

SIX STORES BURNED

Fire Sweeps Knoxville Business Buildings in Early Morning.

LOSS REACHES HALF MILLION DOLLARS

Same Block Destroyed Which Fell to Flames Five Years Ago.

RELIEF ENGINES COVER MILE A MINUTE

Chattanooga Responds with Help on Special Train at Lightning Speed.

COLLAPSING WALLS STAY WILD FLAMES

Years for Entire Downtown District Are Generally Entertained Till One Structure Crumbles and Stops Spreading Conflagration.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 22.—The worst fire which has ravaged the business portion of the city since the disastrous million-dollar conflagration of 1897 broke out at 4:30 this morning in a four-story building on Commerce avenue, directly opposite the Central fire station and occupied by the Knoxville Pants company.

In two hours buildings adjoining it on Commerce avenue, occupied by Broyles, McClellan & Luckey, agricultural implement dealers; the David Commission company, the immense establishment of the Brown Hardware company on Gay street; Shunklin Grain company and the H. H. Chatter company building on the same streets, had been completely gutted.

The six-story building of McTeer, Hood & Co., wholesale clothiers, and the three-story building of the Davis Furniture company, which were reported destroyed, withstood the storm of flying embers and were but little damaged.

Brandau & Kennedy, retail clothiers; W. T. Newton, jeweler; the White-Spencer Frunk company and other retail stores on Gay street, opposite the burning structures, were considerably damaged.

Conservative insurance men say the loss will be between \$400,000 and \$500,000. Other estimates place it much higher. The McTeer and Davis buildings seemed doomed and, although they were in flames down and again, they were saved with small damage by the hard work on the part of the firemen. Several other structures were on fire at times, including the big establishment of Gillespie, Shields & Co., wholesale hat makers, but they were protected.

Mine is Most Spectacular. The fire was most spectacular and attracted a crowd numbering into the thousands. It is estimated that no one was hurt with the showers of falling glass and the terrific explosions in the Brown Hardware company that scattered bricks, burning embers and all conceivable articles of merchandise.

Chattanooga was called on for aid when the fire was at its height, and an engine company had run by special train twenty-nine miles in twenty-three minutes toward this city when stopped by wire, the fire being now under control.

Partial estimates on the losses are as follows: R. H. Chatter company, wholesale liquors, stock and building, \$15,000; Knoxville Pants company, stock and building, \$10,000; Broyles, McClellan & Luckey, farming implements, stock and building, \$25,000; Shunklin Grain company, stock and building, \$15,000; Hayes & Henson, wholesale shoes, \$10,000; McTeer, Hood & Co., wholesale clothing, \$5,000; Davis Furniture company, stock and building, \$4,000; damage to other buildings and stocks, \$10,000. All the firms, except the David Commission company, were insured.

APPRAISE LOSSES BY BOXERS

Hagdale and Bridgess Reach San Francisco After Labor in China.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—J. C. Hagdale, United States consul at Tien Tsu, and W. E. Bagin, secretary of the United States legation at Pekin under Mr. Conger, were among the passengers returning today on the transport Thomas from the Orient.

Moars, Hagdale and Bridgess, who were appointed to appraise the damage sustained by American residents of China as a result of the uprising, recently completed their report, which is now on Ocoptic, due here on Wednesday. The report was begun in April and it was finally completed on November 17. It shows that 150 claims were submitted by Americans who suffered by the Boxer war, aggregating \$4,000,000, but only \$1,800,500 of this amount will be available out of the indemnity which China has to pay. The largest loss was sustained by the China-Japanese Trading company, an American concern, and was for something over \$500,000 in gold.

PARENTS APPEAL TO ARMOUR

Six-Year-Old Boy Operated Upon by Dr. Lorenz as Result of Letter.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Dr. Lorenz has performed his last public operation in this vicinity for congenital dislocation of the hip.

