

LOSS MOUNTS HIGH

TWELVE MILLIONS IN PROPERTY BURNED AT TORONTO.

FOURTEEN ACRES SWEEP

FIRE NOT FINALLY CONTROLLED UNTIL DAYLIGHT.

Over a Hundred Business Buildings Destroyed and Several Thousand Thrown Out of Employment.

TORONTO, Ont.—The total loss by the fire which destroyed the wholesale district of Toronto last night will, according to the most conservative estimates, reach \$12,000,000. The total insurance is \$8,360,000.

The area swept by the fire embraces fourteen acres and from 5,000 to 7,000 persons are thrown out of employment.

The work of tearing down dangerous walls was begun this afternoon. In the whole burned quarter the only walls that appear to stand intact are those of the W. R. Brock & Co. building. The city council this afternoon placed all public buildings and the exhibition grounds at the disposal of fire sufferers; amended the fire regulations to allow of the erection of temporary structures and appointed a committee to wait on the legislature to secure an act ordering all wires underground.

The total number of buildings destroyed were:

Bay street, east side, 20, west side 30; Wellington street, north side, 12, south side 7; Front street, north side, 22, south side, 27; Esplanade 4; Piper street, 1.

Secret Kept Back.

WASHINGTON—With the reopening of the investigation in the Reed Smoot case, before the senate committee on privileges and elections, the prosecution devoted considerable time to drawing from Brigham H. Roberts the character of the oaths which are said to be necessary for a Mormon officer to take in order to have the support of the church for political office.

Members of the committee showed an equal interest in the obligations which are said to be taken by Mormons, who "go through the endowment house." Along both lines much evidence was brought out. It was shown by Mr. Roberts' testimony that without the consent of the Mormon church he failed of election to a seat in congress and later, with church recognition of his candidacy, he was elected. In relation to the endowment house obligations, Mr. Roberts was extremely reticent. He said that the sacredness of the ceremony was such that he could not reveal it to the world and he could not reveal it to the world and that he did so, he would lose caste with the church as having betrayed a trust.

Cannot Profit by Crime.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—In the case of the supreme lodge Knights and Ladies of Honor, the state supreme court today entered a decision to the effect that a husband cannot become the beneficiary of life insurance in his favor, carried on the life of his wife if he has murdered her. The case is one appealed from the St. Clair county circuit court. The Knights and Ladies of honor contested the payment of a thousand dollars life insurance policy in favor of Mrs. Elizabeth Menkhausen, on the ground that her husband, Gustave Menkhausen, had been convicted of her murder. Menkhausen is now serving a life sentence in Joliet.

The supreme court holds the Menkhausen's children are entitled to the insurance.

Makes Hint of Impeachment.

WASHINGTON—At a meeting today of the house judiciary committee, Mr. Williams of Mississippi, the minority leader, charged that the attorney had failed in his duty to conduct criminal prosecutions against those declared by the supreme court in the merger case to have violated the anti-trust law and also have failed to institute legal proceedings against the anthracite coal carrying roads, although the attorney general had in his possession a report favorable to prosecutions.

SAY HIS STAR IS SET

VICEROY ALEXIEFF NO LONGER IDOL OF THE RUSSIANS.

Dismissal No Surprise to Those Who Have Watched Trend of Events Skrydloff Soon to Start For Orient.

ST. PETERSBURG.—Viceroi Alexieff has applied by telegraph to the emperor to be relieved of his position of viceroy in the far east. It is expected that the request will be immediately granted.

While no official announcement has yet been made there is reason to believe that the above statement is correct. The immediate cause of the viceroy's application is reported to be the appointment of Vice Admiral Skrydloff one of Admiral Alexieff's strongest enemies and sharpest critics as successor to the late Vice Admiral Markaroff in command of the Russian navy in the far east.

