

ROCK ISLAND ARGUS.

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ROCK ISLAND, ILL., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1933.

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VERY LATEST DOWN TO DEATH.

Collapse of a Bridge at Louisville.

One Hundred Men Fall Into the River.

Heroic Efforts Being Made to Save the Men.

A Railroad Train Runs Into a River.

Many Lives Lost at McKeesport, Pa.

Louisville, Dec. 13.—A large span of the Jefferson and Louisville bridge, under course of construction, fell into the Ohio river this morning.

The accident has proved the most disastrous of the many which have befallen the bridge. By 11 o'clock 25 bodies were taken out, horribly mangled. The loss of life may reach 50.

The accident was due to faulty construction of the girders which gave way.

The Latest Reports are the Worst.

Louisville, Dec. 13.—At noon it is known that 125 men are killed in the bridge accident, while many are in the hospital.

Fifty men have been killed in the construction of this bridge on previous accidents.

Run Into a River.

McKeesport, Pa., Dec. 13.—A Pittsburg and Charleston passenger train jumped the track near Brownsville at the Bamford station this morning, and the engine and a part of the train ran into the Monongahela river, which parallels the track. The engine, baggage and the coach were submerged. The engineer, fireman and 19 passengers were drowned.

Wake Up Misses Her Hat.

London, O., Dec. 13.—When pretty Miss O'Connell awoke this morning she found her long golden tresses missing. She had been out all during the night by her maid. She left a note written in red ink, pinned to the bed cover, "Oh, such beautiful hair."

Caroline Calls for Some Heads.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Secretary Clegg has signed letters calling for the resignation of the following named officers: H. G. Fishbein, superintendent of the post at Philadelphia; Charles F. Kimball, inspector, Detroit; Mich. W. H. Alexander, surveyor of customs, Omaha; H. C. Hartman, surveyor of customs, Lincoln; John Amos Smith, Jr., surveyor of customs, Cincinnati; John Lucie, supervising inspector of steam vessels, Evansville, Ind.

Life Sentence for Chris Evans.

Prison, Cal., Dec. 13.—Chris Evans, the train robber and outlaw, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree and the penalty fixed at imprisonment for life.

Famous Fenian Dead.

New York, Dec. 13.—Thomas H. Haas died at his home in this city. He was one of the six famous Fenian prisoners who escaped from Fremantle, western Australia, in 1875.

Mansion Destroyed by Fire.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Dec. 13.—Colonel S. V. H. Cramer's mansion at Bayville was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

Don't Be Robbed When You Buy Climax Baking Powder.

Purest and Best at Less Than Half the Price of Other Brands.

THE PRICE OF OTHER BRANDS POUNDS 20 + HALVES 10 + QUARTERS 5 + SOLD IN CANS ONLY.

SEE HERE, DOCTOR.

Is This Some "Conservative" Conduct of Business?

A LITTLE CHICAGO FINANCIAL DEAL

Of a Sort That Has Caused a Number of "Conservative" Bankers, Etc., a Whole Lot of Trouble and May Have Had Something to Do with the Late and Present Depression in Business—Hoodwinking a Bank Examiner.

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—When Chauncey M. Depew was telling the young man who represented the London Financial Times all about the financial troubles in America, which he said to be inquiring Englishman—the young man addressed—had followed an era of conservative conduct of business that had not had its equal for conservatism—within living memory, was he thinking of such little deals as the one narrated in the following, or did he have a mighty poor opinion of the conservatism of American business, anyhow? If there were two or three elements in the force that produced the trouble, one of them certainly was the lack of confidence of the people in the country's financial institutions.

Familiar and Devious Ways.

And when such transactions as the following can take place why shouldn't they? For an illustration of the peculiar and devious ways of financiers in the case of S. A. Tolman vs. the South Side State Bank et al., which is on hearing before Master in Chancery Jeremiah Leaning, is one of absorbing interest and value. It shows how, under the laws of the state of Illinois, a bank was organized in the city of Chicago with an ostensible \$100,000 capital, but in reality without a cent; how its officers on an outside investment of \$25,000 in promissory notes acquired control of a property worth possibly \$100,000, but encumbered for \$65,000, on which they floated securities to the face value of \$1,000,000 and how the bank, after a brief existence of five months, went into a receiver's hands with nothing as an asset except the above inflated securities, which had been substituted for collateral of value.

Ferd Ward Was an Infant.

