

THOUSAND HOMELESS.

Block of Tenement Houses Burned in New York.

Twenty Persons Overcome by Smoke—Plucky Policeman.

Herald Square Theatre on Fire During Performance.

New York, Dec. 28.—More than a thousand persons were made homeless and hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property destroyed in a fire which burned out a block of apartment houses between Second and Third avenues and 44th and 45th streets, Brooklyn, to-day. Twenty persons were overcome by smoke, but were rescued by firemen. The great Bush Terminal docks on the edge of the fire zone were saved by a fire boat, which kept the flames from sweeping over Second avenue.

Occupants of the blazing buildings were driven, half blind and shivering, into snow-swept streets, and a score of others were dragged unconscious from their apartments by policemen and firemen.

A policeman clapping in his arms the tiny form of a baby, was carried fainting from a hallway by his comrades. Reviving, he returned at once to the work of rescue.

The fire gained great headway before the water was poured on, as the engines were hampered in their rush to the scene by the slippery streets. Three times the firemen were forced to turn their streams on to the structure of Fifth avenue elevated railroad, from which vantage point they were handling the hose. Practically the whole block had been destroyed before the flames were controlled.

HERALD SQUARE THEATRE FIRE.

New York, Dec. 28.—Fire broke out in the Herald Square Theatre at 85th street and Broadway to-night ten minutes before the close of the performance of "The Three Twins" and before it was brought under control had done considerable damage to the building, driven the actors and chorus into the streets in their scant costumes and caused great commotion among the theatre crowds on Broadway.

There was no panic and no one was injured, the audience remaining in ignorance of the fire until most of them had passed into the street.

The fire caught from a large electric sign on the front of the theatre building and spread to the front of the theatre building and spread to the offices, which were opposite the second gallery of the auditorium. It was just ten minutes before the curtain was closed for the performance to end, when two women came down from the second gallery and reported to the theatre attaches that there was smoke in the upper part of the building.

Treasurer Lyon quickly went behind the curtain and explained the situation to the staff, who held them to the play short. This was quickly done, and the curtain was lowered without any announcement to the audience.

The big crowd shuffled slowly out, not knowing that a fire was being fought in the upper gallery. Most of them had reached the streets, but some remained behind waiting for their wraps to be taken from the coat room. As the flames continued to gain headway the theatre employees urged the tardy ones to hurry out, as there was a fire in the theatre. Some of them left without waiting for their wraps, and braved the driving snowstorm in their evening dress.

Alarm spread among the actors and chorus, and many of the young women left the building to the stage entrance and went out into the storm without giving a thought of their scant and unconventional attire.

THE DEAD ALIVE.

Man Dead For 18 Years Turns Up in Guelph.

Guelph, Dec. 28.—Nearly eighteen years ago, in July, 1891, a report appeared in the papers of the Province of the death of Corp. Morgan, of the Northwest Mounted Police, at Fort MacLeod, Alberta, who had previously left for England and had, after leaving New York, been found dead in his berth. Corp. Morgan was well known in Nicol town, where he died in Guelph, and the report of his death being confirmed, nothing more was heard of him.

What was the surprise of Mr. S. Broadfoot, of the Inland Revenue Department here, when William Morgan, for eighteen years supposed to be dead, walked into his office and greeted him as an old friend. He was immediately recognized and has altered little during the time he was supposed to have sojourned in another world. The mistake occurred over the death of another man of the same name on board ship.

FRAMING A TARIFF BILL.

The Taking of Testimony Completed by Committee at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The House Ways and Means Committee to-day completed its hearings on the proposed revision of the tariff, and the sub-committee, consisting of the Republican members of the full committee, began the work of framing a new tariff bill, which will be submitted to Congress at the special session next March.

The sub-committee will hold daily meetings behind closed doors. No tariff revision committee has ever had at its command so large a fund of information as the present committee.

There was little done at to-day's meeting aside from sifting out the plans to be pursued in drafting the new bill.

LOWER CABLE RATES.

Mr. Lemieux Says They Will Prevail at No Distant Date.