Alvin Louis Black, 6 years old, was the patient. He is the boy who sent a doll to Lolla Armour, daughter of J. Ogden Armour of Chicago, to operate on whom Dr. Lorenz came to this country.

Mr. Armour was appealed to by the parents of the child, who wrote a personal letter to Dr. Lorenz, asking him to operate on the child, who had remembered his little girl, and the operation of Sunday, which was pronounced successful, was the outcome of this request.

Dr. Lorenz will leave for Boston, where he will operate an hour after his arrival.

BANKER ANSWERS QUESTIONS

Prosecution, However, in New York Gambling Cases Gains Nothing from Witness.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—J. Lewisohn, who the court decided should answer the district attorney's questions, either he knew Richard Canfield, the proprietor of a house, today answered in the affirmative. He was next asked, "Were you ever Canfield's next to December 21, 1897?" He at first refused to answer, but later on was advised by his attorney that the status of limitations, which bars any prosecution after five years for gambling, removing the constitutional privilege, Mr. Lewisohn said he had not.

He declined to answer when asked if he had been in the house recently. Mr. Lauterbach, attorney for Lewisohn, is authority for what occurred at the inquiry.

Lewisohn was re-arrested today. He left the criminal court building immediately, in the custody of an officer, for the supreme court, where application was to be made for a writ of habeas corpus. He was afterwards arraigned before Justice White, charged with a misdemeanor as a contumacious witness. The hearing on this charge went over until the third Monday in January. Lewisohn is also held on a warrant charging him with contempt of court for refusing to answer questions today. Subsequently a writ of habeas corpus was applied for and granted by Justice Scott.

PROBES OFFICIAL SMUGGLING

Porto Rico Court Hears Charges Against Men Accused of Beating Customs.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Dec. 22.—Robert Giles, a government contractor and manager of the Automobile Transportation company, has been arrested in connection with smuggling cases. He is charged with smuggling with amending, and pleaded not guilty.

The preliminary examination of Benjamin Butler, supervisor of elections; Commander G. W. Mentz, in charge of the Country club; and Robert Giles, charged with smuggling two lots of wines and liquors from St. Thomas on the United States steamer Ucaas and the lighthouse tender Laeal, began here this afternoon.

Commander Mentz was heard first. He was in command of Laurel on its trip to St. Thomas, where from thirty to thirty-five cases of liquors were purchased. Some of these were put off at Culebra, but fourteen were brought to San Juan. Of the latter, six were marked "Robert Giles," while the others were addressed to Captain Andrew Dunlap, commander of the naval station here.

One of the witnesses, the captain of a launch, said Captain Dunlap ordered him to go on board Laurel and get certain cases. He was so and delivered them to Captain Dunlap.

A customs inspector seized and opened the cases marked "Robert Giles."

DEBT WORRIES THE COMPOSER

Mascagni, Ill and in Financial Trouble, Compelled to Cancel All His Dates.

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—The American tour of Mascagni and his Italian opera company came to a close today in this city with the cancellation of all dates.

The culmination of Mascagni's woes came last evening, when an attachment was made on his personal effects by a constable representing a local claim agent for \$184.

As a result of his financial difficulties Mascagni is now confined to his room at the Auditorium annex suffering from nervous prostration.

The company was scheduled to leave Chicago at 9 o'clock this morning for the west, the first engagement to have been at Keokuk, Ia.

The members of Mascagni's troupe, soloists, musicians and chorists, will be given passage here tomorrow at the Italian consulate. This was decided at a conference tonight, at which the attorney for the government of Italy was empowered by the composer to act for him.

RESPECTED BENNETT'S WISHES

Laura Biggar Tells Why She Did Not Make Public the Fact of Her Marriage.

FRESHOLD, N. J., Dec. 22.—Further testimony in the trial of Laura Biggar was given by Miss Biggar today, and the defense then rested.

Miss Biggar, cross-examined by Mr. Wilson, counsel for the state, said that she had kept her marriage secret because Mr. Bennett had asked her to do so. She said she had employed Melville Dennis as her maid and had discharged her about a year ago.

