

The Martin Planing Mill, with mil-

lions of feet of lumber, shared the same fate and \$100,000 worth of property disappeared almost before there was realization that danger was at hand.

The Union Stock Yards, in the pathway of the devouring flames, were licked almost wholly from the map, there being barely time to rescue the dumb prisoners from the awful fate that threatened. The loss there is placed at \$10,000.

The insurance feature is a mere triffe in comparison with the total loss. The Western' Lumber Company carried a policy of \$40,000; the Martin Planing Mill was insured for \$15,000, and there was slight insurance on the stock yards, the exact amount of which could not be ascertained.

Whether or not human life was sacrificed is still unknown, but half a hundred men at one time disappeared behind a pall of smoke and only a comparative few were seen to struggle through the fangle of falling timbers, the spurting fire, or beneath the tottering walls to safety. Some were driven to seek shelter in the muddy waters of the Willamette, braving probable death by drowning to escape the more terrible certainty of cremation had they remained where they were and been surrounded by the rapacious demon of destruction.

And, when the smoke-cloud lifted, where the men had been was only seething, roaring flame.

How many lived, how many died, cannot be told. No one is actually known to have perished, but great fear is enertained.

The First Alarm.

fall.

fighting began.

last embers shall have died out.

BOILERS EMIT

Just as the sun showed his face above the Eastern hills, the brazen throats of a hundred screaming sirens from factories, shipping and railroad yards proclaimed that fire was rampant. Thousands, rudely awakened from their last beauty-sleep, donned their clothing hurnedly and hastened to the scene, while sarly-risers left their breakfasts unlasted in their engerness to ascertain the danger that was instantly known to threaten. And scarcely nad the shadows of early morning begun to lessen in their length when the work of destruction was either ended or being completed 'n the center of an impenetrable district of living fire.

Almost the whole fire fighting force of the City of Portland responded to the call and hundreds of volunteers offered themselves to assist in the work of saving and preservation, but in spite of herculean effort put forth at every point, nothing could check the prodigal rapacity of the insatiable conflagration. Then, after all danger seemed to have been passed, the glant steam, long pent up within the boilers of the burning mills, inflamed and swollen by the ter-

Property Was Threatened.

There was a moment when it looked as though the factory of the Oregon Sash & Door Company would be added to the sacrifice and a brief but terrible period of suspense when it looked as though the fire would reach the immense oil storage tanks with dire results, but both of these dangers, though most terribly real, were averted by a narrow margin through the splendid and tireless efforts of Chief Campbell and his men.

Lines of hose were everywhere, From all points of the compass steam fire engines, their boilers strained to the bursting point, discharged toward the gyrating, ever changing fire-wall, streams of water, which the terrible heat-waves changed to vapor before they reached the mark at which they were directed. But, while the hoseplay had no real effect upon the main fire, a hundred smaller blazes were put out and it was finally possible to confine

the damage to a single district. The mills had stood for years. The material of which they were constructed was dry and soaked with oil, and once the fire got headway all human power was wasted effort in the fight to check its progress.

Great Tongues of Red.

Great tongues of red rushed toward the neavens and sparks and cinders went a thousand feet into the air to be carried for miles before dropping back again to earth. Had there been even a slight wind it is estimated that millions of dollars' worth of property could not but have been a total loss. There were many shingles at the mills and "burning flakes of light cedar wood from which

they are made fell in almost every section of Portland, streets as far south as the Heights being blackened by their

The work performed by some of the Portland engine companies in getting their apparatus into effective position would have put to shame the most thor oughly drilled battery of mountain artillery in the service of the United States Army. Particularly was this noticeable in the case of Engine No. 4. which was taken by hand across sidewalks, down a steep embankment,

through a slough and to within 100 feet of the west wall of the burning mill. Here the suction hose was thrust 'into the Willamette and the work of firedid with the flames.

All day firemen worked about the ruins and it will be weeks before the **DEADLY STEAM**

Nearly a dozen men desperately fight Possible Loss of Life. ing the flames on the east and north

While men, women, places of safety. boys, fire and patrol wagons made a hurried retreat, one of the fire-fighters was seen to plunge into the river and escape unharmed to a raft of logs beneath. M. E. Lafface, superintendent of the Eastern Lumber Mill, and several others made a lucky escape from being choked to death by climbing down a piece of hose onto a log raft. They had then shriveled, then engulfed. not a moment to lose. The small piece of hose was their only salvation. The improvised ladder was not quite long

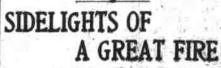
enough, however, and the men were compelled to drop several feet to the raft. Stock Yards Burn.

The Union Stock Yards, located sev eral hundred feet from the mills, on the east, were soon ablaze. The firemen were unable to check the progress of the flames in this direction and the destruction of the yards was from the start a foregone conclusion. In the yurds were about and an air that burned the lungs about 60 head of cattle and several hunlike pepper, the lot of the firemen was dred head of sheep and hogs. In the scarcely hopeful. nick of time these were rescued by the attendants and a detachment of . outsiders. The partitions of the stalls were afire before the dumb beasts, huddled together in fright, were rescued. It was

were released. Running the Gauntlet.