Vice Admiral Skrydloff had an interview with the emperor today and discussed with his majesty the question of his (Skrydloff's) relations with Alexieff. The relieving from command of Viceroy Alexieff would not surprise intelligent observers of the far eastern situation who are familiar with the gradual change in the emperor's attitude toward the viceroy and M. Bezobrazoff who represented the militant or advanced element which was anxious that Russia should remain in Manchuria. It was to these two men that the Anglo-Japanese entente first lost its terrors. They believed that Great Britain would not go to war and that Japan could not do so. To the indignation of Japan they succeeded in turning the policy of the empire from carrying out the treaty for the entire evacuation of Manchuria pending further demands on China.

Will Railroads Escape.

LINCOLN, Nebr.—An increase of more than \$2,000,000 in net earnings, having been reported by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad lines in Nebraska, the state board of assessment will be confronted with the question of how much to increase the valuation of the lines for taxation purposes. The board will meet May 2 to consider valuation. The members are Governor Mickey, Treasurer Mortensen, Auditor Weston, Land Commissioner Follmer and Secretary of State Marsh.

The addition to the question of an increased taxation, the board will be confronted with the problem of its power to say what property shall be considered railroad right of way and what shall be included in this list. Whether a road has a right to report town lots covered with houses which are rented to private parties and in no way used for railroad purposes as a part of the right of way and therefore exempt from local taxation, is one of the cases in point that has arisen at the town of Nebraska City. The same to a greater degree is said to apply to the towns of Omaha and Lincoln. The question is of importance to many communities for the reason that right of way is not taxed locally, but is included in railroad property and is supposed to be "distributed" along the various lines on which such property is situated and is then assessed by the state board.

No Force to be Allowed.

SAN DOMINGO.—United States Minister Powell informed the minister of foreign affairs today that in the event of any foreign power attempting to force a settlement of the claims of its citizens, thus excluding the claims of other nationalities, he would, in the name of his government take immediate charge of the custom houses of the government, place in each a military guard and protect the same in the interests of the United States creditors, basing his action upon the recent decision of the Hague tribunal. The energetic and decided action of Minister Powell has greatly relieved the present grave situation.

By such action all such foreign claimants will stand upon an equal footing.

Entire Panel Thrown out. DETROIT, Mich.—Judge Phelan of the recorder's court, today announced that he will discharge the jury which has been hearing the evidence in the murder trial of George W. Parker, and followed this action by dismissing the entire present panel of jurors drawn for the recorder's court. There were 200 men in the discharged panel.

STOIC TO THE LAST

CAR BANDIT NEIDERMEIER DIES UNREPENTANT.

CARRIED TO THE SCAFFOLD

STRENGTH LEAVES HIM AS HE STARTS FOR GALLOW'S.

Glories in His Atheism and Scoffs at Religion—Follows in Crime, Marx and Van Dine Executed in Turn.

CHICAGO.—Atheist to the last, but seemingly unrepentant completely, Peter Neidermeier, the leader of the car barn bandits, was hanged today from a chair, contrasting with his companions in crime, Gustave Marx and Harvey Van Dine, who, standing erect, kissed an image of Christ and died without a tremor. The three executions were separate, twenty minutes apart, the same scaffold being used for all.

Only once before in the large number of executions that have taken place at the jail in this city has it been necessary to carry a condemned man to the gallows as Neidermeier was today.

The crime for which the three bandits paid the penalty was one of eight murders which the three men are known to have committed—that of Francis W. Stewart, a clerk in the car barns of the Chicago City railway.

Neidermeier has boasted continually of his courage, but as the last moments approached he collapsed and was unable to take three consecutive steps of a march to the gallows.

Make Threat to Bombard.

