

LOUP CITY NORTHWESTERN.

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GREAT FIRE LOSS

ARMOUR'S SIOUX CITY PACKING HOUSE BURNED.

DAMAGE NEARLY A MILLION

Every Building and Much Finished Product Consumed—Inadequate Pressure and Apparatus Rendered Fire Department Helpless.

SIOUX CITY, Ia.—Armour & Co.'s packing plant, which occupied four acres of the stock yards and valued at \$900,000, was totally destroyed early Sunday morning by a fire which started on the second floor of the fertilizer building and is thought by Manager Lennon to have been due either to spontaneous combustion or to an imperfect dryer. The loss is partly covered by \$721,500 insurance. Six hundred men are thrown out of employment by the fire.

Within an hour after the fire was discovered by a watchman, six streams of water were being thrown upon the fire, which was gutting the fertilizer building, which was 120x50 feet and four stories high, but the pressure was inadequate. The floors and contents of the building burned like chaff. The roof soon fell and the fire burst through the beef-killing house. At the same time the cattle chute ignited, and in five minutes fell with a crash. Once in the beef-killing house, the flames began to dance madly. From this house to the oleo building was only a step, and when the oils started to burn the fire presented a most spectacular appearance.

The big beef house, containing 500 carcasses, next caught fire and the whole plant, except the hog house, was a lake of fire. The roar was terrible. The country for miles around was lit up. Suddenly there was a terrible detonation, followed quickly by another and then another. Twenty-four drums of 100 pounds of ammonia each exploded before the reserve supply in the ammonia cistern was reached. The explosion almost razed the entire plant. The flames were blown through the fire wall which separated the hog house from the other buildings. The hog house contained 3,500 dressed hogs and 2,500,000 pounds of pork products. Steadily the fire crept against the wind and through the office building. Not a scrap of paper was saved.

When the last of the ammonia drums was going off a burning chute fell upon a bunch of live hogs and their squeals were added to the appalling chorus. After the fire got a good headway in the hog house the shops, chicken packing plant, ice houses and ice runways and smaller department houses were consumed in quick succession.

The terrible roaring continued unabated, the high brick walls crumbled and crashed one by one, and the conflagration gradually ate its way through building after building. The fire department was helpless as its apparatus was inadequate. The pressure was hardly strong enough to throw water to the roof of the pork house. When the walls of this department burst the firemen played streams on the outbuildings until daylight.

The fire burned all day, and in the afternoon there was another terrible explosion, which threw bricks and pieces of iron for hundreds of yards. No one was hurt. It is said that the company will at once rebuild.

London's Reign of Crime.

LONDON—The protracted coronation rejoicings have been succeeded by a wave of crime. Accounts of murder trials and stories of other tragedies fill the columns of such papers as report those occurrences, and to the long list of criminal cases now pending, some tragedy is added almost daily. Suicide, also, is unusually prevalent. The murders are mostly confined to the lower classes. Much interest has been invoked this week over the recent stabbing case in which a young woman most deliberately killed a member of the stock exchange on the street in the busiest section of the city.

Says the War is Over.

WASHINGTON—A cablegram received from United States Minister Bowen at Caracas announces the intention of President Castro to enter that capital, and indicates that the war is over and the executive branch of the government is re-established at Caracas.

CHOLERA SPREADS IN MANILA.

Alarm Occasioned by Increase of Disease Among Residents.

MANILA—The number of cholera cases is increasing in this city and the spread of the disease is causing some alarm. There are on an average thirty cases daily. The Funston reserve hospital, the casual camp at Santa Mesa and Bilibid prison are now included among the places infested. The disease is spreading in the Marquina valley, where the danger of an infection of the water supply is regarded as grave. Should the water supply become infected a general epidemic is considered inevitable. The cholera reports from the provinces show a decrease in the number of cases.