New York, Dec. 28.—That not only cheaper but very much cheaper rates for cablegrams across the Atlantic are near at hand was the confident assertion of Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, the Postmaster-General of Canada, this afternoon on the eve of his departure for Canada after a day spent in this city following his arrival from Europe last night.

"The reform has been accomplished on the Pacific," declared Mr. Lemieux, "and it will soon come about on the Atlantic."

Mr. Lemieux said the movement had recommended itself to influential interests in the United States also, but he declined to state whether or not the United States Government had been or would be approached by Canada or Great Britain in the matter.

If the cable companies would make the reductions that would satisfy the governments, according to Mr. Lemieux, there would be no new cable laid across the Atlantic, and he believed that was what was likely to happen. In any event, he added, he had received such assurances in London that he felt almost certain the day of very much cheaper cabling between Europe and America was not distant.

He believed a State-owned cable across the Atlantic, if it should become necessary to lay one, undoubtedly would be as successful and satisfactory in every way as the Pacific cable from Canada to Australasia, and that project had reduced the cost of cable messages between Australasia and England from \$2.25 a word to 75 cents a word.

Mr. Lemieux said the demand on the Atlantic cable companies, which was expected to come to a conclusion in the spring, was not for an arbitrary rate of two pence a word, as he said was erroneously supposed in many quarters. It had been proposed instead that messages be divided into several classes, such as urgent, semi-urgent and deferred, for instance, and charged for accordingly, but, in any event, the rate to be considerably lower than the prevailing shilling or 25 cent rate. If a State-owned cable is to be laid it is the belief of Mr. Lemieux that it would eventually admit of a charge of five cents a word.

THE CAMERA

WILL BE USED AGAINST PITTSBURG ALDERMAN.

Flashlight Caught Him in Act of Accepting a Bribe—Bank Officials Admit Paying \$17,500 in Bribes—Seven Members of Council and Two Bankers Under Arrest.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 28.—A flashlight photograph of a member of the Council in the act of accepting money from a decoy "promoter," it is said, will be one of the strongest features of the evidence to be presented to-morrow morning. A seven members of the Pittsburg City Council and two former bank officials are to be given a preliminary hearing on charges of bribery, corrupt solicitation and other illegal acts, brought by the Voters' League. This picture, it is said, was taken in a private room in a downtown hotel last night immediately before the councilman was arrested.

Besides the councilman, the flashlight photograph is said to show an agent of the Hurling Detective Agency of Scranton, Pa., which worked up the cases. This man is reported to have posed as a member of a firm anxious to sell wooden paving blocks to the city and to have become very intimate with the councilman. With other detectives concealed within hearing distance the councilman is alleged to have been induced to tell of the negotiations to secure the passage of the legislation, to name the other members who were to share in the bribe, and to say that the members were fired of promises and wanted to see the real money.

The promoter took a number of \$100 and \$500 bills from a large roll and just as the councilman reached for his allotment the flash was ignited. The councilman, it is said, broke down and wept, and when he accused his companion of trapping him there was no denial. Then the officer appeared and made the arrest.

President W. W. Ramsey and Cashier A. A. Vileack of the German National Bank, have admitted spending \$17,500 to secure the selection of their bank as a city depository. The directors of the bank have repudiated the action of the officers and have asked and received the resignations of these men. It is reported that some of the bribe money was paid in cheques and that the cheques and stubs will be offered in evidence. It is practically admitted that a number of decoy contractors and promoters were introduced to trap councilmen, and that many temptations have been offered to councilmen during the past months.

KISSING IN THE STREET.

Vienna Magistrate Decides That It Is Not a Punishable Offense.

London, Dec. 28.—A Vienna Magistrate has been called upon to decide whether kissing in the street is an offense against public morality. Arnold Schmidt, a university student, was taking a fond leave of his sweetheart at the door of her house. This so shocked a clerk who saw the embrace that he complained to the police, and Schmidt was arrested for a breach of the public morals.

He pleaded in court that his kiss was a token of respect to the maiden. An elderly spinster living in the house opposite, who had been an involuntary witness of the scene, told the magistrate amid much laughter that she indignantly withdrew from the window at once, because she said, "kissing was not aesthetically."

The court, after much deliberation, dismissed the case, holding that kissing was no transgression of common morals.

