

FIGHT FOR SPEAKER

Payne of New York a Logical Successor to the Coveted Position.

LITTLE CHANCE FOR HIM TO REACH IT

Unpopular with His Fellow Members as Account of Coloredness.

SHERMAN WOULD BE OPPOSED BY PLAT

Littlefield Has Given Offense by His Independent Course.

PENSION COMMISSIONER SEES TROUBLE

Efforts to Save a Few Millions Will Bring the Pension Agents' Wrath Down Upon Him.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—(Special.)—The months immediately following the congressional elections promise to be very lively for members-elect of the Fifty-eighth congress. The removal of General Henderson as a factor in the coming speakership contest leaves the field open, with a large number of ambitious candidates already in the field. Mr. Littlefield of Maine has announced himself, formally. Under most circumstances he would prove a powerful candidate. He has the ability and physique to make an ideal speaker. He is well versed in parliamentary law and he comes from a state which has sent to congress at least two of the best speakers the house of representatives ever had—Blaine and Reed. But unfortunately for his chances, Littlefield antagonized his party associates by assuming the position which he did upon the Philippine bill. On several occasions the man from Maine has antagonized the majority of the house by refusing to be guided by the action of the republican caucus, and he has always assumed an independent position. This course may be very well for Mr. Littlefield's constituents, but it does not suit the party to which he is allied. His ability and strength of character are admitted on all sides, but he has not yet succeeded in demonstrating that he is a votes-getter certainly not in a caucus.

New York state has not furnished a speaker in a generation. There are able men and always have been in the state delegation, and the Fifty-eighth congress will be no exception to this rule. As chairman of the National railway committee, Sherman E. Payne is the floor leader of the republicans. With Henderson out of the way it might be a natural inference that Payne would appear as a strong candidate for the speakership. Mr. Payne is a good parliamentarian and has a consistent party man. In fact, on more than one occasion he has abandoned his convictions for the party good, notably in the matter of oleomargarine legislation. But Mr. Payne lacks every element of popularity. He has for the last few years held aloof from the caucus and has less than half a dozen friends in the house, and it is not stretching the truth to assert that it would be difficult to find a single man in his own delegation who would be willing to take off his coat as a hustler for votes for Sherman E. Payne for the speakership, even though he may be the state's candidate.

Sherman More Popular.

On the other hand, James S. Sherman, the chairman of the committee on Indian Affairs, and one of the foremost members of the committee on commerce, stands as the most popular member from New York state. He has friends in every delegation, because he is always willing to put himself out to favor a fellow member. As a parliamentarian he occupies a place in the front rank. He has presided on many occasions as chairman of the committee of the whole and as speaker pro tem. On these occasions he has shown ability as a presiding officer and a willingness to impartially uphold his own side against the wishes of his political opponents as well as his associates. He was at one time regarded as the logical successor to Speaker Reed, when that gentleman retired, but the antagonism of Mr. Platt prevented him from state, and consequently his candidacy was abandoned. The same antagonism may and probably will work to his detriment this time, but there is no question that the western members almost unanimously would prefer Sherman to any other eastern man.

Mr. Dalsell of Pennsylvania, through his long service and his demonstrated ability would perhaps prove a formidable candidate. But Mr. Dalsell belongs to the Payne clique, as it is called. He has been a member of Speaker Henderson's caucus, composed of five or six members, who altogether, flock by themselves and have little in common with the great majority of the republican members. Mr. Dalsell is not physically a strong man and he lacks the necessary vocal qualities to make a first-class presiding officer. At least half a dozen others might be named as candidates with a following and there will be enough in the field after election. But nothing can be done until after election, and certainly not until the nominations are all made.

Ware May Stir Up a Row.

Pension Commissioner Ware has announced that he has a plan whereby \$10,000,000 may be saved annually from the pension expenditures. Mr. Ware may be able to save pension money without reducing the number or amounts of pensions paid. But if he has such plans he is unique among men. H. Cay Evans tried hard to save a few millions and he ran up against a snag from the outset. It was not the pensioners; the men who fought and who were provided for who antagonized the late commissioner, but the pension agents, who were after fees. They worked up a sentiment against Evans which finally led to his retirement. Mr. Ware sees that the munificence of congress towards the old soldier is abused. Thousands of men who never smelt powder and whose military service consisted in carrying a musket for ninety days; men who never left the county in which they lived have applied for pension. They are no more entitled to consideration than are boys who in 1871 willingly responded to the demand for military aid to protect railroad property from the depredation of the mobs, which, in the name of strikers threatened to destroy millions of dollars worth of property.