KINGSTON, Jamaica.—The British cruiser Retribution, which, under instructions from the imperial government sailed from Kingston April 11 for a Nicaraguan port in connection with the seizure of six Cayman turtle schooners and the arrest of their crews by Nicaraguan officials, returning to Port Royal from the Nicaraguan coast today, after ascertaining that the vessels and crews had been sent to Bluefields. The captain of the Retribution accused the Nicaraguan commandant, under whose orders the schooners were seized of piracy. There is consternation among the Nicaraguan officials over the affair. It was necessary for the Retribution to return to Port Royal to coal, but the cruiser will sail for Bluefields Saturday next to demand the release of the prisoners and the boats and also compensation for the illegal seizure and detention. It is rumored that should it be found necessary the Retribution will bombard the Port of Bluefields.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua.—The Nicaragua steamer Ometepe, from Havana, has arrived in Nicaraguan waters with a consignment of war munitions, purchased in Cuba. It is rumored that another conference will take place shortly at Amapala, in the gulf of Fonseca between the presidents of Honduras, Nicaragua and San Salvador.

It was announced from Havana March 30 that the Nicaraguan government steamer Ometepe has sailed for Bluefields that day with 5,000 Remington rifles purchased from Spanish house in Havana.

The five tortoise shell fishing schooners captured recently while in Nicaraguan waters and taken to Bluefields, had hoisted the British flag on one of the small islands off Cape Gracias-a-Dios, Nicaragua. The fishermen claim they were encouraged to do so by British colonial employes. The British representative here in an interview is quoted as saying in regard to the reported arrival of a British man-of-war at Bluefields that she is going there on a friendly visit to investigate certain events.

Murderer Shot to Death.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.—Frank Rose, the wife murderer, was shot to death in the yard of the state penitentiary here at 10:09 this morning. Death was instantaneous, four bullets lodging in or very close to his heart.

Rose was strapped to the same little wooden chair in which Peter Mortensen met his after a few months ago.

HE CALLS OATH SACRED

VETERAN MORMON SAYS HE CANNOT REVEAL IT.

Polygamist of Longstanding, and Gives Testimony No Less Sensational Than That of President Smith.

WASHINGTON.—The feature of today's hearing in the Smoot case before the senate committee on privileges and elections was the testimony of Angus M. Cannon, for twenty-five years president of the largest Mormon stake in the world. The testimony was of personal character, dealing with the conviction of the witness on charges of polygamous cohabitation, and was dragged from him under protest that he be protected from any peril or liability to prosecution for what he revealed. When assured that his plural marriages, under the statute of limitations, could not be used as evidence against him he answered most of the questions asked.

The same frankness was not apparent, however, when the witness was pressed to reveal the nature of the oath he had taken in the endowment house. Like other witnesses he declared that the sacredness of that oath prevented him from proclaiming it to the world. His testimony was no less sensational than that given by President Smith early in the investigation. He answered all the questions of a personal character but every admission was made reluctantly and replies to questions in regard to his numerous marriages were as near monosyllables as it was possible to make them.

At the afternoon session Angus M. Cannon was called to the stand. He said he had lived in Salt Lake since 1849, but had been blessed in the Mormon church when he was five years old. He is seventy years old and now holds the position of patriarch in the Mormon church, having been designated for that position by President Joseph F. Smith about two weeks ago. Patriarchs, the witness said, rank next to the twelve apostles in dignity. Mr. Cannon said that for twenty-eight years he had been president of the Salt Lake stake of Zion.

Enjoins Bankers Union.

LINCOLN, Neb.—The supreme court filed a large number of opinions yesterday afternoon and adjourned until May 3. No clerk was appointed. The long looked for decision in the case of the Bankers' Union of the world, affecting the conduct of fraternal insurance companies and testing the power of the state insurance department, as filed. The opinion was written by Judge Sedgwick. The court enjoins the Bankers' Union of the World from continuing business until abuses complained of by Auditor Weston and Insurance Deputy J. L. Pierce are corrected, but says it is not a case justifying the appointment of a receiver to take charge of the business.

Judge Holcomb dissenting, desired to reinstate the company so it could proceed with its business and to enjoin it from doing certain things which are violative of the law regulating the business of such societies.

If the abuses and irregularities are not remedied at the end of sixty days the injunctions is to be extended. In the meantime either party to the suit has the privilege of asking for any order that may be deemed necessary.

Mrs. Nation in a Museum.

