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BIG HOTELS BURN

Fire on the Board Walk at Atlantic City.

LOSS IS OVER \$750,000

Twelve Great Buildings and Many Small Ones Gone.

FORTUNATELY NO LOSS OF LIFE

Help Summoned From Philadelphia and Camden—Great Excitement Among Guests—Small Insurance Carried.

Fire along the board walk at Atlantic City destroyed 12 large hotels and many smaller buildings, valued at less than \$750,000, on which the insurance was small. Firemen from Philadelphia and Camden aided in controlling the flames. There was no loss of life.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., April 3.

Twelve hotels and more than a score of small buildings adjoining the board walk, which is built along the ocean edge, were destroyed by a fire which swept the beach front for two long blocks, from Illinois avenue to New York avenue. The loss, it is believed, will exceed \$750,000. In this respect the conflagration is the most disastrous that has ever visited this city. The loss will be only partly covered by insurance, as the rate of 5 per cent charged by insurance companies on property here is regarded as almost prohibitive. Fortunately no lives were sacrificed, though probably a dozen persons were slightly injured and burned during the progress of the fire. It was reported early in the afternoon that six men had perished in the flames, but the rumor was without foundation.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is said to have started in either Brady's bath or the Carlton Hotel, which adjoins the bath, at Illinois avenue, and the board walk.

The city tonight is guarded by a company of militia, which was requested by the municipal authorities to aid the police in the prevention of looting. About a dozen men were arrested during the day for robbery.

The Losses.

The hotels destroyed and their estimated losses are:

The Luray and annex, the latter formerly known as the Norwood, owned by J. S. White & Son	\$125,000
The New Holland, Mrs. M. J. Leach	20,000
Stratford, Arnold W. Waldner	40,000
Berkley, Bro. Bros.	50,000
Bryn Mawr, J. J. Mawr	20,000
Stickney, Mrs. L. V. Stickney	20,000
Evard, James T. Gorman	20,000
Florida, P. H. H. H. H.	20,000
Mervine, J. E. E.	20,000
Academy Hotel and Academy of Music, Charles Fralinger	25,000
Windsor, Jason Waters (partly destroyed)	25,000

Charles W. Keeler, who conducted a drug store on the board walk at Kentucky avenue, estimated his loss at \$50,000, and Victor Freisinger, proprietor of an art store at St. James' Place and the board walk, said his loss is \$20,000. Other victims, whose losses range from \$500 to \$10,000, are: James A. Brady, bathhouse; David John, druggist; Nabass & Kazgar, Oriental goods; Haines, florist; Chinamen's Co., Japanese novelties; Chin Hop Hing, Chinese novelties; John F. Flett, art store; Patridge & Richardson, millinery and dry goods; Women's Exchange; E. P. Quinn, hairdresser; M. Moyer & Bro., jewelry; Richardson, blind barber. In addition to the foregoing there were numerous other smaller booths and several cottages on minor thoroughfares in the rear of the board walk which were either partially or entirely destroyed.

Where the Fire Started.

The fire was discovered shortly after 9 o'clock this morning. For nearly five hours the flames raged with such violence as to threaten the city with destruction. All of the burned buildings were frame structures, and the flames, fanned by a strong west wind, swept along the beach front with amazing rapidity. The Carlton was soon a pile of smoldering debris, and the flames fed on the small stores and booths between Illinois and Kentucky avenues, until they reached the Stratford Hotel, which was soon enveloped. The fiery tongues leaped to the Berkeley, adjoining, and in a few minutes the New Holland, the Bryn Mawr, the Evard and the Stickney, all located on Kentucky avenue, near the beach, were doomed.

The local fire department worked well and willingly, but was unable to stop with the flames, and it was found necessary to send to Philadelphia and Camden for aid. The former city sent three engines, and two came down from Camden. The engines were brought here on two special trains furnished by the Pennsylvania Railroad, and they made the run of nearly 60 miles in 55 minutes. Their presence here was of great assistance to the local firemen, but it was not until an hour after their arrival that the fire could be said to be thoroughly under control.

