

ARIZONA SENTINEL

AND YUMA WEEKLY EXAMINER

VOLUME XLIV. NUMBER 26.

YUMA, ARIZONA, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1914.

ARIZONA SENTINEL FOUNDED 1872

Three Lives Lost in a Disastrous Midnight Blaze

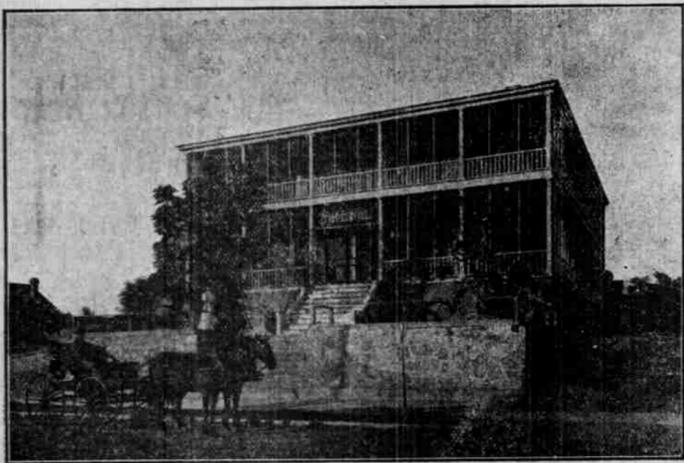
The Imperial Hotel, owned by Mrs. E. Empey of San Francisco, and which was run as an annex to the Gandolfo Hotel, caught fire at about 12:20 last night, and was completely destroyed by the flames within a half hour, three lives were snuffed out and many of the guests narrowly escaped a similar fate.

Inquiries were then made for the Browns, and for almost half an hour it was believed that they were at the Hotel Gandolfo, where the refugees had taken shelter. But, when it was discovered that they were missing, attempts to enter the building, now a mass of flames, were impossible. Water was applied vigorously, and the flames were soon under control.

most popular young ladies of her social set, as well as a most capable teacher. Her death comes as a hard and sudden blow to her many friends as well as relatives.

Interment will be made at Cherokee, Okla., which was her home, and where Hugo B. Farmer will accompany the remains this evening.

The guest list of the Imperial hotel



IMPERIAL HOTEL, WHICH WAS BURNED TO THE GROUND LAST NIGHT

with the burning of the Imperial hotel last night is only equalled in Yuma history by the mammoth E. F. Sanguinetti fire of ten years ago.

The three victims of this awful accident—Miss Naomi Strong, Miss Genevieve Brown and her mother—had rooms on the east side of the building upstairs and it is presumed that they did not hear the alarm in time to escape.

The fire was discovered at about 12:30, and had started in the back of the building, where a kitchen and a bath room had been built on, shed fashion. The alarm was quickly sounded throughout the building, but only a few seconds were then left for escape. By that time the flames had reached the front part of the house and it was necessary for the guests on the lower floor to make their way out through the screen on the south porch.

Mrs. Hess was the first to awaken on the downstairs floor, and she notified the Jacksons, next door. The alarm was then quickly spread, and it was thought that all had escaped in safety.

The fire, which started down stairs, sped quickly around the outer walls of the building, and at the time that the fire whistle was sounded the structure was completely enveloped in the flames. After the alarm had been sounded, however, Lee Falsion, who occupied an upstairs room, next to that of the Browns, was awakened by the cry of "Fire!" and rushed into the hall. There he was met by a rush of fire and smoke, and returned hastily to his room, believing himself to be the last person in the burning building, and made his way through a window which was already ablaze and rushed across the porch. With his hands he forced an opening in the screen surrounding the porch and slid down a column to earth and safety.

Marshal Henry Levy and Fire Captain S. Parks then made their way into the smouldering building and the bodies of the three women were found near the head of the stairs, in the upper hall. It was evident that they had realized that if they could make their way down the stairs safety was almost assured them, a s the fire had gained much greater headway on the upper floor.

The smoke and heat being unbearable, had overcome them. The position of the bodies when found, indicated clearly that they had been trying to shield the older woman who had fallen first. Miss Brown was found sitting on the floor, near the door, bending over her mother. Probably the most heroic event of last night's tragedy was the evident attempt of Miss Naomi Strong to fight back the fire from her companions. When found, her hands were grasping the nozzle of a hose which was kept for fire-fighting purposes, in an effort to connect it with the hydrant.

The whole tragedy shows plainly the heroism of the young ladies who could have undoubtedly made their way to safety, but who gave their lives for each other and for the older woman.

The unfortunate occurrence has cast a gloom over the whole community, and the heroic part which the victims of this horrible disaster had played, will be long remembered by Yuma's admiring citizens.

Miss Genevieve Brown was a music teacher of the Yuma Grammar school, and with her mother, she came Yuma last fall from Los Angeles, although their home is in the east. They entered into the social life of Yuma and have a large circle of acquaintances and friends.