Mr. Ware may be able to save \$10,000,000 annually, but the hint that he can do so has already started up a horde of antagonists. The publication of his plan will be certain to lead to an onslaught upon him (Continued on Third Page.)

TURN TO ISTHMIAN SITUATION

French Editors See Many Results to Follow United States Intervention There.

PARIS, Sept. 28.—The French press has been following closely the "armed intervention" of the United States in affairs on the isthmus and at Panama, and the articles published in Le Temps, Le Bulletin, Le Figaro, and L'Echo de Paris, in which attention was called to the alleged tendency of the United States towards imperialism, as illustrated by the landing of American marines on the isthmus, and against which action their protests energetically, has evoked in several newspapers.

Le Journal des Debats, on the other hand, endorses the policy of the United States toward the republics of South America. This paper first remarks that the American government does not need to repeat the Monroe doctrine to Europe. The situation itself suffices to recall to the latter that the American continent cannot longer be a field of European political action. The paper then says that the protest against the landing of American marines on the isthmus made by General Salazar, commander of the Colombian forces on the isthmus, is futile and therefore only of mediocre interest.

"America," says the Journal des Debats, "is scrupulously fulfilling the duty imposed upon it by the treaty of 1846 and it will fulfill this duty more and more in the future as the canal is completed. The good old times of civil war at Panama are a thing of the past." The Journal then proceeds to warn the Latin-Americans that deep reforms are necessary if they wish to remain free, and concludes by saying: "The economic scandal of Colombia and the internal disorders which cause it will certainly impose upon Uncle Sam, injured and indignant, some form of control. It is evident that we are at the beginning of a period of North American intervention in South America or of fundamental reforms in the latter country. Those nations which are duty-bound to defend and disposing of adequate resources, do not make the effort necessary to live, abdicate purely and simply the right to exist."

TIDAL WAVE WORKS HAVOC

Sweeps Away Big Crane and Partly Completed Harbor Works.

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 28.—Pacific reports from Salina Cruz, the latter terminus of the Tehuantepec National railway, confirm the earthquake, Tuesday, confirmed first reports. There were seventy shocks that afternoon and in the meantime a furious gale and storm sprang up. Persons there in charge of the port works immediately began to take measures to protect the harbor works and the plan of the Titan crane, which was out on one of the breakwaters, was quickly encircled with a defense of random blocks, and at 5 o'clock in the afternoon was reported to be organized. At 10 o'clock at night the storm had increased to a severity never experienced within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. A huge tidal wave leaped forward from the sea, lifting thirty and fifty-ton blocks like cockshells and sweeping the Titan crane over into the sea. The wave invaded part of the town, destroying some of its houses, and it is thought that damage must also have been done to the completed portion of the port works. The case was one absolutely impossible to foresee and provide against, its occurrence being one that scarcely happens in a generation. The loss from the breaking down of the new sea wall and the sweeping away of the huge crane will be \$500,000.

STORMS IN SICILY KEEP UP

Estimates Place the Number of People Drowned at Two Hundred.

SYRACUSE, Sicily, Sept. 28.—A fresh storm burst over the district of Santa Maria today and many houses were destroyed. The stormy weather continues generally throughout Sicily. It is now believed that 200 persons perished at Modica during the tornado. In one instance a family of five persons, who were in the village of Sortino has been practically destroyed and forty-three persons were drowned. The water rose in the church to a height of twelve feet. Many children perished. There have been some slight degrees of pillage from the ruins and from the bodies, which shows the necessity of more troops to keep order. The total damage as the result of the tornado is expected to amount to over \$2,500,000.