Just as the special train bearing the Philadelphia firemen arrived, a burning brand set fire to the center of Young's pier, near Tennessee avenue. Meantime the flames had communicated to the Rio Grande, the Mervine and the Academy Hotels and the Academy of Music, at the corner of New York avenue and the beach. For a few minutes Young's pier burned fiercely, but the firemen succeeded in confining the flames to Marine Hall, which was situated in the center.

During the progress of the fire the wildest excitement prevailed among the guests of the hotels which later became prey to the flames. With the exception of the Carlton and the Bryn Mawr, all of the hostels were open for the season, and most of them were fairly well filled. In most cases the guests had sufficient time to pick their trunks and grips, and those

who did not do this carried their personal effects to places of safety in the best manner possible under the circumstances.

The local board of insurance underwriters, after a meeting tonight, announced that the total loss would not exceed \$750,000, and the loss to the insurance companies would be about \$750,000.

Reno Mill Fire.

RENO, Nev., April 3.—The three-story planing mill, the property of the Reno Mill & Lumber Company, was destroyed by fire today. Loss, \$15,000; insurance, \$5000.

CANAL NOT FORGOTTEN.

It Will Have Special Place on Senate Calendar, Says Allison.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The intimation that the Philippine government bill will be placed ahead of the Nicaragua Canal bill has led a number of people to jump at the conclusion that the canal bill is to be defeated. Of course, it is well understood that during the discussion on the Chinese exclusion bill and the Philippine bill the appropriation bills can be got out of the way. In that event there might be



SCENE AT ATLANTIC CITY, SHOWING HOTELS VISITED BY FIRE.

some trouble about passing the canal bill if there should be great pressure for aid to the Federal Treasury.

The canal is a subject which Senator Allison, who is chairman of the Republican steering committee, said today:

"The steering committee will be giving for taking up the canal bill and giving it a right of way in the Senate at an early day. Whether it will follow the Chinese bill is a matter that is to be considered by the committee, but my judgment is that when the committee again meets to consider the order of business the canal bill will be provided for. Some members of the committee think the Philippine bill should come in after the Chinese bill, but in my opinion whatever is done will include an arrangement for the canal bill. The measure is forced on the Senate, ever since the last order of business, under which we are now working, was established."

It is found that there is a strong sentiment both among Republicans and Democrats in favor of the position taken by Senator Allison. Many Republicans are very strongly of the opinion that the canal bill is the country for action on the canal bill is so pronounced that they could make no greater mistake than to adjourn without having disposed of that question. Democrats declare that if there is any effort on the part of any one to prevent consideration and a vote on the canal bill, they will remain here until consideration of the measure is forced on the Senate. Stronger than either of these views is a belief among Senators that the time has come to act on the canal bill in a way to secure an inter-oceanic waterway as soon as practicable.

Some Senators who are in doubt about the advisability of one or the other of the canal routes that are being urged upon the Senate declare their belief that a reasonable debate will enable Senators who have doubts on this subject to make up their minds concerning it. They do not think that there should be much delay in getting a vote.

IF POWERS DO NOT OBJECT

Russo-Manchurian Treaty Will Be Signed Soon.

PEKIN, April 3.—The signing of the Russo-Manchurian convention only awaits the receipt of information whether objection to it will be raised by other powers. Since the treaty has been modified, as a result of the pressure exercised by the United States, Great Britain and Japan, to its present form, it is not believed that any difficulty on this score will be encountered.

As previously cabled, the evacuation of the three Manchurian provinces by Russia is to be carried out in three successive periods of six months from the signing of the convention, and it is stipulated that the convention be ratified within three months of the day it is signed. China is permitted to maintain whatever force she thinks necessary in Manchuria after the evacuation of that territory.

