

INQUISITIVE NATURE OF THE ACT WHEREBY THE ISLAND OF PORTO RICO IS GOVERNED FROM WASHINGTON LAID BARE.

George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, Makes a Masterly Analysis of the Republican Colonial Policy's Shortcomings.

ST. CLOUD, Oct. 20.—(Special.)—It was an enthusiastic gathering that packed the opera house this evening to hear perhaps the most important Democratic meeting of the campaign in this country.

MR. WILLIAMS' ADDRESS. He said in part: "Amid the violent protests which were made by the republican leaders in the house and senate against the tax law which was inflicted by an American congress upon the unwilling and unconsenting people of Porto Rico, it seems to me as if it has received but little consideration from the public in this country."

REMARKABLE STATEMENTS made by the president and his postmaster General concerning this measure. "I have seen the executive, the administrative and the legislative departments of Porto Rico, and I have seen the remarkable statement of the postmaster General concerning this measure."

IS A SON OF SIR EDWIN. Julian Arnold Will Be Returned to England for Trial. NEW YORK, Oct. 20.—Inspectors James Stockley and James Kyd, of Scotland Yard, London, arrived in this city today and reported to Capt. McCluskey, of the detective bureau.

JUDSON HARMON WILL VOTE FOR BRYAN. Attorney General Under Grover Cleveland Cannot Support William McKinley.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 20.—Hon. Judson Harmon, who supported Palmer and Buckner four years ago, declared himself today for Bryan. Judge Harmon was on the bench here for many years, and succeeded Olney as attorney general in the cabinet of Grover Cleveland.

FIREMEN WERE BURIED UNDER FALLING WALLS

Conflagration at Minnesota Transfer Early This Morning Brings Disaster to Fire Fighters.

Slaughtering Plant, Lime Warehouse, Ice House and McCormick Harvester Warehouse Are Totally Destroyed.

Property Loss Up to 2 a. m. Was Estimated at Between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

MISSING IN RUINS. WILLIAM H. IRVINE, Assistant Chief. LIEUT. FRANK EDDY, LOUIS WAGNER, BURT IRISH.

An alarm from the heart of the shipping district at the Minnesota transfer, at 12:15 o'clock this morning, called the St. Paul fire department to the most disastrous battle it has had to meet in several years.

A strong south wind spread the flames rapidly from the slaughter house abattoir of A. V. Hinman & Co., where the fire started, to several adjoining institutions, including the large distributing warehouse of the McCormick Harvesting Machine company, the walls of which fell shortly before 2 a. m. burying several of the firemen.

ASSISTANT CHIEF IN RUINS. Among these was Second Assistant Chief William H. Irvine who with a detachment of No. 13 company, was endeavoring to protect the warehouse, which had caught fire in the interior.

HARD TO GET AT. For nearly a month the University a new bridge has been torn up for repaving, first one side being repaired, and now the other undergoing the same process.

FIRE SPREAD RAPIDLY. But the grease soaked floors of the abattoir fed the flames to fury in the first few minutes of the fire, and the whole structure was aflame within a few minutes, lighting up the heavens with a red glare that alarmed two cities alike with the fear that the sister city was being destroyed.

BELIEVED TO BE INCENDIARY. The Hinman slaughter house, where the fire originated, was leased from D. M. Robbins & Co., whose loss is estimated at about \$25,000, believed to be covered by insurance.

WENT TO THEIR DEATH. Here it was that the firemen made the bold stand that cost some of them their lives. Hoping to save the warehouse, Engine company 13 was stationed between it and the barn where the danger seemed greatest, but meantime the flames had found their way into the interior of the harvester stock, and soon it was a roaring furnace within, as well as being menaced still from without.

INJURED. Wm. Peel, Engine Co. No. 9, suffocated, but may live. Andrew Johnson, crushed.

THE DETAILS. Fire, believed by the owner of the plant to be incendiary, broke out at 12:15 o'clock this morning in the slaughter house of Albert V. Hinman & Co., on the north-easterly side of the bridge over the Minnesota transfer tracks on University avenue, and before the fire department could reach the scene and begin effective work the fire spread to the adjoining warehouses of the Northwestern Lime company, the Merriam Park company's ice house, the barn of the McCormick Harvesting Machine company, a number of box cars that were on a side track, and finally to the main warehouse of the McCormick company.

