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**THE ICE GAVE WAY**  
Two Men and a Young Woman Lost Their Lives.

**Thirty Skaters Precipitated Into the Water in the Basin Near Washington Monument at the Nation's Capital—One Policeman Saved Five Persons.**

Washington, Jan. 15.—While a large crowd was skating on the bathing basin near the Washington monument last evening, the ice suddenly gave way and precipitated 30 persons into the water. Three persons, two men and a girl, lost their lives. Miss Jessie C. Thomas, 20 years of age, employed as a clerk in the bureau of ethnology, died at the Emergency hospital. Eight other persons were treated at the Emergency hospital and recovered.

The two dead men were identified as Arthur Wasserbach, an employe of the bureau of engraving and printing, and Henry C. Hamill, a clerk in the war department.

Wasserbach was a native of Washington; Hamill is from Michigan and Miss Thomas, previous to a year ago, had lived in Frederick, Md. Hamill was about 45 years of age.

There were probably 2,000 people skating on the basin at the time of the accident. A hot water pipe from the engine room of the Washington monument emptied into the basin near where the ice gave way. The skaters had been warned that the location was a dangerous one, but it is said they disregarded the advice given them to stay away from the vicinity and when the crash came fully 30 men and women went through the broken ice and into the water.

All were rescued except the two men whose bodies subsequently were recovered. Miss Thomas did a short while after her removal to the hospital.

Officer Bannigan, of the metropolitan police, jumped into a boat near at hand and unaided rescued seven persons. The police are satisfied that all those who were in the accident have been accounted for.

**UNDER ANTI-TRUST LAW.**  
**Ohio's Attorney General Begins Legal Action to Oust Six Coal Companies from Their Charters.**

Columbus, Jan. 15.—The quiet investigation that Gov. Nash has been making of the coal situation for several days, ripened into fruit yesterday when Attorney General Sheets filed in the supreme court, at the instigation of the governor, quo warranto suits against six big coal companies to oust them from their charters.

The companies against which suits are brought are: The New Pittsburgh Coal Co., the Sunday Creek Coal Co., the Central Hocking Fuel Co., the Congo Coal Co., the Inter-State Coal Co., and the Hocking Coal and Iron Co.

No railroad company is implicated in the cases, nor are any suits brought against any company. Judge Sheets said that he had carefully inquired into the situation and was sure that no railroad company was in the combination.

It is charged in the petition that these companies have entered into a conspiracy to limit the output of coal and to increase and generally control the prices. It is further charged that they have discriminated in favor of Columbus and against other cities of the state, selling coal at about \$1.25 a ton cheaper here than elsewhere.

The suits are brought under the Valentine anti-trust law.

**A Coal Robber Goes Free.**  
Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 15.—Alfred Himmelsberger, who was arrested for stealing coal from cars passing over the Pennsylvania railroad, was discharged from custody yesterday. Himmelsberger said he had money to pay for coal, but could not get any and he stole it to keep his wife and children from freezing. The railroad officer who preferred charges against him requested his discharge on the ground that they did not want to prosecute men in his plight. Every train of coal passing around the city is boarded and robbed to some extent. The coal famine in this city is now being felt more keenly than ever.

**Will Sell Coal for \$6 a Ton.**  
Detroit, Jan. 15.—Friday morning the municipal commission of Detroit will begin delivering coal, a ton only to each purchaser, at the Lindenmead coal yards. The commission has 2,200 tons of soft coal at the yard, has 400 tons more on the way and about 20 cars available that are lying on the tracks between Detroit and Toledo. The price per ton at which the commission will begin doing business is \$6.

**A New Trust Is Launched.**  
New York, Jan. 15.—At a meeting held yesterday the new steel tile and metal ceiling trust was virtually launched. The plants involved are situated in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Canton, O., Cleveland and St. Paul. A call was sent out to manufacturers for an organization meeting at Pittsburgh next Monday. The capitalization will be \$10,000,000.

**Day May Succeed Shiras.**  
Washington, Jan. 15.—Judge William R. Day, former secretary of state, probably will be appointed as an associate justice of the United States supreme court to succeed Justice Shiras, who is about to retire; but the president has made no offer of the position yet to Judge Day. It is understood that, through Senator Hanna, one of Judge Day's close friends, the former secretary has been asked whether he would consider an offer of a position on the supreme bench. No answer has yet been returned to this proposal.

**ANOTHER RAILWAY MERGER.**  
**Mr. Morgan Tells the Story of the Sale of the L. & N. Road—Deal Involved Many Millions.**

New York, Jan. 16.—The inter-state commerce commission met here Thursday to take testimony in regard to the complaint of the Kentucky railroad commission that the inter-state commerce law was being violated in Kentucky by the alleged merger of the Louisville & Nashville and the Atlantic Coast line.