In addition to the preceding covenants, Russia agrees, if Tien Tsin is restored to the Chinese within the first six months, to vacate Niu Chwang at the time this restoration is made. China agrees that no portions of the Niu Chwang-Shan Hai Kwan Railway be allowed to fall into the hands of other powers after Russia restores the road to China. China also agrees to reimburse Russia in the amount spent in completing the railway and policing the line during the Russian occupation.

Fire Burned for Twenty Years.

CARBON, Wyo., April 2.—The fire that has been smoldering in the old No. 2 coal mine of the Union Pacific here has broken out afresh, and a fire of men is now engaged in working up the mouth of the fan shaft, through which the smoke and flames are issuing. About 20 years ago a fire started in No. 2, and, being unable to get control of it, the company walked up the shaft. At intervals of two or three years the fire has broken out in new places, and for five consecutive years it burned steadily. The fire has undermined the country for a radius of half a mile, and miners say it will probably burn for an indefinite period.

OREGON IS HEARD

Republican Platform Is Commended in the East.

HAS NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Opinion as to Philippines Taken as Indicative of Pacific Coast Sentiment—Strong Ticket, Says Mitchell—Moody Praises Geer.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Under the title of "Oregon and Seattle," the Evening Star

has an editorial upon the nomination of a state ticket and platform in Oregon. The paper says:

"They accept the issue as to the Philippines laid down by the Democrats of the Senate. They are opposed to scuttling, and are for permanent American control, with the natives ordering the local government as rapidly as they qualify. The National bearing of this answer grows out of the fact that at this election a Legislature will be chosen which will in turn choose a United States Senator, and Oregon's representation in the next House will also be decided. Republican success, therefore, will mean votes in Congress against any scheme looking to hauling down the flag at Manila."

Then follows a strong argument in favor of the retention of the Philippines, saying this policy is upheld by the people of the Pacific Coast, because the question appeals to them on its business as well as sentimental side.

Two members of the Oregon delegation seem well pleased at the ticket named in Oregon yesterday.

Senator Mitchell says it is a first-class ticket, well distributed geographically throughout the state, and that it will be elected in June. Representative Tongue says:

"The ticket is unusually strong. The distribution geographically could not have been better. I see no reason why every man on the ticket should not be elected by an overwhelming majority."

Moody Eulogizes Geer.

Concerning the Oregon nominations, Representative Moody said: "I regret that Governor Geer was not re-nominated. He is an old-line Republican of exceptional ability. He made a vigorous and most successful campaign four years ago, carrying the party to victory when it appeared there was imminent danger of defeat on account of the silver craze which was then sweeping over the country, and carrying, not only the great body of the Democrats, but many Republicans, off their feet. He gave the state a sound, conservative and economical administration. He is deservedly very popular among the people, especially among the farmers of Oregon, being himself a farmer by occupation. His own campaign was by no means his only service to the party in that line, for he was often called upon to address the people of Oregon and of other states upon political and party issues. He earned recognition of a renomination by faithfulness and efficiency in the trust reposed in him by his party and the people."

"I do not wish to be understood as reflecting upon the candidate nominated. This is simply the expression of my sentiment concerning the defeat of one who, with the other state officers, has well earned his party's commendation."

HITCHCOCK MAY GO.

Roosevelt Wants Him Out, but He Doesn't Take the Hint.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Post says: "A communique is going around the inner circles at the Capitol. It begins: 'What is the difference between the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Pensions?' The answer is: 'Commissioner Evans has tendered his resignation, but it has not been accepted. Secretary Hitchcock's resignation has been accepted, but it has not yet been tendered.'"

All this fun, which some prominent men are discussing with much gusto, is based on a confidential statement, evidently reliable, that President Roosevelt will very long ago delegated one of the members of his Cabinet who is skilled in politics and diplomatic talk to convey to the Secretary of the Interior that his resignation would

be gratefully received. The errand was performed, as the President requested, but whether the Cabinet officer did not make his hint strong enough or whether Secretary Hitchcock refused to see the point is not known. At any rate, his resignation is not forthcoming, from anything that is known.

A gentleman of prominence politically, and in a position to know, said yesterday that there was no question of Mr. Hitchcock's having been requested to resign in the fashion just told.