LIPTON MAY TRY BALLOONING

Report Starts in London that He Will Go Up with Hon. C. S. Rolls.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—A news agency today makes the following announcement: Sir Thomas Lipton, who was recently appointed a member of the Aero club, contemplates a trip across the channel with Hon. C. S. Rolls, and in the event of the voyage being made in a balloon Sir Thomas will be accompanied by his steam yacht Erla. Inquiry was made tonight at the home of Sir Thomas regarding the proposed announcement. A personal friend of Sir Thomas, in the latter's absence, said to a representative of the Associated Press: "Mr. Rolls is the youngest son of Baron Liangtsook, and an enthusiastic and experienced balloonist. He believes he proposed Lipton as a member of the Aero club, and that he has suggested some arrangements, but beyond this—what are the arrangements, if any, they have agreed to, I am unable, in the absence of Sir Thomas, to say."

WILL THOMPSON ACCEPT?

His Decision as to Taking Brazilian Post Awaited with Interest.

WHY HE IS OBSERVED SO CLOSELY NOW

Three Senatorial Fights Involved in the Present Proposition—Recounts Some Unwritten History.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Sept. 28.—(Special.)—The appointment of E. B. Thompson to represent the United States as minister plenipotentiary and envoy to Brazil is naturally the chief topic of discussion in political circles here at the state capital. Mr. Thompson has pursued in this reticence characteristic of all his public and private life, and so far as anyone can learn is still "thinking it over," undecided whether he will accept the proffered position. Among his friends here the feeling is one of apprehension that he will accept, while among those who have always been unfriendly toward him the hope has begot the conviction that he will not.

Every one recognizes that an appointment to a first-class mission, second only to that of ambassador, and with a salary of \$12,000 per year, which is more than twice that of a United States senator and greater than that of the cabinet officers and United States supreme court, carries distinction greater than has been enjoyed by any Nebraska appointee except possibly J. Sterling Morton when he was made a member of President Cleveland's official household. To refuse to accept after the appointment has been made would be a reflection immediate prestige for a possibility of future promotion. It would, moreover, place our Nebraska senators and others, who have been urging the appointment, in a decidedly embarrassing position, although it might relieve the further recognition of the obligation they admit they owe to Mr. Thompson. It is known that both the senators have been urging Mr. Thompson to signify his acceptance, and would much prefer to have him accept, even though a declination might lead them in better position to secure political favors for other political friends.

Enemies Loudest Urging to Accept.

The strange part of Mr. Thompson's predicament, for such it may be called, is brought out by the talk of an old politician last night, who has been on the inside of state politics for several years past. "The very people who have fought Mr. Thompson hardest since his political beginning," he says, "are the ones who would be most pleased to have him betake himself into political exile in Brazil," says this old timer. "Just look back on the succession of events since the campaign of 1898, in which Mr. Thompson made his debut as a candidate for United States senator. When it was found that the legislature of 1899 had gone republican and Mr. Thompson announced himself in the race, all the machinery of the Union Pacific-Elkhorh combination, under direction of E. B. Schneider, was brought to play to head him off and make good the agreement to send Judge Hayward to the senate as a reward for making the race for governor. When Brad Slaughter ventured to write letters on behalf of Thompson on the National railway committee, he was called down and practically disposed of. His position of vice chairman on the plea that the state committee and its officers must keep aloof from the senatorial contest. No sooner had Slaughter been disposed, however, than Schneider, although chairman of the committee, turned by negotiating the campaign manager and turned the whole committee into a Hayward campaign organization. "The details of the Hayward fight need not be recounted beyond this; that it witnessed the beginning of the bitter personal warfare on Mr. Thompson, which was repeated in the second contest two years ago. When Thompson came before the legislature again his opponents had an additional weapon in the charge that he had endeavored to circumvent the caucus nomination of Hayward in 1899 by negotiating an agreement with the fusionists by which, in consideration of their support, he was to bind himself to act with the democrats in congress on certain specific subjects. The whole foundation of the campaign against Thompson before the legislature of 1901 rested on the argument, that he had forfeited his republicanism and had no claim whatever upon the republicans. The insurgents, who had pulled out of the republican caucus, expected the legislature to elect a republican, but it was not a republican and they were under no obligations to go into a caucus in which Thompson's name was to be considered. The more rabid anti-Thompsonites, including National Committee Chairman Schneider, as well as those who thought that Thompson had forfeited his republicanism to vote for him for the United States senate, but he had no claim whatever for recognition of any kind from the republican party.

