

EXPLOSION IN TUNNEL

Six Killed and Many Injured in New York Rapid Transit Subway.

SEVERAL BUILDINGS WRECKED

Dynamite Stored at Park Avenue Shaft of Tunnel Exploded, Wrecking Two Hotels, a Hospital and Tore Great Hole in the Street.

New York, Jan. 28.—The reserve supply of high explosives stored at the Park avenue shaft of the Rapid Transit tunnel, now in the course of construction, blew up shortly after noon yesterday. The giant blast killed six persons, injured a hundred others and seriously damaged all the property reached by the flying debris and the vibration of the shock.

Those killed were:

CYRUS ADAMS, at the Murray Hill Hotel.

JAMES CARR, 32 years old, a waiter employed at the Murray Hill Hotel.

LAWRENCE HINE, 20 years old, of Ansonia, Conn.

J. RODERICK ROBERTSON, of Nelson, B. C., a guest at the Murray Hill Hotel.

RALPH H. THOMPSON, assistant engineer.

THOMAS TUBBS, master mechanic for Contractor Ira A. Shaler.

The irregular square formed by the Murray Hill Hotel on the west, the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital and the Grand Union Hotel on the east, and the Grand Central Railroad station on the north, was the scene of the explosion. The buildings named sustained the greatest damage, but the area affected extended for several blocks in the four directions from the centre.

J. Roderick Robertson, of Nelson, B. C., was killed by the debris, hurled with the force of artillery into his room at the Murray Hill Hotel. He was general manager in Canada for the British Columbia Gold Fields Company, Limited.

The sunken approach to the street railway tunnel used by the Madison avenue line cuts through Park avenue, and the shaft for the Rapid Transit Subway was run down beside it at the intersection of East Forty-first street.

The street railway approach was housed over with a superstructure used for the operating plant of the Rapid Transit contractors. Temporary buildings for storage purposes were thrown up against the superstructure at the mouth of the shaft, and there the explosion occurred. It tore a great gorge in the street, demolished the temporary buildings and part of the superstructure, and sent a mass of earth, splintered timber and twisted iron high in the air. Much of it went battering against the front of the Murray Hill Hotel, and although the walls and main structure of that building stood the shock, nearly every room in the front of the house was wrecked.

The Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, on the east side of the avenue, fared nearly as bad and had to be abandoned by the management. The Grand Union Hotel lost all of its windows and glass partitions, and practically every front window in the Grand Central Station was shattered. Thousands of windows, some of them seven blocks from the tunnel shaft, fell in fragments. It was the shower of broken glass and falling debris that injured the greatest number. Torrents of water from broken mains poured into the tunnel shaft while the wreckage was being cleared from the street railway subway, and it was feared that the street might cave in.

The cause of the explosion and the quantity of explosive that blew up are not definitely known. Several causes have been advanced. One was that a fire started near the powder room and that Master Mechanic William Tubbs lost his life in a desperate attempt to quench it before it reached the deadly fuel. Another was that it started from a spark produced by a stray current of electricity. A third placed the blame upon a blast in the tunnel. It will probably take an official investigation to reveal the true cause of the catastrophe.

District Attorney Jerome visited the scene and made an investigation to guide him in the official inquiry and possible criminal prosecution that will follow. Ira A. Shaler, the engineer in charge of the work at Park avenue; John Bracken, a foreman, and Martin McGrath, an assistant foreman, were placed under arrest, charged with homicide.

The damage may exceed \$1,000,000. The first estimate on the Murray Hill Hotel placed the loss at \$100,000, but later the hotel was abandoned as unsafe. Late last night investigation of the damage done to the Murray Hill Hotel was complete, and it showed a remarkable condition of affairs. Two-thirds of the big hostelry cannot be used until repairs have been made, and the northeast corner is closed entirely. Proprietor Jacques places the loss in glass alone at \$15,000. Every window in the hotel was shattered and the window frames torn from their fastenings and blown into the rooms.