Ferdinand Ward had a great deal to learn when his career was checked. The start of the South Side State bank was May 1, 1908. The moving spirits in it were W. A. Paulson, president of the Central Trust and Savings bank of this city; August Jernberg, Edgar Adams, and W. L. Griffin. Paulson, it appears, was the owner of a bank charter issued in the early 60's to the Western Trust and Savings bank of Peoria. He agreed to turn this charter over to Jernberg and the others, have the name changed, and attend to all the preliminaries necessary to allow them to start a bank in Chicago under it. For this Paulson was to receive \$1,500. Quarters were secured for the new bank at Thirty-first and State streets.

A Little Basely Jugglery.

May 1 Paulson, Jernberg, Adams and Griffin met there with State Bank Examiner George H. Hayden, the latter gentleman's business being to examine the capital of the bank and see that it was in cash or sound securities, such as the law demands. President Paulson, of the Central Trust and Savings bank, according to his own testimony, before going to this meeting met Jernberg, Adams and Griffin at his own bank on Washington street. Paulson put a package containing \$40,000 in cash in his pocket, and the party, entering a carriage, was driven to the South Side banking house. Arriving there Paulson gave the \$40,000 in cash to Jernberg, receiving in return a package said to contain commercial paper of an equal value. Adams and Griffin had each \$30,000 in cash with them, and these sums were all lumped together and handed to the bank examiner.

HOW TO BANK ON NOTHING.

That Is If You Only Have the Requisite Moral Qualification.

It took Examiner Hayden about an hour to count the money, and then he certified that the capital was intact and the bank ready for business. Paulson in the meantime had been sitting holding the package of commercial paper given him by Jernberg. He did not want it, does not know today what it was worth, if anything; did not examine any of the paper, but had simply taken \$40,000 of a funds of the bank of which he was president, loaned it, as a part of the bargain on which he sold the charter, for his private gain, on security he did not take the trouble to scrutinize.

As soon as the bank examiner's work was done the party returned to the city. First, however, Paulson got his \$40,000 back from Jernberg and gave the latter the bundle of commercial paper. Then Adams and Griffin put their \$60,000 back in their pockets, and when they got down town returned it to various institutions from which they had temporarily borrowed it. The next day the bank opened for business with \$100,000 of paper in its vaults, but not a dollar in cash. Jernberg was the president and Griffin was the cashier.

Paulson, while using the funds of his own bank for his private gain, does not appear to have "divided" fairly, as he testifies that he "only allowed" the bank \$20 for the use of the money, which he thought pretty good interest for a couple of hours. President Jernberg's first act was to have issued to himself \$25,000 worth of stock in the South Side State bank against the paper he had put in in the place of cash. Some of this paper was good, and some of the class known as "cats and dogs."

MORE WINDY FINANCING.

Lead Worth Less Than \$100,000 Made to Hold Up a Million.

Rylander, Tyden, Friberg, Chester and

Nordgren, in the early spring of 1903, had organized a company known as the Belt City Improvement association. This association had obtained control of a tract of land in Dupage county, Ill., worth in the neighborhood of \$100,000, but encumbered with a mortgage of \$65,000. Nordgren and his associates bought the land, assuming the encumbrance, and agreed to pay \$28,000, for which they gave their promissory notes. These notes, by the way, have never been paid.

As soon as this purchase had been effected the association issued bonds to the amount of \$50,000 upon the lands and gave a trust deed to secure the bonds, thus making an aggregate encumbrance upon the lands of \$83,000. But not satisfied with this, the association then issued stock to the amount of \$750,000, which was divided among its members. Here was the creation of securities to the amount of \$1,000,000 on property that had not cost these men a dollar, and in which their interest was only \$28,000.

Then Nordgren and his associates got control of the South Side State bank. In July, when the auditor of public accounts came around to examine the bank's condition, he found among its assets three notes worth \$10,000 each, made by Tyden, Chester and Rylander. He didn't like that kind of security, and told the bank officers that it must be replaced by better. The bank officers at once said they would replace it by stock of the Belt City Improvement association, which, they told the auditor, was of great value, and the auditor consenting the transfer was made, Tyden, Chester and Rylander taking their notes out and putting in the worthless stock as security for the money obtained.

The operations of Nordgren and his associates did not stop here, however. As before said, there was about \$7,500 of good commercial paper in the bank. This was removed and Belt City stock put in its place, the stock having a commercial value of half a cent a pound. By this time the bank was pretty well gutted, although there still remained a little paper that was good, but not at once negotiable owing to the panicky times then prevailing. So on Aug. 8 the directors decided to go into liquidation, and there you are.

