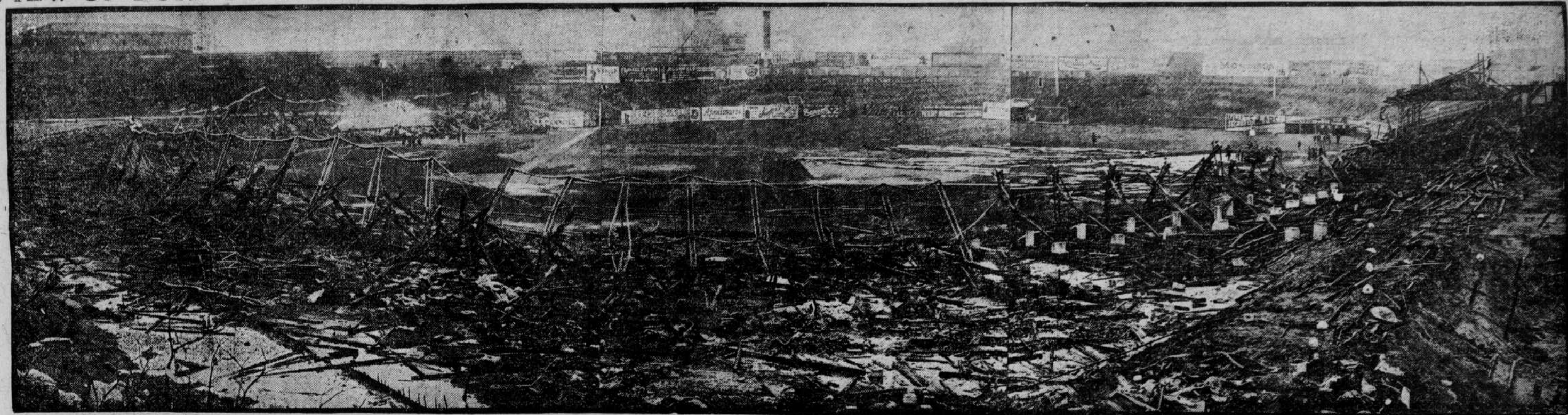


VIEW OF BURNED GRAND STANDS AT POLO GROUNDS. HOME OF NEW YORK NATIONAL LEAGUE TEAM



—Photo by Evening Star Photographer.

\$250,000 BLAZE AT BALL PARK

Grand Stands of New York Nationals Fire-Swept.

INTERBOROUGH CAR SHOPS ALSO BURN

Game With Philadelphia, Scheduled for Today, Called Off by Secretary Gray.

NEW YORK, April 14.—The damage to the Polo Grounds in my opinion will easily amount to \$250,000, said John J. McGraw, manager of the New York Giants, early this morning, while he was looking over the scene of the fire that destroyed the grand stand at the home of New York National League Club on the eve of the third baseball game of the season.

Starting a half hour after midnight this morning, the flames within fifteen minutes were greedily devouring the big grand stand and hope of saving it was given up. Only the work of the firemen in separating into two parts the vast oval of seats by means of water curtains, one on the north and one on the south, saved the club-house of the Giants on Eighth avenue and the bleachers at the easterly end of the grounds.

Car Shops Also Burn.

The fire, after eating its way from the south end of the grand stand to the north end, set fire to the repair shops on the elevated terminus of the Interborough Railway Company, which abuts against the fence surrounding the grand stand. Although employees of the railway company who were in the repair shop when the fire gained headway, fought the blaze with apparatus stored in their rooms, seven trailer cars valued at \$5,000 each were destroyed, as well as four electric motors stored in the repair shops, valued at \$25,000.

Shortly after 2 o'clock this morning all that remained of the grand stand was a mass of twisted girders and a heap of smoldering embers. The firemen played the lines of hose upon the smoking ruins until daylight.

Fire Discovered Yesterday.

Catcher Hartley, of the Giants, yesterday afternoon discovered fire underneath the grand stand near where this morning's fire started.

Manager McGraw said this morning that the fire was brought to his attention and that he and a number of his team chopped away a portion of the grand stand and threw water on the blaze. He thought it probable that the fire which destroyed the grand stand had its origin in sparks left from yesterday's blaze.

Three firemen playing hose on the north side of the grand stand stood on a platform, which collapsed under them. They were thrown into a mass of smoldering embers. They and three other firemen, who pulled them out of danger, were painfully burned about the face and body.

