

KILLED IN FIRE TRAP

Chicago Hotel Causes Death of Fourteen People.

MANY LEAPED FOR DEAR LIFE

Fire-Escape Gives Way and Guests Are Pinned in Among Flames—Suffocating Smoke the Chief Cause of Death.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Fourteen men met death by suffocation this morning in a fire which occurred at 6 o'clock in the Lincoln Hotel, 123 Madison street. Thirteen of those who lost their lives were stifled while lying in their beds. One victim was taken from the building before life was extinct, but died in the ambulance on the way to the nearest hospital.

Coroner Traeger, after inspecting the building, united with Fire Chief Musham in declaring that the building was a veritable trap, and never should have been used for hotel purposes.

There was no fire-escape on the front of the building, although one was in process of construction. The scaffolding was up, and from it dangled several ropes, down which a number of people hid to the pavement after all escape by the stairway had been cut off.

The Dead.

I. O. Youcum, fire insurance agent, pronounced in Davenport, Ia. Samuel Youcum, his son. A. B. Coon, lawyer, Marengo, Ill. F. L. Ewing, mail clerk, Marietta, O. H. F. Howell, Chicago. T. V. Storum, machine dealer, Wauconda, Ill.

House Full of Guests.

The hotel was four stories in height, and contained an unusual number of rooms for a hotel of its size. Afterwards Chief Musham, of the fire department, declared that they were the quietest rooms he had ever seen in any building.

The guests came down the one stairway of the building in stages of five or six and several leaped from the windows of the second story to the sidewalk below and escaped without serious injury.

Firemen to the Rescue.

The firemen, who arrived with great promptness, saved many lives by carrying people down the stairs from the windows. The smoke on the inside of the building was so thick and so pungent that the firemen were unable to do more than take the people out of the windows. Those who were not able to reach the windows in a few minutes after the fire broke out were suffocated.

Blizzard in Mississippi.

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 4.—A cold wave, accompanied by rain, snow and a stiff southwest gale raged furiously all day. Snow, the heaviest in years, fell for several hours.

Freezing in Louisiana.

ALEXANDRIA, La., Dec. 4.—The cold wave reached here today, accompanied by sleet, rain and snow. The temperature went down to 22. Red River is rising rapidly and fears of a flood are entertained.

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Surrender in Struggle for Nine-Hour Working Day.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—By the unconditional surrender of the men the strike of sliversmiths and finishers for a nine-hour work day came to an end today throughout Greater New York City.

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had climbed down the fire-escape to the street. All were in their night clothing. Allen Oldorf, of Milwaukee, made a perilous descent from the fourth floor by scaling the wall by means of the iron shutters. Oldorf stated that he had seen at least a dozen persons on the top floor waiting for a ladder to make their way from the building by means of the front stairway. Many of the bodies were found in the beds in positions of slumber. Others were found on the hallway lying face downward in positions that showed they had vainly endeavored to save their lives. Some were half clad, and others wore nothing but night clothing.

Manager Blames Owner.

F. A. Smith, proprietor of the hotel, said: "I can certainly not blame for this awful catastrophe. Three weeks ago the agents of this building were notified to place a stairway in the rear of the building, and also to build a firewall around the front stairway shaft in the rear. The contractors came and looked the building over, but nothing was done. Last night our 70 rooms were all filled, and I should judge that we had from 125 to 150 guests. From what I can learn, the fire started in the rear of the building on the second floor. This probably accounts for the escape of the guests who occupied front rooms on the upper floors. They had an opportunity to reach the stairway before the flames reached that part of the building, but the occupants of the rear rooms were cut off by the flames. Most of our guests last night were persons who came to Chicago to visit the stock show and knew little of the building."

Chief Musham, of the Fire Department, said that it was the worst fire he had attended during his career as a fireman, and that so dense was the smoke that it was impossible to reach the imprisoned guests, who died like rats in a cage. When the fire finally managed to make their way into the rooms the sight that met their gaze was appalling. Men and boys lay about the floors of the rooms and hallways, where they had fallen in their eagerness to escape.