A conference of the bishops, priests and leaders of the Philippine Roman Catholic church will be held in Manila next week. They propose to address a memorial to Mgr. Guidi, the apostolic delegate in the Philippines, setting forth their position. A number of native priests who sympathized with the movement, but are still adhering to the Roman Catholic church, will seek an interview with Mgr. Guidi before reaffirming allegiance to Rome or joining the dissenters. It is believed that Mgr. Guidi will deal with the church situation before entering upon negotiations with Civil Governor Taft regarding the friar lands.

REBELS KILL AMERICAN MAN.

Fight Between Bogota and Colombian Insurgents.

PANAMA.—The first American casualties resulting from the revolution occurred Wednesday. The Colombian fleet captured a boat having on board correspondence showing the whereabouts of two revolutionary schooners loaded with provisions. The warships headed for the place and on arriving Bogota, manned by an American crew, lowered two boats with armed men, but, as the schooners were aground, waited until high tide to attack them. In the meantime the revolutionists were discovered in ambush close to the beach. The boats pulled ahead, when the rebels opened fire on them, killing the ship's armorer, Richard Kane, of Washington, and wounding George Walker. A seaman named Clarks and Lieutenant Vasquez were also wounded, but not seriously.

Bogota and Chucuito then opened fire on the enemy and killed every man in sight. One shot fired at a group of ten rebels killed every one of them.

MILITARY MONEY ALLOTTED.

Schools in Different Parts Get Congressional Appropriation.

WASHINGTON—The \$25,000 appropriated by congress for the United States service schools has been allotted as follows:

To the artillery school at Fort Monroe, \$7,123; to the school of submarine defense at Fort Totten, N. Y., \$5,247; to the cavalry and artillery school at Fort Riley, Kan., \$1,118, and to the general service and staff college at Leavenworth, Kan., \$11,512.

An order issued from the war department Friday establishes a training school for farmers and blacksmiths at Fort Riley, Kan., in connection with the school of application there.

Hanged in Court House Yard.

ELIZABETHTOWN, Ky. —Harlan Buckles, who was Saturday sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Robert L. Reid, deputy marshal, was hanged by a mob early Sunday morning. The mob consisted of seventy-five men, some of whom are supposed to have come from Larue county. On account of the number, they had little difficulty in getting Buckles from the jail. He was taken to the court house yard and hanged to a tree, after which the mob dispersed.

Prince Edward Dead.

LONDON—Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar died here Sunday morning. He was attacked by appendicitis on Thursday and succumbed to congestion of the kidneys with which the original malady became complicated. Prince Edward was born near London in 1823, and was married morganatically in 1851 to Lady Augusta Gordon-Lennox.

Agrees to American Proposal.

PEKIN—Germany has agreed to the American proposal to submit the question whether the Chinese indemnity is payable in gold or silver to The Hague tribunal, provided that notice of that feature of the protocol be included in the arbitration.

TO PRESS TREATY

GENERAL BLISS TO GIVE IT HIS EARLY ATTENTION.

DOCUMENT IN THE SENATE SOON

The Islanders Said to Be Anxious to Procrastinate—They Think Other Nations May Do Better Than the United States.

WASHINGTON.—General Tasker H. Bliss will sail for Cuba on Saturday, if he can secure accommodations; if not, he will go by way of Tampa and reach Havana early next week.

It is the intention of those interested in the commercial treaty with Cuba to have it ready if possible in three weeks and General Bliss will endeavor to adjust the differences by that time. It is considered important to have it sent to the senate before the holiday recess, as it will require a two-thirds vote to ratify the treaty and a determined minority in the senate could postpone action for some time.

Those best informed regarding conditions existing in the island do not expect any speedy action. They believe that a large number of Cubans are opposed to granting the concessions the United States will demand, and there is reason to suppose they may test the effectiveness of the Platt amendment by entering into negotiations with other countries regarding trade relations.