The witness said she had always been a dutiful and faithful wife to Mr. Bennett. Her husband's name was called in rebuttal by the state, said that in October, 1901, Bennett introduced the defendant as Miss Biggar.

POLICE SEEK PRINCESS

Wife of Saxony's Heir Mysteriously Disappears from Austria.

SEARCH IS MADE THROUGHOUT EUROPE

No Trace of Missing Woman, Who Is Said to Have Vanished Because of Her Love Affair with American Dentist.

(Copyright, 1902, by Press Publishing Co.) VIENNA, Dec. 22.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The crown princess of Saxony, an Austrian archduchess, left Dresden in great distress for Salzburg, where her parents live, owing to a love affair with an American dentist, the consequences of which are undeniable.

Her parents, who have three young daughters still unmarried, disowned her and drove her from the castle. One of her daughters took her part and accompanied the crown princess to the latter, who refused to hush up the scandal. All court festivities have been curtailed.

Court Publishes Scandal. DRESDEN, Saxony, Dec. 22.—By order of the king and crown prince the circular today announces the crown princess of Saxony fled from her home on the night of December 11.

"In a state of intense mental excitement she suddenly deserted her family at Salzburg and went abroad," says the official record. "The Saxon court functions for the winter, including the New Year's reception, have been canceled." Rumors to this effect have been current for some days, but have been generally discredited, but it is now known that she has vanished so completely that the police of every kingdom in Europe have for ten days been unable to trace her. The official announcement was made in order to obtain the aid of the general public, and because the court function which she preferred to remain in retirement at Salzburg rather than to return to her husband and children at Dresden cannot longer be maintained.

GOES TO AUSTRIAN COURT.

Accompanied by the crown prince, the princess went to the castle of Emperor Francis Joseph, near Salzburg, a month ago. A week after their arrival the prince broke his leg while hunting and was brought back to Dresden. The princess, however, remained at the castle. Why she did so the people of the court did not know, except that with gloomy tenacity the princess usually does what she wishes to do.

For a little while this explanation sufficed, then fragments of gossip began to reach Dresden.

It was said the princess had surrendered herself to periods of nervous excitement and that her eccentricities caused much concern for her suite and to some of her Austrian kinsfolk. It is now believed that she was under surveillance, and her disappearance is therefore considered the more extraordinary.

On December 11 the princess, who appeared to be in an unusually tranquil mood, retired before 12. Three hours later, when a maid looked into the royal bedchamber, something in the appearance of the bed prompted her to go closer and examine it. Instead of the princess she perceived a dummy figure. She awakened the lady in waiting and the latter, with other members of the princess' suite, searched all the neighboring apartments, then the entire castle, and finally the ground, but no trace of the missing woman was discovered.

At dawn the police of Salzburg were informed of the disappearance and inquiries were made throughout the whole country, but with no tangible result. The inquiry was gradually extended to all parts of the kingdom and to the Austrian city of Dresden, by the end of the search in all Europe. The theory of suicide was suggested and a fruitless search for the princess' body has been made without result.

NO PANIC ON THE SHIP

Passengers on Deutschland Deny the Sensational Reports Printed in London.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—Passengers on Deutschland, arriving here today, deny the sensational reports printed in London, alleging that there was a panic on board that ship Saturday night. The facts are as follows: Shortly after midnight a tremendous grating sound was heard, like the breaking of great screws. Comparatively few of the passengers were aroused by the noise, many of them not knowing that anything had occurred until the following morning.

The officers and crew did not display the slightest uneasiness, and there was no interruption of the usual discipline.

At no time was there the slightest panic or excitement among the women or men. Within an hour the ship was again under steam and its arrival at Plymouth was only slightly delayed.

SCHOOL GIRL ANNOYS KAISER

Goes to Jail for Stamping on Brooch Containing Emperor's Picture.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—A Polish school girl named Kopek has been sentenced to four days' imprisonment at Inowiaz, a province of Posen, for less majestic having stamped on a brooch containing Emperor William's picture.

