

ANNIVERSARY OF IROQUOIS FIRE

Flags in Chicago at Half Mast in Memory of Hundreds That Died in Holocaust.

MANY CHURCHES HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICES

Destruction of Theatre Most Appalling Disaster That Ever Visited the City and Many Families Lost Relatives in Flames.

(Journal Special Service.)

Chicago, Ill., December 30.—Two years ago today the Iroquois theatre was destroyed by fire and nearly 600 lives, mostly women and children, were lost in the holocaust. The day is observed here, generally, and flags are at half mast everywhere. Many of the churches held special memorial services this morning, and some of the Protestant churches will hold special services this evening. The graves of the hundreds of victims of the disaster in the various cemeteries were decorated with wreaths and other floral offerings. The graves of the unidentified victims were also decorated.

The fire at the Iroquois theatre was the most appalling disaster that ever visited this city, and will long be remembered by hundreds of families who lost one or more of their members in the catastrophe. The fire originated on the stage of the theatre during the matinee performance of December 30, 1903, at a time when every part of the house was crowded with the usual holiday crowds of women and children. The theatre was practically new, having been opened only a few weeks previous to the fire. The cause of the fire was the "Bluebird," which had been running there since the opening night. It is believed that sparks from one of the spotlights stationed on the sides of the stage ignited some of the flimsy pieces of scenery in the wings and in a few moments the blaze spread upwards toward the flies. Some of the actors and employees tried to beat out the flames, but did not succeed, and the signal was given to drop the fireproof curtain. Owing to the fact that a rope, with which the "aerial ballet" was manipulated, had been so fastened that it obstructed the movements of the curtains, the latter could not be lowered for some time. When it was finally released the fire had made such progress on the stage that the employees became panic-stricken. They opened the large double door in the rear of the stage and leading to the court behind the theatre, through which the scenery was brought into and out of the theatre. This fire caused the "Bluebird" curtain, thin and flimsy affair, to bulge out into the house, and in a few minutes it torn and fell, and immense volumes of smoke and flames poured into the auditorium.

At that time the seats in the house had been emptied by the panic-stricken spectators, and they were crowding through a few doors as fast as they could. When the smoke and flames rushed into the auditorium, sweeping the whole interior, hundreds were overcome. They fell in heaps right at the exits, and were suffocated by the smoke and heat. Those who escaped the fire, scorched beyond recognition. The situation was greatly aggravated by the fact that the ushers, thinking only of their own safety, had fled for their lives, without stopping long enough to unlock and unblock the safety exits provided for on every floor. The spectators, finding the safety exits bolted and locked, were compelled to make their exit through the main exits on the Randolph street side. While crowded around these exits during the jam they were overpowered by the smoke and flames and perished.

Only a few escapees from the fire, which they reached by the balcony. The fire was soon under control. At first it was not thought that the loss of lives had been great, and the full extent of the disaster was not known until the firemen reached the upper floors of the house, where they found the dead piled up six or eight high, all headed for the exits, and those on top terribly burned. The scenes which followed were a beggar description. The police department took charge of the removal of the hundreds of bodies, and they were taken to the various morgues, and awaiting the establishments, where they were laid in rows on the bare floors, to await identification. Many of the bodies were so terribly burned that recognition was impossible. Many of the bodies were not identified.

Fat Folks.

I have reduced my weight 55 pounds, bust nine inches, waist eight inches and hips nine inches in a short time by a guaranteed, harmless remedy without exercise or starving. I want to tell you all about it. Enclose stamp and address. Mrs. Charlotte Woodward, Oregon City, Or.

POND'S EXTRACT

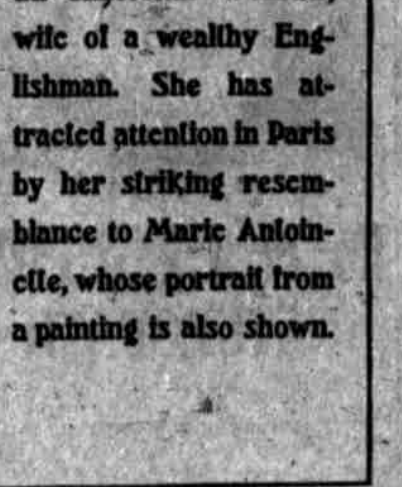
"All Is Not Gold That Glitters"

neither is witch hazel the same thing as Pond's Extract even though your dealer tells you so and it looks and smells the same. It only takes one trial to discover the difference.

Witch hazel is not the same thing. On analysis of twenty samples of Witch hazel—offered as "the same thing"—fifty-two were shown to contain wood alcohol or formaldehyde or both. Avoid danger of poisoning by using

POND'S EXTRACT

Mrs. May Carpenter, an American woman, wife of a wealthy Englishman. She has attracted attention in Paris by her striking resemblance to Marie Antoinette, whose portrait from a painting is also shown.



INNOCENCE PLAYS POKER

From the New York Sun. **T**HE talk in the mess, having run through campaign stories and women stories, had turned to card stories. The senior major leaned toward the fire and knocked the ashes from his pipe against the andiron. "The queerest bit of poker I ever saw," he said, "was played by a woman. She was the wife of little Bill Stuyvesant. You remember Bill Stuyvesant, colonel—in the Third—graduated in '67?"