Secretary W. M. Gray, of the New York National League club, announced shortly before 9 o'clock this morning that it had been decided to call today's game off.

"There will be no baseball game at the Polo Grounds today," said Secretary Gray. "No definite plans have yet been made for the future. When we get together later in the day something will be decided upon, and then a statement will be made."

Low water pressure, due to repair work in progress on the water mains, enabled the fire to do more damage than would ordinarily have been possible. A new water tank standing to the north of the grounds and constructed for just such an emergency would have been ready for service to-morrow.

The destruction of the stands and

(Continued on Second Page.)

TORNADO BLOWS CADET, MISSOURI TOWN, FROM MAP

Frightful Wind Wrought Also Death and Destruction in St. Louis.

DE SOTO, Mo., April 14.—Cadet, a town of 500 population, twelve miles south of here, is today virtually no longer in existence, the tornado yesterday having swept it away. Only ten houses in the southeastern part were left standing. Great damage was done in the north part of town. The path of the tornado through Cadet was three-quarters of a mile wide.

ST. LOUIS, April 14.—The most destructive storm here since the great cyclone of May 31, 1896, struck St. Louis at 4:50 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Three persons were instantly killed by the storm and probably \$1,500,000 worth of property was destroyed.

Part of Elevator Hurled Into River.

Eight of the upper stories of the Burlington railroad elevator, in North St. Louis, were blown into the Mississippi river and 1,000,000 bushels of grain stored therein is lost. The elevator loss is reported to be \$700,000. The wind and hail at the American League baseball park created terror among the spectators, telegraphers, scribes and players. The reporters and operators escaped serious injury from huge hailstones by lying face downward in the grandstand, while the wind blew the big steel flagpole down on the bleachers, partly wrecking the stands.

Oklahoma and Kansas were also visited by the storm, seventy-one persons in all being known to have perished.

RESIGNS POST AS AMBASSADOR TO GERMAN CAPITAL

David J. Hill Quits Post at Berlin After Serving Over Three Years.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—David J. Hill, of Rochester, N. Y., ambassador of the United States to Germany, has resigned his post. The resignation has been accepted by President Taft.

Neither in Mr. Hill's letter of resignation nor in the President's letter of acceptance is any reason given for the ambassador's action. The President thanks Mr. Hill for his services at Berlin and says that he is glad to know that he will remain there until July 1, when the resignation goes into effect.

The retiring ambassador has been connected with the State department for more than twelve years, entering the service as assistant secretary of state October 25, 1898. He was appointed minister to Switzerland in 1903 and two years later transferred to the Netherlands. Since April 2, 1908, he has been ambassador to Germany.

While Ambassador Hill's resignation was a great surprise to official Washington and to the diplomatic corps here, it was argued today that the fact that he is to remain at his post until July 1 indicates that there was nothing urgent in the ambassador's action. The belief is general that Ambassador Hill's retirement is in accord with the custom of past administrations to appoint new ambassadors to all of the important posts.

Changes have been made heretofore by President Taft at all such places except Great Britain and Germany. In the case of Great Britain President Taft offered the mission to Dr. C. W. Eliot, of Harvard University, who declined.

BILL IN HOUSE TO REPEAL FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—A bill was introduced in the House today by Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, providing for the repeal of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution.

Princeton Triangle Club tickets on sale at Newark Theatre.—Adv.

(Continued on Second Page.)

SENATE PASSES WILSON-RECORD-GERAN MEASURE

Amended Election Bill Goes Back to House for Concurrence.

FINAL ACTION EXPECTED EARLY IN THE WEEK

Much Talk Over the Vicious Amendment Which Destroys Ballot Secrecy.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

TRENTON, April 14.—The Wilson-Record-Geran bill, to revolutionize the electoral system of New Jersey, passed the Senate last night.

It was patched by the upper House to such an extent that when it gets back to the House for concurrence on Monday there may be another howl. Upwards of 200 changes from the original bill have been made.

The printed copies of the committee substitute were received late in the afternoon and rather unexpectedly Senator Bradley, chairman of the election committee, moved for its final passage under suspension of the rules. There was a short debate on the measure and it passed, all present voting for it. The absentees were Senators Hand, Johnson and Nichols.

Ballot Secrecy Destroyed.