PLUCKY GOMEZ.

Frustrates Plot of Conspirators to Kill Him.

Single-Handed Arrested Two of the Plotters.

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 28, via Willemstad, Curacao, Dec. 27.—The downfall of President Castro in Venezuela was completed Saturday last with the frustration of a desperate plot to assassinate Juan Vicente Gomez, the acting president of the republic.

A prominent lawyer has filed an accusation in the High Federal Court, charging President Castro with complicity in the attempted assassination and proposing his impeachment.

There was a meeting Friday night of the plotters in the residence in Caracas of Barbrisa Guzman, who was secretary-general in the last Castro Cabinet, and



JOSE MIGUEL GOMEZ

who was placed in charge of President Castro's personal business in Venezuela when the president left for Germany.

A COUP D'ETAT DECIDED ON.

The conspirators decided upon a coup d'etat. They determined to assassinate Acting President Gomez, Jose de Jesus Paul, the Foreign Minister; General Leopoldo Baptiste, and other prominent men, seize the administration of the country, and with the army terrorize and overawe the population.

Torres-Cardenas, who was at one time Minister of the Interior under President Castro, and later his personal secretary, was the active leader of the conspiracy. He was entrusted with the carrying out of the plot. He had as lieutenants the commanders of three battalions.

GOMEZ FRUSTRATES PLOT.

In spite of the precautions taken an intimation of what was on foot reached the ears of Acting President Gomez. As soon as he had satisfied himself of the truth of the reports he took immediate steps to frustrate the attempt. Early Saturday morning he went alone on foot to the barracks in Caracas, where a mutinous regiment under the command of President Castro's brother was quartered. With unexampled courage he entered the building and placed the brother of the president under arrest. The cool nerve of Gomez made it possible for him to carry out this dangerous manoeuvre successfully. He then went to the "yellow house," the executive mansion where he had a brief interview with Torres-Cardenas. The chief of the conspirators maintained a defiant attitude and denied the existence of any plot. Gomez would not be deceived by such assurances. He seized Torres-Cardenas by the shoulders, and shaking him roughly, said: "I have discovered your plot to assassinate me. You are my prisoner."

SEIZED BY GOMEZ.

Torres-Cardenas tried to use his revolver on the acting president, but Gomez was too quick for him. He pinned the man's arms and called the guard. Cordes-Cardenas was seized and disarmed and hurried away to jail.

These two arrests, made single-handed by Gomez, broke the back of the plot. Gomez's friends came forward quickly to his support. Orders were at once issued and carried out rapidly for the arrest of Garbarras Guzman, Lopez Baralt, Minister of the Interior in the Cabinet that was forced to resign on December 17; Senor Bermudez, director of the national telegraph system; Commander Casanova, Commander Angulo and other adherents of Castro suspected of complicity.

As soon as the news of the sensational occurrences became known throughout the city an immense crowd gathered in the Plaza Bolivar and gave unmistakable evidence of its satisfaction with the turn of affairs.

\$10,000 BILL.

Found in Old Tomato Can by a Teamster.

East St. Louis, Ill., Dec. 28.—Patrick Sullivan, an ice wagon driver, found a \$10,000 bill in the bottom of an old tomato can which he picked up in an alley in the residence part of the town. Conrad Reeb, cashier of the Southern Illinois National Bank, examined the bill through a microscope, and said it appeared to be a genuine gold certificate. The bill was taken to the treasury in St. Louis for further examination.

NO ATLANTIC RATE WAR.

White Star Not Frightening Allans From North Atlantic Conference.

London, Dec. 28.—The Canadian Associated Press understands a German line of steamers from Hamburg to Canada is threatened in direct competition to the Allan line from Havre. As regards the Liverpool rumor that the Allan line is to retire from the North Atlantic conference if the White Star enter the Canadian trade, it is ridiculed in shipping circles in Liverpool. The Allan Company know nothing of any possible rate war.

WAS IT SUICIDE?

Death by Gas of Former President of National Reserve Life.

Police Say That Burnham Committed Suicide.

