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EIGHT KILLED

High School Pupils Were the Victims.

Express Train Hits a Trolley Car at a Crossing.

Dozens Were Severely Injured—The Rails Were Very Slippery With Ice and the Motorman Could Not Stop the Trolley Car.

Newark, N. J., Feb. 26.—A fast express on the Lackawanna railroad cut through a trolley car crowded with school children at the Clifton avenue crossing yesterday. Eight of the children were killed and a score or more of them injured. The motorman of the car, who stuck to his post, will die and the engineer was so badly hurt that there is little hope of his recovery.

Both the express and the trolley were on steep grades, going at right angles. The express was signalled and the crossing gates were lowered, while the trolley car was yet half way down the hill. The motorman shut off the power and applied the brakes, but almost immediately the car began to slip along the icy rails. It gained tremendous momentum and at the bottom of the hill crashed through the gates, directly in the track of the oncoming train. The locomotive plowed its way through the trolley, throwing the children in every direction. The dead are:

Viola Hill, 17 years.
Maude Baker, 16 years.
Ernestine P. Mueller.

Mabel E. Karschner, 17 years, Tiffin, O.

Alma Loehberg, 16 years, Rosebud, N. D.

Ella Werpup, 19 years.

Evan L. Eastwood, 16 years.

The accident happened within three blocks of the high school building and in the car at the time were nearly 100 pupils. Thirty others managed to throw themselves from the car before the crash came. The trolley was one of the specials which every day bring the children to school. It had more than its ordinary load, owing to the cold. It contained every child that could squeeze inside and others stood on the rear platform. Because this car had been so crowded, many who were waiting for it before the hill was reached could not get on, although some climbed on the front platform with the motorman.

A score or more children were compelled to walk and they followed the car afoot. They say that when the car was still less than half way down the hill the railroad gates began to drop. Peter Brady, the motorman, promptly shut off the power and applied the brakes. The speed of the car was checked, but it continued to move slowly down the incline. There was no thought of danger. Then it began to move faster and faster. The ice-covered rails afforded no hold for the wheels and although Brady jammed his brake harder and then swung on the reverse, the momentum of the car grew at every yard and the car shot down toward the railroad.

When it was right at the gates the express thundered into view. Warned by the cries of those afoot and by their own sense of danger, those on the platform began to throw themselves off into the snow and as the car sped along the few remaining feet toward the rails, perhaps one-third escaped death or injury in this way, but there was no time for those within the car to do more than crush toward the rear door. The gates were swept aside like toothpicks and before the cracking of the gates died out came the crash. For 30 seconds before the air was filled with frantic cries of those who saw death dashing down upon them.

The wreck of the trolley car was complete. The pilot of the engine struck it almost amidships and turned it partly around, and then the engine cut it in two. The upper part of the trolley was reduced to fragments under the drivers of the locomotive. Half of the car was thrown to one side and lay on the tracks. The other section was hurled some distance away. In every direction lay the injured and dead. The engine was brought to a standstill and from the train and from nearby houses men rushed to the rescue. The spectacle was appalling and many who started to work had to give up unnerved.

Killed by Savages.
Victoria, B. C., Feb. 26.—Mail advices received by the steamer Aorangi from Australia state that F. F. Winters, administrator of New Guinea, has advised the Australian government that James Jossick and James Brackenbury, the latter formerly a California miner, had been killed by Kwarmann tribesmen. Both were killed with clubs. Walker and Mulholland, two other miners, were attacked at the same time, but Walker held off the blacks with his revolver and recovered the bodies of the two dead miners. Settlers in the Hebrides write to Sydney papers that slavery is being practiced by French recruiters there.

They Will Not Strike.
Chicago, Feb. 26.—There will be no strike of the employees of the Chicago City Railway Co. At a meeting of the men held last night it was decided to accept the offer of the company to submit the differences between the company and the union to arbitration. National Organizer Pratt of the Amalgamated Association of Street Car Men, was present at the meeting and urged the men not to strike, saying that if they did so they would forfeit all the assistance of the national body. His advice was taken.

DEMAND MORE PAY.

Wabash Trainmen Likely to Strike If Their Requests Shall be Refused.

St. Louis, Feb. 19.—As a result of the inability of President Ramsey and the committee of the Wabash trainmen and conductors to come to terms, a poll has been ordered by the officers of the orders on the original demand for an increase of 15 per cent. to all freight conductors and trainmen and 12 per cent. to the passenger conductors and trainmen.

