

A CHICAGO FIRE KILLS 23 FIREMEN

Two Spectators Also Dead And 37 Injured.

PACKING HOUSE WALLS FELL

Low Water Pressure Prevented the Men Securing Early Control of Blaze—Loss \$750,000.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Twenty-three firemen, among whom were Fire Chief James Moran, Assistant Chief William Burroughs, Capt. Dennis Doyle and Patrick J. Collins, and two spectators, were killed, 37 firemen were injured, and a property loss of \$750,000 was the result of a fire that broke out in the packing plant of Morris & Co. at the Union Stock yards.

The fire started at 4:08 in the huge beef warehouse—known as No. 7 on the edge of the packing district. The sweep of the flames was directly towards the vast storehouse containing millions of dollars worth of finished packing house products. A general alarm was sent in by the first company arriving on the scene and this was followed at intervals of only a few minutes by successive alarms which brought 45 engines, 20 hose trucks and finally a reserve force of 200 firemen to take the place of exhausted fire fighters.

The great loss of life, while primarily due to the falling of the east wall of the Morris warehouse, is said to be due to insufficient water pressure. Firemen first on the scene say that a few well directed streams would have conquered the flames early, but the water only trickled through the hose. Coroner Hoffman has sworn in a jury to determine whether any person was to blame for the lack of proper pressure.

When Fire Chief "Big Jim" Moran arrived in his automobile, fate brought him nearest the east or Loomis street side of the burning warehouse. In a flash he had donned his rubber coat and helmet and was among the fire fighters who under Assistant Chief William Burroughs had attacked the eastern wall.

"Run your lines over those refrigerators cars," cried the chief, as he took in the situation at a glance. "We'll fight her from under the canopy."

He led the way clambering up the key ladder of one of the cars that stood on the siding and down the side loading platform protected by a heavy wooden canopy, perhaps 25 feet high. It seemed a position of comparative safety. The cars and the canopy shut out most of the stifling yellow smoke which was billowing about the warehouse. The canopy promised protection from the heat and from stray falling bricks.

Capt. Patrick J. Collins, of Engine 89; Capt. Dennis Doyle engine 39; Lieutenants Mike Fitzgerald and William Starn were on the heels of their chief. They were backed up by an assortment of firemen, and pipemen from 15, 50, 49 and 39 and truckmen from 28, all eager to follow Moran anywhere.

They tackled one of the wide doors of the warehouse with their axes and made an opening through which several streams of water were played. They went to work on another door at the middle of the warehouse.

"See how she looks up above," was Moran's last order to any one that lives.

A couple of pipemen and Lient. Joseph Mackey, chauffeur for the chief, climbed to the canopy. They saw the need of hose on the canopy roof and Mackey started back to the chief to report the fact.

Then came the roar of an explosion from somewhere inside the furnace. The east wall puffed out like a swollen cheek, tottered as if shaken by an earthquake and crumbled up like a house of cards.

Tons of red hot bricks, mighty beams and girders tumbled down on the canopy that a moment before had promised protection. The place that seemed so comparatively safe a moment before had turned into a trap of death.

In much less time than it takes to tell it the canopy above and the floor of the loading platform were temporary tomb of Moran, Burroughs, Collins, Doyle, Fitzgerald, Starn and no one yet knows just how many delisted members of the rank and file.

Fight With Monobos Tribesmen.—Manila, Dec. 23.—A United States army private has been killed and a corporal and another private severely wounded in a fierce battle, fought between a detachment of the Third United States Infantry and Monobos tribesmen in the Basilman river district, according to advices received at military headquarters here. The dead man is Private Holt. A score of natives were killed.

Chalons, France, Dec. 23.—Lieutenant Cammerman made a flight of 143 miles with Captain Huger as a passenger without making a stop, thus establishing a world's record. The flight was made to Montigny Sur Aube and return in four hours and thirty-three minutes.

MEXICAN TROOPS STARVING

GEN. NAVARRO SURROUNDED AT PEDERNALES.

