

ORPHANAGE BURNED.

Nine Buildings of St. Agnes Convent at Sparkhill Destroyed.

FOUR PERSONS LOSE THEIR LIVES.

Two Girls Also Found Missing—Many Inmates Seriously Injured—Heroism of the Sisters—Incidents of the Blaze—Loss, \$150,000.

Sparkhill, N. Y., Aug. 29.—Fire that broke out at one o'clock yesterday destroyed nine of the ten buildings of the St. Agnes convent and orphanage, entailing a loss of \$150,000 and causing the death of four persons. The dead are: Helen Brown, aged 6; Emma Mackin, aged 7; "Jane," a pensioner, aged 70; and Mary Kate McCarthy, aged 28. The missing are: Theresa Murphy, aged 14, and Mary Brown, aged 4. The seriously injured are: Sister Sienna, shock and collapse; Sister Marie, burns and concussion; Sister Bertrand, concussion of spine and shock; Sister Katherine, arm broken, and Hannah Shea, leg broken. Twenty-five inmates were injured by falls, jumps and burns, none seriously.

That more lives were not lost was due to the heroism of the sisters and some of the older inmates. When the fire broke out the 400 inmates of the institution were asleep. Most of them were gotten out in almost perfect order, but a score who risked their lives to save others were finally forced to either jump from the upper stories or make desperate dashes through stairways and corridors filled with flames and smoke. The fire was discovered in the lavatory and soon spread to the adjoining buildings, attacking first a dormitory in which 233 of the older boys slept. Sister Reginald, who had trained the lads in the fire drill, rushed down the line of white beds and arousing the sleepers, clapping her hands, the simple fire signal followed in the orphanage. The boys turned out with a rush and gained the lawn in their night clothes. By that time the second dormitory, where the smaller boys slept, was ablaze. The older lads made a dash for the building and were soon carrying the smaller ones out. The buildings were all finished with Georgia pine and the wood burned furiously.

The convent and chapel made a great stack of flames, and between them and the second dormitory, the girl dormitory blazed and crackled as the fire leaped up its wooden walls.

A dozen sisters were cut off in the upper stories of the convent building. They were forced to the windows, and while some climbed out to the sills, others knelt at the casements in prayer. Engineer Otto placed a long ladder against the outer wall and rescued half a dozen. Six were forced to jump for their lives, and fortunately all but Sister Bertrand escaped without serious injury. The escape of Sister Agnes seems almost a miracle. She was cut off on the fourth floor, and elected to jump from her window rather than plunge into the furnace that had once been a stairway. She climbed out on the sill, and then seizing the shutter, swung out clear of the building. Then she lost her hold. She struck the ground squarely on her feet and then fell over on her side. Before anyone could reach her she got up and walked quickly away unhurt.

The fire reached the girls' dormitory last, but once it took hold of the building, it burned fiercely. Most of the girls were on the upper floors and it was with the greatest difficulty that they were gotten out. Shortly after the last of the rescuers left the second dormitory there was a counting of heads and the discovery was made that two baby boys were missing. John Cody, a 15-year-old boy, made straight for the door, paying no heed to the warnings of danger. A moment later Cody came dashing out of the building, under each arm carrying one of the missing boys.

As far as known but one person actually perished in the fire itself. That was "Jane," an old pensioner aged 70 years, who was asleep in the servants' quarters. Helen Brown and Emma Mackin died from convulsions that resulted from fright. Kate McCarthy was a servant in the convent and had organic heart trouble. She was badly frightened, collapsed in the grounds and died later in the day. It is believed Theresa Murphy and May Brown both escaped from the fire, but that the former became demented and is leading the other girl through the woods.

There were 225 children in the orphanage, 61 of whom were girls and their ages ranged from two to 16 years. Most of them were from New York city and they were in most instances committed by the Gery society and city courts. The orphanage was conducted by sisters of the Dominican order.

Made General Manager.

Quincy, Ill., Aug. 29.—W. G. Brinson, manager of the Chicago, Lake Shore & Eastern, has been made general manager of the Quincy, Omaha & Kansas City and Omaha & St. Louis roads, to succeed H. S. Reardon, resigned. Mr. Brinson represents John W. Gates and others who recently acquired a controlling interest in the Quincy company.