While the conflagration was at Its height the Northern Pacific train pulled, up, inbound, and was compelled to come to a stop on account of the fire hose that crossed the track in several places, A gang of trainmen was soon at work tearing up the planking alongside of the track and digging trenches under the rails for the hose. After considerable delay the belts were passed underneath the main track and with a rush the

train passed into the railroad yards and Union Depot. The heat from the burning mills, stock yards and adjacent buildings was growing intense and the engineer saw that he had no time to lose as he shot by the worst of it.



What there is about a vast fire that excites men and sends them rushing to almost certain destruction is not certain but all firemen know that at such times it is as difficult to restrain unwise sightseers from rushing into danger as it is to rescue those who are wrapped about with flame and smoke.

This morning this trait of humanity was manifest and from the time the great liners and the fire sirens sent up their hoarse calls for aid until the wharfs, docks and warehouses were but charred masses of blackened piles and smouldering heaps of rubbish, the officers, firemen and workers hattled with their fellow men as constantly as they

Under an orange sun that peered through the yellow clouds braye men did what they might to save some remnant of the two mills with their warshouses, docks and wharfs. Men who had fought flames from their early years when they saved their homes from forest fires, or fought back the rushing prairie torgents of fiame were amazed at the wonderful headway made.

"I was standing on a wide dock," said

the first few mad hours, when fire was ly doing their duty, but the streams were everywhere and no man knew at what instant his bit of earth or board might flames were noticeable. be engulfed the escapes of those trying to fiee from the furnace about them were marvelous. Men jumped to the logs in the river, to the water slightly heated near the shore, to the ground beneath the docks, anywhere to escape the heat, the awful heat that scorched, Hospital.

Escape of Firemen.

Later the excapes were of firemen and officers who ventured too near the fur-They sent in little streams of nace. water that were licked up by the fires like drops of oil. Burning piles of lumber would topple and fall, walls of flame would suddenly swoop down; and often almost hide the workers. Great timbers would burn off and topple headlong and with treacherous footing underneath, a sea of flame beyond, a wall of smoke

Stock Was Saved.

Special Officer A. Caswell arrived soon after the fire started. He saw at once that most of the stock yards were with great difficulty that the animals doomed, with their herds of hogs, cat-

tle and sheep. Almost unaided he opened the gates and allowed the terrified animals to rush out, and rush_out they did with burning pelts and smoke-filled nostrils, they tore through the streets, and this afternoon were to be found scattered over the hills for miles. "I only lost one pig." said Mr. Caswell, "and that little grunter swallowed too much smoke for his stomach's sake. I rescued him, but he was too far gone.' Women are Thoughtful.

The women rose to the occasion for while the flames were all about the little houses of the mill hands and the women did not know whether husband or brother was saved, they worked valfantly to carry out their few goods and chattels. When the danger was past and their homes were sufe these women moved back and began preparing food for the fire fighters. By 9 o'clock the wives and sisters of the mill men could be seen everywhere among the flames where men still tried to save some lit tle from the fire and with coffee pot and

baskets these good souls did their best to make the lot of the men endurable.

FIRE WAS RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT

F. H. Ransom, manager of the Western Mill, and half owner of the Martin Planing Mill, stated positively that the fire originated from a spark in the Martin Mill dry klin, between the two plants. At the time it was discovered there was no breeze blowing, and the fire

eating its way along the roadway and lumber piles connecting the mills. The fire was discovered by Night Watchman John Bingham, who sent in an alarm from Box No. 43. Before the firemen arrived, however, the two big pumps of the Western Mill were put in operation, eight lines of hose were laid, and streams were soon turned onto the

flames, the employes of the mill doing passed yards, excellent work. .

Chief Dave Campbell'arrived with his firemen promptly, and he saw at a glance

so feeble that no visible effect on the

Suddenly the flooring gave way, and Hosemen Frank Slavin and Louis Wagner, from No. 6, were precipitated to a scaffolding below. Slavin suffered the fracture of his left leg, while Wagner escaped with but a few slight bruises. Wagner was removed to St. Vincent's

Hoseman James McGraw, of Truck No. 3, who was fighting the flames with the men of Hose No. 6, states that he heard men groaning and shrieking for help, "My God! My God!" they were crying, "send help to rescue us from this awful place!"

"Their voices sounded near." said Mc Graw, "but the blinding smoke made it impossible for me to seek them out that I might lend them a helping hand. It is my opinion that at least a portion of them never got out alive."

Ole Moc. day yard foreman of the Western Mill, gave it as his opinion that some were burned or drowned in the panic that followed the sudden burst of fiame and smoke under the Martin Mill. He stated that he yelled to those cut off from escape by the roadway, to jump to the raft below.

. Western Mill in Enins.