Miss Strong was a niece of Mrs. Hugo Farmer and held the position of eighth grade teacher in the Yuma Grammar school, and was one of the

numbered over twenty, and all the survivors had very narrow escapes. Mrs. Bretz escaped at the last minute, thru a hole in the screen, which Lee Falsion heroically paused to make for her on his rapid descent from the second floor.

Mrs. Hess and daughter, Miss Luvva, who were the first aroused, escaped just as the roof fell, over their heads. Brakeman Muse, however, who was reported among the dead, was located later at the S. P. clubhouse, and had escaped without injury.

The building was a large frame structure and was erected over eight years ago. It was the property of Mrs. S. E. Empey, who now resides in San Francisco, but the Imperial was leased by the Gandolfo hotel. The building was heavily insured, but a total loss of individual property was sustained.

The first floor of the building, although it was the scene of the fire, is solid; the basement portion, used as a storage room, was untouched, except by water. The framework is still standing, although it is but a charred mass.

Marshal Henry Levy, assisted by Dick Stanton, is keeping guard over the building, and none save city officials are permitted to enter. The stairway is still safe and several portions of the building are still smoking.

Special mention must be made of the valuable services rendered by the soldier boys, in assisting the fire ladies in their excellent work.

Following is a list of the guests in the Imperial hotel at the time of the fire last night:

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Bretz, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Nutting, Lee Falsion, W. H. Minor, Dan Beissel Slater McKrone, Miss Genevieve Brown, Mrs. Brown, Miss Naomi Strong, Mrs. J. M. Hess, Miss Luvva Hess, A. L.

victory secured in Yuma county five months hence. Loyal Progressives must see to it that none but worthy men are nominated for office this fall. Therein lies victory.

The Examiner will not blindly follow any leader or set of leaders in advocating any ticket on which men known to be unfit for public confidence are placed. Clean politics only can win in Arizona this year and any party that nominates unfit men will meet with justly merited defeat.

Mrs. Hugh Jackson and daughter, Miss Helen—mother and sister of E. B. Jackson—arrived in Yuma Tuesday for a visit with their brother here. Later they will continue their journey

Anderson, E. B. Jackson and wife, J. M. Beckett, Chas. M. Muse, F. F. Proise, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Kramer, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hannah.

Arrangements for the funeral services of Miss Genevieve Brown and her mother, who perished in last night's fire, are not yet completed. Friends here are awaiting the further wishes of relatives, and it is probable that interment will not be made here.

A SOCIALIST'S IDEA OF 'KINGDOM OF HEAVEN'

Saturday evening, May 16, at Rapson Hall, by special request, Peter T. Robertson will deliver his lecture "The Kingdom of Heaven." It will pay you to hear this great lecture. It is instructive and entertaining.

Mr. Robertson says: "Socialism has no criticism to offer on the philosophy of Jesus. Indeed his moral philosophy is the only foundation on which an enduring civilization can be built. He was a laborer, a member of the carpenter's union, a great economic and religious teacher, and that he sought to establish a new social order 'The Kingdom of Heaven,' on earth is amply proven." Admission free.

J. L. TEUFERT, Press Agent.

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CHAFIN STARTS ON SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN

TUCSON, May 13—Eugene W. Chafin, Prohibition orator and candidate for the United States senate from Arizona, arrived yesterday from California, where he has been stumping the state for the drys. He left today for northern Arizona to start his campaign for the senate.

ANOTHER OSTEOPATH WILL PRACTICE HERE

Dr. Wilbur F. Kuhaley, a graduate of the state college of osteopathy, of Kirksville, Mo., will practice osteopathy at the home of his brother-in-law, Dr. Teufert, on fourth avenue until he can secure an office down town.

SHIPMENT OF CEMENT GOES BY PARCEL POST

(From Tuesday's Examiner) One of the most singular shipments in the history of the parcel post system, occurred yesterday, when over 800 pounds of cement mixture was shipped from the Yuma postoffice to Cibola, E. F. Sanguinetti being the sender. The cement was placed in 50-pound bags and the proper postage affixed.

This is somewhat unusual, but was found to be a necessity. The concrete will be sent to Glamis, and then transferred across the desert and river to the Cibola country by automobile stage.

MEXICAN PRISONERS REPORTED 'UNEASY'

GALLUP, N. M., May 13.—Details of the arrest of Mexican prisoners interred at Fort Wingate, 11 miles east of here, leading to the surrounding of the camp with nearly all the troops of the command last Saturday were received through authoritative sources at the fort. One of the soldiers on guard was shot through the arm by an unseen assailant. One of the prisoners killed another, first knocking him down, then dropping a heavy rock on his antagonist's head.

ANNUAL ALUMNI BANQUET TO BE UNIQUE AND INTERESTING

The annual banquet of the Alumni Association of the Yuma high school will take place May 20, and will be one of the most enjoyable affairs which this season's society has to offer. Merry-hearted young people, commingled with older and wiser companions, will drink heartily to the health, wealth and pursuit of happiness of the class of 1914. The affair will be very elaborate and a large number of the alumni will be present at this, the fourth annual banquet.