The position which the American government holds in Cuba and not its relations with the leading foreign nations are such that it is not believed other governments would care to make any treaty which was not sanctioned by the United States. There is even some talk that the negotiations with Cuba might be brought to a satisfactory conclusion should it appear that the representatives of foreign governments at Havana had been instructed not to enter into any negotiations until a treaty had been concluded with the United States, but it is scarcely expected that such instructions can be obtained.

It is the desire of this government to leave the negotiations, should they fall, in such shape that it will not appear that an attempt had been made to extort from Cuba more than the United States was willing to give.

It is said that a commercial treaty will be necessary to establish Cuba on such a basis that it can float its proposed loan. With all negotiations hung up and strained relations existing between the old and new republics it is believed that there would be difficulty in selling the bonds. At the same time this government does not wish to appear in the attitude of holding a club over the Cuban government. It is therefore probable that in case the negotiations fail a statement of what was demanded by the United States and the reasons why the concessions were asked will be made.

ARMY MAN FACES TROUBLE.

With Reporter He is Charged with Blackmailing.

NEW YORK—A man giving the name of Harry A. Williams, but who the police declare is Henry C. Wilson, for twenty years chief clerk and civil engineer in the Department of the East, U. S. A., was arrested Friday on a charge of extortion. Benjamin F. Whitmore, who says he is a reporter, was arrested on a similar charge.

The two men are accused of trying to hold up the Water Front Improvement company of Jersey City, which is engaged in filling in crib work on Ricker's Island in the East river. The men are charged with extorting \$4,500 under threats of stopping the work by causing to be withdrawn an army tug, a dredge and some scows which had been loaned.

Sagasta Gives Up Task.

MADRID—Senor Sagasta informed King Alfonso Friday that he felt compelled to abandon the task of trying to form a new cabinet, but the king requested him to make a further effort. It is reported that Senor Montero Rios, president of the senate, intends to resign and to retire from politics.

Burned to Death in Bed.

PARIS—Count Frank, who was well known in society here, was burned to death in his bed Sunday night through an outbreak of fire at his residence, Chateau des Lands, at Suresnes. It is supposed that his lamp exploded.

ANSWER TO BAER.

Has Been Presented to the Commission.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The reply of President George F. Baer of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal company to the charges of President Mitchell of United Mine Workers, which has been presented to the anthracite coal strike commission, was on Tuesday given to the public.

Mr. Baer makes no reference to Mr. Mitchell as the president of the miners' organization, but refers to him simply as an individual.

Taking up the specifications of Mr. Mitchell's charges, seriatim, Mr. Baer first admits that his company owns thirty-seven collieries and that before the strike it employed 26,589 people. Following is a brief summary of the response to Mr. Mitchell's other specifications:

Second—The demand for 20 per cent increase in wages on piece work is denounced as "arbitrary, unreasonable and unjust." The company contends that, after making all necessary allowance for different conditions, the rate of wages paid for the mining of anthracite coal is as high as that paid in the bituminous coal fields.

Third—The company denies that the present scale of wages is lower than that paid in other occupations in the same locality and controlled by like conditions.

Fourth and Fifth—Mr. Baer denies that the earnings of the anthracite workers are less than average earnings for other occupations requiring skill and training and also that the earnings are insufficient because of the dangerous character of work in the anthracite mines.

Sixth—This specification is referred to as too vague for specific answer, but in a general way it is stated that the anthracite regions are among the most prosperous in the United States.

Seventh—The company pronounces as unjust and inequitable the demand for a reduction of 20 per cent in hours of labor without a reduction of earnings for time employed and this demand is pronounced impracticable. In this connection, the following statement is made:

"Because of the injury to the mines by the strike of the United Mine Workers, the cost of producing coal has been greatly increased and a temporary advance in price was made by this company, but it will be impracticable to continue such increase when mining operations become normal."

Eighth—Mr. Baer says that his company has no disagreement with any of its employes about the weighing of coal, because the quantity is usually determined by measurement and not by weight.

