

DIED AT THEIR POST

Awful Fate of Thirty World's Fair Firemen.

BURNED LIKE RATS IN A TRAP

Twenty Thousand People Witness the Terrible Calamity, but Were Powerless to Aid Them.

Chicago, July 10.—Additional details about the terrible holocaust in the cold storage warehouse, just south of the Sixty-fourth street gate of the world's fair, are as follows:

The fire started at the top of the cupola, which rises fully 200 feet from the ground. Through this cupola the chimney passed. The cupola was made of wood, surmounted with a staff, and was highly ornamented with pilars and columns. Near the top is a landing. The fire broke out 30 feet above this. As soon as the firemen arrived, 35 or 40 of them climbed up the ladders to the landing and were preparing to throw streams of water on the burning portion, when the fire which had eaten its way inside to a point below where the firemen stood, broke out with volcanic ferocity on all sides. An exclamation of horror broke from the lips of 20,000 people gathered about the building to see the fire. Five men saved themselves by sliding down the ropes. Before the others could follow the fire burned away the ropes. Those who remained were huddled together on the north side of the cupola. It was beyond the reach of any ladders, and the crowd stood horror-stricken, helpless to aid. The flames leaped higher and higher until the men were almost concealed from view. At this moment one fireman sprang far out and was dashed to pieces on the roof 60 feet below.

Another and another, crazed by the awful heat, followed his example and met the same fate. When five had jumped the upper portion of the cupola gave way and the remaining firemen were swallowed up in the mass of burning timbers. Meantime every effort was being made to extinguish the fire, most of which was above the reach of streams. The entire building will be destroyed. It cost \$250,000, and was stored with wines, meats and fruits. The loss will be \$500,000. It was built by the Hercules Iron Works, manufacturers of refrigerating machinery.

It is supposed the framework around the mouth of the chimney caught fire from a defect in the flue. At first it appeared an insignificant affair; but, knowing the inflammable nature of the structure, Fire Marshal Murphy called all the companies out. With about 40 of his men, Captain Fitzpatrick climbed the ladders inside the tower to the balcony, and from there ropes were lowered to haul up the hose. One had been pulled up, when the wind caused the flames to break out in an alarming manner about 10 feet from the top of the cupola. In the meantime the fire had eaten away down inside the structure, and, all unconscious, the firemen were standing on the shell of a burning volcano. The fire had been burning scarcely 20 minutes when suddenly the flames burst out around the base of the balcony in perfect fury. So terrible was the spectacle that for a moment the crowds stood transfixed with horror, all alike powerless to aid the unfortunate men imprisoned on the balcony, 150 feet from the ground. All the ropes hanging from the tower were burned away. One hose withstood the heat, however, and John Davis caught hold of it and slid down to the main roof where he fainted. His face and hands were terribly burned by the flames which enveloped him as he came down. He was taken to the hospital and the physicians say he will recover. Two of his fellow firemen attempted to follow him, but before they were half way down the hose gave way and they dropped into the seething mass of fire and were lost. Another man started down on the portion of a rope hanging from the tower, but it gave way and he fell, striking on his head, and was instantly killed.

There now remained, according to the count of various spectators, 25 to 30 men on the tower. They were hopelessly beyond human help, the longest ladder falling short by fully 30 feet. At this terrible moment Captain Fitzpatrick's tall form appeared in front of the men who were huddled together on the narrow balcony. He seemed to be addressing his brave followers. As he ceased speaking one of the men crept around the burning balcony and returned a moment later with a rope. It was hastily fastened to the railing around the balcony and thrown to the roof. Fitzpatrick was seen to point to it and a man started to slide down, but before he was half way down the cruel flames rolled up and he was swallowed in the awful volcano. Another tried it and met the same fate. One after another five of the men at this point sprang from the balcony to the roof. If any survived the awful leap they were burned to death afterwards. The rope burned off about half way down, but Fitzpatrick, seeing the men jumping to their doom, seized the strand and started down. He dropped from the end of the rope and caught on the ladder, which was raised

to within 20 feet of it. Fire Marshal Murphy, who was on the roof, sprang forward and soon reached Fitzpatrick. A shout of admiration and encouragement went up. The heroic marshal started back with his friend, but was enveloped in the flames. With the energy of despair he clutched his comrade and slid down the ladder. Both Murphy and Fitzpatrick were unconscious when picked up. The former is not seriously injured, but Fitzpatrick was fatally hurt and died in the afternoon. The total number of burned and killed by jumping is 30.