NORTH DAKOTA "IN A HOLE."

Her Statesmen Have Been Too Free with Appropriations.

FARGO, N. D., Dec. 13.—Some times ago Judge McConeil granted an alternative writ of mandamus directed to Arthur W. Porter, the state auditor, requiring him to show cause why he had not issued his warrants in payment of certain claims of the agricultural college. The answer of the state auditor shows that the state will have to trim its sails very carefully. There is now no money in the general fund of the state and more money has been appropriated than will be received for two years. The constitutional debt limit is also over.

There is no fund in the treasury to meet the expenses of convening the legislature to modify or repeal any of the appropriations made, and when the 1st day of July next has been reached if the debt of the state shall not have been reduced below its fixed limit of \$200,000 additional since that time, then all claims outstanding that shall have accrued under the annual appropriation laws will fall as nullities. The auditor asks the court for advice as to what he can do to uphold the credit of the state.

EARTHQUAKE RIGHT AT HOME.

Points in Illinois and Indiana Given a Decided Shake.

ALTON, Ill., Dec. 13.—A slight earthquake shock was felt here at 11:10 a. m. yesterday, followed by a much more severe shock at 12:34 p. m. Again at 1:30 p. m. a still more severe shock occurred. The disturbance was preceded and followed by a heavy rumbling that passed as a wave from the southwest to the northeast. Buildings of every description trembled violently, crockery and dishes rattled and books and loose articles were shaken from tables. The disturbance is spoken of by the oldest citizens as the most severe ever felt here.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 13.—Two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt here, one just before 12 o'clock and one just after 1 o'clock. No damage was done.

Senate and House in Brief.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The federal election law repeal bill was reported favorably to the senate and placed on the calendar. Voorhees introduced a bill which Stewart characterizes as a "sham and fraud" to coin the silver seigniorage fund, at the rate of \$2,000,000 a month, and when that is used up buy more silver sufficient to coin monthly \$2,000,000. A resolution by Peffer to rescind a recent order closing the chamber to visitors was debated and referred. Several important bills were passed. The bill providing a pension bill clause that prohibits payment of pensions to persons residing abroad was passed. An executive session was held. Adjourned to Monday.

The House Passed a Bill to Change the Money Order System, and an Order Setting Time Each Day for the Arizona and New Mexico Statehood Bills to be Discussed.

The recent statement reported that there was a deficiency in the mileage fund. An attempt to begin the consideration of the Arizona bill was defeated by the Republicans filibustering, the Democrats having no quorum, and the house adjourned.

London Standard on Hawaii.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Standard referring to the Hawaiian situation, says: "The knot of merchants, speculators and office seekers who planned and carried out the revolution in Hawaii and constituted themselves a provisional government, are, as might be expected, furious at President Cleveland for having decided that the United States must decline to accept the islands offered as a result of a nefarious intrigue by American citizens."

Choked Off a Desperado's Escape.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 13.—A special to The Post from Barboursville, Ky., says: The friends of Bob Morley, the murderer condemned to be hanged at Pineville today, concocted plans to liberate him. Officers discovered the plot and arrested one of Morley's gang here. A newly-made key was found upon him fitting the jail at Pineville, where Morley is confined.

Pittsburg Bank Closed.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 13.—K. Patrick & Co., bankers of 25 Fifth avenue, have closed their doors. The firm is one of the oldest private banking houses in the city. Their liabilities are \$500,000; assets, \$700,000.

NEARLY A MILLION.

Large Building at Buffalo Wiped Out by Fire.

KNOWN LOSSES FOOT UP \$800,000.

With a Number of Stores of Which No Account of Value Is Given—A Four-Hour Battle with the Flames and a Whole Block Imperiled—Saved by a Firewall—List of the Losses and Insurance.

BUFFALO, Dec. 13.—The Arcade block, which has stood for more than thirty years a landmark in the very heart of the city, was entirely destroyed by fire. The fire also swept away the Yerxa building, which stood on the south of the Arcade, and did its work so rapidly and completely that very little of the valuable contents of the buildings were saved. The loss is estimated at not short of \$800,000. Buffalo has not seen in many years such a furious blaze, and it is doubtful if there is here another structure that seemed so well adapted to withstand flames as the old Arcade. People had come to look upon it as thoroughly fire-proof, but nothing remains now but a smoking pile of ruins, as the big block burned like tinder, and at one time the flames threatened a large section of the business portion of the city.