Ninth—Replying to the fourth demand made by Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Baer says that since the advent of the United Mine Workers' organization into the anthracite fields, business conditions there have been intolerable; that the output of the mines has decreased, that discipline has been destroyed, that strikes have been of almost daily occurrence; that men have worked when and as they pleased, and that the cost of mining has been greatly increased. He also takes the position that the jurisdiction of the commission is limited to the conditions named by the coal company presidents, which excludes the United Mine Workers from any recognition in the proceedings. He says, however, that "when a labor organization limited to anthracite mine workers is created which shall obey the law, respect the rights of every man to work and honestly co-operate with employers, trade agreements may become practicable."

HAS NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE.

Secretary of State Can Do Nothing to Help Mascagni.

WASHINGTON—Mascagni's troubles have not yet been brought to the attention of the state department and the officials there see no reason why they should be. Secretary Hay has no power to interfere with the course of justice in the Massachusetts court.

Mr. Mayor des Planches, the Italian ambassador, is now in Boston, and it is supposed that, with the Italian consul there, he will advise the composer of his actual rights before the Boston courts.

ROME—Foreign Minister Prinetti has instructed the Italian ambassador at Washington to lend all possible aid to Signor Mascagni, the composer, in his difficulty, and to go to Boston if necessary. Several senators and deputies have given notice of their intention to interrogate the government on the Mascagni affair at the opening of parliament.

THE PHILIPPINES

CHAFFEE AND OTHER OFFICERS DESCRIBE WORK THERE.

THE CAMPAIGN IN SAMAR

As to the Moros in Mindanao and Jolo—Time, Tact and Patience Will Be Required to Completely Establish United States Authority.

WASHINGTON—The annual report of Major General Adna R. Chaffee, just made public, covers the campaign of General J. H. Smith in Samar, refers to friction that occurred between the civil and military authorities regarding Leyte and discusses the action of various officers and the work of the army in the suppression of recent insurrections.

General Chaffee warmly defends the officers, and assumes full responsibility for all that was done under official orders. He says the various predatory Filipino bands are of little military importance and can in time be handled by the insular constabulary.

Speaking of the campaign in Samar, he says he finds nothing in the written instructions which "was not justified by the conditions there to be overcome." The formation of concentration camps was necessary to suppress the insurrection in the provinces of Batangas, Laguna and Tayabas, especially as the civil authorities in some instances aided the insurrectionists.

He requests the removal of the censure passed publicly upon General Bell regarding orders, circulars and instructions which he issued while putting down the insurrection.

An interesting portion of the report is that relating to the Moros in Mindanao and Jolo. He says it will require time, tact and patience to establish United States authority over all the Moro settlements.

"The sooner the sultan of Jolo's title, actual or assumed, as sovereign and as sole owner of the land in the Jolo archipelago, is quieted the better for the situation. Probably there is little doubt that a money consideration would relieve the situation, and if this be done laws just but simple and so plainly stated as to be understood by the Moro population could generally be enforced through the datos upon their followers without much trouble or frequent resort to force. It will be impossible for many years to ignore chiefs, datos, and to deal directly with the individual Moros as is done with civilized, Christian people. It will, however, be a long step ahead when the datos are independent of the sultan and recognize the United States as the only sovereignty to which allegiance is due and as the only authority empowered to enact laws for the government of the country; that all the inhabitants are equal before the law; that Christian people have a right to live. But to advance so far will consume much time and may result in national conflict; for the modification of present beliefs will in some cases require the use of military force."

FUNERAL OF LIU KUN II.

Quarter of a Million People Line the Route of Cortege.

SHANGHAI—The funeral of Liu Kun II, the famous viceroy of Nankin, which took place Sunday at Nankin, was the occasion for unprecedented demonstrations of respect on the part of the foreign representatives in that city. The funeral cortege was of great length and the obsequies, by command of the dowager empress, were carried out with imperial pomp. Nearly a quarter of a million people lined the route to the jetty where the remains were embarked on a Chinese cruiser which will bear them to Hunan, the native province of the deceased statesman.