The colonel nodded. "He was with me at the Custer business," he answered. "The family wanted to patch up, and went into business." "That's the one. Bill was mighty well connected in New York, but he didn't have much cash. If it hadn't been for his poker playing he never could have kept the place he did."

"He lived better than any other officer in the regiment. He put up one of the neatest games I've had the bad luck to mix up with—cold-blooded and steady, but with enough warmth in it, which they reached by the balcony. The fire was soon under control. At first it was not thought that the loss of lives had been great, and the full extent of the disaster was not known until the firemen reached the upper floors of the house, where they found the dead piled up six or eight high, all headed for the exits, and those on top terribly burned. The scenes which followed were a beggar description. The police department took charge of the removal of the hundreds of bodies, and they were taken to the various morgues, and awaiting the establishments, where they were laid in rows on the bare floors, to await identification. Many of the bodies were so terribly burned that recognition was impossible. Many of the bodies were not identified."

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AMERICAN WHEAT IS NEEDED IN MEXICO

(Journal Special Service.) **M**exico City, Mex., Dec. 30.—Owing to the scarcity of wheat caused by the partial failure of the wheat crop, the government has removed the duty on American and Canadian wheat, beginning with January. When it was realized in the beginning of fall that the crop was short, the duties were lowered by the government, but the entire removal became imperative when the reports of the actual crop showed that it was even smaller than expected. The city bakers have reduced the size of their loaves, asserting that it was impossible for them to give the same weight as formerly. There is a small supply still in the hands of the large farmers, but not sufficient to bring down the price. The price of corn is also very high and this causes great hardship among the poor.

PROFESSOR BELL'S KITE CARRIES HEAVY LOAD

(Journal Special Service.) **S**idney, N. S., Dec. 30.—After experimenting for years at Berlin Brough, Cape Breton, flying kites, Alexander Graham Bell has succeeded in having his latest designed kite, the "Frost King," rise in the air and carry a weight of 217 pounds, this including a man weighing 155 pounds, ropes weighing 62 pounds, and the kite itself weighed 81 pounds, making a total of 288 pounds. The kite rose 30 feet and remained steadily in the air for several minutes. It rose gracefully and descended just as easily, remaining under perfect control. Professor Bell is greatly pleased with the experiment.

MANAGER SCOTT RESIGNS

New Head for St. Johns Waterworks Company Takes Charge of Work. J. W. Scott has severed his connection with the St. Johns water company and T. H. Edelson has been appointed general manager of the plant. Mr. Scott secured a franchise from the old council for his plant and this franchise in the district's protection has been thickly settled residence districts will be piped and until this is done a close watch will be kept for sources of contagion. So far no epidemic has come from the open drains because a general watch has been kept by private citizens and town officials.

PROTECT THE TOWN

First Sewer for St. Johns Ordered by Council and Others Will Follow. The first attempt to provide drainage for the business district of St. Johns soon will be made. The council at its last meeting accepted the city engineer's estimate of the area and necessary pipe

TAXPAYERS' LAGER FOR ORDER

Montavilla Citizens Raise School Board's Estimate by Three Mills. **W**ILL REDUCE DEBT AND RAISE TEACHERS' PAY

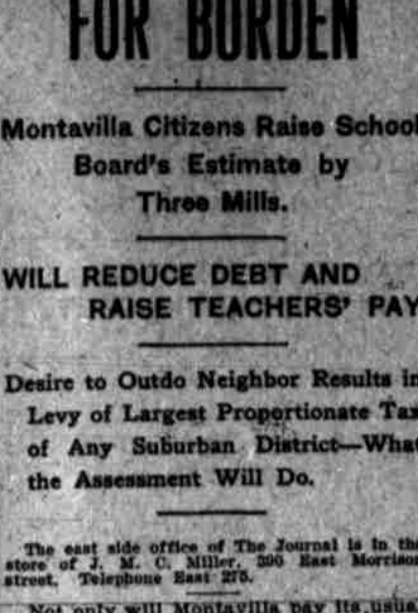
Desire to Outdo Neighbor Results in Levy of Largest Proportionate Tax of Any Suburban District—What the Assessment Will Do. The east side office of The Journal is in the store of J. M. G. Miller, 250 East Morrison street. Telephone East 275.

Not only will Montavilla pay its usual high school tax next year, but in addition it will raise the salaries of the teachers, keep up the school by providing extra room if necessary and pay off a large block of its bonds. The board of directors at its meeting Thursday night, after canvassing the situation, decided that it could not ask the taxpayers for more than a 10-mill tax as the property valuation in the villa had been increased 150 per cent by the last assessment. A 10-mill levy was the equivalent of 25 mills under the old valuation, and the board considered this high enough even for liberal Montavilla.

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"BATHASWEET"

FOR THE BATH AFTER THE BATH. A little "BATHASWEET" makes hard water soft as rain water. It perfumes, refreshes and invigorates; Cleanses the pores and PREVENTS ALL ODOR from perspiration. Plenty in each box for 25 baths. Price 25c.

M'CLELLAN STATUE

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