TROOPS REVIEWED.

President McKinley Inspects the Tenth Regiment at Pittsburgh and Departs for East Liverpool, O.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 29.—President McKinley left Pittsburgh last night at nine o'clock for East Liverpool, O., a very weary man. The entire day had been spent under the most trying circumstances and the president was almost worn out. As soon as he reached his private car, Cleopatra, at Shady Side station, he retired to his state room and lay down, giving orders that he should not be disturbed until the train reached East Liverpool. Mrs. McKinley rested during the entire day, remaining at Glencairn, Mr. Peck's residence, and stated last evening that she was feeling very well.

When the president retired on Sunday night his information was that the Tenth regiment would reach here at ten o'clock yesterday morning and arrangements were made accordingly. Upon arising at 7:30 Mr. McKinley was told of the delay to the troop train and at once began work on his mail. After breakfast the president received a few callers and then was driven to the Hotel Schenely, where he was met by the reception committee, and at 12:30 went to Allegheny to meet the regiment. Finding that the train was even later than expected the party was taken to the residence of E. F. Jones, chairman of the republican national committee in 1884, where an hour was spent.

When the president finally headed the procession that escorted the Tenth regiment from Allegheny to Schenely park it was three o'clock. Along the five mile march the president received an ovation that was continuous from the thousands of persons along the route.

After the troops had been reviewed and the exercises at the pavilion had been concluded, the president was driven to Glencairn where he was joined at dinner by Maj. Gen. Merritt and Col. George Curtis Treadwell, Gov. Roosevelt's representative. After dinner the presidential party was at once driven to the special train awaiting them at Shady Side station and at nine o'clock left for East Liverpool, where they will be the guests of Joseph Taylor, one of Mr. McKinley's oldest friends.

WELLMAN'S EXPEDITION.

The Arctic Explorer Arrives in England and is Interviewed About His Experiences in the Frozen North.

Hull, Eng., Aug. 29.—Walter Wellman, the leader of the Wellman Polar expedition, who returned to Tromsø, Norway, August 17, after having successfully completed operations in Franz Josef Land, arrived here yesterday. He walks with the aid of crutches, his right leg, which was seriously injured by a fall in a snow covered crevasse, while Mr. Wellman was leading his party, still being useless. The explorer was accompanied by the American members of the expedition, who are well.

In an interview with a representative of the Associated Press, Mr. Wellman said: "The object of the expedition was two-fold—to complete exploration of Franz Josef land, of which the north and northeast parts were practically unknown, and to reach a high latitude, or even the pole itself. The first object was successfully accomplished. The second would have been achieved, at least to a greater extent than by previous explorers, but for the accident to myself."

Mr. Wellman recounted the starting of the expedition from Tromsø, June 26, 1898, how it reached Eluvwood, the headquarters of the Jackson expedition, July 28, and hoisted there the stars and stripes underneath the Union Jack, which had been flying over the deserted settlement for nearly two years. The provisions left for Prof. Andree, the missing aeronaut, were found by Mr. Wellman untouched.

A fairly complete survey of the archipelago has been prepared by Mr. Wellman and his party. They all show traces of hardship. The faces are pale and drawn, and Wellman is much thinner than formally. On board the Eldorado, the Norwegian mail boat which brought the party from Bergen to Hull, Mr. Wellman was the center of attraction, and on arriving at Hull the passengers gave him a cordial send off. The party proceeded immediately to London, where they arrived in the afternoon.

Letter from Senator Jones.

Chicago, Aug. 29.—Chairman Samuel Cook, of the ways and means committee, yesterday received a letter from Senator Jones saying he would return from Europe to be in Chicago October 1. "Mr. Jones is in excellent health and I infer from his letter that he will return from Scotland to take active command of the democratic forces," said Mr. Cook. "The letter is purely personal and touches but little on the political position."

The Filipino Immigrants.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Commissioner General of Immigration Powderly is considering an appeal taken by 68 Filipinos detained at San Francisco by the commissioner of immigration there. These Filipinos were brought over on the United States transport Leelanaw for exhibition at the Mechanical institute, of San Francisco. They were detained, charged with violating the contract labor law.