The most important change in the bill and one of its worst features is that which permits the illiterate voter to be assisted in the preparation of his ballot by two election officers, a system that has worked with so much evil in Pennsylvania politics, as pointed out in the Evening STAR yesterday.

Here is the section as it now stands:

"§3. At any primary or general election any person who declares under oath and establishes to the satisfaction of a majority of all the members of the board of registry and election that he is unable to read the English language, or that by reason of blindness or other physical disability he is unable to mark his ballot without assistance, may have the assistance of one or more members of such board, to be assigned by the board, in preparing his ballot. Such member or members of such board shall retire with such voter to the booth and assist him in the preparation of his ballot and folding the same. The clerk of the board of registry and election shall make a memorandum on the poll book of every instance when an oath was administered to a voter as herein provided, stating briefly what facts were sworn to and the name of the member or members of the board who aided such voter. All members of the board of registry and election shall have the right to witness the preparation of the ballot of any such voter, but no other person shall be allowed to assist such voter in marking his ballot or to witness the marking of the same. No member of such board shall reveal the name of any person for whom such voter has voted, or anything that took place while such voter was being assisted."

Frequent comment is made here today to the effect that it seemed a pity that senatorial inexperience could not devise a better plan than the vicious one borrowed from Pennsylvania. Mayhap the next most important change was the provision providing for the appointment, instead of the election, of the chairman of the county committees.

Clerical Errors Corrected.

Bradley said that the bill, after it had been for weeks in the House, came to the Senate full of inaccuracies. Since the Senate committee had received the bill it had worked industriously to correct the clerical errors, and the Camden senator then explained the amendments that had been made.

Leavitt maintained that he thought it was inadvisable to hasten the bill at the present rate. He knew that the bill was wanted, and greatly wanted, by the incumbent of the executive chamber, but he still thought that,

(Continued on Second Page.)

SUPPORTS DR. INGLIS' POSITION

Dr. Chapman Says Election of Rev. Dawson Is "Irregular."

HOPES THAT SYNOD WILL CLEAR MATTER

Wants Famous English Clergyman to Retain His Pulpit in This City.

DR. CHAPMAN'S STATEMENT ON PASTOR'S APPOINTMENT.

Statement by Dr. W. Y. Chapman, of the Roseville Presbyterian Church:

"I was chairman of the committee which reported favorably the appointment of Dr. William J. Dawson to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church. I admit that his appointment as 'stated supply' pastor for a year was not in accordance with the technicality of the presbytery law and that his pastorate will constitute an irregularity. I believe that the case will be referred to the synod and that the action of the presbytery will be referred back for final adjudication."

Statement by Raymond Pearce, lay member of the presbytery:

"I think Dr. Inglis is perfectly right in questioning the legality of Dr. Dawson's election to the Presbyterian Church pastorate. It is out of all law. If I had been present I would have voted against the confirmation, and I know that an appeal will be made to the synod when it meets next fall."

With the Rev. Dr. W. Y. Chapman's admission today that the appointment of Dr. William J. Dawson to the "stated supply" pastorate of the Old First Presbyterian Church is "irregular," the controversy between the orthodox and the more liberal members of the various churches of the Newark Presbytery is reopened.

Yesterday, in an exclusive interview with the Evening STAR, Dr. Robert Scott Inglis declared the selection of the Congregationalist preacher to the First Presbyterian Church, in spite of the admitted illegality of his election. All admit, however, that he should not be ousted before October, when the synod meets.

There isn't a question that the First Presbyterian Church wanted Dr. Dawson, and there is no question that it was on that account that he was chosen, but up to date Dr. Dawson has refused to exchange his ministry in the Congregational Church. He has not become a Presbyterian. For the first time in the history of the Newark Presbytery a minister has been chosen to a permanent pulpit in that faith without renouncing his former creed. Dr. Dawson shows no intention of becoming a Presbyterian yet.

That is why the more orthodox members of the church are declaring that his appointment, if allowed to go its course, will make an entering wedge so that the foremost Presbytery in

(Continued on Second Page.)

NEW CHARTER TO BE PRESENTED TO SENATE MONDAY

Revision Committee Decides Against Referendum and Recall Provisions.

TIE VOTE DEFEATS IMPORTANT FEATURES

City Counsel Nugent, Who Drafted Charter, Advises Against Undue Haste.

