudeville." GRAND—"Mama, Mama." ORPHEUM—"Vaudeville." TRIVOLI—"Orpheus in Hades." MAJESTIC—"If I Were King." NEW CENTRAL—"The Eye Witness." Matinees at all theaters but the Columbia.

VOLUME XCIX—NO. 25.

SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MANCHURIAN ARMY IS RETURNING HOME TO FIGHT FOR EMPEROR NICHOLAS

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Journal, telegraphing under date of December 24, says that he has authority of officers returning from Manchuria to declare that a dispatch purporting to have emanated from General Linevitch, reporting pillage and mutiny at Harbin and his incapacity to cope with the revolt of the troops in Manchuria, is a pure invention. These officers, the correspondent says, report that the army is returning to Europe in perfect order.



SCENE IN THE ANCIENT CAPITAL OF RUSSIA DURING THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE PROLETARIAT AND LOYAL TROOPS.

IMBODEN SAID TO HAVE LARGE SUM IN HIDING. Bank Wrecker to Wax Richer While in Prison.

Special Dispatch to The Call. DENVER, Dec. 24.—If what are believed to be conservative estimates of Leonard Imboden's hidden funds are correct, the convicted Denver Savings Bank wrecker, if he goes to the penitentiary, will have an income of \$12,400 the first year, without touching his principal. Each year after that he will have more. This will make him the richest prisoner who will ever have served a sentence in the Canyon City penitentiary.

Loyalists and Mutineers Continue the Battle for the Possession of the City of Moscow.

MOSCOW, Dec. 24, 5 p. m.—Artillery, rifle and revolver firing continued throughout the day, but the noise of the battle has now somewhat abated. The guns have been bombarding one barricade after another, the cannonade being followed by charges by the dragoons, who set fire to the debris.

The area of the fighting to-day was more extended and included Trubnoff's square, Sadovia, Karetnai and many other streets. The revolutionaries apparently have not in the least lost heart, notwithstanding Saturday's heavy casualties. It is now known that 500 is a moderate estimate of yesterday's losses and many more persons fell to-day.

The revolutionaries had few successes. They surprised a force of gendarmes on Karetnai street to-day, killing or wounding twenty of them. Since then artillery has been firing uninterruptedly in that section of the city.

Many Innocent Persons Are Killed.

In many cases dragoons fired into private houses where they suspected revolutionaries had taken refuge.

In nearly every district large numbers of innocent persons were accidentally killed or wounded. Late this afternoon it was reported that the fighting was proceeding in the outskirts of the city and that there were heavy losses on both sides.

During the day bombs were thrown into the streets. The troops hold the railway stations, but the plundering of freight cars still continues. Three hundred of these cars have been entirely stripped on the Kazan Railway siding alone.

KING LEOPOLD SECRETLY WEDS PRETTY WIDOW

Married a Year Ago and Son Has Been Born.

Special Dispatch to The Call. BRUSSELS, Dec. 24.—According to the Revue de Bruxelles, the report that King Leopold has married morganatically can be no longer doubted. The paper says the ceremony was performed a year ago in the private chapel of the Chateau at Laeken in the presence of two of the King's aides by the court chaplain acting with the authority of the Archbishop of Mechlin.

The bride was a pretty widow by the name of Vaughan, nee Lecroix. She is a daughter of the caretaker at the Louvre in Nice and a niece of M. Lamendock, a socialist member of the Chamber of Deputies. The King has created her a baroness and she now lives at his estate at Cape Verat, near Nice, where he recently bore a son.

Vessel in Distress. ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 25.—At 2 a. m. the Townsend Inlet life-saving crew went to the assistance of an unknown vessel.

SIX FIREMEN ARE HURT IN HOTEL FIRE. Injured by Falling of Floor of the Van Nuys.

Guests Are Forced to Seek Safety Clad Only in Nightrobes.

Big Los Angeles Caravansary Almost Completely Destroyed by Flames.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—In the biggest hotel fire in the history of Los Angeles, the Van Nuys Broadway Hotel, one of the first-class hostleries of the city, located at 412-422 South Broadway, in the heart of the business district, was almost completely destroyed to-day. Six firemen were badly injured by the collapse of the rear of the second floor. One hundred and ten guests, most of whom were still in bed at the time the fire broke out, escaped in their scant clothing to the street. Many of them got out in their night robes, and practically all suffered the loss of their entire baggage and personal effects. The injured: J. Lawson, fireman, hose company No. 9; C. M. Stewart, fireman, shocked, bruised and cut; J. Linds, fireman, lacerated scalp and bruised about body; W. C. Phillips, fireman, bruised, burned and cut; Thomas Lane, fireman, shocked, bruised and cut, still unconscious, may die; Richard Hanley, fireman, bruised, cut and suffering from shock.