ACCUSED OF TREACHERY.

Two Municipal Governments in the Philippines Have Recently Been Betrayed into the Hands of the Insurgents.

Manila, Aug. 29, via Hong Kong, Aug. 28.—Recent events have proved somewhat discouraging to officials who are trying to accompany war with a policy of conciliation. Two new municipal governments have collapsed through the treachery of the mayors. The mayor of San Pedro Macati, who was elected by the people under the direction of Prof. Dean Worcester, of the United States advisory commission for the Philippines, was brought to Manila and lodged in jail. The United States officers at San Pedro Macati found that he was using his office as a recruiting station for the Philippine army. Four disguised insurgent officers were helping him.

The mayor of Baliuag was also arrested and confined in the same prison. The Americans caught him passing between the line of the two armies with incriminating documents, which the authorities secured. Another prominent native mayor is under surveillance. When the result of the election at Inaus, which Gen. Lawton and Prof. Worcester engineered, was announced, the Americans inquired as to the whereabouts of the people's choice and were informed that he was in prison at Bilibid, where the authorities had placed him on suspicion of being a revolutionist. He was released and installed as mayor.

Such events and conditions tend to give color to the assertions of foreign residents acquainted with the native character, who insist that a great majority of the natives sympathize with the insurgents and elect officials whom they know to be revolutionists.

CUBA'S GOOD SHOWING.

The War Department Gives Out an Interesting Statement of the Financial Condition of the Island.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The war department gave out yesterday for publication an interesting statement of the financial condition of the island of Cuba. It shows that under the management of the United States government the receipts of the island from January 1, 1899, to June 29, of the current year, exceed the expenditures by the very handsome sum of \$1,480,021. This statement probably will be a surprise to many persons who had thought that Cuba, under the military occupation of the United States, was not self-sustaining.

During the period named, the receipts from all sources were \$8,982,010; disbursements, \$5,501,988. Of the money disbursed, \$1,712,011 was expended in sanitation, \$505,263 in the erection and improvement of barracks and quarters, \$443,563 in the establishment, etc., of the rural guard and administration, \$250,674 on public works, harbors and forts, \$296,881 in charities and hospitals, \$242,146 for civil government, \$723,281 on municipalities, \$88,944 in aid to the destitute, \$42,205 in quarantine matters; total, \$4,448,924.

The statement for July shows that the customs collections in the entire island for July were \$1,291,537; internal revenue collections, \$56,351; postal collections, \$15,000; miscellaneous collections, \$65,435. Grand total receipts for the month, \$1,339,324; disbursements, \$1,029,877.

Immense Loss of Oil.

Chicago, Aug. 28.—A destructive fire broke out at the standard Oil refineries at Whiting last night. It was caused by a leak at the bottom of one of the stills. A few minutes after the fire broke out there was a terrific explosion and the flames spread rapidly to the two immense tanks containing 2,200 barrels of partially refined oil. Over 30 streams of water played on the fire. Several firemen were seriously burned by the blazing oil.

The Crypt Completed and Sealed.

Summit of Pike's Peak, Col., Aug. 28.—The crypt in which the cryptic masons, of Ellsworth, Kan., buried their records, has been completed and sealed. It is cut in solid gray granite at the north end of the cog railroad, overlooking the bottomless pit, 4,000 feet below and in full view of all the plains to the Kansas line on the east, New Mexico on the south, the snowy range on the west and Wyoming on the north.

Parcels Post to Germany.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The parcels post convention between the United States and Germany was signed Saturday by Postmaster General Smith and the German envoy, Mumm von Schwarzenstein. It will go into operation October 1 and then articles of merchandise can be sent from either nation in packages not exceeding 11 pounds in weight.

A Race Around the Horn.

Philadelphia, Aug. 28.—Yesterday two loftily sparred and lightly laden American clipper ships sailed for San Francisco to race to that distant point for stakes aggregating \$10,000, put up by prominent shipping men, with the understanding that the captain of the winning ship is to receive a share of the stakes.

Want the Philippines Ceded.