New York, Dec. 28.—Frederick A. Burnham, former president of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company, was found dead in his bedroom at his residence, 68 East 70th street, this morning, gas poisoning. The police say that Mr. Burnham committed suicide.

The Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company went into the hands of receivers in February last. President Burnham, his brother, Geo. Burnham, jun., the treasurer of the company, and Geo. D. Eldredge, the actuary, were indicted on charges of larceny and forgery, which grew out of an alleged payment of the funds of the company in satisfaction of personal claims against some of its officers. Geo. Burnham, jun., was tried on the charge of larceny, convicted and sentenced to serve two years in prison, but the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court set aside the sentence, and Burnham was released. The case against Frederick A. Burnham had not come to trial, and it was understood that it would not be prosecuted unless that against his brother George was eventually won by the prosecution.

FREED FROM JAIL.

SUFFRAGETTE LEADERS GIVEN A GREAT RECEPTION.

Procession Quarter of a Mile Long Escorts Them to the West End of London—Met the Police Inspector Who Arrested Them.

London, Dec. 28.—Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. Pankhurst were released to-day from Holloway Jail on the completion of their sentences. They were sentenced on Oct. 24 and had the option of a fine or imprisonment. They elected to go to jail.

As anticipated, a great reception awaited them. A procession to celebrate their release took place, starting from Holloway Jail and proceeding through the West-end.

After a long march the Suffragettes had breakfast at which Miss Pankhurst spoke. She announced that the Suffragettes were engaged in civil warfare.

"We are sending out little Davids to meet giant Goliaths," she said, mentioning David Lloyd-George, the Chancellor, as an instance of the latter. "Next year," she said, in conclusion, "must see the enfranchisement of women."

The procession occupied a quarter of a mile and was composed of members and supporters of the militant faction of the Suffragettes. All the banners were bedecked in banners and other emblems of the enfranchisement cause.

They marched four deep and escorted the triumphant Pankhurst trio, Mrs. Pankhurst and her two daughters, through the crowd of Christmas shoppers. The procession was headed by Mrs. "Generalissimo" Drummond. Behind her several bands were playing at full blast.

A tall blonde marched at "Gen." Drummond's side, assisting in the direction of the marching militants. According to witnesses, she could give the drum major points in his art.

While marching with great enthusiasm and singing their version of "The Marseillaise," the Suffragettes met and recognized Police Inspector Jarvis, who made the arrests of the Misses and Mrs. Pankhurst and "Gen." Drummond. They tremulously accorded him bows and tremendous applause. The reception of the parade by the crowd was good natured.

A WOMAN'S CONGRESS.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The Women's Congress, composed of four hundred delegates from various parts of Russia, began its sessions here this evening. Mme. Anna Filosofoff, the mother of the noted writer, Dmitri Filosofoff, was warmly greeted as the pioneer in the movement. Foreign speakers have been invited to attend.

TICKER OUT OF DATE.

GRAND TRUNK TRAINS TO BE DESPATCHED BY TELEPHONE.

London, Ont., Dec. 28.—This afternoon Superintendent Nixon, of the G. T. R., stated that the company will, as soon as practicable, do away with the system of operating their trains by telegraph, and will install the telephone system. "A year's trial of the telephone as a means of despatching trains," said Mr. Nixon, "has proved its practicability. Railwaymen recognize that the day of the ticker is past as far as they are concerned, and they are preparing to hasten the change all over the continent of America."

MARTYRDOM FOR MURDERERS.

Extraordinary Sequel to a Dresden Murder Case.

London, Dec. 28.—At Dresden there has been an extraordinary sequel to the Beier murder case. Grete Beier, aged 22, was executed for the murder of her fiancé, whom she shot after having attempted to poison him. The tomb of the criminal has become the object of a strange species of worship.

Wreaths are frequently deposited upon the grave, to which every Sunday women belonging to the best society in Dresden resort to pray. Last Sunday the crowd was so great that the police were compelled to take special precautions, and now access to the cemetery is forbidden to such visitors.

DEVELOPS GROWTH.

Effect of Medicine on Woman With Body and Mind of Child.