Want to Get Rid of Thompson.

"The strange part of the sequel is that I happen to know the president was urged by Schneider, as well as by a number of other prominent anti-Thompsonites, to appoint Mr. Thompson to some diplomatic position. 'Give him anything that will take him out of the state' is the way these endorsement men, Thompson is a disturbing factor. The only way to eliminate him is to send him as far from the state as possible." The original plan was to secure for him appointment as minister to Mexico, and his name was presented to President McKinley, and again to President Roosevelt, with that object in view. There being no vacancy in Mexico nor any prospect of a vacancy, the recommendation of Mr. Thompson was left open for any high diplomatic position that might be opened in due course. The transfers following the resignation of Ambassador White from Berlin gave the opportunity, and it seems the president acted without again consulting either Mr. Thompson or Schneider, as well as those who practically given up all hope of landing their man.

While this covers the history of the appointment in a nutshell, it does not explain why Mr. Thompson has to think the matter over now. Not counting on any official honor coming his way, he has been doubting various things, and at a point where to abandon them or to take them over to subordinates would be taking great business risks. He had been giving much personal attention to his insurance company and has always kept an eye on his railroad casing house contract. More than that, however, he has just put a goodly sum of money into a newspaper plant and made all preparations for launching the coming week an evening daily, advertised as "D. E. Thompson's paper." To try to edit, or supervise, in Rio Janeiro a newspaper published in Lincoln would be a difficult task, even for a man of Mr. Thompson's versatility, while to give up the newspaper project at this stage would not conform to Mr.

SOLDIERS HAVE DAY TO REST

Strenuous Week Commences, However, Bright and Early Monday.

PORT RILEY, Kan., Sept. 28.—

Absolute quiet, as far as the army maneuvers were concerned, prevailed at Camp Fort today. The troops were not called upon to perform any work beyond that of the ordinary camp routine, but at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning will start a strenuous week for all arms of the service. The maneuver for Monday is vaguely described by General Bates as a "problem of contact of opposing forces of all arms," which includes a possibility of anything between a base ball game and a general massacre. The exact nature of the problem to be solved is known only to the military umpires and to General Bates, and will not be divulged until the troops have marched out in the morning. The commanders will then be informed of the nature of the task ahead of them. The Browns, however, will be in the minority, as usual, and the Blues will have the preponderating force in the field. This is by actual count. Reinforced by their imagination the Browns will be an equal strength.

The weather is now beautiful and the roads, which last week were trails of mud, are now dry and in good shape for marching. There are now but few men in the hospital, nearly all of those whose illness was due to rain-soaked clothing and bedding having recovered. The National guard are coming in rapidly and by Tuesday morning, when the Kansas militia will have arrived, it is estimated that fully 100 officers, besides those of the Kansas guard, will be on the ground. So far there is but one captain among the general staff officers, the others being colonels or generals. The hopelessly outranked captain comes from New York City, while the colonels and generals belong everywhere, from California to Rhode Island and from Wisconsin to Texas. Captain Funston arrived in camp this afternoon, coming as the guest of General Bates. He came in an unofficial capacity and will remain for a few days to witness the maneuvers.

DIES FROM BEING CHOKED

Mrs. Dickson of Mobile Killed by Intruder Who Climbs In Through a Window.

MOBILE, Ala., Sept. 28.—Mrs. Helen Dickson was choked to death and her niece, Miss Rose Robertson, was assaulted at their home by an unknown man early today.

The man climbed through a window into a room where Mrs. Dickson, her son Albert, 2 years old, and her niece were sleeping, and after closing and barring the door leading into a room where Miss Robertson's father was asleep, strangled Mrs. Dickson into insensibility and had choked Mrs. Robertson by the throat, when she awoke and frantically tried to escape. Mr. Robertson, upon hearing his daughter's cries, broke into the room, but was unable to capture the assailant. Mrs. Dickson died later from the effects of her injuries. The intruder carried into the woodpile, which he had secured from Mrs. Dickson left three children, two of whom are daughters, living in Chicago. The third was the boy who was with her in the room when the assault was committed. Mrs. Dickson was the daughter-in-law of E. B. Dickson, former superintendent of the Mobile public schools.

