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Debts of the Great Nations.

In the statement of indebtedness of the various countries the total by countries, in the order of their magnitude, are: France, \$5,856,312,892; United Kingdom, \$3,885,166,333; Russia, \$3,333,938,388; Italy, \$2,560,605,000; Spain, \$2,061,389,972; Austria Hungary, \$1,112,790,247; British India, \$1,102,905,130; Commonwealth of Australia, \$1,047,819,629.

The debt of the United States is stated at \$925,011,637. The indebtedness of the German Empire is given at \$698,849,400, and the German States, \$2,687,621,000. Five European countries—France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and Spain—show an aggregate indebtedness of over 17 billions of dollars, thus forming one-half of the total indebtedness of the world. The per capita debt, as stated in the order of magnitude is: New Zealand, \$327.11; Commonwealth of Australia, \$277.79; Portugal, \$151.02; France, 150.31; Uruguay, \$132.81; Honduras, \$124.19; Spain, \$110.72; Argentina, \$100.08; United Kingdom, \$92.59; Netherlands, \$86.62; Belgium, \$81.28; Italy, \$78.85. The debt of the United States is given at \$11.51 per capita.

Japs Buying Guns.

GENOA, Jan. 5.—Admiral Miria, of the Japanese navy, accompanied by his staff, arrived here today to assume command of the cruisers Kasuga and Niasin, formerly the Moreho and Rividia, respectively, which were built here for the Argentine government, and were purchased by Japan. The admiral and his staff left tonight for Pozzula, where they will buy the arms.

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Found in a Cow's Stomach.

A few days ago one of the DuBois butchers killed a cow. In dressing the animal the following collection of articles were found in the stomach: Two gold brooches, one hat pin, all of a brand of nails, one copper cent and a piece of wire.

at the same instant sees her uplifted arms. With a leap he has caught those hands, and then, pulling, straining, with feet braced against the sides of the door, he has dragged her over the heads of the heads of the people in front. Now he sets her on her feet.

"Kan," he cries, "down that way." Then he turned again to his fight with the death jan.

The girl does not know his name. She never saw him before. It is not likely that she will ever see him again. It may be that he staid too late and lost his life in the effort to save others.

He was a hero. There were many such.

In pitiful contrast to such as these is the conduct of some of the people on the stage. There, if anywhere, there seems to have been utter rout and panic. It was the cowardice or carelessness of people on the stage which occasioned the start of the fire, which made it impossible to lower the asbestos curtain and which finally, by throwing wide open the doors leading from the stage, created the draft which swept the clouds of smoke and fire out into the faces of the audience.

And then, one after the other, half a dozen men came forward and publicly claimed credit for having personally forced the opening of the door through which many of the stage people found safety.

Half a dozen self-proclaimed heroes—each one giving the lie to the other five!

The Coroner's Inquest.

Fixing Responsibility for the Iroquois Theatre Fire. Inquest Will be Held Over the Remains of "Miss Mary Edna Torney and 564 Others"—First Witness Says Lobby Door was Locked on Inside.

The coroner's inquest over the remains of the victims of the Iroquois theatre disaster at Chicago began last Thursday. The coroner's official list of dead—for use at the inquest—contains 565 names. Previous police reports indicating 591 dead are declared now to be inaccurate and due to the shifting of bodies from one morgue to another.

Preparations were complete for the most searching inquiry into the causes of the greatest public calamity that Chicago has ever known. Coroner Traeger presided over the investigation with States Attorney Deneen, or one of his assistants in constant attendance as the coroner's legal representative, and the corporation counsel, the county attorney, a score of lawyers representing private interests and numerous officials of the fire and police departments taking part in the inquiry.

It is estimated that it will require at least six days for the jury to hear the testimony of the 200 or more witnesses.

The provision of the law that the jury shall view the bodies over which the inquest is held having already been complied with, Coroner Traeger entered upon the examination of the witnesses to determine the cause of the fire and the responsibility for the loss of life. Technically the inquest is held over "the body of Miss Edna Torney and 564 others."

Deputy Coroner Buckley knew Miss Torney and arrived on the scene of the fire a few minutes after her body had been carried out. He was able to locate the two policemen who had handled the body. The check to her seat in the theatre was found in her clothing.

"Precise evidence can therefore be adduced as to the circumstances of her death and these circumstances will be interpreted to apply in general to the 564 others." Although some died of asphyxiation, some of

burns and some from concussion, the jury will find that death in each of the 565 deaths resulted from "shock and injury." The jury will sign a separate verdict for each victim.

For the task of fixing the responsibility for the great loss of life, States Attorney Deneen instructed Coroner Traeger to establish the identity, if possible of some person or persons who died at the end of the passage leading south from the entrance of the second balcony. There a locked door out of the escape of hundreds whose bodies were found against the barricaded door. The coroner has succeeded in gathering this evidence.

Mrs. B. M. Strong, of Chicago and her niece, Vera Strong, of Amherst, Ga., died at the front of the stairway. The story of their death before the locked exit has been told to the coroner by James M. Strong, son of the elder victim. Mr. Strong, who is a Board of Trade clerk, consented to testify.

IMPORTANT WITNESS ARRESTED

The arrest of William J. Maher and Charles Nagel, which took place last Thursday, is considered important by Coroner Traeger in connection with the investigation. The men were employed by a sub-contractor of the Fuller Construction company. According to the police, the men say they nailed down the ventilators on the roof of the theatre over the stage and that examination will show the skylight flames had never been removed. In other words the safety vents for a fire on the stage were never operated and every audience that ever sat in the Iroquois theatre from the day the theatre was opened, had been in imminent danger of roasting to death wholesale where ever a fire broke out on the stage. E. Kriffling is the sub-contractor of the Fuller Construction company who employed Maher and Nagel. The two workmen were at home in bed when arrested. The workmen explained to the policemen that the nails were expected to be removed later and the skylight placed in proper relation when the theatre was placed in the hands of the owner. Both men expressed willingness to appear before the coroner's jury.

VENTILATION DEFECT FATAL.

Great stress is laid by the coroner upon developments during the inquest in relation to the stage ventilation and air shafts. The proper workings, it is held, would have saved hundreds from death. The ventilators and shafts were opened the next morning after the fire by Foreman David Jones, of the George Fuller Construction company and two workmen, Maher and Nagel. According to the police Maher Thursday said that he had charge of the metal connection of the ventilator. The ventilator was to have been operated by a lever from the stage, so that it could be thrown open at a moment's notice, but according to Maher the lever was never fitted. Maher, according to the police, says that he went to the theatre the day after the fire and looked to see if the lever had been attached, but could find no trace of it. He saw several temporary scantlings still nailed to the wall in the way and he fixed them when his part of the work of constructing the theatre was finished.

FOUND DOORS LOCKED.

The first witness before the coroner's jury was John C. Galvin, a painting contractor. He testified that on the afternoon of the fire he stepped into the vestibule of the Iroquois theatre to purchase tickets for the following evening. As he turned to the ticket office the centre doors of the lobby foyer and the outside entrance doors were blown

open as though by a blast of hot air. Looking into the foyer he saw people running toward the entrance. He rushed to the lobby and endeavored to open the west door, that being the nearest. It was locked on the outside and he could do nothing with it.

Medical.

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