

A DESTRUCTIVE WHARF FIRE

New Orleans Suffers a Five Million Dollar Loss
By Ravaging Flames

TWELVE BLOCKS ARE DESTROYED

A Conflagration Believed to Have Originated From an Insufficiently Oiled Car Journal Sweeps a Long Section of the River Front Covered With Modern and Costly Wharves, the Great Terminals of the Illinois Central and Two Grain Elevators.

New Orleans, Special.—Fire involving millions of dollars loss in physical property and that strikes a serious, if temporary, blow at the immense export trade of New Orleans, swept the river front Sunday night and wiped out the vast freight terminals of the Illinois Central Railroad, known as the Stuyvesant docks. Nearly a dozen squares of modern wharves and freight sheds, two magnificent grain elevators, hundreds of loaded cars and vast quantities of freight, including 20,000 bales of cotton, were destroyed, together with a large number of small residences. The fire was still raging furiously at midnight, at which time it had almost reached the upper end of the Illinois Central property. It has not been determined whether there has been any loss of life. The ocean-going shipping seems to have escaped serious damage. A number of firemen and employees of the docks were injured. Actual estimates of the losses are impossible, though they may exceed \$5,000,000.

TWELVE SQUARES SWEPT.

The Stuyvesant docks extend from Louisiana avenue almost to Napoleon avenue, a distance of twelve squares. The wharves between those two points were covered with miles of trackage, and steel and iron sheds ran the whole distance. The two grain elevators were of the most modern construction, the upper one having a capacity of a million bushels. Thousands of bushels of corn, several hundred thousand packages of sugar, great quantities of cotton-seed oil and oil cake, lumber and every conceivable variety of freight filled the warehouses and sheds. Practically all the export business handled by the Illinois Central was put aboard ships at these docks. The docks and improvements have been under construction for ten years past, elaborate extensions and immense investments having been made.

BEGINNING OF THE FIRE.

The fire was discovered shortly after 7 o'clock. I was said to have resulted from a journal that had not been sufficiently oiled. The whole plant was equipped with gigantic water tanks and fire-extinguishing apparatus, but the blaze, small at the beginning, almost instantly got beyond control, communicated through the conveyors to the lower elevator and some of the sheds.

The response of the fire department was prompt, but because of the fact that the terminals were inaccessible, owing to tracks, the engines found difficulty in reaching the flames. In half an hour the fire covered two squares and the lower elevator was practically consumed, the fire sweeping up and down the river. As soon as it became known that the scene of the fire was the Stuyvesant docks, harbor tugs hastened to the wharves, and vessels that were moored there were pulled out into the river.

Increase Capital.

Suffolk, Special.—An amendment to the charter of the United Spring Motor Corporation was received here increasing the capital stock from a maximum of \$30,000 to \$500,000. The corporation which patented a sewing machine device, already has sold several foreign rights at a high figure.

Twelve Years For Forger.

Newport News, Special.—Paul O. Johnson, the negro forger, was sentenced to 12 years in the penitentiary in the Corporation Court. He was given a jury trial on two indictments of three counts and found guilty of all allegations. He was sentenced to two years each for the six offenses. Johnson has already served two years in the penitentiary, having been sentenced from Petersburg. Under the law five years will be added to his term for this reason. Johnson feigned insanity, but it did not serve to mitigate the sentence.

North Sea Decision Read.

Paris, By Cable.—The decision of the international commission of inquiry into the North Sea incident was publicly announced at the closing session of the commission. The decision lengthly sets forth the circumstances and incidents and gives the opinion of the admirals on the various important points involved. The decision says the delay of the Russian transport Kamtschatka, following the breakdown of her machinery, was perhaps the cause of the incident.

To Build Ships at Home.

Tokio, By Cable.—The statement that Japan has ordered four battleships in England is incorrect. It is probable, unless circumstances dictate otherwise, that Japan in future will construct all her vessels at home. She has equipped extensive yards, shops and gun and armor foundries, and there is a strong, growing sentiment in the navy and in the people generally in favor of home construction exclusively. The yards are already engaged in an extensive building programme, which includes two large armored vessels.

