

TONOPAH IS VISITED BY GREAT CONFLAGRATION

Irish Free State Commander-in-Chief Shot to Death

ALMOST ENTIRE LOWER PORTION OF TOWN IS DESTROYED WITH LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$200,000

PRINCIPAL PROPERTY LOSSES

Casino, where fire started, owned by Mrs. George Summerfield of Winnemucca; complete loss, \$20,000. Micky Clifford, lessee, insured for \$2000; stock loss complete.

A. J. Del Papa, building and stock of groceries, residence in rear and 100 rods of wood; loss estimated at \$20,000.

Mrs. Roletta, owner of Torino hotel; loss \$5000.

J. J. Crumley, three buildings, including Globe garage, loss \$10,000; no insurance.

Sally Ginotti, Montana, loss \$3,000; insurance \$1900.

Tonopah Bottling Works, loss estimated \$30,000; no insurance.

Duffy's second-hand store, loss to building and stock \$1500; insurance on stock \$500; building, \$1000.

Andy Roush, loss on wood and hay, \$10,000.

U. & L. and annex buildings, loss \$8000.

Del Robb, two buildings, one used as blacksmith shop, loss estimated at \$5000.

Louis King, Chinese, with his place and the cribs, loss \$4000; no insurance.

W. L. McGregor, \$8000; no insurance.

Jack Cloke, blacksmith, loss to buildings and stock, \$5000.

Sam Lee, four buildings, loss \$5000.

D. Morris, loss \$250.

Nevada Wholesale Grocery, loss to building and stock, \$20,000.

Residences and cabins, estimated at \$20,000.

Many buildings on Central street badly damaged; estimated loss in posts charred and glasses broken, \$5000.

Alex Veltch, harnessmaker, loss \$500.

National Ice company, building next to Montana, loss \$1000; insurance \$300.

The worst conflagration in the history of Tonopah, and perhaps in southern Nevada, with the possible exception of the first Goldfield fire, occurred this morning at 9:45 o'clock and before the destructive fiend was got under control damage estimated at anywhere between \$150,000 and \$200,000 resulted.

Hundreds were rendered homeless, losing all their personal belongings, and the lower end of the town from the Casino, a famous landmark, where the blaze had its origin, down to the depot, was practically wiped out and now stands as a smoldering mass of ruins.

The entire restricted district went up in smoke, rendering a hundred or more inmates and entertainers without places of abode, most of whom lost all their effects.

To add to the seriousness of the situation a stiff south wind fanned the embers, and no sooner had one section of the stricken area been placed under partial control than the wind would fan the flames in another direction and another area would succumb.

Business throughout the town came to a standstill, and men of all walks of life volunteered their services in combating the fire fiend. People in many instances stood panic-stricken, while women and children grew hysterical. Trucks, wagons and all kinds of vehicles were prosed into confusion, and household effects and trucks were loaded on immediately and taken to places which were believed safe. Wearing apparel was scattered in almost every direction, pieces of furniture and bedding were to be found in almost any locality. Pianos, slot machines, bar fixtures and other articles were scattered promiscuously about, and when a survey of the situation had been taken, long before the conflagration had been anywhere near placed under control, a desolate and foreboding situation presented itself to the observer.

The origin of the fire was under the musicians' stand in the Casino and was evidently of incendiary origin.

The fire had its origin in the Casino, and although the fire department responded quickly, the blaze had eaten its way from the rear of the building to the roof and, fanned by the wind, the entire roof was

quickly a mass of flames. Despite the fact that three streams of water were played on the building, it was quickly seen that all hope of saving the structure had vanished. The heat and flying embers spread across the street, ignited the building occupied by C. A. Dudley as a furniture store; next to the Tonopah Bottling Works, and then swept everything before it, including A. Del Papa's grocery store, the U. & L. the Torino hotel and the Globe garage. Back of the Del Papa building the fire swept east and north, destroying numerous cabins and small residences, covering almost two entire blocks.