Such brooches were presented to the pupils when his majesty visited Posen.

MEXICO SWALLOWS MUCH GOLD

Americans Invest Five Hundred Million Dollars in Last Five Years.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Five hundred million dollars in gold is the amount of American capital invested in Mexico by 1,117 American companies and individuals, according to estimates carefully prepared by the consul general at Mexico City. Practically all of this has been invested within five years. Seventy per cent of the total is invested in railroads.

Mines have consumed \$86,000,000 and \$28,000,000 is invested in agriculture. Manufacturing ranks fifth. Other enterprises include banks, trust companies, electric light and power plants, gas and water works, telephone systems and similar industries.

INSURANCE POLICY INVALID

Estate of a Man Hanged for Murder Cannot Collect Upon His Life.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The question of the effect of murder upon a life insurance policy, when issued upon the life of the murderer, was today passed upon by the United States supreme court. An opinion delivered by Justice Brewer. The case in which the opinion was delivered was that of M. Burt against the Union Central Life Insurance company. William E. Burt of Travis county, Texas, was the name of the man insured. His policy was made payable to his wife, Anna M. Burt, and in case of her death to her executor.

During the following year Burt's wife died and he afterwards was charged with her murder and was found guilty and executed.

Afterward the estate made an effort to collect upon the policy, but the insurance company resisted payment. The lower courts, including the court of appeals for the Fifth circuit, sustained the position of the company, and today's opinion affirming the decision of the court of appeals holds the policy invalid on the ground that to sanction payment under the circumstances would be contrary to public policy.

HOUSE WILL PASS ON TREATY

President Intends to Ask Enabling Legislation When Senate Ratifies Cuban Reciprocity.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt has let it be known that before he decided to send the Cuban reciprocity treaty to the senate and not to the house, he consulted the leaders of the house and the members of his cabinet. After mature consideration it was determined that it was unnecessary to send the Cuban treaty to the house, notwithstanding the fact that it affected revenues of the government.

PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME

Says He Had Delightful Outing in Spite of the Inclement Rain.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt and family arrived in Washington from Rapidan, Va., at 11:25 o'clock today. They were met at the station by Secretary Charles W. Fairbank, and the president was made without noteworthy incident.

The president was in excellent spirits and expressed himself as having had a delightful outing, notwithstanding the inclement rain.

At dawn the police of Salzburg were informed of the disappearance and inquiries were made throughout the whole country, but with no tangible result. The inquiry was gradually extended to all parts of the kingdom and to the Austrian city of Dresden, by the end of the search in all Europe. The theory of suicide was suggested and a fruitless search for the princess' body has been made without result.

UPHOLDS THE PURE FOOD LAW

Man Convicted of Manufacturing Alum Baking Powder Must Pay a Fine.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The United States supreme court today dismissed the writ of error in the case of Whitely Layton against the state of Missouri on the ground that no federal question had been raised in the trial court.

The case involved the constitutionality of the pure food law of the state and had attracted much attention. Layton, whose place of business is St. Louis, was found guilty in the trial court of the use of alum in the manufacture of baking powder and a fine of \$100 was assessed against him. The verdict was affirmed by the state supreme court.

FUNERAL OF GENERAL SWAYNE

Remains of Former Governor of Alabama Buried at Arlington with Military Honors.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The remains of General Swayne, a soldier, lawyer and only military governor of Alabama, were buried with full military honors at the National cemetery at Arlington today.

The body arrived here from New York at 7:30 o'clock this morning and was escorted to St. John's Episcopal church by a large detachment of troops.

The services at the church were brief and simple, consisting of the reading of the Episcopal service, prayer being held and singing by a male quartet.

CORNELL HEAD DUE IN OMAHA

Dr. Schurman Will Speak in Western Cities During Christmas recess.

ITHACA, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Cornell university closed its doors for the Christmas recess today.