HALF YEAR ON THE WATER

Standard Oil Company Boat Anchors at Last with Its Crew Blind and Diseased.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—The British four-masted bark Kenmore, owned by the Standard Oil company of this city, arrived in port after a tedious voyage lasting 188 days. The vessel sailed from Yokohama December 10, via Hongkong, March 15, the vessel experienced light trade winds and very moderate weather, which, together with the bottom being unusually foul and covered with sea growth, caused a very long passage. Dr. Doty, the health officer, says almost all of the crew are suffering from scurvy, and several are in pitiable condition. Malnutrition is responsible for the illness. Several have suffered from moon blindness, popularly called moonblind. It is said on board that the men were supplied with very little besides salt meat. Vegetable and other foods necessary to prevent the scurvy were not on hand. The ship stopped at St. Helena to land an injured man, but no fresh meat and vegetables were brought on the vessel at that port.

AUTOPSY ON CRAFT'S BODY

Coroner's Physician Performs It, but Declines to Report if Traces of Chloral Were Found.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—An autopsy was performed today on the decapitated body of James Craft, who was murdered early Saturday morning in an Empire state in Twenty-ninth street. The coroner's physician who performed the autopsy refused to say what it showed. The point of interest in this is whether or not knockout drops had been given to Mr. Craft before he was strangled with the cleaver. If traces of chloral were found in the stomach the police claim this would show a plot to rob the victim. Mrs. Craft, wife of the murdered man, said today that Mr. Craft had a considerable sum of money with him when he left his home at Glen Cove. Mamie Moore, alias May Turner, and Ida Craven, the housekeeper at the Empire, who were arrested as being possible witnesses in the case, were arraigned in police court today. They were remanded to the custody of the coroner.

FRAM IS AT CHRISTIANIA

Sverdrup's Arctic Expedition Enters the Norwegian Harbor to Be Received Right Royally.

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Sept. 28.—Escorted by warships and numerous pleasure steamers, Captain Sverdrup's Arctic expedition from Fram entered Christiania harbor today. The ship was saluted by the fort when it entered the harbor, where flags were flying from every mast. Sir Clements Robert Markham, president of the Royal Geographical society of Great Britain, who is now here, regards Captain Sverdrup's expedition as the most important since the Franklin expedition. Franklin, Emperor William and King Edward have telegraphed words of welcome to Captain Sverdrup. Fram returned to Stavanger, Norway, September 19, after more than four years in the Arctic regions.

REOPEN ROOSEVELT'S WOUND

Doctors Establish More Thorough Drainage for the Leg Bone.

BONE FOUND TO BE SLIGHTLY AFFECTED

Incision is Made Only Into Small Cavities and Physicians Do Not Anticipate that Patient's Recovery Will Be Interrupted.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Secretary Cortelyou at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon issued the following statement: Dr. Newton M. Shaffer of New York joined the president's physicians in consultation this morning at 10 o'clock. The increase in local symptoms and rise in temperature rendered it necessary to make an incision into the small cavity, exposing the bone. Thorough drainage is now established and the physicians feel confident that recovery will be uninterrupted. The operation was performed by Surgeon General Rixey, assisted by Surgeon O'Reilly and Dr. Shaffer, Urie and Starr.