Reinforcements Have Arrived at Chihuahua and Will Be Sent to His Assistance.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 23.—That Gen. Navarro, commanding the Mexican federal troops in Western Chihuahua, is entirely surrounded by insurgents near Pedernales and is starving, was the word that reached El Paso. Navarro's supplies have been cut off and his men are reported to be subsisting on horse flesh. The rebel leaders have sent word to Navarro, telling him that should they capture him, he will be immediately hanged because he shot insurgent wounded after the recent engagement at Cerro Prieto. His force is now reduced to less than 200, many of whom are wounded, and his condition is desperate.

Nineteen cars of troops have arrived in Chihuahua and will be hurried to Pedernales to relieve Navarro.

Col. A. C. Sharpe, commandant at Fort Bliss, Thomas Edwards, American consul at Juarez, and Herbert Cole, representing the United States department of Justice, held a conference here to consider means of maintaining strict neutrality along the Mexican border.

RUSH TO DEFENSE OF DR. COOK

His Fellow Passengers Nearly Fought in Their Eagerness to Defend or Condemn Him.

New York, Dec. 23.—By far the most interesting part of the arrival of Dr. Frederick A. Cook on the steamer George Washington was the attitude of the ship's passengers toward their fellow voyager and near-neighbor hero. The doctor was calm and said very little. But the passengers almost fought among themselves to make excuses or denunciations for Peary's rival. An argument which evidently had been growing on the way over, broke as the reporters came on board. And there was nothing listless about that argument, either.

The doctor's sympathizers wished it understood that he was received with no shadow of discrimination by the other passengers. His enemies wished it made clear that he had been shunned. The minute the reporters who had gone down the harbor on a revenue cutter stepped into the saloon, representatives of both sides assailed them. Persons, who in ordinary circumstances dodge publicity as they would the plague, button holed the reporters in their eagerness to present their case first.

GOVERNMENT SUES FOR GOODS

Civil Suit Against Duveen Brothers Would Confiscate the \$600,000 Stock.

New York, Dec. 22.—Papers in a civil suit instituted by the government against Duveen Brothers, dealers in antiques in Fifth avenue, were filed in the United States district court by Assistant District Attorney Wemple. The action is brought to forfeit practically the entire stock of the concern, approximating in value \$600,000, because of gross under valuations of imports which is charged by the government against Duveen Brothers.

The government also has the right to sue for the forfeiture of all goods sold by the Duveen Brothers to customers on which it can be shown there was any deflection in the payment of duty. This has not yet been done. But such a proceeding may be expected in due time.

SNOW FALLING IN THE WEST

Northern and Western Kansas, Utah and New Mexico Receive Moisture.

Topeka, Dec. 22.—Rain, sleet and snow, extending west of Wichita, Kas., and north to at least the Nebraska state line, generally broke the drought of several weeks. The temperature throughout Kansas began dropping and the moisture will be of great benefit to growing wheat.

At Smith Center, Kas., four inches of snow fell. A message from Denver says snow is falling heavily throughout Utah, Western and Central Colorado and Northern New Mexico and Arizona, with no signs of the storm ceasing. The temperature west of the Colorado-Kansas line is mild.

STRIKERS ALL TAKEN BACK

The Missouri Pacific Officials Make No Exceptions Among Former Employees at Sedalia.

Sedalia, Mo., Dec. 24.—All former machinists, boiler makers, blacksmiths and pipemen on the Missouri Pacific and the Iron Mountain railway who struck some months ago, will be re-employed without prejudice to personality, according to a statement made here by a St. Louis official of the company.

A. L. Pringle, business agent of the Sedalia machinists, and other union leaders who took an active part in managing the strike will go back to work. It had been said that these men would never be employed by the railroad again.

FALLING WALLS BURY 44 FIREMEN

Accident Occured At Factory Fire in Philadelphia.

FOUR DEAD BODIES REMOVED

While Ladders Were Covered With Men Walls Gave Way Carrying Them into Mass of Blazing Ruins.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—With a crash that could be heard for squares, three walls of a burning leather factory at Numbers 1114, 1116 and 1118 Bodine street crumpled up like a house of cards and buried 44 firemen beneath the blazing ruins.

Four dead bodies have been taken from beneath the debris, 22 injured firemen have been rescued and it was estimated that 18 more were still under the mass of brick and mortar. Three of those still in the ruins have been located and the rescuers were able to talk to them, although they could not reach them. These three were underneath the ruins at the Third street end of the factory, which extended straight through from Bodine street where the fire was out and their only danger was from suffocation or death from their injuries.