Again the wind and the flames spread from the rear of the Casino to St. Patrick and Central streets in the direction of the MacNamara mill, and for a time it looked as though the latter structure was doomed. Among the buildings destroyed were the Bear cabaret, the Black Cat, the Merger, and the Mexican hotel. The wind switched once again and set fire to the Montana and adjoining buildings. A row of cribs and the Montana saloon were dynamited in the hope of saving other structures in the neighborhood, as well as the T & G depot and the Wittenberg warehouse, both of which escaped.

The entire restricted district was wiped out, including numerous small houses and cabins which dotted that section, and a heart-rending sight presented itself to the onlooker as many of the habitues were found wandering half dazed and in a semi-dazed condition.

From every conceivable direction from the Casino down lower Main as far as the depot, and for two blocks in either direction, there was a mass of accumulated personal belongings scattered here and there, and agony lay in the wake.

So far as known there were no serious accidents, although five men suffered bad burns, but the firemen were compelled to wear quilts that had been saturated with water, so intense was the heat and smoke that surrounded them from all sides. People who visited the extreme lower part of town found it impossible to get back up to the business section on account of the intense heat, and some found it necessary to cross over the hill by the West End scales and slowly wend their way amidst intense heat to places of safety. On the hill towards the West End mill residents were busily engaged in moving out their furniture and belongings, because of the threatening attitude that presented itself.

When the situation became serious and it was ascertained that the water supply of the Water Company of Tonopah was inadequate, Ed Kirchen, mill superintendent of the Tonopah Extension Mining company, ordered 1200 feet of hose laid and the big

'RED' LIAISONS ARE SOUGHT BY SECRET SERVICE

Federal investigators seek to connect activities of various groups of radicals.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—It is known here that federal investigators are attempting to establish a connection between the meeting at Bridgeman and meetings of the Trade Union Educational league, of which W. H. Foster, leader of the 1919 steel strike, is head, and the Workers' Party of America, scheduled to be held Aug. 27 and 28 in Chicago.

There was said to be no evidence found in Chicago that Foster attended the Bridgeman meeting.

Six additional arrests have been made by federal agents in the wake of the rail yesterday on a meeting held near Bridgeman, Mich. Fifteen men are now held in jail at St. Joseph, Mich. Federal operatives, said to be working under instructions from the bureau of investigation of the department of justice, are attempting to round up communists and other radicals who participated in what was intended to have been a secret session near Bridgeman.

Sixty or more are reported to have escaped through the woods. Boris Reinstein and Arnold Lokowsky, suspected of being supporters of the Russian soviets, if not actually representatives of the Russian communists, were said to be sought in Chicago.

PARKING IN STREET SHOULD BE STOPPED

The practice of parking automobiles in the street should be stopped immediately. It interferes with the fire truck making quick drives in case of being called out. This matter was most forcibly called to the attention of the people this morning when the driver of the truck approached in front of the McKim building and a big truck loaded with wood had been parked in the center of the street. In endeavoring to make the turn a collision would have occurred, with great damage, had not the driver swerved, but in so doing the fire truck drove against J. G. Cromley's handsome Cadillac, tearing off a fender. It is dangerous to park autos in the middle of the street, and the county commissioners should take prompt steps to enact an ordinance that will stop this practice.

position who is fully competent to cope with the situation.

The fact that so many were rendered homeless caused much anxiety throughout the town, and measures were promptly taken to give relief. Capt. E. A. Raby of the Salvation Army barracks went forth about the town and spread the tidings that he was seeking the homeless and that one in need of assistance would be given help, no matter of what nationality, creed or occupation. If there are any such people they should report at 343 Belmont avenue.

"The Tonopah & Goldfield railroad wishes to express its deep appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered by the whole citizenry of Tonopah in preserving its station facilities," said W. D. Forster, vice president, this afternoon. "We feel certain that unless we had experienced the whole-souled co-operative efforts of your good people that our depot and undoubtedly much equipment and its contents would have been destroyed. Really, words fail me to express our gratitude.