GEORGE R. CORTELYOU

In the former operation a simple needle was used to relieve the trouble, but today the surgeons, with a knife, made an incision into the small cavity, exposing the bone, which was found to be slightly affected. The president's case has been progressing satisfactorily, but it is believed by the physicians that the further operation made today will hasten his complete recovery. "What the doctors are willing to be quoted, they give the most positive assurances that there is not the least cause for alarm, and say that on the contrary, there is every indication of a speedy recovery; that the area of bone affected is very slight and will not result in any impairment of the president's limb, and that there is no evidence whatever of any matter that would produce blood poisoning. They confidently expect that the president will be on his feet within a reasonable time, and, with his regular physician, Dr. Shaffer, as his surgeon, will be himself again. Dr. Newton M. Shaffer of New York, who long has been acquainted with the Roosevelt family and has attended the president's children at various times, and who also is a well-known bone specialist, and the president's physicians in their morning consultation at 10 o'clock. It was noticed that there had been a slight rise in the president's temperature and an increase in local symptoms, and the conclusion was reached that the patient should be operated upon by making an incision of the wound for the purpose of relieving the slight tension or swelling present and to drain the wound. The operation was performed between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. An application of cocaine was used to allay the pain. President Stands It Well.

The president stood the operation very well and subsequently expressed his satisfaction at the successful result. Dr. Rixey, the surgeon general of the navy performed the operation assisted by Dr. Lung the local physician, and the surgeon of the army who has been consulted regarding the case. Dr. Edward R. Stitt, another of those present, is in charge of the Naval Museum Medical school. The physicians tonight took a respite view of the president's prospects for getting out again. He becomes somewhat restive because of his close confinement and the physicians are considering the advisability of permitting him to take a ride in a few days. The physicians say the question now is simply one of healing of the wound and relieving the pain. Dr. Shaffer called on the temporary White House tonight for a social visit and found the president in the best of spirits. At the White House at 10 o'clock it was stated the president was doing very well and that no additional treatment was necessary. Let it be the evening Dr. Shaffer, while he declined to discuss generally the president's case, authorized, in the most positive manner, the statement that there need not be the least cause for anxiety or alarm regarding his condition, but said on the contrary he would give every assurance of his belief that the president would soon recover.

Had Been Anticipated.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 28.—The Indianapolis physicians and surgeons who participated in the operation performed on the president at St. Vincent's hospital last Tuesday were shown the dispatch from Washington announcing that another operation would be necessary, and all declared that this was not unexpected, but was what they had feared. All united, however, in saying that there is no danger in such an operation to the president, either from blood poisoning or in regard to the permanent impairment of the limb. Dr. John H. Oliver, who performed the first operation, said: "The new operation is only what we all feared would be made necessary, and that was the reason we advised that he be hurried back to Washington. The wound is by no means dangerous, although it is of such a nature as to require that he give up the use of his limb for some time. There is absolutely no danger that the limb will have to be amputated, or from blood poisoning either." Dr. Henry Jameson said: "That another operation would have to be performed is only what we expected. The serum was collected in the cavity under the peritoneum from which it was drained. What has happened is only what we feared, and we advised absolute quiet for the limb. There is nothing serious about the wound, except that it will make a very sore leg and would necessarily require that it be opened and the serum drained. It may even be necessary to scrape the bone, but time will show this. There is no danger that the limb will have to be amputated and, with proper drainage, neither is there any cause for alarm in regard to blood poisoning." Dr. Cook read the bulletin issued by Secretary Cortelyou and made the following statement: "I am not surprised to learn that the cavity has become affected and that the bone has been found to be diseased. That probability was discussed prior to the operation and President Roosevelt was requested to eat a light luncheon as an anesthetic would have to be administered."

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair and Cooler Monday, Tuesday Fair and Warmer in West Portion.

Table with columns: Hour, Temp., Wind, etc. for Omaha Yesterday.

STOCKTON BADLY SCORCHED

Sustains Half Million Dollar Loss, with but Little Insurance.

STOCKTON, Cal., Sept. 28.—One of the largest fires in the history of Stockton started here shortly after 2 o'clock this morning in the Agricultural pavilion. That structure, together with all its contents and two residence blocks, were burned to the ground with the exception of a few buildings. The approximate loss is \$500,000, less than half insured.