At a conference between President Ramsey and the committees, the committees offered a compromise on the original demand, to the effect that the increase asked should apply to trainmen and conductors employed on Wabash lines west of a line drawn from Chicago to Danville, excluding 600 miles of the system. This proposition was refused by President Ramsey on the ground that the Wabash lines in Illinois are not and should not be included in the western divisions of the road and that the same wages should apply to them as to the eastern lines.

It is stated that unless there shall be an adjustment of the matter a strike will be ordered, as it is believed the trainmen and conductors will endorse the original demand.

HITS THE BEEF TRUST.

Judge Grosscup Declares that the Combine Seeks to Restrain Trade.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—The demurrer of the packers in the so-called "beef trust" case, was overruled by Judge Grosscup in the United States circuit court yesterday, and a motion granted for a temporary injunction.

There can be no doubt, said Judge Grosscup, that the agreement of the defendants to refrain from bidding against each other in the purchase of cattle is a combination in restraint of trade; so also their agreement to bid up prices to stimulate shipments, intending to cease from bidding when the shipments have arrived. The same result follows when we turn to the combination of defendants to fix prices upon, and restrict the quantities of meat shipped to their agents or their customers. Such agreements can be nothing less than restriction upon competition, and therefore combination in restraint of trade; and thus viewed, the petition, as an entirety, makes out a case under the Sherman act.

The packers did not announce what their next step would be. They have 20 days within which to make up their minds.

TORTURE AND MURDER.

Methods Employed by the Insurance Fraud Schemers to Secure Money.

New York, Feb. 19.—Assistant District Attorney Krotel said yesterday that the insurance fraud case now under investigation in this city promised to develop into one of the most startling ever known in the criminal history of the city.

"Before the district attorney's office has finished its investigation of the astounding New York insurance frauds," he said, "I would not be surprised if it were proved that the conspirators even went so far as to murder in cold blood to get bodies for the purpose of collecting policies. We have found that 23 substitute bodies were passed off on the Hancock Insurance Co. alone, and as soon as the plotters are indicted these will be exposed. The investigation into the remarkable plot has hardly begun."

The fate of Sarah Weber, who, it is alleged, died from the effects of brutal treatment she received at the hands of the conspirators, Mr. Krotel said was but a single instance.

According to stories told by her relatives Sarah Weber was tortured in order to compel her to aid in the insurance frauds.

A THREAT TO STRIKE.

It Is Made by Street Railway Employees in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, Feb. 19.—A committee of the members of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees yesterday met General Superintendent Murphy, of the Pittsburgh Railways Co., and presented to him a list of grievances and demands which they wanted agreed to within 48 hours or a strike would follow. Mr. Murphy told the committee that the demands would not be agreed to and the committee will report to a meeting of the association to-night, when the question of strike or no strike will be decided.

The principal demands of the men are for a uniform increase of wages to 25 cents an hour and recognition of the union by the signing of a contract between the company and the officers of the organization. The disaffected employees are on the lines which were formerly controlled by the Consolidated Traction Co. The employees on the Second avenue lines and the Allegheny lines formerly controlled by the United Traction Co. are not organized and it is understood will not go out if a strike is called.

The Rudloff Heirs Win.

Caracas, Feb. 19.—The supreme court yesterday rendered its decision in the suit brought by the heirs of Henry Rudloff, an American citizen, against the Venezuelan government for damages for the annulment of a concession given in 1892 to build a market in Caracas. Judgment was given in favor of Rudloff's heirs. Their claim for \$700,000, to be paid by the Venezuelan government, was admitted.

Shrapnel Impressed the Moros.

Manila, Feb. 19.—While Capt. Pershing was at Bayan, the Moro stronghold in the Lanao district of the island of Mindanao, the Moros consecrated him a datto, which is a priestly office. After the consecration the Moro leaders and Pershing subscribed to peace over a copy of the Koran. When the United States flag was raised over the Bayan forts Pershing's batteries saluted it by firing shrapnel shells, having no saluting cartridges. The execution done by the shrapnel impressed the Moros wonderfully.

A HOTEL FIRE.

Nine People Roasted to Death at Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Guests Became Panic-Stricken and Jumped from Windows.