London, Dec. 28.—The experiment of treating with thyroid extract a girl physically and mentally undeveloped had remarkable success. The patient, Mildred Hart, although 23 years old, had the development of a child only seven years old and was 33 inches tall. Her teeth were the same as a child's, her skin cold and harsh and her features were undeveloped.

The soft spot on the top of a baby's head could be felt on hers. She had no appetite and was mentally unobscured.

This continued to October last. A physician then diagnosing the absence of the thyroid secretion took charge of the case. He administered 12 1/2 grains of extract of thyroid glands daily. The patient has grown 2 1/2 inches. Her skin is moist and warm, her face is considerably developed and she has cut several new teeth. She is constantly hungry.

In her most wonderful change, however, is in her mental condition. She has become extraordinarily loquacious, using a vocabulary she could not have acquired in two months, which shows that she unconsciously listened to and stored up words without the power of employing them.

COUNTRY'S TERROR.

Tennessee Night-Riders Are Held in Deadly Fear.

Union City, Tenn., Dec. 28.—When Mrs. Emma Jackson, one of the State witnesses this afternoon in the night riders' trial, was excused from the stand, she turned to Judge Jones and said: "I will not leave the court room without armed protection. I know these men."

Mrs. Jackson told a vivid story of several visits of the night riders corroborating Fehring's testimony in many details, as did other witnesses, and identified by name at least twenty-seven members of the band. She was followed on the stand by her daughter, Miss Dora Jackson, an eighteen-year-old girl, who corroborated her mother's testimony.

The last witness of the day was Will Russell, another alleged night rider, who has turned State's evidence. Russell came to Union City after the Rankin killing and made a confession. He was trembling with fear and could scarcely raise his voice above a whisper.

The Attorney-General had to repeat most of his answers in order that the jury might hear them. Russell is under constant guard, but says he fears that he will be killed in spite of these precautions. Russell's story was practically the same as that told by Fehring.

A number of other witnesses told of having been whipped by night riders. One was given the choice of being whipped or hanged, another of leaving the neighborhood or being hanged.

CLIMBED CLIFFS.

Sixty-Five of Crew of Steamer Irada Save Themselves—Six Drown.

Crookhaven, Ireland, Dec. 28.—The 5,000 ton British steamer Irada, Capt. Roberts, from Galveston, Dec. 6, for Liverpool, is a total wreck on the southwest point of Mizzen Head. Capt. Roberts, a stewardess and four men were drowned. The remainder of the crew, sixty-five men, saved themselves by climbing the face of the cliffs.

The steamer was driven ashore by heavy weather during a dense fog. She was loaded with cotton, and the bales of her cargo are now being washed upon the beach.

OIL COMPANIES.

Fixed \$50,000 and Driven Out of State of Missouri.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 28.—The Supreme Court of Missouri handed down a decision this morning ousting the Standard Oil Co., of Indiana, and the Republic Oil Co. from the State of Missouri, forbidding them again to do business in Missouri, and dissolving the Waters-Pierce Oil Co. of St. Louis. In addition each of the companies is fined \$50,000.

EARTHQUAKES IN MONTANA.

Shock Extended From Yellowstone Park to Virginia City.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 22.—Earthquakes extending from the Yellowstone Park to Virginia City have been continuing for three days, but without much damage. The greatest harm was done to the old town of Virginia City by several shocks last night. Several buildings were cracked and large rents made in the earth. In some of them three inches wide. A report from Crater Lake is that the shocks were especially severe there. Fissures were made in the mountain sides, some of them a foot or two wide. The Crater Lakes are formed by the craters of thirteen extinct volcanoes.

SIX MONTHS FOR M. P.

Nationalist Member Sent to Jail for Advocating Boycott.

Dublin, Dec. 28.—James P. Farrell, Irish Nationalist member of Parliament for North Longford, who has been advocating the boycott of certain individuals in the Longford Leader, of which he is the editor and proprietor, refused to give sureties for his future good behavior, and to-day was sentenced to six months in jail.

She (admirably)—Your eyes are gray, aren't they? He (absent-mindedly)—Yes, prematurely so.—New York Telegram.

JAIL FOR GOMPERS.

President of Federation Sentenced to One Year Imprisonment.

President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison Also Go to Jail.