Coroner's Jury at Work.

A jury was impaneled this afternoon by Coroner Traeger to ascertain the cause of the disaster and to fix the guilt for negligence. After viewing the bodies of the victims the jury went to the ill-fated hotel where an examination was made of the various rooms. The jurors were then dismissed to meet for the inquest, which will begin December 12. At the conclusion of the inspection Coroner Traeger said:

"The fire was undoubtedly caused by the explosion of an oil stove in the rear of the third floor. The building was very carelessly constructed, the fire-escape being worthless."

The following were injured: J. S. Allison, Richmond Center, Wis., cut about head; Edward Davenport, Chicago, injured internally by jumping from fourth story to roof of adjoining building; W. G. Thomas, Cedar Rapids, Ia., badly cut and bruised; William M. Snyder, Loom City, Ia., bruised by falling downstairs; Mrs. June Shepherd, Chicago, back strained, arms and hands cut and bruised; Robert C. Hamilton, Lebanon, Ind., hands cut; Cliff Ward, Battle Creek, Mich., cut about head and hands lacerated; E. G. Nashville, Mich.; feet burned; Irwin Westerland, Chicago, feet burned; Olof Oldorf, Chicago, hands lacerated.

Killed in a Coal Mine.

HAZLETON, Pa., Dec. 4.—Elmer Kischner, aged 22, a carpenter, and Gustave Strack, aged 19 years, were instantly killed today while descending the Cranberry mine in a tram car. Several other men in the mine escaped serious injury. The men were on their way to the bottom of the slope for the purpose of building platforms for the erection of pumps that had been removed during the strike. Near the bottom of the slope the man car was struck by a runaway truck. Kischner and Strack were knocked from the car and killed.

Engineer Killed, Trainmen Hurt.

COBSONTON, O., Dec. 4.—Pamhandle work train and a Toledo, Walkhending Valley & Ohio engine and caboose collided near here today. Engineer Veo, of Toledo, was instantly killed, and seven trainmen hurt. Conductor Armstrong, of Columbus, was seriously injured.

SUNNY SOUTH SHIVERS.

Earliest Snow in Years Prostrates Wires and Railroads.

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 4.—General rain, sleet and snow prevailed throughout the state today. This is the earliest snow known here in years. Business is practically at a standstill, the telegraph wires are prostrated, and railway traffic has been impeded to some extent.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 4.—Sleet and rain fell all morning in the territory adjacent to the city.

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Olds, Wortman & King

CHRISTMAS TOYS, Christmas Dolls, Christmas Books, Christmas Fancy Work, Christmas Cards and Calendars and Christmas Presents of all kinds now at our store in great profusion and at tempting prices :: :: ::

Friday Extra Special Lilliputian Harmonicas, 6c

A novelty that will please the children. There is more music in them for the size than in any other musical instrument made. These on sale have 16 reeds and possess a very pleasing tone. Price today only 6c

Specials for Friday and Saturday—Ladies' Underwear Vests and Pants

An excellent Winter weight. Wool plated, color gray. Value, per garment, 65c, special today and Saturday 49c

Ladies' Union Suits

Made of heavy gray cotton, good Winter weight and excellent 75c quality. Today and Saturday the price is 49c

Ladies' Hose

Heavy weight, fast black cotton, good Winter weight and excellent 25c quality, you can get them today and Saturday for, per pair 18c

Special Lamp Sale

Nothing brightens up a home more than a nice, cheerful lamp. No Christmas present could be more acceptable than one of the handsome kinds we are now selling at a big reduction. Our entire line, which is the most extensive and varied of any on the coast, is reduced this week. You will profit by taking advantage of the opportunity.