Dr. Schurman will take a long western trip, speaking in Omaha, Lincoln, Chicago and St. Louis. The Cornell Musical clubs left today for their Christmas trip. They will appear in a dozen cities of the middle west.

STATE IS AFTER ITS MONEY

Supreme Court Will Hear Case of South Dakota Against North Carolina.

SENATOR DIETRICH STARTS FOR WEST

Purchasers of Indian Heirship Lands to Mandamus Indian Department to Compel Issuance of Deeds.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—The original cause of the state of South Dakota against the state of North Carolina was today assigned for hearing in the supreme court on April 3, 1903. The case grew out of certain bonds originally guaranteed by the state of North Carolina, which that state subsequently repudiated, a number of them having in some manner come into the possession of the state of South Dakota. Under former decisions of courts, where individuals have sued the state of North Carolina to recover on the same class of bonds the South Dakota holds and seeks to secure payment, it has been held that the state could not be sued.

South Dakota, however, being an equal sovereignty with North Carolina, came into the supreme court with a suit.

The supreme court today affirmed with costs the decision of the supreme court of Nebraska in the case of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway Company against Kate G. Wolfe, which was argued in court last Wednesday. The points at issue were fully set forth in The Bee when the case was up for argument.

DIETRICH STARTS HOME.

Senator Dietrich is on his way to Nebraska and expects to reach Hastings on Wednesday. He stopped at Bryn Mawr, on his way west, to pay a short visit to his daughter.

LAND BUYERS ARE ANXIOUS.

It is understood that mandamus proceedings will shortly be instituted to compel the interior department to take up and dispose of cases wherein private citizens have bought or agreed to buy from the Indians so-called heirship lands. These transactions were made under rules promulgated by the interior department. Later these rules were revised and then suspended before deeds of relinquishment could be secured. Money was advanced in each and all cases and the suspension of the rules governing the sale of these lands, it is alleged, means the loss of considerable money to would-be purchasers.

In view of the large number of Indian reservations in the west it is easily apparent how greatly the west is interested in this question.

OMAHA MEN IN CITY.

Dr. S. R. Patton of Omaha is in the city. W. J. Connell of Omaha is in Washington on business before the court of claims.

ROUTINE OF DEPARTMENTS.

Postmasters appointed today: Iowa—C. E. Davison, Little Rock, Lyon county, B. J. Fullenkamp, Overton, Lee county; Melville Beavers, Woodland, Decatur county, South Dakota—Rutherford H. Fulton, Avon, Bonanza county; Charles W. Lyman, Fairport, Clark county; Thersa J. Boyd, Vandervoort, Clark county.

A postoffice has been established at Plum Creek, Kosuth county, Ia., with Jorgensen Johannsen as postmaster.

C. B. Newbold of Farmington, Ia., has been admitted to practice before the interior department.

The comptroller of the currency has approved the First National bank of Omaha as a reserve agent for the First National bank of Omaha, and the Depository National bank of Chicago for the First National bank of Orange City, Ia.

WILD ENGINE CREATES HAVOC

Kills Two Men, Wrecks Two Freight Trains and Demolishes Four Engines.

LIBERTY, Ind., Dec. 22.—A helper engine on the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad got beyond control today, made two wild runs between Connersville and this place, wrecked two freight trains, demolished four engines, killed two men and injured two others.

Engineer Callahan of the helper ran to College grove, helping a freight. He was to take the switch east of Liberty. When he reached the switch and attempted to reverse part of the machinery would not respond and the engine got beyond control.

Near Liberty it collided with a freight. In some way the helper was reversed and started back, running through Liberty at the rate of seventy miles an hour.

It dashed into another freight, which was being hauled by two engines. Those killed in the collision were Mike Foley of Indianapolis, brakeman, and Rous Osborne of Connersville, fireman on the helper engine.

