

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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HAVOC OF FLAMES

Lives and Property Wiped Out by Raging Fires in Various Places.

MANY PERSONS DIE HORRIBLE DEATHS.

One Entire Family Suffers Torture, Four Being Killed.

FIREMEN BURIED BENEATH WALLS

Disaster in Mexico with Frightful Loss of Life.

FIFTEEN BODIES ALREADY ARE FOUND

One of Finest Buildings in the Republic Is a Total Wreck—Thousands of Dollars Lost.

DUBOIS, Pa., Dec. 22.—Word reached here today of a terrible fire that occurred about three miles from Summerville, Jefferson county, yesterday morning. The home of John L. Ashbaugh, a farmer, was destroyed by fire and four persons were burned to death. One other in a barn was in such a manner that recovery is very doubtful and four others are seriously burned and injured.

WILLIAM ASHBAUGH, 22 years old, a brother of the owner of the Ashbaugh home.

MAYBEL ASHBAUGH, a 12-year-old daughter.

HARRY ASHBAUGH, a 10-year-old son.

JAMES ASHBAUGH, a 9-year-old son.

Herman Ashbaugh, 8 years old, recovered doubtful.

Mrs. Ashbaugh, seriously burned, leg broken and injured internally by jumping from a second-story window.

John Ashbaugh, the husband and father, seriously burned and suffering from exposure.

Two young children, painfully burned.

The affair happened at an early hour in the morning and the fire was undoubtedly caused by an overheated stove.

Awakened by Flames.

Mr. Ashbaugh was awakened by smoke entering the room he occupied and found the lower part of the house ablaze. He made his way outside with his two smallest children and hurried back to look for his wife, brother and four other children, who were still in the house.

He succeeded in reaching a room that had been occupied by the children, but only one, a 15-year-old boy, Herman, was there. He could hear the screams of the three others in another room which he was unable to reach.

Mr. Ashbaugh could not enter their room. The names were so there he was compelled to fight his way from the house. Meantime Mrs. Ashbaugh had jumped from an upper-story window and was lying on the ground with a broken leg and suffering from internal injuries and burns.

Reports from the injured persons tonight say Mr. and Mrs. Ashbaugh and the two youngest children are expected to recover, but the condition of the boy Herman is still critical.

Fireman Perishes in Ruins.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 22.—A special to the Age-Herald from Huntsville says:

In a fire which this morning burned the store of the Alabama Feed and Implement company in Commercial row and destroyed or ruined ten other stores one fireman was killed and another seriously injured.

After the flames were under control Firemen Henry Cochran and John Colburn were standing just within the door of the feed store playing a line of hose when the front wall fell through and two men were buried beneath three feet of hot brick and blazing embers.

Fully half an hour elapsed before the first man, Cochran, was dug out. His skull was crushed, two limbs broken and his body badly burned. He died in a few minutes. Colburn was protected by a large piece of timber which fell directly over him and his injuries were not fatal. The property loss was \$100,000.

Entire Town Threatened.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 22.—A special to the Age-Herald from Goodwater, Ala., says:

For the second time within thirty days the business section of this town has been threatened by a disastrous fire.

At 10 o'clock tonight six business houses were burned, the estimated loss being over \$100,000.

For awhile it seemed as if the entire town would be burned, but a stiff wind from the east kept the flames from crossing the street. Dry goods and groceries were moved out of the stores in danger on the opposite side of the street, and these goods were badly damaged.

Two Persons Killed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Isaac Gill, a tailor, 62 years of age, and an unidentified man lost their lives at a fire which destroyed a four-story sweatshop building on Clinton street tonight. Four persons were injured, none of them fatally. About forty men and women were at work in the building. The fire started in the basement and gained such headway that escape was cut off. The people jumped from the windows to save themselves. Many names were not mentioned were slightly injured.

The loss is figured at \$100,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Fire today wrecked a five-story building on Rodez street, doing damage to the extent of \$75,000. The building was owned by the estate of Thomas Vernon.