The fire started through a plumber hunting for a leak in a gas main in the pavilion. The contact of the gas with a lighted candle caused an explosion, and in a few minutes the building was in flames. Being built of wood, it burned rapidly and the two or three people in the building had to flee for their lives. With incredible velocity the flames leaped across San Joaquin street to the east and across Lafayette to the west. The Catholic church on the north had a narrow escape. A slight breeze carried the flames clear through the early stage of the fire the heat was so intense that the firemen had great difficulty in getting near enough to be effective, and two men who were attempting to lay a hose on Lafayette street nearly lost their lives. They were Tom Walsh, driver of a hose wagon, and Ed Knowles, an assistant. Henry Chase, a fireman, fell from a building and sustained internal injuries which are not believed to be fatal. Jack Lawrence fell from a building and was badly bruised. Police Officer Duttschke and Parker Wilson inhaled smoke, but recovered at the receiving hospital. Frank Steinbecker was thrown against a building by a hose, and his leg was badly injured. The district fair had closed Saturday night and all the exhibits were still in the pavilion. The loss to the exhibitors was very heavy.

The National Iron Works had an exhibition models of the cruisers San Francisco and Charleston. They were destroyed. There was \$25,000 insurance on them. Many people have been left homeless and destitute. Fifty houses were burned. Firemen were put to work cutting wires shortly after the fire started and the electric light and telephone wires are in a bad condition tonight.

WOULD OUTWIT ELECTRICITY

Englishmen Come Over on a Hunt for Something Better Than Lightning Rods.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Among the passengers who arrived here on the steamer Celtic today was Lieutenant Colonel H. A. Yorke of the Royal Engineer army corps of England. Colonel Yorke said he had come over for the purpose of inspecting electric railway systems, and would try to find a way to prevent the leakage of power from electric wires and rails, which he said had proved very troublesome in England. Killingworth W. Hedger, another arrival, said he was a member of the lightning research committee of England, and that he was here to see if a more suitable means than a lightning rod for preventing lightning strikes on buildings which he said, the rod, he said, was practically useless, and this branch of scientific research, he added, had been greatly neglected.

NOT THE TIME TO BE TALKING

One of Alleged St. Louis Bombers May Have Something to Say Later.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 28.—Robert M. Snyder, whose trial on the charge of bribery in connection with the Central traction bill comes up tomorrow, arrived here from Kansas City today accompanied by his wife. He firmly declined to discuss his case. "My presence here," said he, "shows that I am ready to testify. I cannot at the present time say any more. At a later time, perhaps, when I am free to talk, I may do so. I am in the hands of my counsel now. I know that much has been publicly said about me, but it would not be proper for me to deny or affirm at this stage."

DYNAMITERS WRECK A HOUSE

Family Living in Second Story Escape Injury by a Seeming Miracle.

ST. JOSEPH, Sept. 28.—An attempt was made tonight to destroy the family of Columbus Walton of South St. Joseph by the use of several sticks of dynamite. The family lived over a store run by Walton, and the dynamite was placed under the stairs of the front of the building. The detonations were terrific and were heard twelve miles away. The main part of the structure was destroyed but the family miraculously escaped injury. The loss is \$5,000. The police have no clue.

CODY'S OLD HORSE IS BURNED

Was the Model from Which Frederic Remington Drew His Masterpiece.

DULUTH, Minn., Sept. 28.—Among eight horses destroyed at a barn at Proctor Knight today was "Smoky," formerly Buffalo Bill's favorite horse. He was a superb animal in his day and when he grew old Colonel Cody gave him to his sister, Helen Cody Wetmore of this city. Frederic Remington's masterpiece is said to be a picture of Buffalo Bill mounted on "Smoky."

Movements of Ocean Vessels Sept. 28

At New York—Arrived: Celtic, from Liverpool and Queenstown; Noordam, from Rotterdam. At Mobile—Arrived: Columbia, from New York or Glasgow, and proceeded. At Hamburg—Arrived: Steamer Pennsylvania, from New York via Plymouth and Cherbourg. At Liverpool—Arrived: Umbria, from New York via Queenstown. At Naples—Sailed: Vancouver, from Genoa, for Boston. At San Francisco—Arrived: Steamer Kron-Prinz Wilhelm, from New York, for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Bremen.

MITCHELL IN REPLY

President of United Mine Workers Answers Magnates Bar and Hewitt.

DENIES THAT WAGES ARE FAIR AND JUST

Diggers of Bituminous Get 20 Per Cent More Than Anthracite.

FORMER WORK THE SHORTER DAY, ALSO

Have Maximum of Eight Hours to the Latter's Ten Hours.