Fire Chief Lips was also severely cut by broken glass, but had his injuries dressed without leaving the scene of the fire. The total financial loss will approximate about \$300,000. The following are the individual losses sustained: Mariz estate and August Winstel, owners of the hotel building, loss \$100,000, insurance \$75,000; Clark & Forsythe, lessees of the hotel, loss \$55,000, insurance \$30,000; California Wall Paper Co., G. J. Viera, president, loss \$35,000, insurance \$8,000; H. C. Eagan, proprietor Van Nuys Cafe, loss \$13,000, insurance \$200. Loss of guests of the hotel in baggage, valuables and money (estimated), \$29,000.

GUESTS LOSE EFFECTS. Very few of the guests were able to get out any of their effects. Some of the baggage in the rooms in the front of the building was taken out after the fire had been extinguished and was found to have sustained but little damage. T. H. Benton, ex-State Auditor of Nebraska, wife and daughter, occupied rooms on the fourth floor and barely escaped with their lives, losing all their valuables, baggage and money. Their loss is estimated at \$300.

Mrs. P. Hanisch of Chicago escaped from her room on the fourth floor, but lost effects valued at \$400. Several other individuals lost heavily in amounts ranging from \$25 to \$200.

The origin of the fire has not been definitely ascertained. It was discovered by Night Clerk Harry Mertz at 6:55 o'clock. He immediately turned in an alarm and summoned the guests. The flames appeared to come from the basement or engine room of the hotel, although the hotel management claims the fire originated in the store of the California Paper Company on the ground floor of the building. The hotel employees worked valiantly in arousing the sleeping guests, who were barely awakened in time. The flames spread with great rapidity, and in thirty minutes from the time the first alarm was turned in the whole building was ablaze. All of the guests were able to escape by way of the stairways and elevators, although the halls and corridors were densely filled with smoke. Many of the guests were nearly suffocated. Two women guests fainted, but were carried out to safety.

The elevators were kept working and most of the guests from the four floors were taken out by this means. Finally the engines in the basement were shut down and the elevators stopped, the red-down and the people in the hotel making their way out by the stairways. Several attempted to re-enter the building and save their effects, but the spread of the flames was so rapid that there was no chance.

One man attempted to climb up the fireman's ladder and enter his room to save his diamond rings and money, but the police, mistaking his purpose, arrested him and took him to the station, where he finally established his identity and was released. One guest threw his trousers, containing \$300 to the street, from his room window, and found them when he got down with \$30 in them.

BURNING LIKE TINDER. Although a fire engine was on the ground four minutes after the first alarm was turned in, the building burned like tinder and there was no chance to extinguish the blaze. Three subsequent alarms and a general alarm were turned in within fifteen minutes following the first one, and practically the entire fire department

FIFTY PERSONS ARE INJURED IN A TROLLEY-CAR COLLISION

Three Crowded Vehicles Meet at a Crossing in Los Angeles.

Failure of New Brake on Grade Is Cause of Accident.

A crowded electric car, beyond control of the motorman, dashed down a steep grade in Los Angeles last night, struck a car standing on the rails and sent it crashing into another car which was crossing the street. Passengers were hurled in every direction, fully fifty receiving injuries of a serious nature. Men, women and children were taken from the demolished cars and from the streets where they had been thrown with great force, and hurried to hospitals and neighboring stores for treatment. That no one was killed seems miraculous. A defective brake caused the disaster.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—One of the worst street car accidents that has ever happened in Los Angeles, in which three cars loaded with passengers were in collision, and which resulted in the injury of fifty passengers, occurred at the corner of Second and Spring streets, one of the busiest spots in the business section of the city, shortly after 8 o'clock to-night. A West Second-street car, descending the steep hill from Second and Olive down toward Broadway and Spring streets, got beyond the control of the motorman, dashed three blocks down the steep incline at a tremendous speed and crashed into the end of another Second-street car, shoving the latter car into a Hollywood car which was at the moment crossing Second street at right angles on Spring. The Hollywood car was struck almost in the center, the side crushed in like a shell, and was turned completely over. The Second-street car that was struck by the runaway was demolished at both ends and was thrown from the tracks and turned half over. The runaway car was also badly smashed.

Hardly a passenger on the three cars escaped injury, some of them being very seriously hurt. The motorman and conductor of the runaway car and the motorman of the Hollywood car were injured. All of the injured gave city and suburban addresses and it is not thought any of them were visitors in Los Angeles.

CHILDREN ARE INJURED. Following is a partial list of the injured: Mrs. A. C. Tuttle, head cut, rendered unconscious, probably injured internally; Mrs. Anna S. Ellis, internally injured; dangerous.

Mrs. F. E. Harvey, collar bone broken, seriously injured. Dorothy Harvey, aged 9, thigh broken. Fay Harvey, aged 7, leg broken.