DETAILS OF THE MINE HORROR

Thirty-Nine Bodies Have Been Taken From the Virginia Mine and No Hope is Held Out That Any of the 119 Men Remaining Are Alive.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—As a result of the most horrible mine disaster in the history of Alabama, 39 blackened, bruised and twisted human bodies have been recovered from the Virginia mines at a late hour and laid out for identification by heart-broken mothers, wives, sisters, and sweethearts. It is now stated positively that 160 men were in the mine at the time of the dust explosion and not the slightest hope is held out to sorrowing loved ones that a man of them will live to tell of the horrible disaster.

Philadelphia, Special.—Commemoration of Washington's birthday by the University of Pennsylvania was made notable by the fact that representatives of three world powers participated in the exercises, as follows: The United States, represented by the Chief Executive of the nation, President Roosevelt; Germany, represented by Baron Von Speck Sternberg, ambassador to this country, who acted as the personal representative of Emperor William, and Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador. The occasion was marked by one of the most enthusiastic demonstrations ever witnessed in the Academy of Music, where the exercises were held. President Roosevelt was the orator of the day, his theme being "Some Maxims of Washington."

The degree of doctor of laws was conferred upon the President, the German Emperor, the British ambassador, Rear Admiral Charles E. Clark, United States navy; United States Senator Philander C. Knox, and David T. Watson, a distinguished lawyer of Pittsburg. Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the poet and author, received the degree of letters, and upon Robert Simpson Woodward, president of the Carnegie Institute, was conferred the degree of doctor of science. Baron Von Speck Sternberg received the degree for Emperor William.

Since the list of dead will probably go to 160, the local undertakers have wired to adjoining cities for coffins, as it was found there were not enough suitable coffins in the district to carry the victims. Out of the 50 bodies recovered one was found about 4 o'clock this afternoon, which was barely alive. The body was carefully taken from the mine and heroic methods resorted to bring the man to consciousness. He is still alive, but scant hope is held out for his recovery.

President Flynn, of the Alabama United Mine Workers, said to the Associated Press: "I shall be surprised if a single person escapes alive from that mine. Ventilation is very difficult and if the men were not killed by the explosion they have certainly been suffocated by the gases. The bodies so far reached were in the main slope and it will be several days before we can get to the rooms which branch off from the main slope."

President Flynn worked all Tuesday night with a pick and shovel at the mine and other mine officials were among the leaders in the rescue work. Conspicuous among these was W. R. Farley, member of the national executive board of the United Mine Workers from Alaska.

To Prevent Pool Selling.

Jefferson City, Mo., Special.—The lower house of the Legislature passed a bill releasing the "old breeders' law." Pool selling on horse races in certain enclosures was legalized by the breeders' law, but the bill which passed the House today only repeals the old law, but prohibits the selling in any part of Missouri of pools on horse races, whether the races are run with or without the boundaries of the State. The bill will now go to the Senate where it is expected a determined fight will be made by persons interested in the several race tracks of the State.

Died at Age of 101.

Trimbelle, Wis., Special.—Anthony Huddleston, aged 101, the first white settler in Pierce county, is dead at the home of his grandson, near here. Mr. Huddleston was born in Virginia and was a direct descendant of the family of which Daniel Boone was a member. His youngest child is 52 years old, and his oldest 80.

Inquiries to Be Made.

Chicago, Special.—United States officials commenced one of the most exhaustive inquiries ever started under the Sherman anti-trust act by issuing subpoenas for 185 witnesses, calling for a Federal grand jury to sit March 20 and making full arrangements for producing the operations of the packers in Chicago and other packing centers.

Blew His Head Off.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—Late Tuesday afternoon, Edward Yarborough, aged about 45, committed suicide at his home here. He placed a shotgun in a rocking chair, with its muzzle at his throat, holding it there with his left hand, while with his right he pressed a stick against the trigger, while he was lying on the bed. Death was instantaneous, and his head was partially blown away. He was a member of the prominent county family. His grandfather built and owned the Yarborough House. A relative of the same name committed suicide in a hotel here 12 years ago by taking poison.

\$1,000,000 Dock Fire.