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Several box cars on the track adjoining the lime warehouse were also burned. The Merriam Park ice company's house, as is natural at this season of the year, was not heavily stocked, but the loss will reach several thousand dollars. It is owned by Edward J. and Andrew Johnson.

COUNTY AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAD CONDITION OF CITY SCHOOL FUND IS UNMISTAKABLE

His Obstinacy in Getting the City Into the Tangle Is Not in the Least Mitigated by His Recent Ante-Election Efforts to Help Out School Ma'ams.

In spite of all the efforts that have recently been made to cover up the responsibility for County Auditor Johnson's connection with the present sad condition of the city school funds the voters should not forget, and no doubt will not forget the real facts, which, as admitted by the Republican officials and the Republican press are as follows:

The statement of President Corning, of the board of school inspectors, which appears in the Press of Oct. 11, reveals a situation discreditable in the extreme, a situation dangerous to the good name and the best interests of St. Paul. And for that situation one man alone is responsible.

The facts, as Mr. Corning states them, are these: The funds at the disposal of the board will suffice only to pay the September salaries. The appropriation made last summer does not become available until Jan. 1. There is an interval of three months, in the very heart of the school year, when there will no money to run the schools.

Now for the explanation. Last year the county auditor in Ramsey county, as also in Hennepin, was directed by law to levy a mill and a half additional for school purposes. The auditor in Minneapolis obeyed the law, the courts upheld his action, the money was collected, and Minneapolis is not now in any such shameful condition as St. Paul.

But Mr. Johnson knew more than the legislature, and more than the courts. He refused to obey the law. The supreme court ultimately upheld the validity of the law, but in the meantime the time for spreading the levy had passed.

AND SEEMS NO NEARER SETTLEMENT NOW THAN HERETOFORE. SPLIT ON POWDER QUESTION. President Mitchell Denies That There Will Be a General Strike, Saying Relations at Bituminous Mines Are Harmonious.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 20.—This close of the sixth week of the mine workers' strike in the Wyoming region finds both sides as determined as ever. The operators insist that the price of powder shall be considered in the 10 per cent advance offered by them, while the strikers say they will not go back to work until the demands of the Scranton convention are conceded, which they assert means a flat 10 per cent advance in the price of powder to be arbitrated later.

NO GENERAL STRIKE. Soft Coal Employers and Employed in Agreement. HAZLETTON, Pa., Oct. 20.—President Mitchell tonight issued a signed statement in which he condemned reports published in some newspapers, that the strikers had desecrated a cemetery in Hazletton.

SHIPBUILDERS ACTIVE. Lloyds Places United States Second in Tonnage Under Construction. LONDON, Oct. 20.—A quarterly return has been issued by Lloyds, showing that the United States at the end of the last quarter had next to Great Britain the largest tonnage in shipping under construction.

HOW ARCHBISHOP IRELAND WILL VOTE. Gives His Unequivocal Indorsement to the Republican National Ticket. NEW YORK, Oct. 20.—Archbishop Ireland today gave out the following personal statement in regard to his previous statement:

FROM THE THIRD STORY. BARTENDER FALLS 140 FEET TO THE SIDEWALK. A man named Parkquist, employed as a bartender at F. G. Sederstrom's saloon, at 23 East Seventh street, fell from a three-story window at 2 o'clock this morning and was badly injured.

HIS LIFE WORK IS DONE. CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER DIES VERY SUDDENLY. HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 20.—Charles Dudley Warner, of literary fame, one of the owners of the Hartford Courant, died suddenly this afternoon.

BRITISH AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS REACH A DEFINITE UNDERSTANDING. NO DIVISION OF TERRITORY. The Two Signatory Powers Are Not to Grab Themselves or Allow Any One Else to Do So.

STRIKE IS SIX WEEKS OLD. AGREEMENT AS TO CHINA. BRITISH AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS REACH A DEFINITE UNDERSTANDING. NO DIVISION OF TERRITORY. The Two Signatory Powers Are Not to Grab Themselves or Allow Any One Else to Do So.