

Condensed News of the Week

Sunday, January 4, was a sad day in the annals of Chicago, for on that day and on Monday the balance of the 587 funerals of those killed in the Iroquois theatre fire were held. But six bodies remain unidentified of the 587 who died in the fire. Damage suits running into the millions will be instituted against the management of the theatre, and a large number of arrests have already been made. A thorough examination of the building and the origin of the fire have been made and the blame fixed on the guilty parties. By order of the mayor, every theatre in Chicago was closed on the evening of January 2, and they will remain closed until every section of the building ordinances are complied with. Condolences on the terrible disaster have been sent to Chicago from Russia, Switzerland, Austria, Ireland as well as most of the other European countries and the sympathy expressed throughout this country has been most marked.

The week opened with renewed rumors of war between Japan and Russia. On January 2 it was announced that Russia has rejected all the recent demands of the Japanese and that she is virtually forcing the conflict by her action in the matter. Unusual activity among the war vessels of both nations is noticeable, and reports from Japan seem to indicate that that country is determined to insist upon the recognition of certain rights by Russia in Korea, and the press of Japan seems to regard war as inevitable.

The disputes between the copper kings, which disputes recently caused a temporary cessation of mining in that region and inflicted much suffering on the miners and their families, is in a fair way to be settled, according to advices from New York sources. It is believed that the stock of the copper companies will be distributed and thus to some extent taken out of the hands of the magnates who now control the output.

A cablegram from London, under date of January 2, says: The Anglo-Italian arbitration treaty, which is on practically the same lines as the Anglo-French treaty, is expected to be signed next week. The agreement has already been drawn up by Foreign Secretary Lansdowne and the Italian ambassador to Great Britain.

Princess Mathilde, the only daughter of Prince Jerome Bonaparte, died in Paris on the evening of January 2. The death of this princess has caused universal sorrow throughout France, as she was not only one of the last of the Napoleons, but has justly earned the title of "the good princess."

In spite of the biting cold weather and the great quantity of snow in and about Salt Lake City, Utah, the eviction of the striking miners continues in the coal camps. The suffering is intense, as few of the strikers have food or money.

The legislative caucuses preliminary to the organization of the Ohio general assembly, which convened on January 4, were held in Columbus on January 2 and John H. Clark of Cleveland was nominated for United States senator in a joint caucus of the democratic senators and representatives. Senator Mark A. Hanna was renominated by the republican members, although no senatorial caucus was held because of the action of the state convention in nominating Mr. Hanna.

The republican state committee for Mississippi met at Jackson on January 2 and fixed March 1 as the time and Jackson as the place for holding the state convention. Resolutions indorsing President Roosevelt were adopted. Another resolution was also adopted, which resolution was as follows: "Resolved, That the speedy construction of the Panama canal is necessary to the continued prosperity of the nation and especially to that of the Gulf states and it is our deliberate conviction that those who oppose the construction of the same, under whatever guise, are consciously or unconsciously enemies to the best interests of the United States."

General James Longstreet, soldier, statesman and diplomat, and, with the exception of General Gordon, the last lieutenant general of the confederate army, died in Gainesville, Ga., on January 2, at the age of 84 years. He is survived by his wife and five children. General Longstreet was well known in this country, having been a con-

spicuous figure for many years. He was buried in Gainesville, which has been his home since the civil war.

Five thousand additional men were placed at work in McKeesport, Pa., on January 3 at the plants of the National Tube company, thus placing the mills on full turn. All the salaried men of the tin mills at Newcastle, Pa., suffered a reduction in wages ranging from 10 to 15 per cent, beginning with the new year, and it was reported from Huntington, W. Va., on January 2 that 1,000 employes of the American Car and Foundry company had struck against a 10 per cent reduction in their wages.

What is said to be the worst blizzard since November, 1898, swept over New England on January 2 and 3. In the city of Boston five deaths were reported from exposure. Severe cold and stormy weather also prevailed through the states along the Atlantic coast, the storm extending as far inland as sections of Ohio and other eastern states.

The national convention of the socialist party will be held in Chicago on May 1, at which time the candidates for national offices will be placed in nomination.

An uproarious political meeting was held at Newton Abbot, England, on January 2, in connection with the Middlelevan election and the Tariff Reform league, and several people were injured in the commotion. The 3,000 persons in attendance refused to listen to the chairman or the speakers.

President Horace G. Burt, of the Union Pacific railroad, on January 1 officially tendered his resignation to the board of directors of that railroad. Mr. Burt has been in the railroad field for thirty years without rest or recreation and it is believed that this is the main reason for his resignation. He has served as president of the Union Pacific since February, 1898.