CHICAGO.—Mrs. Carrie Nation, the saloon smasher, arrived in Chicago today and will on next Monday commence an engagement at a fine museum. This is her first appearance in such capacity. Her salary is \$300 a week.

Human Heads by the Score.

NEW YORK.—The Tibetan for there has been emptied and partially blown up, says a Times dispatch from Gyang-Tse. Among the strange discoveries in the fort was a room containing scores of heads, some recently cut off. This is unusual, in view of the Buddhist prohibition against taking life.

The Tibetans were supposed to avoid literal infraction of the commandant by allowing victims to starve to death, but this discovery points to regular executions in Gyang-Tse.

NEBRASKA NOTES

A newspaper for Bellevue is being talked of. It is to be called the Bellevue Gazette and will be three columns eight pages.

The Rev. W. H. Morrow of Table Rock will leave for Washington county, New York, where he has accepted a Methodist pastorate.

Bishop Williams of Omaha has been engaged to deliver the commencement address here this year at the graduating exercises at Beatrice.

The general merchandise store at Leigh that was recently purchased from Al Willering by Rosenthal & Kranse, has been shipped to Norfolk.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wright died at the home of her son, Z. T. Wright in Nebraska City. She was a pioneer citizen of Nebraska, having come to the state in 1856.

Judge Harrington of the district court at Ainsworth has postponed all jury cases until the fall term; and after disposing of a few equity cases will adjourn court.

The Rev. A. Bert, after twenty-five years as pastor of the St. John's Lutheran church and teacher of the German school at Harper, has resigned to accept a call to Waco.

There will be a large class graduate from the agricultural department of the university on Friday evening, President Albert B. Storms will deliver an address on "By-Products."

The Spencer young people who recently organized a show troupe, have been making the different towns in Holt county and closed a "starring" season with the play, "The Yorkshire Lassie." The opera house at O'Neil failed to accommodate the crowd.

Wayne Garrow and Miss Maud Davis sprung a surprise on their relatives and friends by announcing the fact that they had been married at the Methodist parsonage in Nebraska City the Rev. J. W. Scott officiating. Both young people are highly respected in this city.

Professor John Jacob Fossler, who has been superintendent of the Hartington schools for the past two years, has decided to take a course in medicine and not apply for the schools again this year. John L. Stine of Gretna has been selected by the board of education to succeed Professor Fossler.

Every saloon at Columbus was closed all day Sunday and not a drink could be purchased at any price. Mayor Boettcher has instructed the saloon men to close and the police were emphatically notified to arrest the first saloonkeeper who failed to comply with the request.

Aaron Steuvers, a young man living about ten miles north of Hooper was accidentally shot by a neighbor, Emil Suhr, while the latter was explaining the mechanism of his gun. The charge took effect in Steuvers' right side and may cripple him for life. Physicians do not think the accident will result fatally.

Miss Nettie Keehn, who disappeared so suddenly and somewhat mysteriously at Falls, S. D., a day or so ago, is well known to Hartington people, Hartington having been her home for some years, and until about a year ago, when she went to Sioux Falls. Her brother of Hartington seeing the account concerning her in the Bee, at once telephoned her employer at Sioux Falls and was told that she had left late the evening before ostensibly for Omaha with a strange man. Her folks seem to have no satisfactory explanation for her peculiar disappearance and appear to be very much concerned for her welfare.

Last week West Point furnished a number of weddings. Theodore Luedke and Miss Helen Fernholz were married by the Rev. M. E. Sudrook, pastor of the German Methodist church. The contracting parties were born and raised in Cumby county. John Horan and Miss Anna Gallagher were united in marriage at St. Mary's Catholic church, the Rev. E. A. Clementz officiating. The bride is a daughter of one of Cumby county's heaviest land owners. The groom is a Kearney county farmer. Miss Mary Scharfen and Casper Meier were married at St. Mary's Catholic church, the Rev. E. A. Clementz performing the ceremony. Both young people will reside in this county.

Miss Maragret Ryan and Joseph Flemming were married by the Rev. Fitzgerald at the Catholic church. The young people have been residents of that county for some time.