Fortunately the explosion occurred at the noon hour. Not more than 100 persons were in the main waiting room of the Grand Central station, though in the smoking room at the southwest corner a number of men were lounging. Some of these were slightly injured by bits of glass. Four ticket sellers were injured. They stood in the pathway of this blast and were all cut about the heads and arms with the flying shivers.

DOCTOR SHOOTS WIFE

Lancaster Man Attempts Murder and Then Commits Suicide.

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Dr. Harry J. Ziegler, of 316 West King street, Lancaster, Pa., fatally wounded his wife, Anna, and then killed himself yesterday afternoon at the Wellington Hotel. A note left by the physician declared that he and his wife had decided to die, and that, as he lacked the nerve, Mrs. Ziegler had promised to commit the act. The woman, before being removed to the Samaritan Hospital in a dying condition, declared that the shooting was done by her husband.

The physician and his wife arrived at the Wellington Hotel yesterday morning and were assigned to a room. The two were young and apparently happy. They retired to their room and about 3 o'clock a call came to the clerk's office. When the bell boy arrived at the room he found the woman tugging at the door. Blood was flowing from a wound in the back of her head. "Oh, my husband has shot himself," she cried, forgetting in her fear for him the pain of her own wound.

The bell boy took her out into the hallway, saying that her husband might kill her, and she let him lead her away from the room. Then he hastened to the office of Dr. B. L. Riese, the house physician. When the latter arrived the husband was dead and the wife was barely conscious. A note addressed to a morning newspaper was found in the room. It read: "My photograph belongs to your paper. We decided to die, but I lack the nerve to shoot, so my wife, Anna, will do it. Send my body home to 316 West King street, Lancaster. Good bye."

BIG RAILWAY COMBINE

New Company Being Formed to Take Over All Lines in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Jan. 28.—The directors of the Union Traction company, which controls all the street car lines in this city, at a special meeting held in the offices of P. A. B. Widener, yesterday afternoon, granted the request of John M. Mack for a conference between the Union Traction company and the Mack-Foerderer company, which owns all the street car franchises granted last summer by city councils. Immediately after the meeting Mr. Mack left for New York.

It is proposed to form a new company, to be called the Consolidated Traction company, which will be capitalized at \$30,000,000. The promoters of this company made a proposal to the Union Traction company to lease all its lines on a sliding scale rental, in which the dividends increase each year until the fifth year, when a 6 per cent. basis is reached. After that period the Consolidated Traction company guarantees a fixed rental of 6 per cent. to the Union Traction stockholders. To the Mack-Foerderer-Wolf syndicate the proposal is made to take over all their franchises which were recently granted and which cover in perpetuity all the important street railway concessions. The new company will therefore have a monopoly of all the local transportation, surface, underground and elevated, which Philadelphia has and will ever require. The deal involves financial interests worth fully \$150,000,000.

MINE WORKERS ADOPT SCALE

Committee's Recommendation Agreed Upon Behind Closed Doors.

Indianapolis, Jan. 29.—The United Mine Workers closed their doors yesterday afternoon against newspaper men and discussed the report of their scale committee in secret session. The scale as agreed upon by the committee was adopted.

The scale recommended was for the general advance for bituminous mining of 10 per cent. on a "run of mine" basis, the differential of 7 cents—the old figure—between pick and machine mining; 15 cents a day increase for inside drivers and a uniform scale for all outside labor.

The report of the committee on legislation providing for a general increase of salaries of general officers was adopted. The salary list will be as follows: President, \$1,800; vice president, \$1,400; national secretary-treasurer, \$1,400; editor of the United Mine Workers' Journal, \$1,200; members of the national executive board, \$3.50 per diem.

Troops Coming Home.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The war department has been informed that the troops which are to return home from the Philippines will sail from Manila as follows: Twenty-second Infantry, February 1; Twentieth Infantry, February 16; Headquarters and First and Second Battalions of the Seventeenth Infantry, February 28. The Third Battalion of the Seventeenth Infantry will sail from Manila after the arrival there of the Second Battalion of the Twenty-seventh Infantry, between March 1 and 10.

Train Robbers Secured \$13.