General Stephen Moffitt, one of the prominent men of northern New York, and a veteran of the civil war, died at his home in Plattsburgh, N. Y., on January 3. General Moffitt was born in Clintonville, N. Y., in 1837, and served through the civil war, since holding many important offices in the public service.

It was reported from Lima, Peru, on January 3, that at a secret session of the Peruvian congress held on the evening of January 2, the arbitration treaty for a settlement of the boundary dispute between Peru and Bolivia was approved.

The trial of United States Senator Dietrich of Nebraska on charges preferred against him by a grand jury at Omaha, Neb., recently, began in that city on January 4. The indictment against Mr. Dietrich alleging conspiracy to effect a bribe, which indictment was the most serious, was quashed on the first day of the trial and demurrers were filed in the other charges against the senator.

Democrats of prominence from the city of New York, the state and the country generally, assembled in the metropolis on January 4 to attend a dinner given in honor of George B. McClellan, the newly installed mayor of New York city. The principal addresses were delivered by Richard A. Olney and David B. Hill, and dealt with national politics.

The northwest wing of the state capitol at Des Moines, Ia., was gutted by fire on January 4, entailing a loss of about \$500,000. The chamber of the house of representatives is a total ruin and cannot be repaired in time for the approaching session of the state legislature.

In a collision between a passenger train with a freight train five miles west of Topeka, Kas., on January 6, both engineers were killed and many people were seriously injured.

Over 40,000 wage-earners who have been idle for months have been furnished employment by the resumption of mills in the Pittsburg district. This resumption is due to the demand for iron and steel products which seems to be increasing.

It was reported on January 6 that the Bul-

garian government had sent a note to the porte complaining of the nonfulfillment of its promises concerning reforms in Macedonia. It is urged that immediate measures be taken to fulfill these reforms that were promised by Turkey, and also that an end be put to the practice of arresting Bulgarians entering Turkey and the persecution of Bulgarians in Macedonia by Turkish soldiers. It is believed that Russia is making great efforts to prevent the reopening of the Macedonian question at this time when its attention is concentrated on the crisis in the far east.

Seventeen persons killed and twenty-seven injured is the record of a wreck on the Rock Island railroad near Willard, Kas., January 6.

The state legislature of New York assembled at Albany on January 6. In his annual message Governor Odell cautioned the legislature regarding the proposed enactment of new statutes affecting labor, saying that the employers should be protected as well as the employes. A bill aimed at the Italian "Mafia" society was introduced in the state senate on the opening day. This bill proposes to remove from the penal code the minimum age of 18 years, before which persons may not carry revolvers, and prohibits the carrying upon the person of any deadly weapons whatever, making violation a felony.

Sergeant Julius Frederick, Arctic explorer and member of the Greely expedition, died at his home in Indianapolis, Ind., January 6.

The republican state committee of Kansas met at Topeka on January 6 and decided to hold the next republican state convention in Wichita on March 9. The committee expressed its desire for an early convention in order that Kansas might be among the first states to indorse President Roosevelt.

Another war in San Domingo is on and it was reported on January 7 that the town of Puerto Plata had been ordered to surrender by the insurgent forces. American and British war vessels are near the city and it is believed that they will oppose the bombardment of the town.

The federal grand jury which has been investigating alleged bribery in the purchase of sites for postoffices in different towns in the state of Missouri on January 7 returned nine indictments.

Recent dispatches carried by the Associated press show that the activity among the fleets of Russia and Japan is continuing, it being announced on January 4 that a formidable Russian fleet had sailed from Bizertia, Tunis, to eastern waters. On January 6 it was announced that 8,000 Japanese troops are ready to land at Masampho, and that their landing would probably mean war. A regiment of Cossacks is also expected at Port Arthur, but the location of troops in Manchurian territory is kept secret.

The general assembly for Kentucky organized on January 5 by the election of democratic officers in both branches. Governor Beckham submitted his message which dealt severely with recent newspaper reports of conditions in the famous Breathitt county disturbances, the governor declaring that many of these reports are slanders on the state.

What is regarded as the coldest weather for many years prevailed through the eastern section of the country on January 5, the thermometers marking as low as 20 and 30 degrees below freezing point. The waters of several eastern harbors were frozen and much suffering resulted from the unprecedented cold weather.

An investigation was begun by the federal grand jury at Hannibal, Mo., on January 5 as to alleged corrupt transactions in the selection and sale of postoffice sites in Columbia, Moberly, Kirksville, Louisiana, Joplin and Nevada, all Missouri points. It is charged that large sums of money were paid to control the location of these postoffice sites.

John Alexander Dowie, the founder of Zion City, recently secured an option on the island of Matagoria, on the Texas coast, and it is believed that he intends to make this island the site for a new colony. The island embraces 30,000 acres.