Closing Days of All-Week Bargains

Ladies' Walking Suits Very Special Prices on New

\$35.00 Values for \$28.00 Beautifully tailored suits, in the very newest styles and materials. Price \$28.00 this week

Street Skirts Specially Priced

Nothing better offered this season, they are stylishly made of excellent material in all the prevailing colors. Value \$4.89 \$7.00, special

BLAMES THE MOSQUITOES

ONLY KNOWN CAUSE OF SPREADING YELLOW FEVER.

Pan-American Sanitary Conference Agrees on Means of Fighting Disease on Two Continents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The Sanitary Conference of American Republics, which has been in session here since Tuesday, came to an end tonight. Santiago de Chile was selected as the place of the next meeting, which will occur March 15, 1904.

The mosquito came in for a good share of attention during the closing session and several resolutions bearing on the subject of yellow fever infection were adopted. One of these, offered by Dr. Arthur R. Reynolds, of Chicago, urged the different Governments to study in their respective territories the geographical distribution of the mosquito, in order that it may have practical application in subsequent conventions. A resolution offered by Dr. Gutierrez, of Cuba, is of broader scope, and in a measure makes the statement that the insect is the one factor in the communication of the disease. This resolution declares as follows:

"The measures of prophylaxis against yellow fever shall be based upon the fact that up to the present time the bite of certain mosquitoes is the only proved natural means of the propagation of yellow fever; that the governments represented in this conference approve the measures employed in Havana for the prevention of the spread of the disease 'on land,' for the isolation of cases and the fumigation of buildings, it being understood that said measures are based upon the principles enunciated in the first part of this resolution; that the prevention of the importation of the disease by vessels wherein persons actually infected are found must conform to the methods employed on land, yet thereby causing no destruction of the importation of infected mosquitoes that require further study before any decided modification of the quarantine laws can be recommended."

The resolution provides that the subject of bringing the quarantine laws to conform with the new doctrine of mosquito infection shall be referred to the International Sanitary Bureau of the American Republics for a report at the next meeting.

Causes of Epidemics.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted: "Whereas, the bubonic plague and other diseases are spread by rats, mice and other lower animals, which to a great extent find sustenance in animal and vegetable kitchen refuse, commonly called garbage; therefore be it

"Resolved, That all organic waste or garbage should be kept securely on the premises until it can be removed unmixt with anything else, and destroyed."

A resolution was adopted reciting that typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera are caused by swallowing food or drink contaminated by the discharges of previous cases, and declaring that, if all the discharges of every existing case of typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera were instantly disinfectant, such diseases would cease to be a menace to the world.

A long resolution pertaining to the work of the International Sanitary Bureau, whose permanent headquarters are to be at Washington, was adopted by the conference. It makes it the duty of the bureau to urge all the republics represented in the conference promptly and regularly to transmit to the bureau all data of every character relative to the sanitary condition of their respective ports and territories; to furnish the bureau every opportunity and aid for thorough, careful and scientific study and investigation of outbreaks of pestilential diseases occurring in the territories of the republics; to require the bureau to lend it aid and experience towards the widest

BOODLER TELLS STORY.

Tells of Division of Spoils at St. Louis Birthday Party.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.—The trial of Delegate Charles Denny, on the charge of perjury before the grand jury, in the Suburban Street Railway franchise deal, investigation, was called in Judge Ryan's Court today. The testimony against Denny will, it is anticipated, be practically the same as that against Edmund Bersch, who was convicted of perjury and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

During the afternoon session of court William Tamblin, an ex-delegate, who was a witness for the state, confirmed the story that has long been current to the effect that at the "birthday party" held at the home of Julius Lehman during November, 1899, the sum of \$47,500 was distributed among the 19 members of the House of Delegates combine for their votes on the lighting bill. Tamblin said he received \$250, as did each of the other members present at the party.

It is expected that the case will go to the jury tomorrow.

BOY BURGLAR MUST HANG.