Many Perish Under Walls.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 22.—Under a special to the Star from San Antonio, Tex., says:

By the burning of the city market house at Zacatecas, Mex., many lives have been lost and over a score of persons seriously injured, some of them so badly that they cannot recover.

Fifteen bodies have been taken from the ruins and a large force is at work clearing away the debris in order to recover others, though there is no hope that any of those caught in the collapse of the big structure will be found alive.

It is impossible at this time to learn the names of the dead. Among those caught in the collapse were several of the minor officials charged with the management of the building.

The market house was one of the largest buildings in Zacatecas and was owned by the city. Its lower cellars were used for a cold storage, and it was in the basement section that the fire originated. The flames had gained such headway when discovered that the entire building was seen to be doomed and the efforts of the firemen and

FACIONAL FIGHT IN PARIS

Socialists and Nationalists Engage in Dispute at Public Ceremony.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—President Loubet inaugurated today in the Faubourg St. Antoine a statue to the memory of Deputy Charles Bonjean, a representative of the people who died on the barricade of the Faubourg St. Antoine, December 3, 1871, the day following the coup d'état of Louis Napoleon.

His death, however, is not remembered by the people who refused to defend the republic.

"You will see," said the representative of the people who died in 1871, "frances a day."

He then mounted the barricade. The soldiers fired a volley and Bonjean fell dead.

There was considerable apprehension of disturbances at today's inauguration, owing to the insistence of the nationalist president of the municipal council of Paris, M. Dausset, that he be permitted to deliver a speech at the inauguration, although he was not included in the official list of speakers.

The ceremony has already once been postponed on account of the attitude of M. Dausset.

The socialists planned counter demonstration to the unveiling today. They gathered in the Faubourg, wearing red flowers in their buttonholes as a party emblem.

Owing to the strong precautions taken by the police, however, no serious disturbances occurred, although M. Dausset and some of his colleagues of the municipal council had a narrow escape from rough handling. There were several slight conflicts between the nationalists and socialists.

The unveiling was held in the evening when M. Dausset, surrounded by his friends, approached the statue and delivered a short oration, in which he declared that he took over the statue in the name of the city of Paris. His words were drowned by outcries from the socialists.

Dausset had to be escorted by the police back to the town hall. He progressed amid shouts and counter-shouts of "Down with Dausset," "Down with the nationalists," while the nationalists sang the "Carmagnole."

Many persons were arrested, but were subsequently released.

PRINCE CHING IS RESOLUTE

Demand Distinct Modification by Russia in Its Manchurian Policy.

PEKING, Dec. 22.—The first discussion of the Manchurian treaty between Paul Pessar, the Russian minister here, and the Chinese plenipotentiaries, Prince Ching and Wang Wen Shao occurred here yesterday.

Prince Ching and Wang Wen Shao displayed much less compliance with the Russian policy than had the late Li Hung Chang. They urged the following substantial modifications:

First—The stipulation of an early date for the withdrawal of all Russian troops from Manchuria, except the railway guard, the number of which should be limited.

Second—They opposed the paragraph relating to the increasing the number of Chinese troops in Manchuria, with the consulting Russia, tending that China must be at liberty to maintain whatever force was necessary in Manchuria to preserve order there.

Third—They request that an early date be fixed for returning the New Chwang Shan Kai Kwan railway and the considerable reduction of the indemnity claimed by the Russians for repairing and maintaining the railway.

Fourth—The Chinese plenipotentiaries opposed giving Russia a monopoly of future mining concessions in Manchuria.

Prince Ching has received a long telegram from Chang Chi Tung, viceroy of Han Kow, exhorting him to maintain the sovereignty of Manchuria.

RESOURCES OF THE BOERS

Embassies to Kruger Claim Both Has Twenty-Four Thousand Combatants, Mostly Seasoned.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—(New York World Cablegram Telegram.)—Three embassies sent from Louis Botha the Boer commandant general, to President Kruger, have passed through Paris. They report that five messengers sent ahead of them were successively killed, while trying to run through the lines of the army.