Henry Walters, chairman of the board of the Atlantic Coast Line Co., said the company owned a controlling interest in six or more small lines operated as the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co. Five directors of the Atlantic Coast Line Co. were also directors of the Louisville & Nashville. Witness said: "We offered to buy the Louisville & Nashville, having heard that Morgan & Co. had got control of it and knowing the bankers could not operate it."

The witness and Mr. Morgan reached an agreement to buy the 306,000 shares of stock. "We paid," said the witness, "\$10,000,000 cash, \$35,000,000 bonds and \$5,000,000 stock. The \$10,000,000 was raised by sale of stock, every dollar of which was taken by our own stockholders. Practically three holders own the stock of the Atlantic Coast Line Co.: Michael Jenkins and his family, Walter Newcomer and his family and myself. I do not think Mr. Morgan owns any of the stock."

President Elliott, of the Atlantic Coast Line Co., corroborated Mr. Walters' testimony.

J. Pierpont Morgan began his testimony by saying he was the head of his firm and that the firm had ten or twelve members. He was not sure how many. He had nothing to do with the purchase of the 306,000 shares except to approve the contract when made. The deal was explained to him by Messrs. Perkins and Steele when he returned from Europe last spring. Mr. Morgan presumed a conference was held with Mr. Gates about the L. & N. stock sale, but he was not present at it.

"Mr. Gates had the stock," said Mr. Morgan, "and operated a pool which controlled it. No one knew what he was doing. I took the stock away from Gates and put it where it would not hurt the Southern. At the time we sold we held it for others."

"Let me tell you the story. We found that Mr. Gates and his associates had control of the Louisville & Nashville railroad. When Gates came to us we found he had control of 306,000 of the shares. That gave him control," Mr. Morgan added. "The Northern Pacific experience of the year before made us aware of the danger to the Southern stock and so we made arrangements with Gates. I knew the sale to the Atlantic Coast railroad would not be a disturbing element to railroads of the south."

**SQUEEZING INDEPENDENTS.**  
**The Steel Trust Manipulates Prices of Raw Materials so as to Make it Difficult for Competitors to Live.**

Washington, Jan. 16.—A hearing was given yesterday by the house ways and means committee to representatives of various manufacturing interests favoring the passage of the bill introduced by Representative Lovering, of Massachusetts, which provides that when import duty is paid on materials used in the manufacture or production of articles in the United States, but they cannot be specifically identified by the manufacturer or producer of any article, as is now required, a drawback may be allowed on the exportation of such articles.

W. H. Seaver, of the National Wire Co., said that steel billets and raw material cost about \$10 a ton less abroad than at home, and added: "At the present time we can buy it abroad and pay the duty, cheaper than we can buy it at home. Conditions, however, are somewhat abnormal at this time."

"Is there any one company or corporation that controls the price of raw material in this country?" was asked.

"I should say yes," replied Mr. Seaver. "That being the United States Steel Corporation."

"What has been their policy toward raising or lowering prices?" Mr. Grosvener asked.

"Their policy has been to retain prices at such a high level that the independent concerns have found it very difficult to live," replied Mr. Seaver.

Replying to a question as to the average price of steel in this country and abroad, Mr. Seaver said: "I know it to be a fact that, in spite of the enormous demand of this country, certain companies are still holding on to the export business at prices which I know are very much less than those obtained in this country."

"I know they have offered wire rods in Canada at a price which is several dollars less than they offered the same rods for domestic use," said Mr. Seaver in reply to a question with reference to foreign selling by the United States Steel Company.

Representative Swanson (Va.) asked Mr. Seaver:

"When you sell your finished product do you sell it abroad at less than you sell it at home?"

"Yes, sir," was the response, "because we get the benefit of the drawback."

**A Municipal Ownership Bill.**  
Lansing, Mich., Jan. 16.—In the legislature yesterday Representative Treusel, of Detroit, offered an amendment to the state constitution providing that the legislature may authorize incorporated cities to construct, acquire by purchase or condemnation, maintain and operate street railways within their corporate limits, provided they do not act to establish municipal railroads in any incorporated city shall become operative until it shall be approved by a majority of the electors of said city voting thereon. A similar bill will be pushed in the senate.

**WILL FIGHT COMBINE.**  
**Stockmen Raise Money at Kansas City Convention to Secure Defeat of Proposed Packing Merger.**

Kansas City, Jan. 17.—The sixth annual convention of the National Live Stock association adjourned yesterday to meet next year at Portland, Ore., after electing all the old officers for the ensuing year and taking the initiative in a systematic campaign of legislation against the proposed packing merger. William M. Springer, general counsel of the association, in a spirited address, outlined a bill which he has formulated "to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies," and which he said was merely an adaptation of the Sherman anti-trust law and the Hoar bill, now pending in the senate. In the discussion that followed, President John W. Springer said that a bill along the lines suggested by Judge Springer will be printed soon by the association and sent to every state legislature in the land.

