



Twenty firemen were killed and many others were injured in a fire at Philadelphia.

It is announced that there will be no contest over Mrs. Eddy's will.

John D. Rockefeller has given \$10,000,000 for the University of Chicago.

The throne in China has issued an edict refusing to create a constitutional cabinet.

William A. Gaston has withdrawn as a democratic candidate for senator against Mr. Lodge. He says that no democrat can be elected and he thinks every one should help Governor-elect Foss defeat Lodge.

An Associated Press dispatch from St. Paul, Minn., says: A bill will be presented to the coming legislature asking for an appropriation of \$1,000 a year for the further education of

Mabel Gammon, 16 years of age, who has been unable to speak, hear or see since her birth. Miss Gammon has been in the Faribalt school only three years, yet she writes on the typewriter with skill, has a vocabulary of 3,000 words and recently wrote an essay of 5,000 words. She makes her own clothes, threading her own needles and is skilled in fancy work."

Nat P. Jackson, editor of the Paris, Texas, Advocate, has been appointed secretary of the democratic state committee for Texas.

Michael Cudaby left an estate valued at \$11,000,000. The property will go to the members of the family.

Dr. Cook has returned to America. He came "unhonored and unsung."

Three hundred and fifty miners were entombed by a coal mine explosion near Manchester, England.

Two hundred persons were killed in a San Salvadore earthquake.

A New York dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald says: "A practicable plan for safeguarding the \$7,000,000,000 of fraternal insurance now outstanding in the various states of the union has at last been formulated and will shortly be presented to all state legislatures, with the approval of the various state departments of insurance. The announcement was made here following a conference of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and a committee representing the fraternal insurance societies."

A Trenton, N. J., dispatch carried by the United Press says: "Not 'who is to be senator from New Jersey?' but 'shall the people or the boss rule?' is the question for the incoming legislature to decide, according to Governor-elect Woodrow Wilson. Wilson, in a caustic statement issued, charges former Senator James Smith, Jr., the Newark banker, with bad faith in presuming to be a candidate against James E. Martine, the primary choice. Smith, through his personal followers, assured Wilson before election that his 'health' would not permit him to become a candidate for his old place in the senate. After election he sent word to Wilson that he wanted the job. Wilson then says: 'The issue is plain. If Mr. Smith is sent back to the United States senate, the democratic party and the state itself is once more delivered into the hands of the very influences from which it has struggled to set itself free. Mr. Smith's candidacy renews and intensifies the struggle between the people and the selfish interests. I desire to co-operate with the democrats of every affiliation in carrying the party forward by union and harmony of action toward the great service which it can render the country if it will but be true to its principles. But when organization is used for the benefit and elevation of individuals who do not represent the people, whose interests are opposed to the people, I must resist it by every means at my disposal.'"

Chief Horan and thirty members

of the Chicago fire department lost their lives in the fire which destroyed the beef house of Nelson Morris Company of Chicago. On the day before this fire occurred fourteen members of the Philadelphia fire department lost their lives in a fire in that city.

Cecil Grace, nephew of the late Mayor Grace of New York, undertook to cross the English channel in an airship and it is feared that he lost his life.

THE FIRST ELECTRIC LIGHTS

The usual understanding of the primal application of electricity as an illuminant is an association of the names of Brush and Edison as the first to apply the forces of electricity to produce light. In a sense this idea is correct, but the first experimental philosopher to discover that electric light could be produced by a dry battery was Sir Humphrey Davy, who in 1810 exhibited a light three inches long, between carbon points,

before the Royal Society of London. But no commercial value was attached to the use of electricity as an illuminant until more than half a century later. The Centennial exhibition, held in Philadelphia in 1876, really marks the era of our present form of electric light, though electric lights had been in use abroad prior to that time. The exhibition of models and practical demonstrations of electric lights at Philadelphia in 1876 attracted the attention of scientists and capitalists in this country, and the first incandescent lamps and the first arc system were put to practical use in a small way in 1878. The Brush arc light gained favor in the beginning as the most adaptable for street lighting, and Cleveland, Ohio, the home of Charles Francis Brush, the inventor, was the initial American city to adopt the arc system for street lighting.

Since 1878, both the Brush arc system and the Edison incandescent system have developed.—Marc M. Reynolds in Moody's Magazine.

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