Simon Patred on Oteo Bill.

Senator Simon was paired in favor of the oleomargarine bill. He telegraphed Senator Hansbrough so to pair him before the time for voting began. While Senator Turner voted to recommit the bill, he was paired for it on the final passage with Warren, of Wyoming, who was opposed to it.

Representative Cushman today introduced a bill amending the Alaska civil code by authorizing the appointment of commissioners in the judicial branch whenever they are needed to preserve law and order. The commissioners are to re-

Ferrault to Be Reappointed.

There are strong indications that Surveyor-General Ferrault, of Idaho, will soon be reappointed for another term of four years. He has practically cleared up the charges that he has violated the civil service laws in several respects, as alleged by the commission, and affidavits are now awaited from several of the employees of his office to the effect that they were not called upon by Ferrault to contribute to the campaign fund in Idaho in the past. It is said these affidavits can be had, and when received the President is expected to send Ferrault's name to the Senate.

Money for Mount Rainier Park.

Senator Foster today introduced an amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$25,000 for improving Mount Rainier National Park, and authorizing the Secretary of War to detail troops to protect the park against injury by trespassers and for the protection of game.

Bremerton Navy-Yard.

Senator Foster was today assured by members of the House committee on naval affairs, who are preparing the naval appropriation bill, that the new yard at Bremerton is being well taken care of in the bill, and that the appropriation for it will fit it up in such shape that a very large share of the naval ships on the Pacific can be repaired there.

MILES MAY RETIRE.

His Actions Are Regarded as Bad for Army Discipline.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—There is some indication that the President may retire Miles very soon. He feels that if the General remains in his present position and again has an opportunity to repeat the recent Philippine episode it will tend to injure the discipline and general good of the Army. Those who are close to the Administration expect to see a retirement order within a very short time.

The rejection of Crozier by the Senate committee on military affairs today will possibly prevent the selection of very young men for the high places of command in the Army, as Crozier was a Captain when he was made a Brigadier-General, and he jumped over about 40 men. There have been protests and charges of favoritism not without some reason, as there were several Lieutenant-Colonels in the Ordnance Bureau fully as well qualified for Chief of Ordnance as was Crozier.

THE DEATH ROLL.

General Livingston Satterlee.

NEW YORK, April 3.—General Livingston Satterlee is dead at his home in this city. His military career began when he enlisted as a private in the Marine Artillery of Providence, R. I. He was commissioned Brigadier-General in 1865 by Governor Fenton. He was at one time president of the Zeta Psi Fraternity of the United States and Canada. General Satterlee was a 33d degree Mason.

David J. Grist.

KANSAS CITY, April 3.—David J. Grist, aged 66 years, one of the oldest and most successful lumber dealers in the Missouri Valley, died at his home at Kansas City, Kan., today of Bright's disease. In 1859 he went to Pike's Peak, Colo., and for the next nine years he engaged in freighting in Colorado, Utah, Montana and California.

Judge Irvin Stratton.

WICHITA, Kan., April 3.—Mrs. Judge Irvin Stratton received a message today from San Bernardino, Cal., that her husband, who was injured there yesterday, died this morning.

APPEAL FOR CUBA

Palma Asks for a Greater Tariff Reduction.

HIS ADDRESS AT NEW YORK

Says the Bill of the House Ways and Means Committee Will Not Afford the Desired Relief.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Tomás Estrada Palma, President-elect of the Cuban Republic, addressed the New York Chamber of Commerce today. Mr. Palma, who was introduced by Morris K. Jessup, president of the chamber, said that, in his judgment, commerce is the most important wheel in the complex mechanism of a political body. It is an efficient factor in developing the resources of a country, in promoting and building up its industries and in fostering the energies of the people and carrying their activities beyond the boundaries of the nation into all parts of the world—except those which are not within the pale of civilization.