Charleston, S. C., Jan. 29.—According to the latest advices from Branchville developments concerning the Southern Railway express robbery, so far as made public, are not important. It is known that after securing the express safe the robbers conveyed it to a point on the Edisto river, six miles away. Falling to open it, they threw the safe into the river, where it was found yesterday morning. The amount of plunder secured is said to be about \$13.

Last Year's Output of Pig Iron.

Philadelphia, Jan. 29.—The American Iron and Steel Association has received from the manufacturers complete statistics of the production of all kinds of pig iron in the United States in 1901. The total production of pig iron was 15,878,254 gross tons, compared with 13,789,242 tons in 1900.

DEBATE ON TARIFF BILL

Senators Spooner and Tillman Indulge in Fierce Argument.

THE CHAIR RAPPED FOR ORDER

Tillman Apologized and Said He Was Taunted into Anger—The Negro Question Was Brought Up, and Led to Argument.

Washington, Jan. 29.—One of the fiercest debates of the session occurred in the senate yesterday afternoon between Mr. Spooner (Rep.), of Wisconsin, and Mr. Tillman (Dem.), of South Carolina, during the consideration of the Philippine tariff bill. The interchange of words became so heated that the chair rapped for order. Mr. Tillman apologized to the chair for not first securing recognition before he spoke, but explained that he had been taunted into anger.

Prior to the outbreak on the Philippine question the senate concluded the consideration of the bill establishing a department of commerce and passed it. The name of the new department was changed to that of the department of commerce and labor.

During Mr. Spooner's speech on the Philippine bill Mr. Tillman interrupted him to inquire: "Will the senator allow me to ask him if the Platt amendment had been defeated by debate until the end of the session, would that side have had courage to have gone forward in its philanthropy, humanity, Christianity and liberty and all that kind of thing, and to have called an extra session?"

Mr. Spooner—"We have courage enough on this side to do anything on earth."

Mr. Tillman—"Except to defend the negro."

Mr. Spooner—"We have not courage enough to lynch colored men or deprive them of their rights."

Mr. Tillman—"Does the senator desire to discuss the race question here? He seems to have left the Philippine question to throw a personal fling at me. I am ready to meet him anywhere on the race question."

Mr. Spooner—"Whenever the senator is willing to meet me on that question or any other, he will find me there so far as that is concerned. The senator addressed to me an observation rather offensive in its character."

Mr. Tillman—"It certainly had no allusion to lynching."

Mr. Spooner—"No."

Mr. Tillman—"And the senator understands very well that I come from a section of country where lynchings for a given crime and for a good many other crimes are very prevalent. Now, does the senator wish to leave the Philippine proposition, in which he is dealing with a colored people in a most infamous and damnable and hypocritical way and go south and hold them up as examples that we are dealing with in a similar way; I mean the colored people here at home. Are we to have two rules of conduct in regard to the colored people, one in the Philippines, by which we butcher, and shoot Christianity into them, and another in the south, where we are not allowed to protect our wives and children?"

Mr. Spooner—"If we had the same rule for the colored people in the Philippines as the senator refers to in the south, God help the colored man in the Philippines."

Mr. Tillman—"God help him. In the Philippines now you have already butchered in three years three times as many as the Spaniards did in three centuries."

Mr. Spooner—"It is one thing to kill men with arms in their hands against a government and against the flag. It is another thing to burn them, Mr. Tillman."

Mr. Tillman—"You burned them in Kansas, sir."

Mr. Spooner—"Wherever it is done, it is an outrageous crime."

Mr. Tillman—"Oh, it is a very easy thing for a man who has not come in contact with them in close quarters to arise and say what other people ought to do."

Mr. Tillman was admonished by the president pro tem. that he must not interrupt a senator without first obtaining leave, to which he replied that he was "taunted in a way that no white man from South Carolina can submit to."

Hurled Fifty Feet By Train.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Jan. 29.—Father Aust, pastor of the Polish Catholic church at Hazleton, was probably fatally injured last night. He, with two other men, was riding in a carriage, and at the Pine street crossing, Hazleton, the rig was struck by a Lehigh Valley railroad train, smashing it to splinters. Father Aust was hurled about 50 feet, and was taken to the Hazleton Hospital in a critical condition. One of the other two men was also badly hurt.