Forty of Them Were Injured, Some Fatally, by Doing So—Building Was a Fire Trap and Burned Like Tinder.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., Feb. 21.—Fire early Friday morning destroyed the Clifton hotel, cremated nine of the guests and caused injuries to 42 persons, who were scorched or forced to jump to the frozen street from second and third story windows. After an all-day search in the debris, four bodies have been recovered. It is now believed that five more bodies remain in the ruins of the hotel, which is said to have been a flimsy structure and filled with delegates to the state Young Men's Christian association convention and the district convention of the Knights of Pythias.

The hotel register was destroyed, thus making it difficult to ascertain the number of missing persons. The loss is \$60,000. The dead: W. A. Mowery, What Cheer, Ia. E. C. Young, Minneapolis. Two unidentified men, bodies recovered.

Five bodies still in debris.

The flames started in a pile of rubbish in the basement, presumably ignited by defective electric light wires. The night clerk was on the third floor when the cry of fire, raised by a bell boy, startled him. He took up the cry and in an instant the hallways were choked with frightened guests. A rush was made for the stairways.

It was then that the crowd already collected in the street heard heart-rending cries of anguish, for the fire, feeding ravenously on the tinder-like material of the lower floor, had completely cut off escape. There followed a stampede for the windows, the only means of exit left. The street below was filled with a crowd scarcely less frantic than the despairing ones in the fast burning building. "It was like a Dore picture of the Inferno sprung to life," said one spectator in describing the scene. The flames, looking blood red, from reflection against the snow, lit up the pale, drawn faces of the people in the windows with a glow that was unearthly.

The victims were literally driven by the flames to jump. Nearly every one of them lingered to the last moment, urged by the people below to wait as long as possible in the hope of assistance. Then a cry would tell that the fire had reached some one, or the smoke had made it impossible to breathe, and one after another jumped to the street and some, more fortunate, to the roofs of buildings adjoining. In a short space of time the street was filled with men and women bruised, battered, broken-limbed and half-crazed.

VENEZUELAN AFFAIRS.

Allies Delay Return of Captured Ships—Two Victories for Castro.

Caracas, Feb. 21.—The papers here publish a protest directed to Venezuela, the United States and European nations as follows:

"In order that the public may know how Germany, Great Britain and Italy execute their engagements, we call attention to the grave fact that up to February 20 the ships taken by the three powers have not been delivered to the government of Venezuela as stipulated in the protocols."

The German commodore has notified the authorities at Puerto Cabello that the Venezuelan gunboat Restaurador, which was captured by the Germans, will be returned to Venezuela on February 23, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and not before.

A revolutionary army estimated at 2,800 men has reached a point about 20 miles south of Caracas.

The revolution organized by Gen. Matos, during the course of the blockade of the Venezuelan coast by the allied warships was reorganized and three armies formed. One, under command of Antonio Fernandez, numbering 1,800 men, was routed near Calabozo, in the province of Miranda, several days ago and its chief is now fleeing in the direction of the river Apure. The second army, led by Gens. Mantilla, and Solano, 1,200 strong, was defeated last Wednesday near Urachiche.

The third army, commanded by Gens. Rolando, Penaloza and Vidal, which was expected to meet the first two armies, arrived Thursday at a point about ten miles from Petare, which is situated ten miles southeast of Caracas, after having lost 800 men from desertion en route. The strength of this third army is estimated at 2,800 men. It has taken up a strong position and the troops sent against it by the government are also strongly placed.

Paris, Feb. 21.—The correspondent of the Matin at Caracas telegraphs that the battle near Urachiche in which the revolutionary generals Mantilla and Solano were defeated lasted three hours. There were many killed and wounded and the government troops captured one gun, many rifles and much ammunition.

Money Sharks Get Busy.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 21.—It is reported here that the money sharks of Chicago, who loan money to employes and take as security an assignment of their undue salaries, have raised a fund to defeat legislation looking to the prohibition of the assignment of salaries. The senate has had the matter under consideration and the judiciary committee reported an amendment to one bill which, it is claimed, affords no protection whatever to employes, who will still be liable to suits by money sharks on assignments of salaries.

BAD WEATHER.

It Has Hindered Traffic—Dan's View of Trade.