A few weeks ago Marshal Murphy inspected the burned building and reported it extremely unsafe. On account of his report the insurance companies canceled all risks on it, so the loss is complete. The structure that burned, the cold-storage warehouse, was one of the smallest buildings at the fair, but not belonging to the exposition. It was the exhibit of the Hercules Iron Works, manufacturers of ice and refrigerating machines. The building contained a skating rink, three 120-ton ice machines, some 40 barrels of lined oil, which added fuel to the flame, and in it there was stored large quantities of meat, fruit, etc. That the fire was not communicated to other world's fair buildings was due to favorable winds. The scene of the horror was witnessed by many thousands of people who flocked to the locality when the alarm was sounded, and strong men wept and women fainted as one life after another was snuffed out within full view of the multitude, but beyond reach of human aid. Mayor Harrison was almost overcome when he heard of the calamity, but finally said:

"Well, this has settled one thing, the city of Chicago is going to assume control over the fair buildings so far as protecting life is concerned, and at once. Tomorrow morning I will see that all the buildings are carefully inspected and whatever changes necessary for the safety of the people are found advisable they must be made. These things must be looked into and they will be if it takes every police officer in Chicago. It is a little late now, but the city will take no more chances."

A relief fund was started by the council of administration so soon as the extent of the disaster was known, and in less than 30 minutes \$2,000 was subscribed and contributions continue to pour in.

WILL FOLLOW BRIGGS.

Presbyterian Minister Secedes from the General Assembly.

IRVINGTON, N. Y., July 10.—The action of the last general assembly of the Presbyterian church at Washington, in condemning the doctrines held by Professor C. A. Briggs has led to another secession from the ranks of the church. The position assumed by the highest court of Presbyterianism is such that the Rev. Dr. John Penman, of this place, can no longer remain in his pulpit. He has resigned his pastorate, and declares his inability to sustain longer and subscribe to the "system of doctrine" of his church. Pastor Penman was one of the commissioners to the general assembly which tried and condemned Dr. Briggs. He voted with the minority in favor of Dr. Briggs. In a letter to his congregation giving his reasons for this action on his part, Dr. Penman says:

"I had hoped, up to the last general assembly, that the Presbyterian church would declare itself in favor of progress in doctrine and liberty of investigation, but that hope is now shattered. I hold that the Bible contains the word of God. I yield to none in my reverence and my love for it. I believe that the Bible is the fountain of Divine love which is able to make men wise unto salvation, and bring them into touch with Him who is the life and light of men."

The Silver Question.

MONTEREY, Mexico, July 10.—The Monterey smelters are in full blast and there is no indication of cessation. William Guggenheim, general manager of the great National smelter, the largest silver lead plant in this country, said today:

"The white metal is all right and there is no cause for alarm. The future of silver is now in the hands of England and the United States. England has already intimated that she will take care of white metal exclusive of the United States product. She wants to close the mines of the United States. The repeal of the Sherman act will practically leave England alone to protect silver, except for such assistance as might come from Japan. England is obliged to buy silver, as India must use it for all back on gold, which England can't spare. The question now arises, What will the United States do for silver? What the reasonable supporters of the white metal demand is not free coinage, but a staple condition protecting it from fluctuation. Mexico will be able to produce silver profitably at figures that would be ruinous to the United States."

India's Silver Legislation.

LONDON, July 11.—In response to an inquiry in the house of commons today, G. E. Russell, parliamentary secretary of the Indian office, stated the object of the silver legislation in India was not to fix the value of the rupee at 16 pence or any other amount, but to prevent a future fall in price. He added he had not yet fixed the ratio of value between the rupee and sovereign.

THE CHICAGO HORROR

Searching for the Bodies of the Victims.