Marilla Graham, scalp wound and probable fracture of skull.

Elon G. Galusha, right leg broken, internally injured.

H. Crawford, back and leg injured.

Mrs. H. Layton, leg and cut by glass about arms and hands.

Miss Edith Davis, head badly cut, internally injured.

J. W. Bearre, cut by glass, finger cut off.

F. A. Ambrose, head cut, bruised.

Frank Lesauze, head cut, bruised.

M. C. Kaufman, head and hands cut.

P. Bruno, back injured.

A. Zorn, head cut.

Mrs. H. Zorn, leg and chest injured.

Mrs. L. A. Leidlace, head cut badly by glass.

Two daughters of Mrs. Leidlace, slightly injured.

Henry Laurie, face cut.

Jessie Laurie, head cut.

Hazel Shutte, head and face cut.

W. C. Thompson, face cut by flying glass.

Rev. W. H. Walker, leg injured.

Mrs. W. H. Walker, bruised and shocked.

Richard Shutte, right arm injured, cut about face.

A. S. Graham, shocked and bruised.

O. J. Graham, 5 years of age, cut and bruised.

Kitty Graham, 16 years of age, forehead cut.

Charles Meyer, cut about scalp.

Roland Thomas, head cut.

H. Anderson, slightly cut.

W. Meredith, badly injured.

J. W. Layton, motorman Hollywood car, cut by glass.

Mrs. Hazencamp, badly shaken up.

Mrs. Elder, bruised.

Mrs. Kent, bruised.

The above list was hurriedly gathered at the scene of the collision and at the Receiving Hospital, and probably contains slight inaccuracies. Besides those taken to the Receiving Hospital, many passengers who suffered minor injuries went immediately to their homes without giving their names.

BRAKE DOES NOT WORK. The motorman of the West Second-street car lost control of the heavy coach just as it rounded the corner from Olive into Second street and started down the hill. The cars on the West Second-street line use a patent electric brake different from those used on the lines running over a level roadway. This brake, it is said, failed to work and the big, heavily loaded car slid down the hill, gaining momentum every moment. It dashed across Hill street and down to Broadway at a terrific speed.

The passengers realized an accident was impending, but so quickly did the car dash down the hill and into the car standing at Second and Spring that scarcely any of them had time to leap, even if they had desired to do so. Broadway was crowded with pedestrians and vehicles, but these miraculously escaped. Passengers screamed in fright, and persons on the sidewalks shouted frantically for people to get out of the way. At Broadway and

WORK OF RESCUE.

The work of rescuing the injured began immediately after the dust lifted from the scene. Those on the Hollywood car, which was lying on its side, with one end against the curbing, were taken out with difficulty. As fast as they were removed the most seriously hurt were taken to the Receiving Hospital, while many of those suffering from slight cuts and bruises were treated at Dean's drugstore, a few feet distant from the wreck.

Many of those who were shocked and shaken from the fearful impact of the cars left for their homes without giving their names or addresses. These, together with those who gave their names and who suffered more serious injuries, will probably bring the total number of casualties to fifty. It is considered remarkable that many were not killed.

SANTA CLAUS SCARES WAIFS

Children Reared in Squalid Tenements Go Into Hysterics at Sight of Him

Special Dispatch to The Call. NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Frightened by a staff physician disguised as Santa Claus, several children in the charity ward of St. Luke's Hospital became hysterical last night and it was some time before the attendants and others could quiet them.

The children, who had lived in squalid tenements, had never before seen a Christmas tree or impersonation of St. Nicholas, and were seized with fear at what they believed to be the "bogey man." Before the celebration could proceed Santa Claus was compelled to go to each youngster's bed and remove his cotton batting whiskers in order that their fears might be allayed. When reassured and each of the little ones had received several toys, their wonder and joy knew no bounds.

When the identity and mission of Santa Claus was explained to the children, to whom poverty had hitherto denied all yuletide joys, they laughed through their tears.

GREETINGS FROM DEWEY.

Admiral Sends Message to Men of the Navy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Admiral Dewey had prepared the following Christmas message to the officers and men of the American navy throughout the world, which, it is expected, will reach practically every American warship some time on Christmas day: "My Christmas greetings to the following officers and men of the navy. Let us have neither cliques nor grudges, but all stand together for the good of the country and the service."

"GEORGE DEWEY."

This message was started on its trip around the world early this afternoon. Christmas will be celebrated by the American men-of-war in home and foreign ports with the same enthusiasm that has always characterized the day aboard ship and ashore. As many warships as can be spared from other duties have put in at home ports that officers and men may celebrate the day in the home land.

In addition to the message of Admiral Dewey, a "Merry Christmas" was flashed late to-night from every wireless station under the control of the navy from Rear Admiral Manney, chief of the Bureau of Equipment, the greeting traveling far up and down the coast and to the ships at sea.