"In modern times," said he, "commerce has materially developed its real force, attaining the character of a powerful factor in the social relations of man. It is principally due to the interests created by it that nations are anxious for peace and devote their efforts to another object, which otherwise might break out at any time on the slightest pretext.

"With my conviction that the best and surest way to attach one country to another consists in building up and strengthening the trade relations through reciprocal exchange of products and the development of other interests in the same line, I am anxious to see both countries closely connected and permanently united by a reciprocal commercial treaty, drawn on the most favorable terms, a treaty to the end that Cuba becomes the largest market in America for the products of the United States, and that this country raise the bar now placed against Cuban products on sugar and tobacco, which are the principal staples of the island and constitute the only basis we have to start on in unfolding other industries.

"On the Chamber of Commerce of New York and each one of its estimable members depend in great measure the attainment of that advantageous result. I, therefore, avail myself of this opportunity to enlist your help, your earnest support, in order to obtain from the Congress of the United States—the House and the Senate—a substantial reduction of the duties on sugar and tobacco, a reduction larger than that recommended by the committee on ways and means in the House, which will in no way afford any relief to the present distress of the Cuban producers."

After Senator Palma's speech, a vote of thanks was extended to him and a resolution was offered by Francis B. Thurber in favor of a 50 per cent reduction in the present Cuban tariff. After much discussion the resolution was referred to the committee on foreign trade, with the proviso that such committee report at a special meeting one week from today.

Albert Mosley, an English commissioner, who came to the United States to study trade conditions here, addressed the chamber. He said that in his opinion the educational system is the explanation of the country's prosperity.

Charles H. Schwab, president of the United States Steel Corporation, was elected a member at today's meeting.

Baseball Player a Hero.

JOPLIN, Mo., April 3.—Dick Bayless, a member of the Joplin baseball team, proved himself a hero today by saving the lives of nine men at the Walcott mine in the Missouri lead and zinc tract. Fire started in the hoist-house. The hoist-rope man became confused and was unable to render assistance to the 11 men underground. Bayless, who was employed in the engine-room, pulled out nine of the men through smoke and flames before he was overcome with exhaustion. The rescued workmen pulled up the remaining two men just as the hoist-house collapsed.

Soldiers Conspiring.

CHICAGO, April 3.—Fort Sheridan officers, it is said, fear there is a conspiracy among the military prisoners at the post to escape, and extra precautions are to be taken. W. P. King, a prisoner held for desertion, is the fourth occupant of the guardhouse to escape during the last two days. King was a member of Company K, First Cavalry, and after desertion was captured March 14, and was awaiting trial. He disappeared while his companions were watching the arrival of General MacArthur, the new Commandant.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS.

Congress:
The Senate passed the oleomargarine bill. Page 2.
The House passed the revenue cutter bill. Page 2.
Aber McKinley denies that he was connected with the Danahy Island deal. Page 3.
Domestic:
Twelve hotels and many small buildings burned at Atlantic City. Page 1.
There was no loss of life, but the property loss is \$750,000. Page 1.
The Allied People's Party was launched at Louisville. Page 2.
Foreign:
Many revolutionary bands have invaded Macedonia. Page 2.
Cecil Rhodes' funeral occurred at Cape Town. Page 3.
St. Petersburg police prevented a demonstration by students. Page 3.
Pacific Coast:
Democrats in Marion County working mainly to elect State Senator. Page 3.
Oregon Republican platform, favorably received in the East. Page 1.
Oregon City reform forces demand suppression of open gambling. Page 4.
Democrats hold county conventions in several Oregon counties. Page 4.
Marine:
Falling off in Oriental fur business is bad for steamships. Page 11.
Marion Lightbody clears with first April grain cargo. Page 11.
Import grain feet decreasing in number. Page 11.
Portland and Vicinity:
Democratic City and County Convention meets. Page 8.
Republican State Convention delegates leave for homes. Page 12.
Lively row over a woman lecturer at A. O. U. W. Hall. Page 7.
Question raised as to County Auditor Pope's salary. Page 10.
Italian laborer killed in street-car accident. Page 8.