The chief of the present party did not object to giving the information, which is only a part of the message sent to Mr. Kruger.

Under-First General Botha reports that he has under his command 24,000 combatants in the Transvaal, the Orange Free State and the northern regions of Cape Colony, all fully armed and nearly all mounted.

Second—That number comprises 14,000 veterans who have been fighting almost since the war began and therefore are seasoned soldiers.

Third—The other 10,000 are mostly Cape Dutch, besides whom there is a slightly growing number of foreign volunteers.

Fourth—General Botha still has plenty of ammunition and food, most of it captured from the English, the rest obtained from sympathetic Cape Colonists.

DIFFICULT TO MAKE TERMS

Federal Authorities Are Still Negotiating with the Foreign Kidnappers.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 22.—W. W. Peet, treasurer of the Turkish mission in Constantinople, and M. Garguilo, dragoman of the United States legation here, are still at Salonica, endeavoring to open negotiations with the brigands who hold captive Miss Ellen M. Stone and to fix a rendezvous with them.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—According to a Sofia dispatch to the Express an arrangement has been made with the brigands holding Miss Stone captive and the American legation at Constantinople, under the terms of which the brigands are to accept £14,000 for the release of Miss Stone. It is said the ransom is to be paid on Bulgarian soil and that Miss Stone is to be liberated in Turkish territory.

PROTECTORATE OVER TRIPOLI

Italy Enabled to Declare it Formally Through Treaty with France.

VIENNA, Dec. 23.—The Allgemeine Zeitung asserts that France and Italy have concluded a formal treaty which enables Italy to declare a protectorate over Tripoli.

Depew to Marry on December 28.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The wedding of Senator Chauncey M. Depew who arrived at Plymouth December 20, on the North German steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, and Miss May Palmer, has now been fixed for December 28 at Nice.

REFER DISPUTE TO EDWARD

Argentina Proposes Calling British Ambassador to Arbitrate.

SUSPENDS NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHILL

Foreign Minister of Republic Says Every Honorable Means for Settlement Proceeds a Failure.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—

Information was received here today by Senator Garcia Meroz, the minister from the Argentine republic, that the government had decided to suspend negotiations with Chile in regard to the disputes existing between them and to refer the whole matter to the arbitration of the king of England for settlement. This news was received in a dispatch from Dr. Ancozta, the minister of Foreign Affairs, of the Argentine republic, as follows:

"I communicate to your excellency the fact that all efforts made by this government to reach an arrangement in the diplomatic relations presented before the Chilean government since the beginning of the present year, having proved useless, and after having exhausted all the formulae of an honorable solution to both governments, we have resolved to suspend all negotiations with Chile and to refer the matter to His Britannic Majesty's government without altering the state of peace which exists with the Republic of Chile."

Argentine Stands by Its Rights.

BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 22.—(Via Galveston.)—The situation with Chile remains unchanged. The Argentine government has resolved finally to maintain its rights until such time as Chile makes a full explanation of its attitude in the matter.

It is calculated here that 80,000 men will answer the first call for soldiers. These men are ready to undertake any duty.

Throughout the entire republic today men are practicing at rifle shooting. The energetic stand of the government is enthusiastically supported by public opinion.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Commenting on the Argentine-Chile trouble and the reference of the matter to Great Britain, the Times declares that the duty of preserving peace belongs no less to the United States than to Great Britain. The Times also says that a word from the United States or even a strong intimation of the American people or government would assuredly be strongly supported in London, would almost certainly insure a pacific settlement of the difficulty.

The Times says: "We can hardly hope that in some form or other some word will be spoken."

Public Is Indifferent.

VALPARAISO, Dec. 22.—(Via Galveston.)—General Portales, Argentine minister to Chile, will leave here Wednesday for Buenos Aires. The pending negotiations between Argentina and Chile will probably be continued through Secretary of Legation Bianchi, or be transferred to Buenos Aires, the retirement of Senator Portales has been accepted by the Argentine government with indifference. Perfect tranquility prevails here.

