

MANY LOSE LIVES IN BIG HOTEL FIRE

Hotel West, Pride of Minneapolis, Guttled by Flames—Panic Among Guests Who Leap to Death from Upper Floors

Heroic Rescues by Fire Fighters—Captain Hurled to Death With Woman Who Leaps in His Arms—American Consul at Manchuria Dying—Loss a Quarter Million

(Journal Special Service.)
Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 10.—Ten lives are known to have been lost, several are dying and a score were injured in a fire which gutted the West hotel this morning, damaging the structure \$250,000.

The dead are:
Captain John Berwin of Minneapolis fire department.
J. B. Peisinger, New York.
Thomas, Somerville, Springfield, Ohio.
A. G. Nichol, broker, Minneapolis.
Clinton Lamme.
C. H. Wright, New York.
Unidentified baby, its mother and grandmother.

Injured:
William Davidson, American consul to Manchuria, dying.
A brother of W. E. Manger, dying.
Mrs. Emiline Barlow, 65, will probably die.
James Speechberger.
James Satt.
Fireman Charles Corton.
N. S. Amodeo.
Mary Rahay.
Mrs. E. H. Hodges, lecturer, of Waco, Texas.

Twenty others are in the hospitals badly burned or injured. Flames broke out at 7:30 o'clock this morning. Starting in the elevator shaft in the basement from crossed wires, the fire swept upward rapidly. Soon the entire structure was ablaze. As soon as the fire was discovered the alarm was sounded and every one in the hotel aroused. The wildest panic ensued among the guests who numbered hundreds.

For a time it seemed the flames would get beyond control of the local fire department and help was asked from St. Paul, but before the arrival of the St. Paul fire-fighters the flames were under control, though the building was practically ruined. Guests from the lower floor had little trouble in making their exit safely. It was from the two upper floors that the fire secured its victims. On these floors were 172 persons, and when it became evident that escape was impossible panic-stricken people began

jumping from windows on all sides. The fire department stretched nets and many were saved by jumping into them. Others panic stricken jumped to the pavement below and were instantly killed.

Fire Captain John Berwin lost his life in trying to save Mrs. Emiline Barlow from a window in the fifth story. He had almost reached the window on a scaling ladder when the woman jumped into his arms, overbalancing him and precipitating both to death. Every bone in Berwin's body was broken by the fall.

Judge Atwater, the oldest lawyer in the state, was rescued by a male nurse, who carried him five floors through smoke and water. Many other heroic rescues both by firemen and hotel attaches took place.

Two men jumped from a seventh story window together and were instantly killed. A woman, her mother and baby leaped from the seventh floor to death below. Their bodies have not been identified. From his room in an upper story William Davidson, American consul to Manchuria, was rescued. He had fallen to the floor overcome by the smoke and his condition is serious. Doctors state that he cannot survive.

W. E. Manger and his brother were found suffering on the fifth floor, both of them badly burned. Manger died shortly after rescuers reached him. His brother hangs between life and death at a local hospital. A. G. Nichol, a stockbroker of this city, jumped from the fifth floor and was dead when found. He was stark naked and was evidently too panic stricken to wait until the firemen reached his windows.

Others who jumped from the upper floors and were instantly killed are J. B. Peisinger of New York and Thomas Somerville of Springfield, Ohio. A man, identified by papers in his pockets as Clinton Lamme, was overcome by smoke and dead when found.

The Hotel West was the most famous hostelry in the twin cities and was known throughout the country as one of the largest and best hotels in the Mississippi valley. It was seven stories in height, occupied an entire block of ground and was built of brick with granite trimmings. On a commanding site, overlooking the city and valley, it has since its construction been a landmark. It was built in the later '80s. The Republican national convention was here in 1892 that nominated Harrison for a second term. The fire completely gutted the magnificent structure and damaged it to the extent of \$250,000, all furniture being practically ruined by smoke and water.

The first alarm was sounded at 7:30. It was barely light and but few people were astir. In a remarkable short time an immense crowd congregated, although the weather was bitterly cold, and volunteers aided the police and firemen in rescue work. By the prompt work of the fire-fighters within half an hour the flames were under control and within an hour from the first alarm they were extinguished.

The day force had just gone on duty at the West hotel when the elevator boy discovered the flames. His first panic-stricken shout of fire at the top of his lungs. When the clerk reached the shaft the flames were sweeping up the flue rapidly, gaining tremendous headway through the forced draft. At each floor the tongues of flame leaped through the steel work, spreading rapidly along the halls and woodwork. Alarms were sounded in each room and bellboys went to arouse those occupants not awakened and fleeing. Within five minutes from the time of its discovery every floor in the big structure was ablaze and the stairways and fire-escapes thronged by scared guests in half-dressed array, who lost no time in their flight.

Those guests on the upper floors were partially cut off by the rapid progress of the flames below, and it seemed for a short while as if all were doomed to destruction. Half crazed men and women rushed around the corridors shrieking wildly for help. Others too terror-stricken to know what they were doing leaped from sixth and seventh-story windows to destruction. With their scaling ladders, firemen rescued many from the fiery cauldron. Other firemen stretched life nets below and caught those who leapt to safety. Scores were carried out, fainting, from certain death, picked up unconscious where they had fallen overcome by flame and smoke. Patrol and ambulance wagons were kept busy taking the injured to the hospitals.

(Continued on Page Two.)



FAT JOB FOR HIS PARTNER

Ellis Root's Associate Nominated for United States District Attorney of New York.