"Tonopah is to be congratulated on its excellent fire fighters, the manner in which its people, aided by volunteers, handled the vexing situation today is worthy of the highest praise.

"I cannot dismiss this important matter without expressing, from a railroad standpoint, my thanks to our valuable agent, J. E. Peck, whose watchfulness in preserving the interests of his charge resulted in protective measures of great value. He and his force hand-pinned nearly all the foreign equipment in our yard to places of safety."

OPTIMISM NOW ORDER OF DAY AT ARGENTITE

The new road that is being constructed into the Argentite district from Cave Springs by way of Fish Lake valley will be completed within a week, according to word received in Tonopah today. Much interest is now being centered on the new silver camp and those who are developing mining properties are in an optimistic frame of mind. The great drawback heretofore has been the expense of taking in supplies and water, owing to the grades that were encountered, but when the road under way has been completed it will be possible to reach the principal properties of the camp with comparative ease.

As a result of the improvements that are being made in the line of road construction, it is predicted that Argentite will have a rapid growth. Shipments of ore will probably be started from the Mohawk, Francis and human properties within a short time, and a substantial production should result before winter weather has panned upon us. Owners of property will take in the supplies to carry them through that period when the roads may be closed for heavy traffic by reason of drifting snow, and by early next spring the district should be showing unusual activity, with many mines added to the shipping list.

WAVE OF CRIME MOUNTS HIGHER IN CALIFORNIA

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Aug. 23.—Increases of over 3000 arrests for crimes in California during the past year are shown in the report of U. S. Morril, superintendent of the state bureau of identification and investigation.

The increases were largely of cases involving murder, robbery, burglary and moral offenses.

LECTURED ON POULTRY THEMES, STOLE CHICKENS

ANDERSON, Calif., Aug. 23.—While Mrs. George Barney of this place was away lecturing before a farm center meeting one night recently on the care of poultry thieves entered her farmhouse and carried away sixty of her finest pullets.

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NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Railway executives, convened here to consider proposals for settlement of the shopmen's strike, adjourned until 2:30 o'clock after two hours' discussion.

SENATOR HUSKEY IN TONOPAH ON PRIMARY QUEST

Making a complete tour of the state, H. W. Huskey, Reno attorney and former state senator from Washoe county, is in Tonopah today in the interest of his candidacy for the democratic congressional nomination to succeed Sam Arentz, now aspiring to the United States senate.

M'CUMBER OPENS SENATE BATTLE ON BONUS AGAIN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—"Enactment of soldiers' bonus legislation at this session of congress is demanded by every precept of financial justice and every principle of political honor," Chairman M'Cumber of the senate finance committee declared in opening the debate on the amended house bill, with a bank loan provision instead of original proposal for a cash bonus.

SECOND BLAZE AT 2 O'CLOCK SOON HANDLED

A second fire was discovered at 2 o'clock this afternoon in the warehouse of Andy Roush, which was filled with a large stock of hay and other goods. The blaze was discovered by W. W. Booth, editor of the Bonanza, and the alarm was promptly turned in and the blaze extinguished.

"FORGIVE THEM" COLLINS' LAST WORDS AS HE LIES DYING FROM BULLET OF AMBUSHED ASSASSIN

DUBLIN, Aug. 23.—"Forgive them." These were the last words of Michael Collins, commander-in-chief of the Free State army, as he lay dying from an assassin's bullet last night. They were addressed to Major General Dalton.

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The association occurred between Macroom and Randon, about twenty miles from Dublin. Collins was accompanied at the time by members of the Free State headquarters staff who were visiting various military positions in the south of Ireland.

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BUTLER THEATRE

—TODAY—
Thomas Jefferson in "RIP VAN WINKLE"
In book form, on the speaking stage, he has brought joy to countless thousands. On the screen it is a masterpiece; and a two-act comedy.
"LAUGHING GAS"
Tomorrow, Elaine Hammer-shorn in "UNDER OATH"
Coming, Hope Hampton in "STAR DUST"