The initiative, referendum and recall will not be included in the charter bill when it is sent to the Legislature next Monday. After a long discussion on the subject at the meeting of the charter revision commission last night the motion to include the "I. R. R." in the bill was defeated by a tie vote. The strong plea made by Judge Martin in behalf of the three measures were of no avail. Supporting the judge were Commissioners Fiedler and Bacheller, but Commissioners Hardin, Ryan and Corish opposed the measure. Senator Harry V. Osborne will be asked to introduce the bill.

Several minor suggestions were adopted by the commissioners last night, the suggestions having been made at the two public hearings Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. No new thoughts on the subject were advanced last night, but today the STAR offers several changes for consideration. The STAR's views will be found in another part of the paper.

Public Shows Little Interest.

No pronounced public interest was displayed at the two public hearings. Criticism was evenly divided and no general defect in the proposed charter was dealt with. The absence of serious criticism is proof that the work of the commissioners was well done, and the STAR takes this opportunity of commending the work of the commissioners.

Because the commissioners do not hold that their work is perfect, and because they have from the beginning invited suggestions from the public the STAR has decided to suggest several changes.

Another meeting will be held next Tuesday night in the City Hall. James M. Reilly, of the Board of Trade, appeared before the commission last night and invited the members to meet with the board at a special session. Instead the commissioners extended an invitation to the board after comments had been made on the fact that with the exception of Curtis R. Burnett, president of the trade body, no other members attended the public hearings.

Judge Martin made a motion to include the initiative, referendum and recall measures preparatory to combining the supplement with the bill. The motion after the tie vote was cast was declared lost by Chairman Hardin. The chairman explained his stand and said that in voting on the motion he did so as he would on election day.

Mr. Hardin thought the features embodied in the supplement would not work well in a city the size of Newark. He said that in a smaller community the measures may be advisable. The recall especially, he declared, would work an injustice to any official that may be perfectly honest, but opposed to the views of a number of people.

Fought for Referendum.

Judge Martin emphatically declared that although he respected the views of the chairman he saw no reason why the people should be deprived of a vote on the subject just because the chairman was opposed to it.

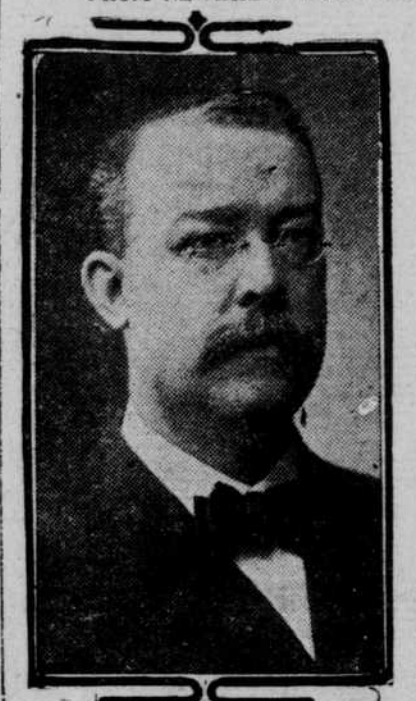
Mr. Fiedler agreed with the judge and said that the new charter took the veto power from the Mayor and provided none for the people.

"I think," he said, "that the people should have the right to exercise these measures under a commission that has been given such vast powers." The question of introducing the charter this year was then taken up and decided

(Continued on Third Page.)

Princeton Triangle Club tickets on sale at Newark Theatre.—Adv.

GEORGE FORMAN, FORMER CITY AUDITOR, WHO DISAPPEARED FROM NEWARK A YEAR AGO.



DEN. THOMPSON, WHO MADE "OLD HOMESTEAD," DIES

One of Best Known Actors of Country Passes Away in New Hampshire.

WEST SWANZEY, N. H., April 14.—One of the oldest and best-known actors in America, Denman Thompson, the man who made "The Old Homestead" famous, died at his country estate in West Swanzeay early today. Mr. Thompson had been ill of heart trouble and uraemia since last month.

Henry Denman Thompson was born in a log cabin in the hamlet of Beechwood, three miles from Girard, Pa., on October 15, 1833. Two years previous his father, Captain Rufus Thompson, had left West Swanzeay, which in later years this boy of the wilderness was to make a household word as the setting for the "Old Homestead."

