

# CLERK LOSES LIFE

FATALITY FOLLOWS THE STORM  
AT PLATTSMOUTH.

## AN EXPLOSION IN A CELLAR

Gas Ignited By the Careless Lighting  
of a Match—Victim Thrown  
Into Unused Cistern in  
Basement.

Ed. Grassman lost his life by the explosion of gas; fire broke out and destroyed \$15,000 worth of property and a total damage of \$100,000 of property is the result of the rainstorm that flooded Plattsmouth, Neb. Of the damage to property fully \$60,000 was reported at the Burlington shops, whose walls were shattered by floating lumber that swept down upon them from a submerged lumber yard. Hail practically ruined crops in an area three miles long and one mile wide.

The Boeck building, at Sixth and Main streets, had water in the cellar. E. A. Wurl, a merchant who occupied the store, accompanied by his clerk, Ed. Grassman, and the owner of the building, Henry Boeck, went into the cellar to investigate the source of escaping gas which had been noticed for some time. In the cellar they gathered about an abandoned cistern. Grassman, who was leaning over the side of the opening, lit a match, an explosion followed and he fell forward into the cistern. The shock knocked the other two men backward and they escaped.

Before the body of Grassman could be recovered fire broke out and the fire department did not get the blaze extinguished until after 9 o'clock at night. The damage to the property by fire was \$15,000. Grassman was thirty-five years of age and leaves a wife and two children.

## ROCKEFELLER KNEW NOTHING.

Was Willing Witness, But Lamentably Ignorant of Company Affairs.

John D. Rockefeller, president of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, occupied the witness stand in the United States district court July 6 while Judge Landis plied him with questions regarding the financial strength and the business methods of the corporation of which he is the head. Mr. Rockefeller was a very willing and an equally unsatisfactory witness. He was ready to tell all that he knew, but he said that he knew practically nothing. The net result of his examination was that he believed that during the years 1903, 1904 and 1905, the period covered by the indictments on which the Standard Oil company of Indiana was recently convicted, the net profits of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey were approximately 40 per cent of an outstanding capitalization of \$100,000,000.

The investigation by Judge Landis was instituted by him for the express purpose of determining whether or not the Standard Oil company of Indiana, that was convicted of violation of the law, was really owned by the Standard Oil company of New Jersey; whether the Union Tank Line, whose cars were used for the shipments made in violation of law, as similarly owned, and also to obtain an idea of the financial resources of the convicted corporation in order to inflict a fine proportioned to the offense and the assets of the convicted company.

Judge Landis is empowered to fix the fine at any sum between \$1,000 and \$20,000 for each count, of which there were 1,462 in the indictment.

Thus the maximum fine is \$29,240,000, but as the capital stock of the Indiana company is but one million dollars, the supreme court might deem the maximum fine as falling in the class of cruel and unusual punishment, prohibited by the constitution. It is shown, however, that the Indiana company is merely subsidiary to the New Jersey concern, with a capital of one hundred million dollars, no such appeal could be made.

## Makes Demand For Salary.

Mayor Schmitz, of San Francisco, sent a formal demand upon Auditor Horton for his full salary for the month of June and for the \$300 contingent fund allowed the mayor's office for July. The letter contained a warning against paying these or any other sums upon the order of James L. Gallagher, the acting mayor. The auditor was notified that he, with his bondsmen, would be held responsible. Auditor Horton has decided that his only safe course is to refuse to pass mayoralty orders unless they bear the signatures of both Schmitz and Gallagher.

## POLK IS BADLY WRECKED.

Small Tornado Passes Near New Town, Causing Damage.

The worst storm in the history of that part of the country struck Polk, Neb., at about midnight last night, inflicting a crop and other property loss that is very large. A strip of country extending from Hordville, the next station west of Polk, for six miles to the southeast and five miles in width, with Polk slightly south of the strip, is devastated.