Boston, Special.—A loss estimated at \$1,000,000 was caused by a fire at the Hoosac Tunnel docks at Charles town, early Tuesday. Two of the larger pieces were burned, the Wilson Leyland-Furness line steamer Philadelphia was seriously damaged, and a large quantity of merchandise, both on the docks and in the hold of the Philadelphia was ruined or destroyed. Five persons sustained injuries.

Lee to See Cannon.

Norfolk, Special.—General Fitzhugh Lee, president of the Jamestown Exposition Company, left here for Washington with the hope of being able to induce Speaker Cannon, of the House of Representatives, to change his attitude toward the bill making an appropriation for the Jamestown Exposition on Hampton Roads in 1907, which bill has been approved and recommended by the House committee on industrial arts and expositions.

Want Lower Raw Cotton.

Fall River, Mass., Special.—The sales in the print cloth market this week will reach a total of about 150,000 pieces. The general market for printing cloths with special feature. The tone is quiet and steady and prices for both wide and narrow standard, are unchanged on a basis of 2 1/2 for regulars. Little cotton is being purchased, as manufacturers generally believe in a lower market for the raw material.

HONOR OF BIRTHDAY

Natal Day of George Washington Was

Fittingly Observed

GOOD SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT

Representatives of Three World Powers Participate in the Exercises at the University of Pennsylvania, and President Roosevelt, the German Emperor and the British Ambassador Were Among Those Honored With the Doctorate of Laws.

POPULAR SCIENCE

Late experience in the British navy has suggested that loathsome disease may be spread by tattooing, and those who must decorate in this way are warned that the needles should be sterilized.

Rheumatism seems to be practically unknown in Japan. A French observer attributes this to the sobriety of the people, their vegetarian diet and their great use of water. They not only drink large quantities of pure water, but take two or three baths daily throughout the year.

The appearance of a dark disease among the Para rubber trees in certain districts in Ceylon during 1903 created some alarm among rubber planters, but prompt measures for its treatment were carried out under the advice of the Government mycologist, Mr. J. B. Carruthers, the officer in question, states that the disease was due to a canker fungus; further details regarding its structure and treatment will form the subject of a later paper.

Phosphate rock is of organic origin, largely derived from guano and decaying animal matter which contains phosphoric acid. In rainless regions such as the Peruvian coast and some of the Pacific islands, the guano may accumulate to great thickness without loss of soluble matter. In moist districts, however, the phosphoric constituents are dissolved out by percolating waters, and the solutions containing with limestone may convert the latter into lime phosphate. The phosphate deposits of Florida are thought to have formed in this manner.

Principles of construction that architects have slowly worked out, Lord Avebury suggests, were adopted by plants millions of years ago. Some plant stems are round, others are triangular, others quadrangular, and so on, and it seems possible to give a mechanical explanation of the differences. Builders have adopted the girder as the most economical method of resisting a strain in one direction. Plants seem to have built on a like plan, tree trunks being round to resist strain from all directions, while plants with opposite leaves and strain in two directions have two girders, giving a quadrangular stem, and triangular and pentagonal stems may be accounted for as strengthening against like obvious strains.

AS EACH CANDIDATE WAS PRESENTED BY DR. S. WEIR MITCHELL FOR THE DEGREE, HE WAS GREETED BY THE STUDENTS WITH LUSTY "HOORAYS" AND COLLEGE CRIES. DURING HIS ADDRESS, THE PRESIDENT WAS REPEATEDLY CHEERED, AND HIS REFERENCE TO THE NAVY, WHICH HE ADDRESSED DIRECTLY TO ADMIRAL CLARK, WHO SAT ON HIS LEFT, AROUSED GREAT ENTHUSIASM. THE PRESIDENT SPOKE IN PART AS FOLLOWS:

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

AS A NATION WE HAVE HAD OUR FULL SHARE OF GREAT MEN, BUT THE TWO MEN OF PRE-EMINENT GREATNESS WHO, AS THE CENTURIES GO ON, WILL SURELY LOOM ABOVE ALL OTHERS, ARE WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN; AND IT IS PARTICULARLY FITTING THAT THEIR BIRTHDAYS SHOULD BE CELEBRATED EVERY YEAR AND THE MEANING OF THEIR LIVES BROUGHT HOME CLOSE TO US.