Vienna, Aug. 28.—The Politische Correspondenz says that a deputation of American merchants from Manila has gone to Washington to promote a scheme for ceding the Philippines to Great Britain.

MANY YANKEES THERE.

The United States, Next to England, Has Greater Interests in the Transvaal Than Any Other Country.

Paris, Aug. 28.—With the exception, of course, of England, the United States is represented by a larger number of citizens in the Transvaal than is any other foreign nation. In fact, there are more Americans than French, Dutch or Italians in the Boer republic, close upon 1,000 in all. And this, aside from the very considerable amount of American capital that is invested in the mining industries of the country, gives the United States direct interest in the trouble now in progress between Great Britain and President Kruger.

This interest is accentuated by a law passed by the Boer legislature the other day and since decreed in the form of a proclamation, that all white folks, irrespective of nationality, will be forced to take up arms in behalf of the Boers against the English in the event of war, disobedience to the terms of this decree involving trial by court-martial, followed by imprisonment or death.

The impression is gaining ground here in official and diplomatic circles that war between the Boers and the English has become inevitable since the British government would never have gone to the length of making such elaborate and costly preparations for a conflict without settling once and for all time, not merely the franchise question, but also all the other difficulties with the Transvaal.

CHINESE EXCLUSION.

The State Department Notified That if Chinese Are Kept Out of the Philippines China May Retaliate.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The question of the admission or exclusion of the Chinese from the Philippines threatens serious complications whichever way the department acts. It is estimated that there are 52,000 Chinese in the Philippines. Since the American occupation Chinese immigration to the islands has been on the increase. Doubtless, it was the constant influx of the celestials which caused Gen. Otis to promulgate the order for their exclusion.

If Gen. Otis' act is sustained by the administration the resentment of the Chinese government will certainly be provoked.

The Chinese minister, in a diplomatic way, has notified the state department that if Chinese are to be excluded from the Philippines, the United States may expect retaliation from China. He said the Chinese government could not preserve its self-respect if it were to allow the United States to prohibit the immigration of Chinese into its possessions of the United States lying as close to China as the Philippines. While the minister did not indicate to the state department officials in what manner China would retaliate, there is no doubt that the retaliation contemplated is a restriction of the favorable trade conditions enjoyed by the United States in the Chinese empire.

A FARMERS' TRUST.

A Federation Organized to Control the Price of Farm Products and Especially Kansas Corn.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 28.—Several prominent farmers and business men of this place have organized the Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley, with a capital stock of \$20,000,000. The purpose of the trust is to control the price of farm products of the Mississippi valley and especially of the enormous corn crop of Kansas. The farmers' trust will establish warehouses and maintain agents at Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago, where the members' grain will be marketed. The cities having the warehouses are to become outlets for the grain and products of the middle and western states. It is believed here among conservative business men that the scheme will succeed.

WILL SAIL IN TEN DAYS.

The Twentieth Kansas Boys, Including Gen. Funston, Assigned to Leave Manila on the Tartar September 5.

Manila, Aug. 28.—The Twentieth Kansas regiment and Gen. Funston have been assigned to sail on the United States transport Tartar about September 5. The Tartar will go to San Francisco by the way of Hong Kong. Nine officers and 689 men of the regiment have been discharged to date and 150 are sick. None of the invalids are in danger.

Should the Twentieth Kansas leave Manila September 5, as planned, it should reach San Francisco about the first week of October. The voyage from Manila has taken about a month for each of the last three regiments that have crossed.

Bed of Zinc Found at Guthrie.

Guthrie, Ok., Aug. 28.—What is believed will prove to be a valuable bed of zinc was discovered on the farm of Frank Cummins, adjoining the city of Guthrie on the east. Workmen digging a well struck the bed 20 feet below the surface. Two specimens were taken out which persons who have examined findings from the valuable Arkansas zinc fields say rival those products. The specimens will be sent to the agricultural and mechanical college at Stillwater this week to be assayed.

RUSSIA TAKING A HAND.

Diplomats from the Czar's Empire Urged to Defeat Any Alliance Between England and America.

