



300 PERISH IN THEATRE FIRE

TERRIBLE DISASTER AT FLORES PLAYHOUSE AT ACAPULCO

Flames Caused by Picture Film Burning

RESCUE IMPOSSIBLE

Besides the Ones Burned to Death Many are Crushed Beneath Foot

MANY FAMILIES WIPED OUT

Special Performance Given in Honor of Governor Flores Attracts 10,000 People to Theatre—Fire Escapes Not Large Enough.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Feb. 15.—Three hundred people were burned to death and many injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theatre in Acapulco last night. News of the disaster reached here this afternoon, telegraph communications with Acapulco having been destroyed last night and today, owing to the fact that the telegraph office adjoining the theatre was burned and all wires were put out of commission.

The theatre was a wooden structure and last night more than 10,000 people crowded into it to witness a special performance in honor of Governor Flores of the State of Guerrero.

One of the numbers on the program consisted of a series of moving pictures. While the operator was exhibiting these, the film caught fire and the blaze was quickly communicated to some bunting used for decorative purposes, and in an incredibly short time the flames spread to all parts of the structure. There were but three narrow exits and the panic-

stricken audience rushed to them, many falling to be crushed to death, the bodies choking the way of escape from others. Screams of those imprisoned were terrific. Owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread and its intense heat it was impossible to attempt to rescue, and those imprisoned were literally roasted alive for the fire burned with little smoke and few were suffocated.

The efforts of the fire department were confined to attempting to save adjoining buildings and the firemen succeeded so well that the property loss was small. Telegraph office, post-office, and custom house were damaged but all the government records and registered mail were saved.

Today pitiful scenes of grief were witnessed on the streets of the city. Men, women and children were wandering about hunting for relatives or friends. Many of the dead are from the first families of the state. The affair at the theatre being of considerable importance and calling out the best and oldest families for miles around.

In some instances whole families were wiped out. Municipal authorities today caused large trenches to be dug and into these bodies were laid. Identification was impossible in most instances as the bodies were nearly all burned to a crisp. Telegrams sent to the American consul at Acapulco by the Associated Press asking for names of the American dead have not been answered.

Acapulco is one of the best seaport cities on the Pacific Ocean.

According to a special dispatch received here tonight from Agnes Callentes, Daniel Guggenheim, the head of the American Smelting & Refining Company is being rushed by a special train to the eastern seaboard in order to save his life. The physician, who was called, decided that the millionaire's life depended on his getting to sea level at the earliest possible moment.

LANGFORD OUTCLASSED.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 15.—Owen Moran outclassed Tommy Langford here tonight in a six-round bout.

HENEY THREATENED BY A WITNESS

Sam Leake a Former Newspaper Man Warns Attorney That He Can Make Certain Revelations

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—The Calhoun trial now entering its fifth week has produced no sensation approaching in interest of the proceedings until today when the panel of 12 jurors was broken by the discharge of one juror and when Assistant District Attorney Heney resenting one witness declaring he had fixed the line over where no living man could in the future step. Two alleged cases of jury tampering were made public during the afternoon and while there was no substantiation in either instance before adjournment, it is likely the proceedings tomorrow will be devoted to the examination of witnesses summoned in connection with these and other affairs of same character. Sam Leake, a former newspaper man while on the stand in connection with one tampering case warned Heney that he could make certain revelations concerning the prosecutor's past, Heney warned him to stop stating that he did propose that the witness should make

any more threats.

"There is one conversation you don't dare to refer to," retorted the witness. "There was once when you went up the back way into the Call office and tried to go back on Phelan and Spreckels."

"That's all there will be of that," said Heney. "I took that sort of thing for many months from Henry Ach, until it led to an attempt at assassination and after this I want it understood that I don't take it from any man living. If I'm going to be shot again, I'll be shot in front, not from behind nor from the side."

Lawyers for the defense excepted to Heney's remarks and asked that the jury be instructed to pay no attention to his remarks.

It is believed that the District Attorney should recognize his duty in the examination of the witness.

Heney reiterated that he will take no villification and declared that he had drawn a line over which no living man may step.

BIBRERS AGAIN BUSY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—F. W. Wulzen, the 11th juror, accepted in the trial of Patrick Calhoun, informed Judge Lawler today that he had been approached by a friend named Bacon. He charged that Bacon told him that a man named Hunter had told Bacon that Hunter has been assured of a position in the employ of the United Railroads if he could find another witness to testify in such a way as to disqualify Wulzen as a juror in the case.

FLEET'S POSITION.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—A wireless from the battleship Connecticut gives the fleet's position as 8 o'clock tonight as 34:17 north latitude and 48:03 west longitude; course north 63 degrees.