The foreign men-of-war lying off the city fired minute guns of war during the progress of the funeral procession.

Cannon Would Be Speaker.

CHICAGO—A majority of the Illinois delegation to congress on Monday endorsed Congressman Cannon of the Eighteenth Illinois district to succeed Speaker Henderson. It was announced by A. J. Hopkins, candidate for the senate to succeed Senator Mason, that assurances had been received from a majority of congressmen in Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas and Michigan that they would support Mr. Cannon.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

Report of the First Assistant Postmaster General.

WASHINGTON.—The annual report of the first assistant postmaster general urges that, in view of the success of the rural free delivery establishment and its future necessities, the recommendation for \$12,655,800 for that purpose is reasonable. The amount is an increase of a little more than \$5,000,000 over the current fiscal year.

The correct alleged injustice of compelling a postmaster to pay part of his salary for clerk hire, Mr. Wynne urges legislation authorizing the post-office to make allowances for clerk hire at third class postoffices when it is satisfactorily shown that the postmaster is unable to transact the postoffice business.

The advisability of erecting branch postoffices in cities is endorsed as economical. The establishment and extension of the pneumatic tube service will make it necessary to secure permanent sites for stations in large cities. An effort has been made to equalize the salaries of clerks in first and second class offices by the promotion of low-salaried but efficient clerks. At the larger first class offices clerks are not now working in excess of eight hours a day, but it is impracticable to give clerks in smaller offices eight hours continuous service. An effort is being made to reduce their hours to a fair basis.

"A plan is proposed," the report continues, "whereby in the larger cities sub-carriers shall receive at least \$30 a month, and in the smaller \$25 a month. Sub-carriers cannot now count on a fixed income. The rural free delivery system has become a permanent feature of the service and receipts have increased and conditions improved wherever it has been put in operation.

No deficiency, it is said (will be created by this service. It will be left to congress to say whether the establishment of routes already laid out shall be hastened and the installation of routes in course of investigation expedited. Additional appropriations must be made for this purpose.

It is recommended that congress make provision for a leave of absence with full pay for rural carriers not to exceed fifteen days in a year.

Extension to rural carriers of power to receive and register letters have proved so acceptable to public benefit that it is proposed to further increase their usefulness by adding an extension of the money order system to rural routes.

For Fraudulently Using Mails.

SIOUX CITY, Ia.—Earl Lake of this city has just been sentenced to six months in the penitentiary at Anamosa by the United States court at Fort Dodge for attempting the "Pat Crow" act. He pleaded guilty. Lake was charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes. At the time of the disappearance of Mrs. T. F. Burns, a prominent society woman here, some weeks ago, Lake proposed in a letter to Mr. Burns that he would reveal her whereabouts for \$100, and instructed him to leave the money at a certain spot. He was met by detectives and arrested.

Claim Election Illegal.

CODY, Wyo.—The election in Big Horn county is alleged to have been illegal and will probably be contested by the democrats. It is claimed that the certificates of nomination of the candidates were not published prior to the election, as required by law, and this will be the ground for attacking the validity of the election, and notice to this effect will be filed in the district court at Basin City in a few days. If the contention of the democrats is sustained, another election must be held, for no officer elected would be entitled to hold office.

Asks Flameless Explosive.

WASHINGTON—The annual report of the United States mine inspector of New Mexico recommends a commission of experts in explosives to experiment with a flameless explosive for use in coal mines. Congress is also asked to place restrictions on the general practice of blasting coal without cutting or undermining.

Czarina Has Melancholia.

LONDON—In a dispatch from Livonia the correspondent of the Daily Mail says the czarina has fallen into a condition of deep melancholia, which takes the form of preserving silence for long periods, even in the presence of guests. Her majesty's condition is causing her doctors considerable anxiety.