VANDERBILT STILL IMPROVES

Symptoms Continue Encouraging and There is Now Strong Hope of His Recovery.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Though no authoritative statement could be obtained as to the condition of Cornelius Vanderbilt at 7 o'clock this morning, it was said at the house that the encouraging symptoms of the last two days had continued and that hope was strong for Mr. Vanderbilt's recovery.

At 9 o'clock the physicians made public the following bulletin:

Mr. Vanderbilt had a very restless night and is still seriously ill. His general condition and temperature remain about the same. Any slight change we hope to believe that he will recover.

MEXICO SWALLOWS MUCH GOLD

Americans Invest Five Hundred Million Dollars in Last Five Years.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Five hundred million dollars in gold is the amount of American capital invested in Mexico by 1,117 American companies and individuals, according to estimates carefully prepared by the consul general at Mexico City. Practically all of this has been invested within five years. Seventy per cent of the total is invested in railroads.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair and Warmer Tuesday; Wednesday Probably Snow.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:			
Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	23	3 p. m.	23
6 a. m.	22	2 p. m.	21
7 a. m.	22	1 p. m.	22
8 a. m.	22	4 p. m.	21
9 a. m.	22	5 p. m.	21
10 a. m.	21	6 p. m.	20
11 a. m.	21	7 p. m.	20
12 m.	21	8 p. m.	20
		9 p. m.	20

WRECK IN SOUTH OMAHA YARDS

Two Men Seriously Injured and Two Burlington Engines Smashed Up.

Two men seriously injured, one engine in the scrap pile and another one badly dented and out of service is the net result of a wreck in the Burlington yards at South Omaha yesterday evening.

Switch engine 276, in charge of Engineer T. D. Helan, was at the top of the hill about 12 o'clock, when the throttle became disconnected and the engine could do nothing to control it, though he stayed at his post and made the effort. The wild engine came down the hill into the yards at high speed and crashed into switch engine 172 at P street and Boulevard. The force of the impact was terrific and both engines were badly smashed, 276 being practically a scrap heap and 172 so badly disabled that the shop force will have considerable work putting it into condition for service again.

T. D. Helan, the engineer of the wild engine, was badly hurt about the head and his face was burned by escaping steam.

M. Hoops, fireman of 172, was severely scalded from the knees down and slightly hurt about the head.

Both men were taken to the South Omaha hospital, where they were cared for. While their injuries are painful, neither of them are likely to die or be permanently crippled as a result.

MONEY MAKES CURE EFFECTIVE

Mental Doctor Claims Divine Power, but Insists on Fee Being Prepaid.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 22.—Doctors James M. Pebles, Walter T. Bobo and Charles M. Creen of the People's Institute of Health, Battle Creek, Mich., were convicted in the United States district court here today of violating the postal laws. A thirty-day stay of proceedings will prevent immediate sentence.

The persons were charged with an attempt to obtain money by fraud by means of advertisements of their mental "cure" sent by mail. During the trial Dr. Bobo said he believed Dr. Pebles had a healing power like that of Jesus, only that the doctor's power was smaller, but admitted that a patient at a distance faithfully following Dr. Pebles' instructions would derive no benefit if he had not prepaid the fee of \$1.

INDIANA CORN LAND FLOODED

Wabash River Rises Beyond Controlling Banks and Sweeps Neighborhoods.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 22.—The river remains stationary here at forty feet. It is expected to begin to recede before morning. Today at Troy, Ind., seventy miles above here, it was already falling rapidly. Farmers are getting ready to move back to the bottoms and by the last of the week it is expected the river will be back in its natural channel. Reports of damage to corn and livestock are still coming in, although the damage has not been as heavy as was anticipated.

The Wabash river is also rising and alarm is felt by farmers living along that stream. Thousands of acres of corn land are already flooded.

MORGAN BUYS COAL LANDS

Pays Eight Million Dollars for Kentucky Fuel Deposits West of Green River.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 22.—Negotiations have practically been concluded whereby a syndicate, of which J. P. Morgan is a director, will obtain control of