The remainder of the missing men under the ruins at the Bodine street side and where the fire was still blazing fiercely, adding this horror to the danger that threatened the imprisoned men.

The north wall of the building, the only one that did not go down in the crash, was standing but swaying dangerously over the heads of the rescuers, who were working frantically to release their comrades before it should fall.

When the firemen arrived in response to the first alarm the fire had gained considerable headway. Ladders were run up alongside the Bodine street wall, the big tower ladder was thrown into position and streams of water were thrown into the interior of the building. Another squad gained an entrance at the Third street end. Upon the roof of the building Chief Baxter and several assistants took their stand and from here Baxter directed operations.

And then, without warning, the crash came. The Bodine street wall collapsed first. It swayed for a second and then toppled over, hurling into the very center of the ruins a flying cloud of bricks, burning timbers and shrieking men. With the wall came the ladders.

The tower truck was crushed and its ladders bent over. Every man who was on the ladders was thrown to the ground. Most of them went into the building to be buried under the weight of bricks that followed them. Some of them, more fortunate than their brothers, slipped from their perches and dropped into the street, to be knocked over by the scattering portions of the wall that fell outward.

The men at the Third street end of the building stood aghast at the horror of what they had seen, and then came a second roaring sound. Shaken to its foundations by the first crash the south wall collapsed and piled on top of the men who were already underneath the jumbled mass of what had been the Bodine street wall, pulling with it the Third street wall.

At a late hour the rescuers were still at work trying to remove the enormous heap of debris under which the firemen lay buried.

WANTS TO DEBATE BALLINGER

Hitchcock of Nebraska Asks That Report of Committee Be Taken Up in January.

Washington, Dec. 22.—A resolution calling for a rule to bring the Ballinger-Pinchot committee's reports before the house of representatives for a debate in January was offered in the house by Representative Hitchcock of Nebraska. It provides that all reports shall be placed before the house the last Tuesday in January for debate and action in accordance with the recommendations they contain. The resolution was referred to the rules committee.

On Christmas Day, 104 Years Old.—Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 22.—Mrs. Esther Deas of Montgomery will celebrate her 104th birthday anniversary Christmas Day. She was born in North Carolina on Big Coldwater Creek, December 25, 1816, and has been a resident of Montgomery for forty-five years. She has a daughter 55-years old.

They Will Make Arkansas Laws.—Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 22.—According to a bill tabulated by Secretary of State Ludwig, there will be 37 farmers in the next Arkansas house of representatives, 24 lawyers, 2 doctors, 3 merchants, 5 newspaper men and 1 drugless healer.

To Offer It to Schurz.—Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 22.—Upon the return of Benjamin F. Schurz, member of St. Louis from New York, the appointment as supreme judge to succeed the late Judge Gavon D. Burgess will be considered here, according to authoritative information here.

LORIMER REPORT TO SENATE

COMMITTEE DECLARES HIM ENTITLED TO SEAT.

Men Who Confessed to Having Received Bribes Are Not to Be Believed.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, presented to the senate the report of the investigation of charges of bribery made in connection with the election of William Lorimer as senator from Illinois. The conclusion reached by the committee was as follows: "That in their opinion the title of Mr. Lorimer to a seat in the senate has not been shown to be invalid by the use or employment of corrupt methods or practices.

Charges that four members of the Illinois legislature were bribed and that three other members paid bribes are not ignored by the committee. The report declares that those who confessed to receiving bribes should not be believed and that the votes of those who were charged with paying bribes should be counted.

In relation to the charges that there was a corruption fund used in the Illinois legislature and that it was disbursed by Robert E. Wilson, the report says there is no evidence that it was used for the benefit of Mr. Lorimer. The committee suggests that any investigation of the use of such a fund should be made by authorities of the state of Illinois.

The report as presented was not signed by members of the committee, although it did not appear that there was any minority. On the floor of the senate, however, Mr. Beveridge made the statement that he had not been able to concur with or dissent from the findings because of the voluminous character of the testimony. He said he would digest the proceedings of the investigation committee in the holidays. He asked that a specific time be named for acting on the report, but objection was made by Senator Gallinger on the ground that the matter was privileged and could be called from the table at any time by any senator.