FULTON SECURES MONEY FOR COLUMBIA RIVER

Will Remove Rocks in Upper Waters—Watson of Illinois Announces That Both Philippine Tariff and Statehood Bill Will Pass House.

FULTON GETS MONEY.

Secures Appropriation to Remove Rocks in Upper Columbia.

CALLS FOR REPORT.

House Committee Asks Favorably if Northern Securities Resolutions.

WILLIAM R. HARPER DIES IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Jan. 10.—William Ratney Harper, president of the University of Chicago, died this afternoon at 11:30 o'clock of cancer, to remove which he had undergone several surgical operations during the last two years.

CONDEMNED MURDERESS GRANTED A REPRIEVE

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 10.—A reprieve was today granted Mrs. Tolla, the Italian woman accused of murder. The time limit is unfixed but will probably be 49 days' respite.

CHORUS OF CROWS STARTS SHOW

One Thousand Fowls Make Poultry Exhibition Rooms Ring With Their Calls.

MORE PLYMOUTH ROCKS THAN ANY OTHER BREED

Poultry Fanciers and Others File Into Show Rooms at Second and Salmon Streets in Steady Stream—Judging Starts Tomorrow.

CASTLE ROCK WOMEN WANT SUNDAY CLOSING

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Castle Rock, Wash., Jan. 10.—The vote polled at the special election yesterday was the largest in the history of the town, there being 301 votes. The election was to get an expression of public sentiment as to whether the seasons should be closed on Sunday.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

No such series of articles has ever before been offered to the people of Oregon as that which the Sunday Journal will begin next Sunday when the first of the letters from abroad written by William Jennings Bryan will appear. These letters covering the interesting features of a trip around the world, by one of the most eminent men in America today, cannot fail to attract attention. That they deserve all the interest they create goes without saying. No man is better qualified than William Jennings Bryan to discuss the large problems of government and policy which are before the world. He is one of those others who can get a personal view of things and his presentation of his subject is convincing. You must, however, be ready, which will be the case, to read the entire lot of articles.

ODD CHARGE BY GOOS BAY MAN

Edward S. Gordon Suspects a Plot to Get His Estate After Death.

SAYS ANOTHER USED HIS NAME AT WEDDING

He Gets Affidavits That He Is Not the Edward S. Gordon Married to Bertha Leach in Vancouver Last October—Singular Case.

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DAVID STARR JORDAN IS FLAYED BY HENRY

High Sheriff of Honolulu Makes Accusations Regarding Death of Mrs. Stanford.

GENERAL LUKE WRIGHT'S SON VICTIM OF MORPHINE

Arkansas City, Kas., Jan. 10.—Luke E. Wright Jr. fell unconscious in a restaurant here yesterday afternoon as a result of morphine poisoning. His recovery is doubtful. Letters found in his pockets show that he is a son of Luke E. Wright of Memphis, Tennessee, governor-general of the Philippines.

MANAGER FORCED TO OPEN SAFE TO THIEVES

Bufile, Jan. 10.—Hennsey Mercantile company's branch store at Centerville, a suburb, was held up last night by two masked men, who escaped with more than \$3,000. Manager Mullane was surprised by highwaymen and forced to open his safe. Watchman McEever was also captured by the bandits and disarmed. The police arrested two men on suspicion.

\$1,000 FOR STRIP OF LAND QUARTER INCH IN WIDTH

New York, Jan. 10.—A strip of land, one-quarter of an inch in width, has just been sold at the highest rate for real estate ever paid in Brooklyn and next to the highest price in the greater city. The purchase price was \$1,000, which figured out on a 20-foot lot, would bring the valuation up to \$400,000. This quarter-inch of land lies in the center of a plot in which it is proposed to erect a large apartment structure. A realty company was the purchaser and also has paid \$1,000 for a one-inch strip in the plot. These fractional bits of real estate date back to the earlier transfers of lots forming the plot in question. In those transfers errors were made in stating the dimensions, with the result that the present purchaser has been obliged to pay heavily to see the complications arising from these errors.

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STUDENTS ON GRIDIRON

Singular Dropping Out of Athletes at College When Football Season Ends, at O. A. C., for Example.

GAMBLING AND DRINKING ARE AMONG THE CHARGES

Investigation at One of Oregon's Leading State Colleges Shows Condition That Should Not Be Allowed to Continue—Poor Record of Athletes as Students.

Today the Journal presents a report on football conditions in state colleges. The report is made by a person whom the Journal believes to be competent to speak and entirely disinterested. Oregon Agricultural college was selected particularly for this inquiry because it had perhaps the strongest northwest college team this year and furnishes a typical case of college methods in securing strong football material. Investigation made at Eugene disclosed much the same conditions as exist at Corvallis. Football and athletics may not look into because they are educational institutions. Corvallis and Eugene are, state institutions and consequently open to public criticism. It is not as if the football team were just as he has written in the Journal.

The football season has closed and the team of rivals has parted and the students who for three months have studied football their chief concern, the subject of their chats and the objects of their prayers, these students have at last turned their attention to other and less attractive things—their studies.

The Agricultural college at Corvallis has put out a splendid team which, although it has met with some unusual reverses, is generally considered to be the strongest in the northwest. The eleven men and three or four substitutes who comprise the team have been the object of admiration and almost worship for over 500 students at that great institution.

A Case for Comment.
Now just what is there in that glauver aggregation deserving of all this attention? The question is admittedly an important one. As well question the integrity of Achilles, Zeus or Apollo of old. Even so, the question is dared to be raised, and for the following reason: These students have at last turned their attention to other and less attractive things—their studies.

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