Jury Convicts Earl Whitney, Who Says O'Brien Did Killing.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 4.—After being out an hour, the jury in the case of Earl Whitney, of Nashville, Tenn., brought in a verdict of guilty and fixed his punishment at death. Only two ballots were taken, the first being 11 for hanging and one for life imprisonment.

JOHNSTONE DYING BY INCHES.

Doctors Say the Actor's Recovery From Wounds Is Impossible.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Barry Johnstone, the actor who, last Monday night, shot and killed Kate Hasset, of Keith's Bijou Stock Company, and then turned the weapon upon himself, is gradually dying at the hospital. During the day he revived slightly, but the physicians say his recovery is impossible. The murdered woman's body was today forwarded to the home of her parents, at Aurora.

Wife-Murderer's Sentence.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—The jury in the case of William J. Nelson, on trial in Judge McEwen's court for the murder of his wife, returned a verdict of guilty last night and fixed the defendant's punishment at imprisonment for life. Nelson returned to Chicago last Summer after finishing a term in the Joliet Penitentiary.

Silverfield's

283-285 Morrison St.

Christmas AND Furs...

Seem to be ever associated in the mind. That's why we suggest something from our large and magnificent stock.

Handsome Long Boa of Australian Marten. Boa trimmed with four tails, \$8.50

Genuine Marten Boa, trimmed with six full tails, \$7.00

A Serviceable Isabella Marten Boa, trimmed with six tails, \$6.00

A Beautiful American Stone Marten Boa, trimmed with six tails, \$4.50

Send for Illustrated Catalogue.

Children's Furs Galore

Finding that his wife had transferred her affections to another and failing to induce her to return to him, he shot and killed her.

Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

Artistic Picture Frames made to order.

Jewelry Department

Phenomenal Selling. Remarkable Bargains. Astoundingly Small Prices on Watches

- We are sure you have never seen such low prices offered, here or anywhere else, for that matter, on reliable watches.
7-jewel, nickel Elgin or Waltham movement, 18 size, in open face, nickel case; regular price \$7.50; special \$5.59
15-jewel, nickel Elgin or Waltham movement, in 18-size, open face nickel case; regular price \$12.50; special \$8.88
17-jewel Appleton & Tracy nickel movement, in best nickel case; reg. price \$22.50; special \$17.00
7-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, in 14-karat, gold-filled case; 18 size; reg. price \$10; special \$7.93
7-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, 18 size, in 14-karat gold-filled case; reg. price \$8; special \$6.75
15-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, 18 size, in 14-karat, gold-filled case; reg. price \$15; special \$9.26

Ladies' Fine Watches

- Ladies' 6 size sterling silver Chatelaine Watches, with guaranteed American movement, assorted cases; special \$4.73
Ladies' 7-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, in open-face, gold-filled cases; regular price \$6.00; special \$4.38
Ladies' 7-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, in Fay Hunting 14-karat, gold-filled case; regular price \$9.50; special \$7.42
Ladies' 15-jewel Waltham or Elgin movement, in Fay 20-year case; regular price \$20.00; special \$15.94

Boys' Watches

We carry a very large assortment of Boys' Watches in nickel, silver and gold-filled cases, both open-face and hunting cases; we offer them all during this sale at VERY SPECIAL REDUCTIONS.

Sale of Sterling Silver Novelties

The vast scope of this Silver Sale can be best realized in the statement of the fact that the collection includes more than 165 articles. This season our assortment, style and quality in these popular articles far outranks any previous showing, being all the very best ideas of the best silversmiths.