PER CAPITA OUTPUT NOT DIMINISHING

Last Year's Far in Excess of Amount for Previous Years—What Miners Demand—Concerning Lawlessness and the Police.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 28.—President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers today gave out the following statement: "The recent utterance of Mr. Baer, spokesman of the Anthracite Coal trust, Mr. Hewitt and other interested persons discloses a well-defined purpose to confuse and cloud the real causes which resulted in the coal strike and an attempt to divert attention from the actual issues involved. However misleading as are their utterances, it is a relief to know that they now admit that the public has rights and interests which cannot be ignored with impunity, and inasmuch as the public must be the final arbiter of the coal strike, it is imperative that it shall not be deceived by statements which are at variance with the facts. With the purpose of correcting some of the false impressions and misrepresentations contained in the statements of the gentleman referred to, I issue this letter. "It is not my intention to point out the innumerable instances in which Mr. Baer has erred in statement and allegation. His unsupported assertions that certain things are true cannot be accepted as final or conclusive, particularly in view of the fact that unquestioned authorities can be cited to prove him to be in error in this matter.

Are the Wages Fair?

"Mr. Baer states that the wages paid in the anthracite coal regions are, compared with the wages paid for similar employment, fair and just. 'By like employment' Mr. Baer will refer to bituminous coal mining. I am willing and prepared to demonstrate that wages in the bituminous coal fields are from 20 to 40 per cent higher than those paid for similar classes of work in the anthracite fields. The fact is that the minimum wage received by any class of adult mine workers in the soft coal mines is 25 cents per hour, while the minimum wage paid to boys is 15 cents per hour. In the anthracite coal mines men performing precisely the same labor receive from 13 to 20 cents per hour, while boys are paid as low as 5 cents an hour and rarely receive to exceed 8 cents per hour. "The bituminous miner works a maximum of eight hours per day, while in the anthracite fields he is required to work; moreover, the anthracite mine worker labors under the further disadvantage of being more liable to be killed or injured, the casualties being 50 per cent greater in the anthracite than in the bituminous mines.

Some Other Errors.

"There are other statements of Mr. Baer which are equally incorrect; among these are his assertion that the output of the anthracite mines is greater than that of the bituminous mines and his further assertion that the lowest scale of wages was 55 cents for boy slate pickers." If Mr. Baer desires, I shall gladly furnish him with the names and addresses of thousands of slate pickers, each of whom will testify that the anthracite miner's day, and I shall be willing to have the returns verified by the companies' pay rolls. "The next misstatement of Mr. Baer to which I shall give notice is that which claims that 'for some mysterious reason' the miners' restricted the output of the anthracite mines. Mr. Baer claims that 'in this manner the product of the collieries has been reduced about 13 1/2 per cent, and that in the case of the Reading company it amounted to more than 1,000,000 tons.' This is vitally important, if true, but it is not true. The output of anthracite in 1901 was an increase of 1,000,000 tons from the mines operated by the Reading company of \$38,243 tons, and a total increase from all the anthracite mines of 5,000,000 tons. (See the report of Pennsylvania's state bureau of mines.) The output of coal in 1901 was far in excess of that of any year in the history of coal mining, and even a paper so avowedly and bitterly hostile to the Mine Workers' union as the Engineering and Mining Journal admits that 'virtually the only restriction on output was a shortage of cars.' This shortage,' the Journal continues, 'soon became marked' and 'by the end of November the Reading collieries and those of some other companies were mining on short time' (issue of January 4, 1902).

Per Capita Output Greater.

"Although this statement does not admit of any such construction, it is still possible that Mr. Baer still refers to the per capita output, but ever here he errs. A careful analysis reduces the proportion of mines shown to be greater than the per capita output for any single one of the thirty-one years of which we have record from 1870 to 1900. In attempting to account for the increased tonnage the operators point to the installation of labor saving machinery which reduces the proportion of men and boys employed by the day. If we disregard all mine workers whose labor might be saved by such appliances and take simply the output per certificated and employed miner we find that the production per miner was 1,371 tons in 1887, 1,328 tons in 1888, 1