At 14, Denman returned to West Swanzeay, and for three years worked with his father as a carpenter. When 17 he set out for Boston in search of employment, and soon after joined Tyson's circus as a property boy and actor. The following winter he made his first stage appearance as a "supper" under Charlotte Cushman, who was playing in "Lady Macbeth" at the Howard Athenaeum. Two years later, in Lowell, he had his first speaking part, and following this he went about the country playing Irish and negro sketches.

While traveling Thompson was taken ill with rheumatism and as he lay in bed in Pittsburg he thought out the sketch called "Joshua Whitcomb," which later developed into the "Old Homestead."

"Old Homestead" Played in 1886. At the Boston Theatre in 1886 "The Old Homestead" was first produced, and it had a continual run since that time. Until a few years ago Mr. Thompson traveled constantly with the company. During the winter of 1910 he created a short sketch modeled from a portion of the original "Joshua Whitcomb," which he played in vaudeville for two months.

This year the old fascination of the footlights returned and early in the season he started out with his "Old Homestead" Company, playing in New York, Philadelphia and Washington and planning to close the season with the company in Boston, but failing health forced him to abandon the idea.

Assisted U. S. Treasurer.

GEORGE S. TERRY IS DEAD.

AIKEN, S. C., April 14.—George S. Terry, assistant United States Treasurer at New York, died at York Cottage here this morning. He had been suffering for a week from an attack of diabetes. A son was the only member of his family who was present at the death.

The body will be sent at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon to New York.

Littles and Roses for Easter at Phillips Bros., 938 Broad St. and 491 Orange St. Phone connection.—Adv.

FORMAN MYSTERY UNSOLVED

Year Has Passed Since City Auditor's Disappearance.

WORLD'S SEARCH HAS PROVEN FRUITLESS

New System Installed Since Official Left His Affairs in Chaotic Condition.

Rivalling the mystery that surrounds the disappearance of Dorothy Arnold is that connected with the flight of former Auditor George Forman, the first anniversary of whose departure from Newark will be recorded on the police books Sunday. A year has elapsed since Forman left the city, and although the police in all parts of the country have been searching for him, armed with warrants for his arrest on charges of embezzlement, he has so successfully covered up his tracks as to escape detection.

The disappearance of this man, his embezzlement of thousands of dollars from friends that trusted him and the leaving of his family in an almost destitute condition, is a chapter in criminal history that is not often paralleled. His accounts in the City Hall, gone over by experts who made their report ten days ago, showed no sign of defalcation, but he nevertheless committed grand larceny to the amount of nearly \$20,000.

George Forman had been well known in Newark and held in the highest esteem by his fellow citizens, therefore, when on April 20 of last year, after a four days' absence from the City Hall, two letters were found in his desk which proved positively that he did not intend to return, the entire community was shocked. The news of his embezzlement did not come to light until a few days later.

Letters Found in Desk.

The letters in his desk were found by Andrew K. Brady, the chief of the office, and, strangely enough, referred to him. One was to the Common Council appointing Mr. Brady auditor until such time as an auditor should be chosen. The other was to Mayor Haussling and said that Brady was the best man in the world to choose for his successor. Both letters were dated April 16—the last time Forman was seen by any member of his office staff.

The sixteenth of April last year was on a Saturday. About noon the auditor left the office without giving anyone an inkling that he would never return. When he did not report for duty Monday and Tuesday Mr. Brady thought that his chief was ill. He called up the house on Wednesday and was told that Forman was not at home. He called up other places where the auditor was likely to have been without locating him. Then the alarm was given. The desk was opened and the letters found.

A week after his disappearance warrants for his arrest, on charges of embezzlement, were issued by Judge Hahn. He took with him the following sums: From David M. Wickham, \$12,500, which had been entrusted in his care; he had \$1,000 in cash from Mrs. Wickham; Sherrerd Dupue had entrusted with him \$3,576.32 and \$1,900, the final payment for a house being built in East Orange by the Miller Construction Company.

Declared Fugitive from Justice.

As soon as the warrant was issued Chief of Police Michael Corbitt sent word that Forman was a fugitive from justice to the police in the United States and Canada. The Fidelity and Guarantee Company, of Baltimore, Forman's bonding company, sent Pinkertons after him, all of no avail. Forman has not been seen since.

There were rumors about his having gone away with a young woman and his having met with foul play, but none of the rumors could be substantiated. Forman's wife and two children protested that the husband and father was innocent and refused to believe a word against him.

The city authorities feared that he