NO OTHER CITY IN THE COUNTRY IS SO CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH WASHINGTON'S CAREER AS PHILADELPHIA. HE SERVED HERE IN 1775 IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS. HE WAS HERE AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMY AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLE OF BRADY-WINE AND GERMANTOWN; AND IT WAS NEAR HERE THAT WITH THAT ARMY HE FACED THE DESOLATE WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE, THE WINTER WHICH MARKED THE TURNING POINT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. HERE HE CAME AGAIN AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION WHICH FRAMED THE CONSTITUTION AND THEN AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND FINALLY AS LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY, AFTER HE HAD RETIRED FROM THE PRESIDENCY.

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT YEARS AGO JUST BEFORE HE LEFT THE PRESIDENCY, HE ISSUED HIS FAREWELL ADDRESS, AND IN IT HE LAID DOWN CERTAIN PRINCIPLES, WHICH HE BELIEVED SHOULD GUIDE THE CITIZENS OF THIS REPUBLIC FOR ALL TIME TO COME, HIS OWN WORDS BEING, "WHICH APPEAR TO ME ALL-IMPORTANT TO THE PERMANENCY OF YOUR FELICITY AS A PEOPLE."

WASHINGTON, THOUGH IN SOME WAYS AN EVEN GREATER MAN THAN LINCOLN, DID NOT HAVE LINCOLN'S WONDERFUL GIFT OF EXPRESSION—THAT GIFT WHICH MAKES CERTAIN SPEECHES OF THE RAIL-SPITTER FROM ILLINOIS READ LIKE THE INSPIRED UTTERANCES OF THE GREAT HEBREW SEERS AND PROPHETS. BUT HE HAD ALL OF LINCOLN'S SOUND COMMON SENSE, FAIR-SIGHTEDNESS AND DEVOTION TO A LOFTY IDEAL. LIKE LINCOLN, HE SOUGHT AFTER THEM BY THOROUGHLY PRACTICAL METHODS. THESE TWO GREATEST AMERICANS CAN FAIRLY BE CALLED THE BEST AMONG THE GREAT MEN OF THE WORLD, AND GREATEST AMONG THE GOOD MEN OF THE WORLD. EACH SHOWED IN ACTUAL PRACTICE HIS CAPACITY TO SECURE UNDER OUR SYSTEM THE PRICELESS UNION OF INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY WITH GOVERNMENTAL STRENGTH. EACH WAS AS FREE FROM THE VICES OF THE TYRANT AS FROM THE VICES OF THE DEMAGOGUE. TO EACH THE EMPTINESS OF THE MERE DOCTRINE WAS AS ALIEN AS THE BASENESS OF THE MERELY VICTORIOUS POLITICIAN. EACH WAS INCAPABLE ALIKE OF THE WICKEDNESS WHICH SEEKS BY FORCE OF ARMS TO WRONG OTHERS AND OF THE NO LESS CRIMINAL WEAKNESS WHICH FAILS TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVELY AGAINST BEING WRONGED BY OTHERS.

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IN THIS WAY, LOOKING AT THE LEAK THROUGH THE INSERTED WINDOW, THE CAPTAIN WORKED STEADILY WHILE THE SHIP WAS HOISTED TO THE TOP. THE VESSEL ROLLED IN A HEAVY SWELL, AND SOMETIMES CAPTAIN MATSON FOUND HIMSELF FROM SEVEN TO TEN FEET BELOW THE SURFACE. AT ONE TIME THE CHAFING OF HIS FEET AGAINST THE VESSEL'S SIDE WORE A HOLE IN THE BAG, AND THE WATER ENTERED AND COVERED HIM.

BUUT HE WAS DRAWN UP IN GOOD TIME, THE BAG WAS REPAIRED, THE WORK CONTINUED AND THE LEAK STOPPED.

THE SIMPLE LIFE EXPENSIVE.

