

CHICAGO'S GREAT FIRE. CLOSED 19 THEATRES.

Seven of the Iroquois Theatre Employees Arrested Charged With Being Accessory to Manslaughter.

Miss Dickie, Daughter of Thomas Dickie, Formerly of Dundas, Reported to be Among Fire Victims.

Pathetic Scenes and Incidents—Relatives of Victims Through Morgues.

Dec. 31.—For the first time Chicago has possessed whistles to shriek and the old year to-night idently to take its birth in an of...

Major Carter suggestion that have celebration of the response in the people, agged by calling tragedy at...

second time in her life of Chicago been struck heart. Not only have her sons and daughters met death a variety of horrible and tortur...

The Number of Dead.—The list of dead to-night continues as it was given last night, in the neighborhood of 500. It is generally accepted at this time that the most accurate estimate is 564. This number will be increased somewhat...

How it Did Start?—While the theatrical people are practically a unit in declaring that the fire started with an explosion, in this they are flatly contradicted by scores of people in the audience...

Strikers Give Aid.—The strikers unanimously vote the striking men to-day adopted the advice of the union to go to work to-day...

Eye Witness Story.—Anna Woodward, who occupied a seat in the second balcony, said to-day: "I was in the second balcony, and plainly saw the fire. I left my seat in the balcony, went down the stairs to the first balcony, and from there started to pass out through the very door in which so many people were killed a few minutes later..."

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threatened her and finally overcame her. "Many of the bodies were stark naked. But some way or other death had been a merciful and overpowering other emotion. That feature made the thing all the more maddening, for when the face was burned beyond recognition, when the clothing was burned off, identification was well nigh impossible."

Every Face Distorted.—"Underneath the little girl was a man with his head buried in a rug. One man's head was burned completely off to his shoulders, leaving the headless charred trunk. Every face was distorted. In most cases, the skin was burned off, leaving the red flesh, no longer quivering with pain. The very hair was burned from her head. She lay on her face unable to move, moaning 'Oh, God! Oh, God! Oh, God!' over and over again."

Death Helmed Everywhere.—"What more can one say? It was dead, dead, everywhere you turned. The place was crowded with anxious ones seeking to find their dead. They would go up to one of the bodies, and then turn away with a despair that cannot be put into words when they saw it was not the one for whom they were searching. And over all, the voices of the policemen who were carrying out the dead, pitifully helpless lumps of flesh, denuded, in sagging blouses and coats. And everywhere, permeating everything, the odor of burned flesh, sickening, maddening; under foot, the dead weights in sagging blouses and coats. In the fact of all this a man stood on a chair overlooking all the horror and misery, drinking a cup of coffee."

Three Belleville Victims.—Belleville, Dec. 31.—Among the reported victims of the Iroquois Theatre fire in Chicago were the following former residents of Belleville: Mrs. E. W. Davy and daughter, and Mr. Ellis R. Benjamin. Mrs. Davy, who was a native of Port Perry, went to Chicago with her husband some twenty years since. Mr. Benjamin, who was for several years collector of inland revenue here, was a son of the late George Benjamin, who lived in Belleville for thirty years. He was head of a department in Nelson, Morris Company's business, and was about 64 years of age.

Woman Describes the Sights Among the Piles of Dead.—Katherine Kinney Brooks, a woman reporter, gives this graphic account: "A pile of children and men and women four feet deep and fifteen or twenty feet long, a heterogeneous mass of crushed humanity; arms and legs and headless trunks; that was the first thing I saw, and over all a number of bodies were burning in a mass of molten metal. I left their seats after seeing the blaze, and were well on their way to the street when overtaken by the frightened rush of those they had left behind. I was an inspector of the underwriters who made a tour of the house says that the wire on which the 'queen of the aerial ballet' flew, the wire on which the most agonizing act had the asbestos curtain in place and prevented it from being lowered. It was shown by the inspector that the wire on which the most agonizing act had the asbestos curtain in place and prevented it from being lowered. It was shown by the inspector that the wire on which the most agonizing act had the asbestos curtain in place and prevented it from being lowered."

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The Officers and Directors of the Confederation Life Association extend to the Policyholders and friends of the Association their best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year, and have much pleasure in stating that the New Insurance written during 1903 exceeds that of any previous year in the history of the Association, and that all other Departments of the Association's business show gratifying advancement. Head Office, Toronto, January 1st, 1904.

no wages, to help the city out of the great calamity that has befallen it," said President Maggen of the Iroquois Theatre. "The very first strike will be resumed where it left off."

returned to the morgue with the body of the little girl which he thought to be that of his own child. "There was no little girl, but I would recognize the body," he said, "that I was confident that I never would be able to satisfy my mind stooping on them, and just as I did so my eyes were caught by those of a little boy about 7 years of age, who was lying on the floor unable to rise. He had large brown eyes, and was so neatly dressed, and apparently so well bred and such a little gentleman that he fascinated me. It was all in a second I knew, but as he saw me looking at him, he said: 'Won't you please, please help, please do!'

Such a day of mourning was never witnessed as that which ushered in the New Year. Every portion of the city, almost as if there were funerals going on, undertakers' wagons arriving with dead, who were being brought to their homes for the last time. While the funeral processions were moving through the snow-covered streets to various cemeteries, the morgues and undertaking establishments seemed almost as large as ever.