London, Aug. 28.—Upon authority of undoubted reliability, a reporter of the Associated Press has ascertained that into the Alaska dispute has crept the craftiness of Russian diplomacy. Russia, it can be stated, will do everything, with every possible energy, to prevent the practical cohesion of the two great English-speaking nations. In all her embassies instructions have been received to thwart the Anglo-American understanding.

"In any arrangement looking to a working agreement between England and the United States Russia sees the defeat of her dearest projects," said a British diplomat. "I believe her intense activity in China is to no small extent due to her fear that the Anglo-Saxon's power, once centralized, will sweep everything before it in the far east. Dreading the rapid realization of this nightmare, she is making hay while the sun shines, in the meantime intriguing to the utmost to tie the hands of those who are working to materialize Anglo-American sentiment. The latest evidence of this is in the Alaska affair, though, strictly speaking, it is a matter of internal policies and would have been settled long ago if left solely to Great Britain and the United States. Russia has managed to suggest motives never dreamed of by America by distorting facts. It is impossible for me to divulge exactly how or to what extent Russia got her paws into the dispute. But the attitude of her press, official to the core, is quite sufficient to show her motives."

WILL KEEP IT TO THE FRONT.

Mr. Bryan, in a Kansas City Interview, Says Silver Will Not Be Relegated—Statement Regarding His Wealth.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 28.—William J. Bryan was in Kansas City several hours on Saturday. He came from Tipton, Mo., where he made a speech for Judge Shackelford, democratic candidate to succeed R. P. Bland in congress. Regarding politics Mr. Bryan said:

I shall continue to discuss silver. There was a story from Des Moines, Ia., recently that I was putting silver in the background. I am not. I will not. I was incorrectly reported. Silver will be placed alongside of the other great issues and it will be given its due share of consideration. I stand by the Chicago democratic platform.

When a new baby is born in a household the parents do not expel the other children. Because the democratic party is making a fight on imperialism, militarism and trusts is no reason why we should send from our household the older child. We should gather all these children into our arms and fight for them.

Recently James Creelman, writing from Lincoln to a New York newspaper, had something to say about Mr. Bryan's wealth. Mr. Creelman wrote so Mr. Bryan says, that Mr. Bryan was worth about \$25,000. It appeared in print that Mr. Bryan is worth \$250,000 and the republican organs all over the country have been making political capital out of the story. He said the statement that he was worth about \$25,000 was true.

NEARLY A FIGHT.

Great Britain Lands Some Bluejackets in China to Protect Some of Her Subjects' Rights from Russia.

Shanghai, Aug. 28.—As the outcome of a dispute regarding the ownership of some lands at Hankow, on the Yang Tse Kiang, about 700 miles from the sea, which were purchased in 1863 by the concern of Jardine, Matheson & Co., but were subsequently included in the new concessions to Russia, the owners, under the advice and protection of Mr. Hurst, the British consul, sent workmen to fence in the tract. After the work was begun a dozen Cossacks from the Russian consulate appeared on the scene and forcibly ejected the workmen.

The captain of the second-class gunboat Woodlark, specially designed for river service, after consulting with Mr. Hurst, landed a party of bluejackets and moved the Woodlark within firing distance of the Russian consulate. For a time a fight seemed imminent but nothing further occurred. The bluejackets are now guarding the property. The British third-class gunboat Esk has been dispatched to Hankow from this port. Great Britain is evidently determined to uphold British rights.

Series of New Treasury Notes.

Washington, Aug. 28.—Officials at the treasury said that the series of new notes, which will be known as "the issue of 1899," will be ready for distribution about September 15. The new notes will replace the old ones of the denomination of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$100 and \$500. The designs for the new notes are now being considered by the secretary of the treasury, with the exception of the design for the \$5 note, which has been selected.

Christianity to Be Recognized.

Shanghai, Aug. 28.—Advices from Tokio say that the Japanese government has decided to recognize Christianity as among the religious organizations of the country. The bishops and other heads of the Christian churches have been secured in rights equal to those granted to the Buddhists and Shinto priests.

Four Americans Ambushed.

Manila, Aug. 28.—Four men of the Twenty-third regiment stationed at Cebu were ambushed by natives in the hills and three of them killed. The fourth succeeded in making his escape.