Guests will include faculty, school board, county school superintendent, and undoubtedly a pleasant evening will result. Invitations were sent out today by the president, Miss Nellie Littlefield, and final arrangements are now almost completed. The banquet will be given at the Dixie, and an excellent menu has been prepared. The committee appointed for the purpose of arranging the menu—Misses Georgia Greer, Lillian Wadin and Florence Spaulding assisted by Mrs. Vesta Thomas—has decided upon a bill of fare which would be a delight to the gods.

On former occasions a collation has been served, but it was decided this spring that a good old-fashioned Southern dinner would be served. The event is one which, like Christmas, comes but once a year, and ample preparations are being made by the committee in charge. The dinner will consist of some of the choicest viands which ever a kitchen offered, and a variety of toasts will be intermingled.

As the class of 1914 is the last to graduate from the prison, the first course will be a bread and water salad served in an appropriately numbered tin cup. The numbers on the cups will, of course, correspond with the numbers on the place cards.

The other courses which will follow will consist of toasts, toothpicks, etc., and will carry out, effectively, the color scheme of green and gold, which are the beautiful colors of the class of 1914. The table decorations will be an exquisite feature of the affair as well as the fact that alumni husbands are invited.

These afore-mentioned husbands are very enthusiastic in expressing their pleasure and interest in the affair and look upon it as the (meal) time of their lives.

Great care has been taken in the arrangements, and a unique arrangement of the tables will be made, if possible. Toasts will be the order of the day, each class will be toasted, also the faculty, the school board and the various class members of importance.

Among those who will attend are Nita Faulkner, Anna Mitchell, Vivian Gregory, Lucy Fain, Amy Greenear, Emzy Lynch, Joe Huss, Willie Westover, Harry Westover, Dean Haughtelin and Ralph Mitchell, of the class of 1914; Myrtle Lynch, Nellie Littlefield, Florence Spaulding, Hallie Low, Mrs. Harry Allen, Vesta Thomas, Nathan Huckaby, Allison Ketcherside and Jay Spaulding, of the class of 1910; Georgia Greer, Edith Kent, Lillian Wadin, Olive Alexander, Bernadette Shelby Marsh and Roy Hansberger, of the class of 1911; Lois York, Mrs. Ruby Livingston Adair, Mrs. Clara Ferguson Ramsey and Waldo White, of class of 1912; Miss Anna Lawler, of class of 1913; Mr. Charles Thomas, Nathan Huckaby, Wade Ramsey, Norman Adair, Harry Allen, Miss Rice, Miss Corey, Miss Boehringer, Miss Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. Van Hoose, Mr. and Mrs. George Michelsen, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cloyd, and Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Ingraham.

IT COSTS NOTHING TO JOIN THIS CLUB

The "Stay-at-Home" club does not charge any admission fee. It does not cost as much to join it as even the "tip" required by the Pullman porter on a trip to the coast, to say nothing of the railroad fare and other expenses connected with a trip away from home for the summer.

The benefits to be derived from it, and living up to its creed cannot be measured by dollars and cents. The benefits of a real home are priceless. Some of the comforts belonging to it are purchasable with money, but the value, in the highest sense, cannot be measured by the ordinary medium of exchange of commerce.

One of the worst effects of the breaking up of the home temporarily each season is on the children. It cultivates a spirit of restlessness and discontent in them that may continue with them through life. When it comes down to real enjoyment on their part there is probably nothing which they would enjoy more than to have a good old-fashioned country picnic, two or three times during the summer, where they could go and enjoy themselves to their heart's content, romping and playing or wading, swimming and splashing in some pool of water.

This would not only give them just as much pleasure but would be more healthful. Join the "Stay-at-Home" club. Keep the home running for one full season at least.

THE BRIDGE BUILDER
An old man, going a lone highway
Came at the evening, cold and gray
To a chasm, vast and deep and wide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim
The sullen stream had no fear for him
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide
"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
Why build you this bridge at evening tide?"
The builder lifted his old gray head—
"Old friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me to-day,
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been so naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim—
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"—Selected.

THE BULL MOOSE DON'T WANT ANY UNFIT MEN FOR OFFICE

The standpat Republican papers of Arizona continue to claim desertions from the Bull Moose, presumably to the Republican party, blaming unpopular members of the Progressive party with that result.

Yuma Progressives are also afflicted with members that are a dead-weight and amply sufficient to kill

anything but the healthy Progressive infant. These same members were a severe blow to the old Republican party and effected its downfall in Yuma long before the Progressive party was born.

Yuma Progressives must keep such members from gaining control in a strong united party is to result and a

RIP-RAPPING RIVER NEAR LAGUNA DAM

Pete Munson was in from Laguna dam Tuesday and reports active progress in the U.S.R.S. works there. The government is now busy "rip-rapping" the river and all have settled down to river protection work proper. A night shift was put on this week—making sixteen hours of work each day.

U. S. CONSUL IS RELEASED AT SALTILLO

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 13.—Brazilian Minister Olivera at Mexico City informed the state department that the Mexican government has ordered the immediate release of Vice Consul Stillman, a prisoner at Saltillo. Olivera added that as soon as Stillman reached Mexico City he would obtain safe conduct for him to Vera Cruz.