WIRELESS IS SILENT.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—No word came from the homeward bound battleship fleet yesterday, none of the wireless stations in the vicinity of New York being able to get into communication either with the Yankton, which is preceding the fleet, or any of the fighting ships. The latest report was received from the Yankton late Saturday night giving her position at 8 P. M. as latitude 34:15 north, longitude 61 west.

GOETPALS ALSO FAVORS LOCK SYSTEM

CHAIRMAN OF CANAL COMMISSION WITNESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—Chairman Goetpals of the Isthmian canal commission was a witness before the sub-committee on appropriations which is preparing sundry civil bill. Colonel Goetpals spoke emphatically in favor of the lock system for the Panama Canal in preference to the sea-level plan. The latter he said would cost about \$175,000,000 more than the lock canal which cost \$375,000,000 including original purchase price but not the interest on the money.

BILL AGAINST SURETY CO'S SUSPENDED

WASHINGTON HOUSE ALSO KILLS MEASURE OF STATE BOARD OF CONTROL.

OLYMPIA, Feb. 15.—The two bills directed at surety companies were indefinitely postponed by the house this afternoon. One bill claimed to be in the interests of foreign companies places a limit on bonds issued by domestic companies at 10 per cent paid up capital while the other required foreign companies to deposit \$50,000 in securities with the state auditor. The bill abolishing the state board of control was killed in the Senate. Charges and counter charges were made during discussion of the bill. Putschin, the author of the bill, presented another measure calling for the appointment of legislative a committee to investigate all state departments and institutions and report to the next session of legislature. Resolutions providing for a joint session Wednesday afternoon to be addressed by Former Governor Hanley of Indiana on the local option question was indefinitely postponed.

LEGISLATURE HAS BUSY DAY

Many Bills are Slaughtered at Salem

OREGON DAY OBSERVED

House Suspends Activities to Celebrate 50th Anniversary of State's Admission

SOME HEAVY APPROPRIATIONS

House Passed Bills Totalling Appropriations of Nearly Three Quarters of a Million—Other Important Action.

SALEM, Or., Feb. 15.—One of the busiest days of the Oregon Legislature was held today, although the house suspended activities for a time this afternoon while the 50th anniversary of the admission of Oregon as a State was celebrated. In the Senate it was principally the day of slaughter of bills, while the House passed bills totalling nearly three quarters of a million dollars. Of these two were appropriation bills and a third was \$75,000 for postage bill. The Senate today passed a bill compelling railroads to install industry switches and another declaring long distance telephone companies as common carriers and compelling them to extend service to local independent companies, the latter to pay tolls for the use. Both bills passed in face of a hard fight by the attorneys representing the interest affected. The Senate also passed a bill to make it necessary to commence libel suit against a newspaper within one year after the alleged libel was committed instead of two years as at present. To enable prosecutors to gain evidence against the persons selling liquor illicitly in dry counties a bill was passed making a certified copy of revenue license prima facie evidence. The Senate resolution giving municipalities incorporated in the future rights of home rule in regard to the sale of liquor was passed but recognized and killed because it was suspected it would open up the local option question. Additional judge for the second district was voted today, despite the judges of that district who have written than an additional judge is unnecessary.

MAKE RICH HAUL.

TACOMA, Feb. 15.—Blowing the safe in the general store of Schu Bros. at Kapowsin, two yeggmen last night escaped with \$1000. They are believed to have made their way to this city.

REGULATING ATTIRE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Those of the republican committee who make up the delegation to act an escort to President Taft on inauguration day are instructed to attire themselves as follows: Dark citizens attire, high silk hats restricted to the vintage of 1909 and gloves. Summer golf and lawn tennis shoes "Not in it," neither are rubber boots or slippers. The personnel of the delegation will be made up at a meeting Thursday. Direction as to attire was sent out yesterday.

OFF FOR PHILIPPINES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Several days later than scheduled the United States army Transport Kilpatrick will leave this port for the Philippines on Wednesday, bearing a number of officers and men of the field and coast artillery. Among the officers who will make the trip is Major W. P. Duval, who has been ordered to Manila to relieve General T. H. Bliss in command of the Philippines. The Kilpatrick will go by way of the Suez canal and will arrive at Manila during the middle of April. Captain J. D. Tilford, who is a Princeton graduate, will pilot the transport in her voyage. The vessel will carry 65,000 pound of fresh meat.