WORLD'S FAIR VISITORS MISSING

Thousands of People Making Inquiries for Their Friends—Many Bodies Unrecognized.

Chicago, Ill., July 11.—Columbian guards on duty at the scene during the fire have constantly maintained that several world's fair visitors and electrical employes and other workers were caught in the flames, and today's discovery lends color to their contention.

The Electric Light company had a number of men in the lower part of the building, stringing wires, when the fire broke out, and several of these are still missing. Four Columbian guards are still unaccounted for. At least 100 people who have missing relatives or friends were around the ruins this morning, trying to identify the bodies discovered.

Many inquiries come from Springfield, Ill., as to the fate of Lieutenant John H. Freeman, of fire company No. 1. There is no longer any doubt as to his fate. He was one of the first to reach the top of the burning shaft, and consequently one of the first victims of the fire. His charred body has been discovered and in some way identified by his comrades, though the features and form are unrecognizable. Freeman only entered the world's fair fire department a few weeks ago. He was for many years chief fire marshal of Springfield, but recently lost his position through a change in the administration.

It has been definitely ascertained that only 11 firemen lost their lives, as follows: Captain James Fitzpatrick, Lieutenant J. H. Freeman, William Denning, P. R. Green, Captain James Garvey, John McBride, John Cahill, Paul Schroeder, Captain B. E. Page, Lieutenant Charles Purvis, J. A. Smith.

There are three unidentified bodies, known, however, not to be firemen. There are 17 wounded in the hospital and elsewhere. Of these, L. J. Frank, a fireman, will probably die. Among the wounded are: Captain Thomas Barry, arm broken, will have to be amputated; Marshal Murphy, chief of the world's fair fire department, slightly injured; Marshal Kenyon, chief of the battalion, bruised.

Three Columbian guards, who went up the deadly cupola to help the firemen draw up the hose, are missing, and it is supposed have shared the fate of the firemen. An examination of the remains of the structure this morning reveals its flimsy character, and many blame the construction department of the world's fair for allowing it to go up in that form.

It is said the council of administration had been warned time and again of the dangerous character of the structure, including once by Marshal Murphy, and that the council, to cut down expenses, ordered the withdrawal of the Columbian guards on duty here, in spite of a protest from the commander. But for the favorable direction of the wind yesterday, it is believed nothing could have prevented the fire from sweeping right through the White city.

The heavy financial loss entailed by the cold storage fire yesterday caused the Hercules Iron Works, owner of the plant, to make an assignment this morning. The company owns a plant at Aurora, Ill. Assets, \$400,000; liabilities, \$200,000. Yesterday's fire caused a loss of \$200,000, which the company will have to stand, as the insurance company recently canceled all risks on the structure. The president of the Hercules company says the plant is unencumbered and sufficient to meet all liabilities. The company will continue in business, but will not rebuild at the world's fair.

Widespread Suffering in the Iron-Mining Regions.

ST. PAUL, MINN., July 10.—There is general and widespread suffering in the several established iron ranges of the Lake Superior districts. It is the worst time since the black days of 1872. There is scarcely a mine on the ranges that is not either completely closed or greatly curtailed in operation. Miners have not been at work for three weeks, and the idle number is at least 5,000 greater than it was less than a month ago. This tremendous unemployed force decreases in like ratio the business of the railways in that section, and also the stores and dependent industries. It is probable that 12,000 men are today out of work by reason of the closing of these mines. Most of the mines that have suspended operations are still shipping the ore that has been mined and put on stock piles. Some few are continuing mining operations with little shifts. Some, however, are so completely shut down that the pumps have been taken out, and the mines will be allowed to fill with water.

MORE TROUBLE IN BRAZIL.

Admiral Wandekolk Has Joined The Revolutionists.