The firefighters and the myrians of spectators lined along the adjoining streets were praying for the wind to cease blowing, but at the most critical juncture it grew stronger, fanning the eaping flames madder and madder, feeding along the wharf and large lumber piles leading to the Western Mill, to the northward. Vain were the efforts of the firemen to stay the disastrous spread, for the frame buildings, wooden wharves and piling burned with lightning-like rapidity, and the hungry fire fiend feasted, at least upon the Western Mill plant It was a terrific struggle that took place there between the flames and the firemen, but the fire gained the victory, for in another hour the valuable plant lay in ruins before the watching throngs.

Mill plant, connected with the Western and Martin plants by a wooden road way. Stronger and stronger blew the south wind, and for a time it seemed that despite the efforts of the firemen the blazing brands of fire flying in the air would kindle another conflagration in the Eastern Mill. Chief Campbell was preparing to send engines and hose carts to the scene, when, like a direct

tude of prayers, the wind quieted down, and all danger to the Eastern Mill was past. But the entire waterfront was ablaze from Fourteenth street to Twen-

destruction everything before it, wiping out in little more than an hour property to the value of \$260,000.

fire fiend defeated in its attempt to lay the Eastern Mill in ruins. Then, as if to mock their cries of victory, a north wind rose up, again sending the burning brands circling through the air and threatening destruction to a square mile of husiness houses, dwellings and freight sheds.

by the Portland Union Stock-It had been a most narrow escape, and all cattle and hogs were driv(Journal Special Service.)

with his family on Savier street, is TUCSON, Ariz., May 1 .-- Col. Martin missing, and fears are entertained that Erricson, a well known American mining he has been drowned in the Willamette man and capitalist has been captured River. He has not been home since and is being held for ransom by the Tuesday, when he was seen about two Yaquis of Sonora, Mexico. The amount demanded is \$500,000 and blocks from his house. He did not go

home that night. The next day he was about town and in the evening he is the time limit for the payment is 10 days. known to have purchased a can of be The Mexican minister of war is a perand visited a friend living on a scow at sonal friend of Erricson and has ordered the foot of Savier street. Inquiry there all available military to the rescue has revealed nothing except that Costello Erricson is a millionaire. The Mexcalled there, remained a while and de-

can authorities say he will be executed uiless he pays the ransom.

WHISKEY RATHER

THAN FORTUNE are searching for him. MADRID POLICE

The Nephew of a Duke Perishes Miserably.

(Journal Special Service.) SEATTLE, May 1 .- Jack Wood, the bartender who was drowned in a bath tub yesterday afternoon, is said by his

friends and others who are in a position to know, to have been an heir to an estate of \$2,000,000 and a nephew of the wealthy Duke of Hamilton of England Wood had lived in Seattle for a number of years. A few months ago an agent of the Duke of Hamilton came to Seattle and made every effort to induce Wood to quit his dissolute life and re-

turn to his family in England. "I would rather lose my fortune than my whiskey," was his invariable answer to the importunities of the agent. Friends of the dead man presented themselves at the morgue today and notified the authorities that the body should be placed in readiness to be shipped to his relatives in England.

CONVENTION ADJOURNS.

COLUMBUS, May 1 .-- The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers today re-elected all old of-ficers, including President Shaffer. They selected Cloveland as the next national convention place and adjourned this af-

RIPLEY-STOREY WEDDING.

ternoon.

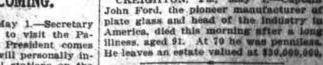
PASADENA, Cal., May 1.-Robert Harris Ripley, son of the president of the Santa Fe Railroad, was married here today to Miss Ada Storey, a prominent young society woman.

MOODY IS COMING.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.-Secretary of the Navy Moody is to visit the Pa-cific Coast when the President comes West. The Secretary will personally inspect the various naval stations on the Const.



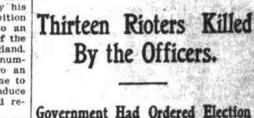
The army transport Thomas sailed today for Manila. She carries \$2,500,000,





(Journal Special Service.)

RICHMOND, May 1.—Fire this r ing nearly wheel out the summer is at West Point. Many people were dered homeless. The loss will \$125,000.



of Ministerial Candidates Regardless of Voters.

parted. It is feared that the man may

have walked off the gangway into the

what under the influence of liquor. Cos-

tello is well known in this city, where

he has lived for many years. The police

SHOOT LIBERALS

been some-

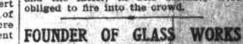
river, as he is said to have

(Journal Special Service.)

MADRID, May 1 .- Thirteen members of the Liberal party were killed and many seriously wounded by the police of this city today in a riot growing out of a government political proclamation.

The proclamation was to the effect that the ministerial candidates must be elected to Parliament regardless of the balloting. It was planned to seat government candidates even though the Liberals should have the greatest num-

ber of votes. A mob of Liberals charged the officers and the latter, in self defense, obliged to fire into the crowd.



(Journal Special Service.)

CREIGHTON, Pa., May L .-- Captain

Five blocks north was the Eastern

answer from Providence to a multitieth street, and the fire had swept to

A mighty shout went up from the throats of the spectators as they saw the

Charles and Constant in

Stockyards Go Up.

In its northward sweep the fire had mostly in pesos, the new Philippines (Continued on Second Page.) coin

spread very rapidly in both directions,