THE FUNERAL OF JUDGE BURGESS

The Missouri Chief Justice Laid to Rest at Linneus—Many State Officers Attend.

Linneus, Mo., Dec. 22.—The burial services for Judge Gavon D. Burgess have been held. The honorary pallbearers were Judge James B. Gantt, Judges Henry Lamm, Judge John Kenziah, Judge Leroy B. Vaillant, Judge A. M. Woodson and Judge Waller B. Graves. The active pallbearers were T. D. Allen, clerk of the supreme court; J. H. Finks, marshal of the supreme court; Perry S. Rader, reporter for the supreme court; H. L. Creel, C. A. Stratton and James J. O'Connor. Other state officers attending were Judge W. M. Williams, John P. Gordon, state auditor; Cornelius Roach, secretary of state; Howard A. Gass, superintendent of schools; Charles Revelle, assistant attorney general, and J. M. Dawson, assistant attorney general. Brief addresses at the grave were made by Judge John P. Butler and Judge James B. Gantt.

INDICTMENT FOR NORMAN PLASS

Former President of Washburn College Held for Using Mails to Defraud.

Boston, Dec. 22.—The Rev. Norman K. Plass, ex-president of Washburn college of Topeka and formerly president of the Redeemable Investment company, Charles H. Brooks, manager, and John F. Trapaden, an agent, have been indicted by the federal grand jury for using the mails in a scheme to defraud. Plass and Brooks were arrested after the company was raided by the federal authorities. Trapaden was taken into custody.

Blaine, Kas., Elevator Burns

Blaine, Kas., Dec. 22.—As William Shea of the Shea Bros. Grain Company started a gasoline engine in their elevator the gasoline tank overflowed and caught fire. In thirty minutes after the blaze was first noticed the elevator of 15,000 bushels capacity was in ruins.

A Woman Slayer Acquitted.

Omaha, Dec. 22.—Mrs. Bertha Mott was acquitted by a jury of the charge of murder in killing Otis Hedy, a neighbor, last August. She alleges that Hedy entered her kitchen and insulted her, whereupon she secured a revolver and shot him. He died two days later.

Many Injured on Chicago Elevated.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—A dozen persons were injured, one perhaps fatally, in a collision between the Manhattan Flyer on the Pennsylvania railroad and a switch engine on the elevated structure in the city limits.

Talked Reciprocity to Canadians.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—Governor-elect Dix of New York, in addressing the board of trade here, urged reciprocity and closer relations of all kinds between Canada and the United States.

Strikes Niels in Canada.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 22.—Many street cars have been damaged in all parts of the city by striking steel car men on their apogee.

PLANNING RULES FOR CANAL ZONE

President Taft Will Urge Action At This Session.

SETTLE QUESTION OF TOLLS

It is Considered Especially Necessary to Guard Against Railroad Control of Steamship Companies.

Washington, Dec. 23.—President Taft has decided on a determined effort to secure from congress before its final adjournment the legislation necessary to meet the conditions that will arise upon the completion of the Panama canal. To this end Senator Flint chairman of the senate committee on interoceanic canals has been called into conference and during the holidays a comprehensive plan will be arranged that later will be put into the form of a bill and pressed to passage.

In addition to the matter of fortifying the canal, it is desired to arrange in advance the question of tolls for the canal, the plan of government of the canal zone and to forestall corporation efforts which may negative the commercial benefits which it is hoped to secure from the opening of the great waterway.

With regard to the latter Senator Flint has already introduced a bill making it unlawful for any railroad or other common carrier subject to the interstate commerce law to own or control or have any interest whatever in any steamship line passing through the canal. This is in accord with a suggestion in the president's annual message and it is intended to prevent the railroads from securing a monopoly of the carrying trade through the canal that would enable them to maintain rates at a high level satisfactory to the transcontinental railroads.

Past experience has proved that by an absorption of the control of the coastwise steamers plying between Atlantic and Pacific ports and the isthmus the railroads have been able to prevent shippers from enjoying the economy of transportation that was afforded by the Panama canal railroad.

A stiff fight is expected from the railroad to any measure looking to a cheapening of transportation rates when the canal is finally opened and opposition to this particular bill of Senator Flint is already being organized.