For Contempt of Court in the Buck Stove Case.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The famous contempt case of the Buck Stove & Range Co., against President Gompers, Vice-President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, was decided to-day by Justice Wright, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, adversely to the federation officials. Gompers was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, Mitchell to nine months and Morrison to six months.

The case grew out of the alleged boycott of the company's products, and the putting of that company on the "unfair list," and the federation's alleged violation of Judge Gould's recent mandamus, has attracted wide attention.

The Bucks Co.'s prosecution of the officials of the Federation began in August, 1907. The original action was a best case, wherein it was sought to enjoin the labor unions from using the "unfair" and "we don't patronize" lists in their fights against firms and individuals. Justice Gould, of the Supreme court of the District of Columbia, issued an injunction which later was made permanent, forbidding the publication of the company's name in those lists.

President Gompers, in an editorial in the Federationist of January last, made known his intention not to obey the court's order, contending that the injunction issued was in derogation of the rights of labor, and an abuse of the injunctive power of the courts. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison subsequently were cited for contempt, and this phase of the case has been before the courts for several months, proceedings taking the form of a hearing of testimony before an examiner.

Judge Wright's decision was a scathing denunciation of the defendants. He rejected the conditions antedating the injunction and referred to the fact that for twenty-five years the Bucks plant had operated as a ten-hour shop and also spoke of the numerical strength of the American Federation of Labor, with its 2,000,000 members, and of its repeated endorsement of the boycott of the Bucks Stove & Range Co., through the American Federationist, the Federation's official organ, speeches by the defendants, letters, circulars, etc. The court referred to the use of the "We don't patronize" list and "unfair" list of the labor organizations, and said that members of labor unions were forced and coerced into supporting it, "whether individually willing or unwilling, approving or disapproving," by various methods.

The court read extracts from numbers of resolutions of labor organizations bearing on the Bucks case as tending to show the methods of influencing members of unions, and these methods the court remarked, "seem to be known as persuasion."

The customers of the stove company, the court said, had been intimidated, browbeaten and coerced out of their business relations with their customers, "by direct interference with and boycott of their (the customers') trade relations with their own customers and the public generally."

SCALED MT. HUASCARAN.

Miss Annie S. Peck Tells of Climbing the Andes.

New York, Dec. 28.—Fresh from a triumphant tour of the Peruvian Andes, during which she scaled the summit of Mount Huascaran, one of the highest peaks in the world, Miss Annie S. Peck, of Providence, R. I., arrived here to-day aboard the steamer Alliance from Crystal, Cal. For her successful ascent Miss Peck was personally congratulated by President Leguin, and a gold medal was presented to her by the Peruvian Government.

In speaking of her perilous trip up the precipitous slope of Mount Huascaran, Miss Peck ascribed much of her success to the two Swiss guides who accompanied her. "It was, thanks to the experience of these two men, aided by what I myself had gained in scaling the high summits of the Alps and a number of detached peaks in the Andes and Rockies," said Miss Peck, "that I succeeded in reaching the 24,000 feet altitude which marks the summit of Mt. Huascaran. This height, I believe, surpasses that reached by anyone before me. Heretofore, the record had been held by W. W. Graham, whose ascent of the Himalayan peaks is set down as a climb of 23,800 feet.

"We reached the summit on September 2, and the following night as we were making our way down, Taugwelder, who was leading, slipped and carried me with him over the edge of a fissure. The other guide, fortunately for us, had seen the misstep and had braced himself with his alpenstock, so that when the rope that bound us all together yanked taut he retained sufficient purchase in the ice not to be carried off his feet by our combined weight. He called to us instructions to dig ourselves footholds that would lighten the strain both on the rope and on himself, and gradually pulled us, both back to him. It was the closest call I ever had."

RAILWAYS IN CANADA.

Amount of New Construction Unequaled in World.

London, Dec. 28.—W. J. Odworth, chief engineer of the Northeastern Railway, in an interview, said Canada presented more great railway development at the present moment than any other country in the world. The advance was marked on every hand, and the amount of new construction in progress quite unequalled.

T H I S O R I G I N A L D O C U M E N T C O N T A I N S I N F O R M A T I O N