Flames Soon Beyond Control.

Before the fire department had responded to the alarm it was seen that the flames had got beyond control. In the Arcade were W. S. Robinson's music, Shea's music hall and a large number of stores and offices. It extended from 200 Main street about 220 feet, running through to Washington street. It was protected on one side by the fire wall of the building occupied by J. N. Adam & Co.'s big dry goods store, and the firemen, aided by this, managed to stay the progress of the flames. Had this not been done the entire block bounded by Main, Washington, Eagle and Clinton streets would undoubtedly have been destroyed. The owners of the Arcade block were Public Works Commissioner James Mooney, of this city; James Brisbane, of New York, and the latter's mother, Mrs. George Brisbane, of Batavia, N. Y.

Losses Figure Up a Big Sum.

The Yerxa building was owned by George H. Mathews, a well known miller of this city, and was occupied by Faxon, Williams & Faxon, grocers, who came here from Boston several years ago and established the finest grocery house in Buffalo, succeeding F. N. Yerxa in that building. The Yerxa was five stories; the Arcade was a four-story brick building and was valued at \$200,000. The insurance is about \$50,000. The Yerxa building was worth \$100,000 and the insurance was about \$20,000. Faxon, Williams & Faxon's stock was valued at \$200,000 and was insured for \$80,000. Mr. Robinson's loss on the music hall is about \$100,000, Shea and Eberhardt, the owners of the music hall, suffer a loss of \$80,000; little insurance. T. C. Tanke, jeweler, loses about \$60,000 with scarcely a third insured. Otto Ehrlich lost about \$50,000, insurance \$3,000.

Other Stores Wiped Out.

On both the Main and Washington street sides of the building there was a number of stores of various kinds which were completely wiped out. In less than four hours the fire had spent its fury. Most of those who had remained in the building during the night claim to have heard the explosion by which it is supposed the fire was originated. Everything about the building was of the most inflammable nature. So far as can be learned no one was seriously injured, although many of the firemen had narrow escapes during the four hours the fire raged most fiercely. Both police and firemen who first arrived upon the scene made a run through the Arcade as far as the flames would permit them, owing to the exciting rumor that some people within were in danger of being burned to death.

VOORHEES BILL ON FINANCE.

It Proposes to Issue 24,000,000 "Dads" Dollars a Year.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—In addition to the scheme for coinage of 24,000,000 16-to-1 silver dollars a year contained in Voorhees' finance bill it provides for the retirement of paper currency of less denomination than \$10, for the retirement of all gold coins of less denomination than \$10, and for the appointment of a special commission. The bill is not received with any great degree of favor by either the silver advocates or their opponents. In regard to the inference in some quarters that the administration favored the bill Voorhees said: "My bill is not the result of consultation, and I certainly do not claim to represent the administration in introducing it. I do desire, however, to help the treasury out of its deficiency."

More Trouble for Yankees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The World's fair board of awards has struck a balance on the awards they have made, disclosing for the first time that the foreign exhibitors will secure 63 per cent. of the prizes, while the American exhibitors will receive only 37 per cent. Chairman Tschager, of the board, says this showing will put an end to the criticisms made by the foreigners, and that the Americans will now be heard from some more.

Stroube Was in Great Luck.

CHAMPELLAIN, S. D., Dec. 13.—Oliver McElroy attempted to murder Postmaster Stroube by firing five shots at him with a revolver. Stroube escaped unharmed. The attempted murder was the result of a scandal which has been brewing for some time.

The Message on Hawaii.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The president's message on the Hawaiian question will be from 2,500 to 3,000 words long. The president is himself now engaged in writing the message. It probably will not go to congress now before Monday.

Made Names by the Grip.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 13.—Caught by the grippe Captain Charles M. Swartwood, captain of the big steel steamer J. H. Wade, and one of the best known masters on the lakes, shot himself. He will probably die.

OVERCOATS!

All Kinds of Overcoats for all Sorts of People.

Our Greatest Values.

Twenty styles of overcoats, worth \$15 - - - \$ 9 93
Twenty styles of overcoats, worth \$20 - - - 14 93
Twelve styles of overcoats, worth \$12 - - - 7 50

The largest and chapest line of children's Ulsters ever placed on sale in Rock Island. Underselling everybody on everything.

Big Store. *The London* Blue Front. SAX & RICE, ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

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