All of the bodies which admit of careful identification have been carried away, and of those which remain the majority are in such a condition that they would be almost impossible to identify. Herbert and Agnes Lange, of 1632 Bayview avenue, both children had attended the performance, and after the tragedy they were found in the broken-hearted father finally found the daughter Agnes in an undertaking establishment. "I am almost exhausted through my continuous trips from morgue to morgue, and from hospital to hospital, from police stations to the coroner's office, and then back through the wearisome round again and again, came this afternoon in utter despair to the office of Chief of Police O'Neill and begged two detectives to assist him. He also pleaded with newspaper men, and his voice broke in every sentence. "I have only children, and the detectives and newspaper men promised themselves were almost worn out by long hours of work. Finally the body of the girl was found and the broken-hearted father gathered up the little form and carried it to his carriage. "I have one of them at last," he said, "and this will be a great comfort to her mother."

Thirty Teachers Gone.—Chicago, Jan. 1.—Superintendent of Schools Cooley announced to-night that the Iroquois Theatre fire had killed twenty-four teachers in the Chicago Public Schools and six teachers still reported missing, making a total of thirty.

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Chicago, Dec. 31.—From the mangled mass of humanity that jammed the staircase of the balcony the first one to be seen was a woman, pulled out from beneath the charred corpses, the young woman's blackened lips parted. A fireman bent down to catch her words. "My child! My poor little boy! Where is he? Oh, do bring him to me!" Again the lips parted. "Is he safe? Tell me he is safe, and I can die!" "He is safe," the fireman muttered, and all knew his reply was best. The woman sank back lifeless in his arms and was carried out with the other dead.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—A private despatch received here to-day contains the report from Belleville, that Mrs. E. W. Davy and daughter, Helen Davy, are among the missing who attended the Iroquois Theatre at the disastrous first performance Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Davy was a native of this town, the only daughter of the late Henry Adams. She was a frequent visitor here, where Miss Helen Davy, an only child and very beautiful girl of sixteen, had extensive property interests willed by her grandfather, Mrs. Davy was a woman of exceptional charm, and the terrible tragedy of her death, together with the daughter to whom she was devoted, is deeply deplored by many of our citizens.

KILLED BY ROBBERS.—Aged Woman Blain While Aiding Her Husband.—Deater, Col., Jan. 1.—Mrs. Amanda Youngblood has been shot and killed, and her son Robert seriously wounded by three men who attempted to rob her grocery store, and who were slain at the scene of the crime. The robbery occurred on Tuesday night, and the store was closed several weeks ago.

THE PATULLO INQUEST.—Jury Returned a Verdict of Suicide While Temporarily Insane.—London, Jan. 1.—At the inquest on the body of Mr. Andrew Patullo, M. P., held to-day, the deceased's nephew, Mr. George Patullo, testified that his uncle was in good health, but had been subject to fits of depression since the death of his wife, and had frequently complained of loneliness. He then described the finding of his uncle's body on Tuesday last in the latter's bedroom, deceased having as reported in Wednesday's papers, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. The jury brought in a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane. The remains will be buried in Finchley Cemetery to-morrow at 2 o'clock. Messages of condolence from all over Canada have been received.

A Princely Donation.—Ottawa, Jan. 1.—Messrs. Hiram Walker and Sons, Walkerville, have sent a cheque for \$10,000 to Mr. J. M. Courtney, treasurer for the Lady Mistic Cottage Hospital Fund.

Unity Lodge, S. O. E.—To celebrate the close of a most successful year, Unity Lodge, S. O. E., gave a sparkling concert Wednesday night, the proceeds of which were for the benefit of the total for the year up to over 60. Arthur Back was in the chair, those who contributed to the programme were: Messrs. A. Adams, W. H. Buscombe, H. Hirst, M. Skedden, A. Bull, S. Gerrard, W. Sandilands, F. Hayward, and the Sandwell Brothers, J. B. E. C. and Harry. Refreshments were served.

FINCH BROS. SALE. Making Women's Dresses and Walking Skirts at These Low Popular Prices During January. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 75. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 80. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 85. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 90. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 95. Making Ladies' Dress or Walking Skirts to Order at 100.

NATURE'S GREAT CLOCK. Astronomers Read Time on its Stellar Dial Plate. On New Year's eve Mr. Geo. Black, Manager of the local office of the G. N. Telegraph Company, had a line in his mind to spend the new year at the Observatory at Washington, which had arranged to flash to all the principal points in the United States and Canada the exact instant of the new year, the line and a new year was born. Rev. Dr. Marsh, who had earlier in the day made a series of calculations at his private observatory on Aberdeen avenue to fix the exact instant of the new year, and the birth of 1904, was invited by Mr. Black to be present, and there was some interest felt in how the calculations would compare with the actual observation made at the U. S. Naval Observatory. All business was cut off for the purpose, and all over the continent the signal was awaited. It was a striking evidence of the accuracy and exactness of the workers in astronomy that there was not so much as the tick of a watch between the flashed time and the actual observation made at the U. S. Naval Observatory. The coincidence was perfect.

ADON TRAGEDY. Governor's Own Hand. Vancouver, Jan. 1.—A Winchester bullet has delayed the trial of E. B. Governor on the Yukon telegraph at Pike River, twenty miles from Atlin, under strange circumstances. While taking a walk on the telegraph line, the bullet entered his abdomen. He expired shortly after reaching the Atlin hospital.

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