New York, Feb. 21.—R. G. Dan & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Just as the railway congestion began to give way before the vigorous efforts of traffic managers, the situation became further complicated by the worst snow storm of the season and the movement of merchandise was again interrupted. Latest figures of gross earnings show the usual gains. February thus far surpassing by 17.5 per cent. last year. Increased cost of operation, however, necessitated further advances in rates. Trade was interrupted to a considerable extent by the inclement weather, except in certain seasonable lines, notably heavy wearing apparel.

Wholesale houses dealing in staples have received liberal orders and much forward business has been placed. Jobbers urge quicker shipments on old orders, while travelers send in many new contracts. Manufacturers of paper, straw goods and clothing report conditions fully as satisfactory as a year ago. Conditions in the silk industry are shown by enormous imports of raw material, and one large maker has recently rejected orders sufficient to occupy his plant for two years.

Bids are invited for extensive building operations, giving strength and activity to materials and supplies. Although many new blast furnaces are nearing completion and others will be finished within six months, the actual output of pig iron decreases because fuel cannot be secured. Last week's moderate improvement in the situation has been succeeded by a decided setback, many more furnaces being compelled to bank through lack of fuel.

Failures this week numbered 247 in the United States, against 250 a year ago, and 26 in Canada, as compared with 31 last year.

BIGGEST OF ALL SHIPS.

The Steamer Cedric Completes Her First Voyage Across the Atlantic.

New York, Feb. 21.—The steamer Cedric, the largest vessel in the world, arrived here Friday from Liverpool and Queenstown after her maiden trans-Atlantic voyage. The passage from Daunt's Rock to this port was made in eight days, eight hours and 16 minutes. She brought 742 passengers, of which number 430 were steerage. The external dimensions of the Cedric are identical with those of her sister ship, the Celtic, of the same line, but by reason of structural differences, has increased passenger accommodations.

The Cedric is 700 feet in extreme length, 65 feet in breadth and 49 1/3 feet deep, with a gross tonnage of 21,034 tons, dead weight about 18,000 tons and a displacement of 38,000. The vessel is designed to attain a speed of 17 knots at sea. The Cedric has four masts and two funnels, the height of the latter being 131 feet above the keel. Accommodations for 350 first class, 200 second class and 250 steerage passengers are provided.

JEST CAUSED TRAGEDY.

Man Kills His Sweetheart and Shoots Her Brother and Himself.

New Decatur, Ala., Feb. 21.—A report comes from the mountain district of Winston county of a terrible tragedy, as the result of which Maggie Schaff, aged 18, is dead; her brother, John Schaff, is seriously wounded, and her lover, William Jones, fatally wounded. The brother has been living at Shelbyville, Ind. He returned without the knowledge of Jones, whom he had never met. He was in conversation with his sister when Jones tauntingly asked her lover "How do you like my new sweetheart?"

Jones immediately shot the young woman through the heart, causing instant death, and he then fired at her brother, the ball penetrating the breast. The brother made his relationship to the young lady known, and Jones turned his revolver against his own breast and fired. The bullet took effect near the heart.

Ovations for Three.

New Orleans, Feb. 21.—Admiral Schley, Col. McClure and Joseph Wheeler were given an ovation by the people of New Orleans Friday afternoon. They came at the invitation of the Progressive union. Admiral Schley made a patriotic speech. Col. McClure delivered an address in which he emphasized the good feeling that had grown up in the country between the sections which had once fought so valiantly. He referred to Admiral Schley, saying he was big enough at the battle of Santiago to say that there was honor enough for all. Gen. Wheeler was compelled to respond to the loud calls and made a happy speech.

The Pope's Silver Jubilee.

Rome, Feb. 21.—The twenty-fifth anniversary of the election of Pope Leo XIII. to the head of the Roman Catholic church was celebrated Friday in the Vatican hall of the Beattification. Admission was only by ticket and about 4,000 persons were present. The ceremony consisted in the pope receiving delegations of pilgrims from all parts of the world. This was followed by the presentation of gifts to his holiness, chief of which was a magnificent triple crown, the offering of Roman Catholics throughout the world.

A Smallpox Epidemic.

Erie, Pa., Feb. 21.—The state normal school and the public schools of Edinboro have been closed owing to a severe outbreak of smallpox among the pupils of the former institution. The matter of the epidemic has been kept very quiet and it was not until a committee of citizens who were aware of the existing conditions appealed to Erie for aid that the matter became public. Within an hour after it became known in the normal school that seven scholars were down with smallpox, 400 students had packed their trunks and left town.

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 all 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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