President Springer said that if the proposed merger should ever be consummated the National Live Stock association would string packing houses from Chicago to San Francisco. In response to an appeal from the executive committee for a legislative working fund, \$7,500 was subscribed in less than 30 minutes.

A resolution introduced by Frank M. Stewart, of South Dakota, protesting against the packing merger, was adopted.

During an address at the afternoon session, Jerry Simpson favored tariff reform and said that the enactment of the tariff law by Germany was a discrimination against American products and should teach us how our present tariff system discriminates against other countries. He asked of those members of the Wool Growers' association present if it were not a fact that wool was worth as much in London and Liverpool as in this country. Senator Warren, of Wyoming, replying to the question, said that anyone who knew anything of the question knew that such was not the case, and a lively tilt between these two delegates followed.

**DUN'S WEEKLY REPORT.**  
**Fuel Shortage Is the Disturbing Element in the Industrial Situation.**

New York, Jan. 17.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Fuel shortage is still the one seriously disturbing element in the industrial situation. Transporting facilities have been diverted from other merchandise, to the disadvantage of shippers, yet iron furnaces are unable to secure sufficient supplies of coke and many other manufacturing plants are closed because of inadequate coal deliveries. Mines are more fully operated, but there is no prospect of normal conditions until spring.

Extremely low temperature during the past week stimulated distribution of heavy clothing and other seasonal goods. Retail trade was accelerated by the customary clearance sales, especially in dry goods and kindred branches. Traveling men are sending in large orders for spring goods, the volume of advance business surpassing the customary amount for this time of year.

Only moderate fluctuations have occurred in the great staples, with the tendency upward and a conspicuously firm tone in evidence.

Failures for the week numbered 267 in the United States, against 334 last year, and 38 in Canada, compared with 40 a year ago.

**LINEMEN ARRESTED.**  
**They are Charged with Extensive Thefts of Copper Wire.**

Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 17.—During the past six months the Bell telephone, Citizens' telephone, Interurban and street railway companies of this city have been systematically robbed by expert linemen and seven men are in the county jail, charged with the robbery.

During the period named miles of copper trolley and telephone wire have been stolen. The wires, some times a mile at a stretch, were taken in one night, and as cheap iron was substituted, no interruption would occur in the operation of the systems.

It was stated last night that a prominent business man, whose name the officers would not give out, would be arrested to-day, charged with being an accomplice and leader of the gang.

**War Claim Day in Congress.**  
Washington, Jan. 17.—The house devoted Friday to private war claims, passing about twenty. The two features of the day were the defeat of a claim of B. F. Moody & Co., of Kookuk, Ia., for the payment of the amount deducted from their contract for furnishing equipment to the Third Iowa cavalry by the famous commission which unearthed the army contract frauds in St. Louis in 1863, and the losing fight of Mr. Payne, the floor leader of the majority, against an omnibus resolution to refer 90 southern claims, aggregating \$400,000, for stores and supplies taken by the Union army during the civil war to the court of claims for finding of fact under the Tucker act.

**Burned to Death by Filipinos.**  
Manila, Jan. 17.—At the trial yesterday of Maj. Edwin S. Glenn, who is charged with unlawfully killing seven prisoners of war in Samar, a Spaniard who was at one time held prisoner by the insurgents testified that while he was confined at the headquarters of Gen. Lukban, in Samar, in May, 1899, he saw an American prisoner burned to death. The Spaniard said sticks were driven in the man's body and he was slowly turned over until burned to death. He did not know the man's name, but thought he was an officer.

**IT DESTROYS DISCIPLINE.**  
**Witnesses Testify Before Coal Strike Commission that Miners' Union Interferes with Authority and Limits Earning Capacity of Employees.**

Philadelphia, Jan. 15.—Having occupied nearly three days in calling witnesses to testify in opposition to the demands made by the anthracite miners, the Delaware & Hudson Co. closed its case before the coal strike commission yesterday and the commission's attention was then called to the conditions existing in and about the collieries operated by the Erie Co.

One of the principal witnesses was Thomas F. Torrey, general coal sales agent of the Delaware & Hudson Co. at New York, who testified that the company he represented is deriving no benefit from the present abnormal price which the public is paying for its fuel. Among other witnesses were two physicians who gave testimony tending to show that the occupation of a mine worker is not so unhealthy as physicians for the miners have stated; a real estate agent who testified to the amount of property owned by miners of the company, and an employe of the Delaware & Hudson who made an investigation of wages paid to bituminous miners which showed their pay was under that received by the anthracite miners.