- CREAM JARS, PERFUME BOTTLES, TOOTH POWDER BOTTLES, TALCUM POWDER BOTTLES, TOOTH BRUSH BOTTLES, SPECIAL, 21c, 29c, 64c, 86c, \$1.29 to \$2.66.
BABY BOTTLES, BABY BRUSHES, SCISSORS, COMBS, SPECIAL, 42c, 64c, 86c, \$1.07, \$1.29 to \$4.45.
NAIL FILES AND BRUSHES, TOOTH BRUSHES, SHOE HORNS, SEALS, BLOTTERS, DARNERS, HOOKS, PAPER KNIVES, SPECIAL, 29c, 42c, 52c, 64c, \$1.29 to \$2.22.
MUCILAGE BOTTLES, INKVELLS, PEN RACKS, PEARL BLADE PAPER CUTTERS, SPECIAL, 59c, 78c, \$1.07, \$2.22 to \$7.22.

Also Cloth, Hat, Military and Hair Brushes, Pocket Knives, Lamps, Suffers, Mirrors, and dozens of other articles, all reduced.

Great Sale of 25c Brilliant Taffeta Ribbons at 18c

4 inches wide. Colors white, cream, black, red, pink, blue, maize, turquoise, Nile, old rose, navy. THE BEST RIBBON BARGAINS OF THE YEAR.

Ask for Climax Silk 65c AT THE LINING DEPARTMENT.

This is a new silk of the greatest merit. Highly recommended for drop skirts, petticoats, waists, and jacket linings. Black and all the leading colors.

Ladies' Hosiery

- Extra Fleeced Black Cotton Hosiery, Special 25c
Ladies' Pure Cashmere Hosiery, fine elastic, Special 50c
Two hundred dozen boys' extra heavy Woolen Hosiery, sizes 6 to 10, Special 28c

\$2.00 AND \$2.50 UMBRELLAS AT \$1.59

Fifty Bargains in Ladies' TAILOR-MADE SUITS

REAL VALUES \$18.00, \$20.00 AND \$25.00—ON SALE WHILE THEY LAST AT \$12.50

POISON IN HIS BEER.

New York Manufacturer Meets Death in Strange Manner.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—An investigation by the Coroner into the sudden death on Tuesday of George F. Leyh, a wealthy truss manufacturer in Brooklyn, has developed considerable of a mystery. The investigation is proceeding.

Leyh was over 80 years of age, and is said to have possessed an estate of more than \$80,000. It was his custom to eat luncheon in the rear of his place of business. With his daughters, he made his home in apartments above. On Tuesday the luncheon was brought as usual, and Leyh went into the cellar for a bottle of beer. He took it from a case containing 20 bottles. On taking off the top, he found the beer flat, but drank part of a glass. It tasted badly, and he called to the office-boy, whom he asked to taste the beverage, which, he said, was bitter. The boy put the glass to his lips and said the same. Leyh arose and started across the room. Suddenly he fell, and died in 20 minutes.

The doctors found that his death was probably caused by a strong poison. At first it was believed that steel had been placed in the bottle for safekeeping, and that Leyh had taken the fatal draught by mistake; but a study of the whole affair is said to have convinced the Cor-

oner that the top of the bottle had been taken off and that a large quantity of poison was poured into the beer and the bottle put back in the case, where, as Leyh drank one bottle daily, it was only a question of time when he would take it.

The beer that remained in the bottle and the glass used showed a quantity of sediment. An autopsy will be performed, and the contents of the bottle analyzed to learn the nature of the poison.

POISON AND INSURANCE.

Suspicious Coincidence in Death of Six in One Family.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.—Deputy-Coroner Boogher, in an official statement made today, declared that the result of the inquest held over the body of Mrs. Kate Smith, whose death was the sixth occurring during the last 11 months of persons nearly related, revealed the fact that all of the dead, except a baby, had been insured. The direct cause of the death of Mrs. Smith was found to be gastro-enteritis and another cause that has not been determined.

Nearly all of the six poisoned died suddenly. The fact that they were insured and that they all exhibited similar symptoms caused the inquest to be held.

The committee of the French Automobile Club has decided to consider the advisability of organizing an international motor car race from Paris to Madrid in May, 1903.