The storm struck the town on the north and wrecked a dozen or more business and residence houses. The principal losses are sustained by Alex Scott, dealer in implements; Joseph Engleke, restaurant; Ira Plessinger, meat market; Rev. J. A. Larkin, retired minister; the Baptist church; Frank Fruide, restaurant. The Imola ment building of Mr. Scott, erected at a cost of \$2,500, is a total loss, and the stock, which was valued at \$7,000, has suffered a loss of from \$500 to \$1,000.

Long Pine, Neb., was also visited by a tornado and heavy damage done. With but few exceptions all the fronts of the store buildings were blown in. The Methodist church was demolished, the roof of the Northwestern roundhouse was blown off, and trees in the streets were blown to shreds. The Diamond livery barn was demolished. The roof of Berger's department store was torn off and much damage done to his stock of goods, especially in the dry goods and grocery departments.

The total damage is estimated to be \$100,000.

## HELD AS A HOSTAGE.

Morocco Chief Raisuli Steals the Sultan's Bodyguard.

Kaid General Sir Harry MacLean, commander of the sultan of Morocco's bodyguard, has been made a prisoner by Raisuli, the bandit chief, and will be held as a hostage by the latter until the sultan agrees to pardon Raisuli on his own terms. General MacLean was negotiating with Raisuli regarding the latter's pardon when he was made prisoner. General MacLean is an ex-officer of the British army and is descended from an old Scotch family. All his influence with the sultan has been exercised in the interests of civilization and humanity, and he is universally respected, even among the most fanatical of the foreign-hating Moors.

## Trans-Mississippi Congress.

D. R. Francis, as chairman of the committee on program, has issued the official call for the eighteenth annual session of the trans-Mississippi commercial congress, to be held at Muskogee, I. T., November 19-22. The call is issued to governors of states and territories and all public and commercial bodies in the trans-Mississippi district.

## Drowned in Lake Manawa.

Mrs. Clarence Stallard of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was drowned by the capsizing of a rowboat on Lake Manawa during a severe storm. She was with her husband. They had started to row across the lake to the docks of the amusement resort, when they were overtaken by the storm. Stallard was later found exhausted on the shore near the bathing beach.

## City Auditor Short.

Fred E. Smith, former city auditor of Akron, Ohio, is short \$173,992, according to the report submitted to the state auditor by F. A. Parmelee, the state inspector. The report says that Smith has securities from those to whom he loaned the city's money aggregating \$188,386, but Parmelee made no attempt to ascertain their real value.

## Fatal Fire at Battle Creek.

An overheated oven caused a fire at Battle Creek, Mich., which destroyed the main building of the Toasted Corn Flakes company's plant, causing a loss of \$75,000. Three firemen were severely injured during the fire and a Grand Trunk railway line man was killed by seizing a live wire while working among the debris.

## A New Kingman, Kas., Courthouse.

The corner stone for Kingman county's new courthouse was laid at Kingman. The ceremonies were in charge of the Masons, directed by the acting grand master, Frederick Washburn of Anthony. Kingman county was organized in 1874, and this is its first substantial courthouse.

It is reported that the Union Pacific company has purchased an additional tract of land on Indian Creek at Beatrice and near the company's round house there and will soon begin operations with a view to enlarging its shops there.

The citizens of Kearney, acting with the old settlers of central Nebraska, are making an effort to have the site of old Ft. Kearney purchased for a National Park and memorial ground.

## JOHN D. TO THE BARI!



## NO MORE C. O. D. LIQUOR

Express Companies Need not Carry Such Shipments to Kansas.

Judge Pollock Revokes Former Order—Common Carriers Under No Obligations to Receive Goods

Kansas City, Mo. — Judge John C. Pollock of the United States circuit court, revoked the mandatory order Friday morning compelling express companies to carry C. O. D. liquor and denied the temporary injunction against the Wells-Fargo Express company and the Pacific Express company asked by the Harvest-King Distilling company.

All technicalities raised by the attorneys for the complainants were waived and Judge Pollock decided the case purely on its merits. After quoting several authorities the judge said in his order:

"It is clear that express companies are under no obligation or duty in common law to engage in C. O. D. carriage of goods, but that the obligation imposed to collect the purchase price of the article shipped is an obligation that must rest in contract and not in an obligation imposed by law."