AND, REALLY, THE SIMPLE LIFE IS FRIGHTENINGLY EXPENSIVE. AT A RECENT ENTERTAINMENT IN THIS CITY A GREAT LUXURY IN THE SERVING OF THE SECOND SUPPER WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF COUNTRY SAUSAGE AND BUCKWHEAT CAKES WITH MAPLE SYRUP. BUT THE SAUSAGE CAME FROM THE FARM OF THE HOST AND REPRESENTED A SMALL FORTUNE, AS THE PIGS FROM WHICH THE PIECE DE RESISTANCE WAS MADE WERE BLOODED ANIMALS WITH PEDIGREES. THE BUCKWHEAT WAS GROWN IN SPECIAL FIELDS WHICH COST EVER SO MUCH A FOOT, AND THE MAPLE SYRUP WAS TAKEN FROM TREES IN THE MOST EXPENSIVE ADIRONDACK PRESERVE. AND THIS CAN THOUSANDS OF MANKIND UNLESS THE NATIONAL PURPOSE IS TO TREAT OTHER NATIONS WITH GOOD FAITH AND JUSTICE.

FROM DR. HOHENZOLLERN.

"DR. CHARLES C. HARRISON, PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA:

"I AM TRULY GLAD THAT THE UNIVERSITY HAS TENDERED ME AT THE SAME TIME WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT THE ACADEMIC HONOR THAT ONCE CLOTHED GEORGE WASHINGTON. I BEG YOU TO ACCEPT WITH MY THANKS THE MIRTH WISHES FOR THE CONTINUED GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OF THE UNIVERSITY.

WILHELM, L. R.

THE LAUGH CURE FOR DYSPEPSIA.

DYSPEPSIA IS NOW SYSTEMATICALLY CURED BY LAUGHTER. IT IS STATED THAT A DOCTOR, IN RETURN FOR A LARGE FEE, ADMITS PATIENTS INTO HIS PRIVATE INSTITUTION, WHERE THE MIRTH TREATMENT IS ADMINISTERED. THE METHOD SOUNDS SIMPLE ENOUGH. A FEW DYSPEPSIA SIT AROUND A ROOM AND BEGIN TO SMILE AT EACH OTHER. THE SMILE MUST NEVER BE ALLOWED TO FADE AWAY. ON THE CONTRARY, IT MUST BE DEVELOPED BY WILL POWER INTO A GRIN AND THE GRIN MUST BECOME A GUFFAW. THEN YOU HAVE TO GO ON LAUGHING UNTIL YOUR SIDES ACHIEVE, BY WHEN YOU WILL ALREADY FEEL MUCH BETTER. A COURSE OF A WEEK OR TWO OF THE TREATMENT AT THE RATE OF A COUPLE OF HOURS GIGGLING A DAY CURES THE WORST CASES OF DYSPEPSIA.—LONDON TELEGRAPH.

WISE SERVANTS.

THE GARDENER OF DARWIN AND HUXLEY THOUGHT OF THEIR MASTERS.

There is no personage more deeply and deferentially aware of his own importance than the English butler; next to him in privileges and ahead of him in sturdy frankness, must stand the Scotch gardener.

It was Darwin's gardener who, when a friend of the family inquired after his health of the famous naturalist, who had been somewhat ailing, replied confidentially that he did not doubt his master would be better "if only he could find something to do."

The patient and minute research in which he saw Darwin engaged struck his mind as merely a foolish and fussy form of trifling, not worthy to be considered in occupation. If, instead of bothering about the digestive capacity of worthless insectivorous plants, the great man had grown cabbages or raised roses, the gardener's opinion of him would doubtless have been higher.

The gardener of Professor Huxley, with equal unconsciousness of doing so, also cast a slur upon his renowned employer.

Mrs. Huxley, fearful that he might be overworked, had inquired if he did not need some assistance.

"No," came the reply: "the place is not very large, and Mr. Huxley is almost as good as another man."

Better than either of these true tales is that of the butler in a fine old English family, whose long service had caused him to feel a personal and proprietary interest in the sons and daughters of the house. He could not acquire himself of a sense of responsibility for their manners and conduct, and when at a large dinner-party he noticed one of them, a young girl who had but recently entered society, devote an amount of attention to her agreeable neighbor on the right obviously in excess of that accorded to the less fascinating gentleman on the left. His perturbation increased till it could no longer be borne in silence.

Under pretense of passing her a dish, he managed cleverly to whisper in her ear:

"A little more conversation to the left, miss."—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

MAN PROVES HIS LIBERTY BY HIS LOYALTY TO LAW.