COST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

A Department Statistician Has Figured Out a Total of About \$90,000,000 This Year.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Victor H. Olmstead, chief of the agricultural department bureau of statistics figured out that Christmas this year will cost the American people about \$90,000,000 in cash, and perhaps \$5,000,000 in debts. Prof. Olmstead's opinion is not more than half of the people will make presents this year that cost actual money. Of the remaining 45,000,000 a few will not give presents because they do not believe in the custom. More will not give because of their religious belief. Still more will not make presents because they live in out of the way places remote from stores. A vast number will not give because they have barely enough to clothe and feed themselves and their families.

Then there are other Christmas celebrants, farmers for the most part, who will send a fat turkey, duck or some farm animal to relatives. Of those who will actually buy presents several million are children whose expenditures will range from ten cents to \$1. A few of these children, a very few, belong to very rich families and will spend many times \$1. The estimated average Christmas expenditure of the children is 50 cents.

The greatest number of Christmas givers are clerks, young men whose salaries run from \$75 to \$150 a month. They spend according to their salaries and their mental state. Mr. Olmstead estimates that the clerks with semi-society bent will spend on an average about \$5 for gifts. The home loving clerks will average about \$1.

Altogether it is estimated that about 45,000,000 persons have already bought or will buy presents and that their gifts will average a little less than \$2 a person.

Battle Ships to Visit Germany.

Berlin, Dec. 22.—A dispatch from Kiel says that the American battle ship fleet will visit Kiel January 19, following a call at Wilhelmshaven. The report has caused a stir here as the original itinerary of the vessels did not include stops at German ports. The American embassy here is without information concerning the Kiel dispatch.

Hyde Hearing Set Back.

Jefferson City, Dec. 22.—The H. Clark Hyde murder case, from Kansas City, which is docketed for hearing in the supreme court on January 5, will be reset for hearing after January 20. Attorneys have filed with the supreme court a stipulation for resetting the case.

O. L. Moore H. L. Humphrey

MOORE & HUMPHREY, Attorneys at Law

Examination of Abstracts, Land Titles and Decedents and Distributions a Specialty.

Practice in all courts—State and Federal.

N. S. WOOLVERTON AUCTIONEER

Farm Sales a Specialty, satisfaction guaranteed. Best of references given. All Brown phone No. 112, or address Abilene, Kansas. Ang. W. Date book can be seen at Shockey & Landes Abilene.

In New Location

I have moved my jewelry store to Second street in the room east of the Abilene National Bank. I want all my old friends to come and see what a fine place I have. New customers will be made welcome. I have a good selection of diamonds, watches, silverware and all kinds of jewelry. Watch repairing a specialty.

W. L. COOLEY

Second street, east of Abilene National Bank.

TUFTS & GISH

Funeral Directors

Lady Assistant
J. A. TUFTS, Licensed Embalmer,
No. 251.

Charges most reasonable.
Prompt and courteous treatment.

Uphaw Block, Abilene.

W. H. EICHOLTZ CO.

UNDERTAKERS

The Same Careful attention that has been given to the Eicholtz business for the past thirty-nine years.

H. K. EICHOLTZ, H. H. EICHOLTZ.

Licensed Embalmers

Abilene - Kansas

That ONE Reliable Healing Salve

BALMOLINE

For Cuts, Burns, Bruises, Swellings, Pains, Itches, and all other skin troubles. It is the only salve that is guaranteed to give relief at once. It is the only salve that is made of pure, natural ingredients. It is the only salve that is recommended by the highest authorities. It is the only salve that is sold in every part of the world.

CATARRH

ELYS CREAM BALM FOR COLIC, HEADACHE, CATARRH, MAY-FEVER, TRADE MARK, ELY-BROS., NEW YORK

ELYS CREAM BALM
Sure to Give Satisfaction.
GIVES RELIEF AT ONCE.

It soothes, soothes, heals and protects the inflamed, swollen tissue resulting from Catarrh and drives away a Cold in the Head quickly. Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell. See to see. Contains no dangerous drugs. Applied into the nostrils and absorbed into the system, it cures Catarrh of the eye, nose, throat, and lungs. It is the only relief for all these troubles. It is the only relief for all these troubles.