Several express companies announced, May 15, that they would no longer carry C. O. D. liquor shipments into Kansas, giving as their reasons that public sentiment is opposed to such traffic in the face of the Kansas prohibition law. The manager of one of the express companies said that he had decided it was morally wrong to carry C. O. D. liquor shipments, even though it was permitted by the interstate commerce law.

The attorneys for the distilling companies urged that the express companies had no legal right to refuse C. O. D. shipments of liquor. Judge Pollock issued a mandatory order June 1 compelling the express companies to carry the C. O. D. shipments until the questions at issue might be presented to the court in proper form. This order he has revoked.

## Squires a False Alarm.

Oceanview Ringside, Cal. — Bill Squires the mystery from Australia, lusted a portion of a round when Tommy Burns solved the mystery with a succession of right hand blows to the jaw and the fight was over. The fact that Squires was an unknown quantity had lent interest to the fight and the biggest crowd that ever gathered at an outdoor contest assembled just outside San Francisco to witness the contest.

## No Permits for the Japs.

San Francisco, Calif. — The board of police commissioners Thursday denied the application of five Japanese for the privilege of renewing their permits to keep intelligence offices in this city and refused two Japanese applicants who desired to obtain new permits for the same business, on the ground that the applicants were not citizens of the United States.

## Cannot Exclude Negro Children.

Topeka. — The supreme court Friday night decided that the city of Wichita, by its board of education, in the absence of statutory authority, has no right to exclude a child, by reason of its color, from public schools.

## Railroad Company Fined \$15,000.

Rochester, N. Y. — The New York Central railroad company was fined \$15,000 in the federal court Friday afternoon for failure to file rates on a shipment of oil for the Standard Oil company.

## PUT THE MAN IN JAIL.

President Wilson of Princeton Says Fining of Corporations Is Useless to Cure Evils.

Norfolk, Va. — Gov. Hughes of New York, and Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton university, were the orators of the day at the joint Independence day celebration and first annual reunion of the lineal descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence at the Jamestown exposition Thursday.

The singing of "Columbia," and other patriotic songs by the chorus of children preceded the addresses of Gov. Hughes and Dr. Wilson.

Individual accountability for the acts of corporations, the arrest and imprisonment of corporation heads instead of the fining or dissolution of corporations themselves is the remedy for the monopolistic tendencies and the unlawful practice of modern industries, urged Dr. Wilson.

"One really responsible man in jail," he said, "one real originator of the schemes and transactions which are contrary to the public interest, legally lodged in the penitentiary would be worth more than a thousand corporations mulcted in fines if the firm is to be genuine and permanent."

What the country needs, Mr. Wilson set forth, is not government ownership of railroads, etc., but laws that will attack and punish presidents and general managers of railroads for evasions and violations of the statutes. Stock manipulators, he calls "sheer thefts," and says they should be punished as such. Failure to do so, in his mind, is like overlooking highway robberies.

## To Compile Catholic Statistics.

St. Louis. — It was learned that the Rev. John J. Glennon, archbishop of St. Louis, has just been appointed by the United States census bureau as special agent to compile complete statistics of the Catholic population of the country, estimated at 15,000,000. Archbishop Glennon has appointed Rev. J. J. Tannrath of St. Louis, chief assistant, and has written to all the bishops in the United States, asking their co-operation.

## Raisuli Makes a Capture.

Tangier. — General Sir Henry MacLean, commander of the sultan's body guard and next to the sultan the most influential man in Morocco, has been captured by Raisuli, the bandit chief. Raisuli has announced that he will hold the general a prisoner until the sultan grants the terms which he, Raisuli, demands for his own pardon and MacLean's release.

## Are Still Officers.

Denver, Colo. — Charles H. Moyer was retained as president and William D. Haywood as secretary-treasurer of the Western federation of Miners by the federation convention Tuesday although they are imprisoned in Idaho on the charge of complicity in the murder of Former Governor Frank Steunenberg.