VALPARAISO, Dec. 22.—A proclamation was read throughout Chile, calling out another contingent of the National guard.

ARE KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH

United States and Germany Preparing for Action in South America.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—No advice reached the State department today from Venezuela, where a rebellion has developed against President Castro. The officials here are being kept advised of the events in that country and a United States war vessel will be kept within reach so it can be dispatched to Venezuelan waters to look out for American interests. In this case one of the vessels of the North Atlantic squadron, probably the Albatross, now in West Indian waters, will be ordered to look out for American interests.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—It is stated upon good authority that the German government is preparing for military action against Venezuela in order to compel a settlement of German claims against that country.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—It is said that Germany has sent an ultimatum to Venezuela, threatening forcible measures to compel the satisfaction of German creditors of that country.

FORM SOLDIERS IN LEGIONS

Powers in South America Preparing for Outbreak in Argentina and Chile.

BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 22.—(Via Galveston.)—General Mitre, president of the boundary commission and former president of Argentina, arrived here yesterday evening with the Argentine government to withdraw from Portales, the Argentine minister to Chile.

The people are flocking to the public rifle ranges. Each citizen is allowed to shoot thirty-five cartridges from a Mauser rifle gratis.

Foreign legions of soldiers are being organized. The Buenos Aires Herald expresses its approval of the recall of the Argentine minister to Chile. The paper does not believe this step necessarily means war. It says, however, that the Argentine government could not have followed a more dignified course of action.

The Herald speaks glowingly of the power and present state of organization of the Argentine navy. Senator Concha Subercassaux, the Chilean minister here, had a conference yesterday evening with General Roca, minister of Argentina.

General Roca's demeanor to the Chilean minister was cold and he spoke with energy. The conference became a little violent in character. General Roca severely criticized the proceedings of the Chilean administration.

Alleged Murder of Activist.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The War office has published another long dispatch from Lord Kitchener detailing the murder of natives by the Boers. One case is given of a wagon driver who was captured from a British convey in the end of 1900 and burned alive.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN VESSELS

At New York—Arrived—Minnehaha, from London, Liverpool, Rotterdam; Celtic, from Liverpool and Queenstown; army transport McClellan, from Manila.

At Queenstown—Sailed—Umbrina, for Liverpool for New York.

At Antwerp—Arrived—Friesland, from New York. Sailed—Zeelandia, for New York.

At Bremen—Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, from New York, via Plymouth and Cherbourg.

DEFEAT FOR INSURGENTS

American Lieutenant Wins Approval of General by Bold Command.

MANILA, Dec. 22.—Captain John S. Parker, Jr., with thirty men of the Twenty-first Infantry, encountered sixty insurgents last week at Alaminos, in Laguna province. Four of the enemy were killed, several captured and their barracks was destroyed.

General Bell, who is in command of the American forces in Batangas province, Luzon, has praised Lieutenant James D. Tilford, who, while scouting with Troop D of the First cavalry, routed an insurgent force in that province. Lieutenant Tilford located a rebel stronghold on top of a hill near the town of Batangas. He surrounded the place and covered the eight miles it took them at daylight. The surprise was complete. Nineteen insurgents were killed while attempting to escape. Lieutenant Tilford captured sixteen rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition. A detachment of scouts of the Second Infantry also had a small engagement with the insurgents, in which they killed nine men and captured four.

Lieutenant John D. Harman of the First cavalry, during an expedition which lasted several days, encountered the enemy six separate times without losing one of his men. He destroyed several barracks.

Two priests have been arrested in Batangas province. They are charged with aiding the insurgents. They were found to have hidden behind the altar of their church appliances for counterfeiting money.

They are charged with manufacturing silver dollars to pay the insurgent soldiers. Inspector General Breckenridge has returned to Manila from a tour of the provinces.

ATWOOD, Kan., Dec. 22.—

(Special Telegram)—The vault of the county treasury was blown open last night, and at least \$1,600 was taken. Bankers Burton and Howard, each sleeping in his respective bank, one of which is not a half block and the other just one block from the courthouse, heard the report of the explosion about 4 o'clock. Each thought his neighbor's bank was being robbed, and in the confusion it was about twenty minutes before they located the correct place. By this time the thieves had made away with their booty.