OBJECTION TO KNOX REMOVED

SALARY OF SECRETARY OF STATE REDUCED BY THE HOUSE TO \$8000

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—So far as congress is concerned, the constitutional bar to the acceptance of Senator Knox of State portfolio in the cabinet was removed today when the house passed the bill reducing the salary of the secretary of state. The bill which at first was defeated brought the failure of two thirds of the members to vote for it, but it was brought up a second time under special rule and was passed by majority vote. Without a dissenting vote the bill granting separate statehoods to Arizona and New Mexico also was passed.

BOMB STARTLES NEW YORK ITALIANS

EXPLOSIVE DROPPED FROM ELEVATED TRAIN INTO THE STREET.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The neighborhood of Second avenue and 106th street, largely inhabited by Italians, was thrown into confusion late tonight by the explosion of a bomb dropped from an elevated train. The explosion wrecked windows and a number of stores and caused injury to eight passersby. This is the second time in less than two months that a bomb has been dropped in this neighborhood from a passing train. The police believe the bomb was intended for Joseph Arana whose store faces the elevated road and to whom a number of blackhand letters had been sent.

DISAPPEARS OPPORTUNELY.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., Feb. 15.—A special from Taos, N. M., says that news has been received there that Albert Twining, the former bank president of Asbury Park, N. J., sentenced to six years' imprisonment for speculating with the bank's funds in mining properties in Taos county, has disappeared and that his bondsmen are liable for \$50,000. The case has been in the courts for four years and last Tuesday the Supreme Court ordered Twining to commence serving his sentence.

ONE LEGGED HERO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—Although William Dockrill has only one leg, he did not hesitate to jump into the bay here to rescue John Olsen a sailor, who was sinking for the third and last time. He jumped into the bay from the Mission Street dock. Dockrill fastened a rope to the unconscious man and with the assistance of several persons who had been attracted to the dock, pulled the seaman ashore and revived him.

COUNCIL DEMANDS THAT POLICE ENFORCE THE LAWS

D. & R. G. SLUMPS.

DENVER, Feb. 15.—The semi-annual statement of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad for the half year ended December 31, 1908, showed a falling off in the earnings of \$500,000 from the earnings of the similar period of 1907.

ALASKAN INDIANS DYING.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—That the death rate among the native Indians of Alaska is very large and the population estimated at 20,000 is rapidly decreasing by reason of contact with civilization is the claim made before the House committee on territories in connection with the bill which proposes to give police powers to teachers in Alaska. In a letter to the committee the Secretary of the Interior states that fully three fourths of the native villages are unprotected from the criminal or otherwise unlawful acts of white men. The judicious enforcement of a sanitary code, compulsory at school and the re-establishment of the influence of the teachers on the morals of the natives by giving them legal authority to control in major offenses, are the most important objects of the bill.

IS GIVEN FAREWELL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—In the little Grace Reformed church which he has attended ever since he has been in Washington President Roosevelt was tonight given a farewell reception by members of Congress.

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PARTY OF 7 SNOW-BOUND IN TUNNEL

Six Men and a Woman Reported Imprisoned in Alpine Tunnel Without Food

BUENA VISTA, Colo., Feb. 15.—Jeep. According to their story the Snow-bound at the crest of centennial in the Alpine Tunnel on the Colorado & Southern Railroad is a party of seven in imminent danger of starving according to the report of a party of nine men who reached here last night, after a terrible struggle through the deep snow, which in places ranged from 25 to 50 feet

Will Cut Off Salaries if They Don't

SOME SAY "FOOLING"

Resolution is Introduced by Councilman Curtis Last Night

TEACH RESPECT OF LAW

Various Other Matters of Interest Arise For Discussion and Settlement at Regular Meeting of the Common Council Last Night.

The interesting feature of the session of the common council last night was the appearance of Councilman Curtis in the role of a reformer. Mr. Curtis introduced a resolution demanding that the police enforce the state and city laws against gambling and open saloons on Sunday, and in case of their failure so to do, providing that their salaries will be off. This resolution was adopted by unanimous vote—and now it will be a curious study to see to what uses this resolution will be granted. If enforced it can raise the Old Harry with either the police or with the violators of the law, but a swift survey of the matter would tend to show that in the minds of some there goes with the resolution a conviction that it either contains a "joker" or else will never be heard of again.

Yet those who take that view of the matter perhaps do not know the temper of the members of the present council of the city of Astoria. The resolution reads:

"That the chief of police and all police officers of the city of Astoria are hereby directed and instructed to enforce all laws of the State of Oregon and the city of Astoria governing gambling and the closing of saloons on Sunday, irrespective of any and all orders or suggestions to the contrary emanating from the police commission of the city of Astoria, and a failure on the part of the said chief of police and police officers to do will work a forfeiture of the salary of such chief of police and police officers."

The discussion of the matter was (Continued on page 4)