## War on the "Warpath."

Norfolk, Virginia. — A riot occurred Wednesday night at the Jamestown exposition, following an attempt of 500 members of the South Carolina and Kentucky regiments to take charge of the "Warpath," which attempt the Powhatan guards resisted. Several were injured.

## Broke World's Hammer Record.

New York. — John Flannagan broke the world's 16-pound hammer record from a nine foot circle at the Irish Counties Athletic Union games Thursday. He threw 173 feet four inches.

## THEY HAVE SERVED JOHN D.

Officers Finally Located Oil Magnate at Pittsfield, Mass.

Must Appear in Federal Court at Chicago and Tell Judge Landis About Standard Oil.

Pittsfield, Mass. — After a search lasting nearly two weeks, in which representatives of the United States marshals of Chicago, Cleveland New York and Boston have been endeavoring to serve upon John D. Rockefeller, head of the Standard Oil company, a subpoena issued by Judge Landis of the federal court of Chicago. Mr. Rockefeller was located in this city Wednesday and personal service made upon him by deputy United States Marshal Charles L. Frink of North Adams.

Early in the day, Deputy Marshals Frink and James Ruhl, the latter of Boston office, visited Taconic farm, but E. Parmelee Prentice told them that his father-in-law was not there. The officers professed to be satisfied with the statement and departed, remarking that they had no search warrant which would permit them to go through the house.

Deputy Ruhl boarded the train for Boston and Deputy Frink went to his home in North Adams, about 25 miles from this city. Later Deputy Frink decided to pay another visit to the farm and he returned to Pittsfield and secretly drove out there in the afternoon. He proceeded through the wooded driveway into the open space in front of the house and recognized Mr. Rockefeller sitting on the piazza. The deputy passed the subpoena to the oil man explaining at the same time that Mr. Rockefeller's presence in the federal court at Chicago on July 6 was needed.

## Railroad Demurrers Denied.

Jefferson City, Mo. — The supreme court in Banc denied the demurrer of the Missouri Pacific railroad to the ouster suit instituted by Attorney General Hadley to dissolve the alleged merger of the Missouri Pacific, Wabash and other Gould interests in Missouri. The railroads will be given time to file an answer to the suit but this will not be done until the October term of court.

## Holmes Jury Disagreed.

Washington, D. C. — After being out for almost 26 hours, the jury in the trial of Former Associate Statistician E. S. Holmes, jr., of the department of agriculture, on the charge of conspiring to defraud the government by giving out the department's crop information Wednesday at 4:45 p. m., reported a disagreement.

## Bonapart Wants Information.

San Francisco. — United States Attorney Devlin has received a letter from Attorney General Bonaparte, asking him to make an investigation and report immediately upon the action of the San Francisco officials in refusing to grant licenses to employment agencies conducted by Japanese.

## Fleet Movement is Wise.

London, Eng. — The transfer of the American fleet to the Pacific is a matter of great interest to the British press. The Post in an editorial article says it regards this move as a most natural and intelligible outcome of the new position of the United States as a world power, the only wonder being that this decision was not sooner.

## Shot While Raiding a Joint.

Oklahoma City, Okla. — J. R. Maddox, a deputy United States marshal, was shot and killed and Dr. R. A. Saupper, another officer was probably fatally wounded when they raided a "joint" near Porum Friday. James Pittsworth, proprietor of the place is under arrest.

## The Missing Bank Teller Captured.

New York. — Chester B. Runyan, the missing teller of the Windsor Trust company, who disappeared with about \$96,000 of the company's funds several days ago, was arrested in this city Friday. Runyan carried \$64,000 when arrested.

## Sane Fourth at San Francisco.

San Francisco. — The Fourth was quietly celebrated in this city. Fire crackers and fireworks were barred, but the parks and the pleasure grounds were thronged and music and athletic sports furnished entertainment to thousands.

## Miners Work Eight Hours in France.

Paris, France. — The bill fixing the maximum time for labor in the mines at eight hours per day was passed Friday by the chamber of deputies.

## German Banker Arrested.

Berlin, Germany — Herr Knorr, a banker of Anklam, Pomerania, has been arrested on the charge of embezzling \$100,000.