Philadelphia, Jan. 15.—Recognition of the union, which the anthracite coal operators maintain is not an issue before the coal strike commission was the principal demand attacked by the Erie Co. yesterday in its contest against the claims of the United Mine Workers.

General Superintendent May, of the Hillside Coal and Iron Co., and the Pennsylvania Coal Co., which are controlled by the Erie, was on the witness stand for a long time and gave testimony tending to show that since the advent of the union into the anthracite regions the workmen were less efficient, that a lack of discipline has resulted, that it interfered with authority and limited the earning capacity of the employes.

Philadelphia, Jan. 17.—More witnesses were called to the witness stand Friday and informed the commissioners that the union miners restricted the product of anthracite coal and otherwise interfered with the discipline of the employes. The Erie Co., which controls the Pennsylvania Coal Co. and the Hillside Coal and Iron Co., closed its case. The Soranton Coal Co., which operates, besides its own, the collieries of the Elk Hill Coal and Iron Co., then took up the attack on the demands of the miners.

**A NEW DEPARTURE.**  
**Government Will Employ Women to Prevent the Importation of Girls for Immoral Purposes.**

Washington, Jan. 15.—The treasury department has information which leads to the conclusion that to a limited extent alien girls and women are being decoyed to this country for immoral purposes. With a view to ascertaining the exact facts the department has decided to appoint a number of women inspectors for employment at the port of New York, whose duty it will be to board all incoming steamers and make investigation into suspicious cases in the first and second cabins and to give useful information and advice to those who may be ignorant of the real character of the houses in which they may have been promised honest employment.

As a preliminary step in this direction the department yesterday made inquiry of the civil service commission as to whether there was at present an eligible list from which these appointments could be made, and if not whether the department could appoint such women inspectors without a competitive examination. The compensation to be allowed will be \$1,200 a year. The duties performed will be of a difficult and frequently of an unpleasant character.

**Would Curb the Injunction Habit.**  
Columbus, O., Jan. 17.—The Ohio miners' convention yesterday adopted a report of the injunction committee, in which they demand of congress enactment of laws classifying the causes which are subject to the jurisdiction of federal judges; approval of injunctions by two elective judges before being issued; time limit to answer at 30 days; right of trial by jury where contempt is charged for alleged violation of injunctions; the presenting of reasonable proof in application for injunction, under penalty of imprisonment for perjury, and demanding that the judge who issues the injunction shall not sit at the trial of the defendant.

**Four Railroaders are Killed.**  
Cumberland, Md., Jan. 17.—The eastbound express train leaving here at 4:20 Friday morning, near the east end of the yard struck two freight engines on the main track, killing Engineer Sims and Fireman Moran and Snearing, of the passenger train, and Engineer Butler, of one of the freight engines. None of the passengers were injured. Investigation of the cause of the accident shows that a messenger boy who was in the telegraph office threw the signal without the knowledge of the operator, giving the passenger train a clear track, when it should have been blocked.

**Murder Caused by Jealousy.**  
Roanoke, Va., Jan. 14.—Details reached here last night of a tragedy near Bramwell, a little town in the coal fields of West Virginia. Mrs. Maggie Riley is alleged to have promised to pay her son Hiram and Arthur Eller a sum of money to kill a woman named Mary Clark. The men, it is charged, went to the Clark woman's home and shot her to death. Eller and young Riley, with Riley's mother, were arrested and placed in jail charged with the murder. It is alleged that jealousy was the cause of the tragedy.

**Fall and Winter Announcement.**

Our stock of Fall and Winter Dry Goods is now complete. We have a nice line of heavy goods for Jacket suits, and also several pieces of heavy goods for rainy-day skirts.

A full line of Ladies Wrappers for fall and winter in calico, percale and flannelette, sizes 32 to 44, from \$1.00 to \$1.85 each.

We have a large stock of white and colored fall wool blankets and the prices are very low for the grade of goods.

Our stock of mercerized satin under skirts is complete. These skirts are made of the best material that can be bought for the price, and are not a back number. They are going rapidly. Do not wait until they are nearly all gone before looking them over. Prices, \$1.00, \$1.35, \$2.00 and \$2.35. These prices are special for this lot.

Have just received a shipment of ladies belts. The latest in black and colors. Prices, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 each. Also a lot of new applique trimming in black and white.

While in our store ask to see the

**Lansdown Waist Patterns.**

Our custom made Clothing is giving the greatest satisfaction, as is attested by the increased business we are doing in this line. We guarantee the fit and can save you from 10 to 25% on your clothing.

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