The alarm was given, but no trace could be found of the robbers. Telephone messages were immediately sent to the depot to be sent all over this part of the country. A message was sent to the Manhattan Kennels for bloodhounds. The surrounding were guarded until the bounds arrived so the scent would not be lost.

Treasurer Schwab had just drawn out \$1,600 yesterday leaving about \$1,000 in the vault. As this is the only money in the vault, several of the stores have been broken into during the summer and fall, and a clue could be found as to the perpetrators.

ASKS FOR MILITARY CONTROL

General Davis Says Prominent Men Are Guilty of Treasonable Acts.

MANILA, Dec. 22.—General George W. Davis, commanding at Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, has requested that the province of Misamis, Mindanao, again be placed under military control. General Davis has put the matter before the military and vice consulars and the leading men of Cagayan de Misamis are guilty of treason in furnishing ammunition to the insurgents within the past month.

The evidence shows that all these men are members of the secret Katipunan society.

General James F. Wade, commanding the American forces on Cebu island, concurs in and indorses the request of General Davis and reviewing the situation in Mindanao says he is satisfied that the ends of justice will be served if military control is maintained over the province of Misamis and the overcoming of all resistance to that authority.

It is expected that the United States Philippine commission will refuse this request. It did a similar application made by General Chaffee concerning the province of Tayabas, Luzon, where the rebels have recently been particularly active.

CONDITIONS ARE HOPEFUL

Except Samar, Turbulent Provinces Will Soon Yield, Says General Chaffee.

MANILA, Dec. 22.—General Chaffee, in talking with the correspondent of the Associated Press on the situation here, said he considered conditions hopeful and that by the end of February all the turbulent provinces will be pacified. General Chaffee expects the island of Samar, however, which will probably require some months longer. There the situation demands a policy of rigid starvation and the giving of one inch to those who surrender or who stay in the towns.

The closing of the ports in La Guna and Batangas provinces, in Luzon, has had a most salutary effect, as the measure has resulted in touching the pockets of the Manila fighters, who have been feeding the insurgents. The former are now anxious for peace and are working to that end. In order to hasten matters these Filipino co-operate with the forces under General Bell in Batangas and Laguna.

EXPENSES CONTINUE HEAVY

Cost of Keeping Troops in the Islands Is Difficult to Reduce.

MANILA, Dec. 22.—Every effort to decrease the expenses of the American army in the Philippine islands is having little effect. It is estimated that the treasury must be cleared up from Washington. The governor himself has nothing to say. It is learned from Dalton that he has dispatched his decision to the president by a special messenger, who ought to reach his destination on Monday. What the governor had in the president is left wholly to inference and no information can be obtained here.

CRANE REFUSES TO TALK

Massachusetts Governor Declines to Commit Himself in President's Offer.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 22.—The doubt in regard to Governor Crane's attitude toward President Roosevelt's tender of the office of secretary of the treasury must be cleared up from Washington. The governor himself has nothing to say. It is learned from Dalton that he has dispatched his decision to the president by a special messenger, who ought to reach his destination on Monday. What the governor had in the president is left wholly to inference and no information can be obtained here.

LONG MAKES STRONG DENIAL

Secretary of Navy Says There is No Truth in Report of His Resigning.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Secretary Long's attention having been called again tonight to reports that he contemplated resigning from the cabinet, he again authorized an emphatic denial that such was the case. He said there was not a word of truth in the report and that he had not the slightest intention of resigning.

VESSEL IS STILL MISSING

Discovery with Crew Is the Object of Search in North-South Seas.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Dec. 22.—The steamer Dolphin, which arrived from the north today, brought no tidings of the United States mail steamer Discovery, which sailed from Juneau November 4 for Dutch harbor and was sighted by the steamer Elk on November 14 at Wood island and of which nothing since has been heard. The Discovery, having failed to reach its destination, its owners dispatched the Elithu Thompson to look for it, but, according to advices from Juneau, the Thompson returned on December 10 without having seen anything of the missing vessel.