VALPARAISO, July 10.—A more serious turn has been given to the revolution in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, by the attitude of Admiral Wandekolk, of the Brazilian navy. The Herald correspondent

in Buenos Ayres telegraphs that the admiral has joined the revolutionists and is now off the town Rio Grande do Sul with a warship and preparing for an attack. Admiral Wandekolk was formally declared a traitor by the Brazilian government a short time ago. His formal declaration in favor of the rebels will inspire them and their leaders with new hope. It is reported that there are 300 men on board his ship. He proposes to capture the gunboat sent by Brazil to defend the town of Rio Grande do Sul while the revolutionary land forces attack the town. His action has aroused the authorities at Rio Janeiro and the cruiser Republica has been ordered to give battle to the rebellious admiral. The wires have been cut and some days may pass before definite news of the operations at Rio Grande do Sul are ascertained. Admiral Wandekolk issued a manifesto to the Brazilians calling upon the people of Rio Grande do Sul and other states to revolt against President Peixotto, whom he calls a tyrant not worthy to rule over the public.

SILVER PURCHASES.

Another Bid by Telegraph Accepted by the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, July 11.—There was but one response to the counter proposition to silver brokers yesterday, and that was limited to an offer of 100,000 ounces at 71½c. This came from New York by telegraph after the close of the office yesterday. It was promptly accepted. Tomorrow another effort will be made to secure more silver, and as the price in London this morning is up to 1½d to 3½c, maybe the department will have to pay more than 71½c, if it decided to buy at all. It is stated the purpose of the acting director of the mint just now is to secure steady quotations rather than to affect the market one way or another, and when the quotations become steadier it is probable the purchases of silver will be resumed in larger amounts.

Loaded Up With Statistics.

ASPEN, Colo., July 10.—President Andrews, of Brown university, has been making an investigation into the conditions that have brought about the closing of the silver mines. In company with President Hagerman, and some half-dozen other capitalists, he went through a dozen leading mines here on Friday last. From the managers of these he gathered statistics relating to different phases of the silver question. He left early yesterday morning for Leadville, where he will remain one day. On his return east, Professor Andrews will visit Mr. Cleveland and lay before him the facts he has secured. Professor Andrews is a pronounced bi-metalist, and it is said he left here more than ever convinced that he is on the right track. None of the silver mines here have yet started up.

New York Silver Market.

NEW YORK, July 11.—Silver was weak and lower, certificates falling to 71½c at the stock exchange. Treasury purchases yesterday were disappointingly small and accounts for the weakness of the market. Commercial bar silver fell to 70½c. Mexican dollars unchanged at 57c. Money on call is easier at 6½c. Time money is difficult to obtain. The rate is still nominally 6. There is a better inquiry for commercial paper, the banks in some cases advising purchases. Sterling exchange is heavy, posted rates reduced to \$4.82½ and \$4.84½. Good supply of commercial bills, demand light. The rates are gradually sinking to a gold-importing point.

The State Prison.

SALEN, Or., July 11.—The report of Superintendent Downing, of the state penitentiary, for the quarter ending June 30th, has been filed with the secretary of state. It shows the number of convicts in the institution to be 394, a gain of one during the quarter. The earnings of the penitentiary during that period were \$3,093.39, of which \$520 were for board of United States prisoners, \$2,523.04 for convict labor furnished the foundry, \$42 for rent of cottage and \$8.25 for old iron and rags. The expenses foot up \$10,652.

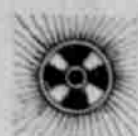
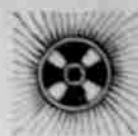
Seven Days Without Food.

CITY OF MEXICO, July 10.—Mariano Leyva, a wealthy farmer of the valley of Mexico, was crossing a range of mountains recently when he lost his footing and was precipitated into a deep chasm. He could not climb out and remained on a small shelf of rock overhanging a precipice seven days without food or water. He was found yesterday by a searching party and his almost lifeless body was brought to the surface by means of ropes. He is in a critical condition, and will probably die.

Nearly Drowned.

Joe Reyburn, in attempting to ford the John Day river one day last week, came near meeting with a fatal accident, says the Antelope Herald. The river was higher than he expected it to be and after the team had gone in a short distance they were compelled to swim. The wagon speed and it was only by a miracle that Mr. Reyburn clung to the wagon and saved his life. Some parties who were near by, came to his rescue immediately and the half-drowned man is now lying at Mr. Clarno's residence in a critical condition.

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