Shipping men, as well as friends and relatives of the crew, have about given up all hopes for the safety of the steamer and those on board. Shortly after Discovery sailed from Juneau, in November, a storm came up and during the month a fierce Alaskan wind, blowing from Sitka to the Alutian group of islands and the steamer consumed considerable time in reaching Wood island.

Discovery was in command of Captain Frank M. White, who lost the steamship La Arado two years ago near Nome, and Captain J. E. Lennon, an experienced Alaska navigator, was pilot. When it sailed for Dutch harbor it had three or four passengers. Other members of the crew were: Thomas Lyle, mate; William L. Teske, second mate; Charles Sprague, purser; Patrick Gard, engineer; Thomas Foley, second engineer; C. Conway and P. Smith, firemen; Charles Egan, coal passer; E. H. Gaakvil, G. B. Hines and W. J. Price, seamen; W. L. Kennedy and William L. Charbonnet, wireless; and two Chinese cooks.

Discovery was formerly a towboat on Puget sound.

COUNTY TREASURY ROBBED

Thieves Break In from the Outside and Get Sixteen Hundred Dollars.

BANKERS WAKENED BY THE EXPLOSION

Each Thinks His Neighbor Is Being Robbed and in the Confusion the Burglars Escape Kansas Vigilantes.

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FIGHT AMONG OHIO MEMBERS

Senator Foraker and Senator Hanna Are in the Center of Field.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 22.—Senator Foraker arrived here today from Washington. He stated that he would remain here during the congressional holiday recess and perhaps longer, and that he would not visit Columbus, at least not until after the legislature convened. The caucus at Columbus for the party nominations for the legislative and other legislative positions are held on Saturday, January 4, and the legislature convenes on January 6, the date to which congress adjourns.

As Senator Foraker's superior is to be elected January 15, the Ohio republican electoral caucus will be held during the second week of next month. While there is no opposition to the re-election of Senator Foraker, the fight continues between his friends and those of Senator Hanna for the control of both branches of the legislature.

Senator Foraker was not inclined to discuss the contest now being waged at Columbus or his present prospects, but he insisted that anyone had a right to be a candidate for any position and he had a right to support his friends. He repeated his former declaration as to having no preference, but he refused to specify again his preferences for the different places.

NEW DISCOVERY IN SCIENCE

Physicians Find Antiseptic for Various Intestinal Diseases, Including Typhoid.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Dec. 22.—Keen interest has been aroused in the medical profession here by reports of a discovery of unusual importance at the bacteriological laboratory of the University of Michigan.

It is stated that experiments by Dr. Frederick G. Novy and Prof. Paul C. Fress, a chemist, have produced what is believed to be an anti-septic for such intestinal disease as cholera, typhoid fever and dysentery.

The preparation has been tried with success in experiments on small animals, previously inoculated with intestinal diseases and during the last week five medical students have been undergoing a course of experiments with the preparation. It is stated that they were restricted to a diet of sterilized milk, being treated in the meantime with the new preparation and that repeated chemical analysis during the period showed the utter destruction of the internal poisons. Dr. Novy and his colleagues positively decline to discuss the reported discovery.

CONTRACT FOR BIG BRIDGE

Wabash Will Be Third Longest Structure of Kind in the World.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 22.—The American Bridge company has secured the contract for the steel superstructure of the Wabash railroad's big cantilever bridge over the Ohio river at Mingo Junction. The amount of the contract is over \$500,000 and the stipulation is made that the work be completed before January 1, 1903. The whole cost of the bridge will be \$1,000,000. Only two bridges of the kind in the world are greater than this, the one over the Firth of Forth, Scotland, which is the largest, and the Wabash company's bridge over the Monongahela river at Pittsburg now under construction.

PROMINENT POLITICIAN SHOT

Injuries Supposed to Be Result of Recent Contest of Ward Vote.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22