Yukon Embezzler Commits Suicide.

Dawson, Jan. 29.—Thomas Middleton, a native of Leeds, England, chief accountant for the Yukon territory, has committed suicide rather than suffer arrest for embezzlement. His books were examined, and a shortage approximating \$10,000 was discovered. When confronted with proof of his defalcation he went into another room and cut his throat from ear to ear.

Two Hundred Soldiers Frozen to Death.

London, Jan. 29.—The Tokio correspondent of The Daily Express cables that over 200 soldiers have been frozen to death in Northern Japan.

Eleven Men Drowned.

Dover, England, Jan. 29.—The trawler Heron sank during a gale off here yesterday. Eleven persons were drowned, and but one man was saved.

SHORT TALKS

Brief Comment On Political and Other Matters of Public Interest.

ANDREW J. PALM.

If Attorney General Knox was not guilty of the offenses with which he was charged by the Anti-Trust League he should do something to disprove them. He was a trust attorney when appointed, and there isn't much doubt that he is a trust attorney general. It is safe to say that he will not put a straw in the way of the gigantic combinations which he is sworn to prosecute under the law. The supreme court has explained what a trust is, and the Sherman anti-trust law lays down the penalty. What is Mr. Knox waiting for?

What is the Monroe Doctrine, anyway, as taught by the Republican press and so-called Republican statesmen? In the light of recent experience and the spread-eagle oratory of the jingo members of congress it must mean that no foreign nation shall attempt to colonize or control any island or country on this side of the Atlantic, but that we may go wherever and whenever we please and buy or capture whatever we choose and make it ours to govern or to loot as we may decide. This is the only possible meaning that the Monroe Doctrine can have as taught by the Imperialists of the United States.

It seems rather inconsistent for President Roosevelt to praise Postmaster General Smith so highly on leaving his cabinet. Not that Mr. Smith does not well deserve all the good things the president says of him, but that the man selected to take his place is almost everything in politics that Mr. Smith is not; and if Mr. Smith is Roosevelt's kind of a man the query is why didn't he select some one with at least some of his good qualities to succeed him. Roosevelt with all his boasted courage in fighting mountain cats is pandering to the boss element as completely as did his predecessor, whose backbone, as Roosevelt once said, was like unto a wet bath towel.

Senator Hoar wants to banish anarchists to some island and let them there work out their own theory of doing without government. Since the government refuses to allow the Filipinos their inalienable right to have their own way on their own island it will not be likely to look with favor on Senator Hoar's project. Our government's perfidy in dealing with the Filipinos does its full share toward making anarchists out of men who believe in the principles of liberty and justice. When government uses its force to oppress instead of protect, to destroy instead of uphold the rights of human beings it doesn't create a very deep respect for its purposes.

Is. W. Durham, the insurance commissioner, who leaves his work entirely to subordinates, while his official duties are confined to drawing the salary, is now a bigger boss than the Old Man. What he says goes, and since he has declared that Elkin is to be the next machine candidate for governor that settles the matter. It must be rather discouraging for men who imagine that they live under a republican form of government to have all their candidates picked out a few years ahead, but the Republicans of boss-ridden Pennsylvania have become so accustomed to having all their candidates slated by a few self constituted bosses that they submit without a whine, except those who are willing to be called "insurgents" for asserting their right to think for themselves.

Roosevelt seems to think he can atone for his brutal criticism of General Miles and its implied hostility to Schley by calling Schley to his room and giving him some taffy in private. His attack on Miles was made as public as possible, and his animus against Schley was also shown publicly. Now, if he knows any good reason for upholding Schley, let him come out like a man and tell the public what it is. If Schley will quietly submit to all the lies that have been told on him, and now turn in to help save the naval ring from the public indignation which it so well deserves, simply because Roosevelt would like to have it that way, he will disappoint his best friends and please his worst enemies. Men whose good opinions are worth having do not like a toady, and Schley can well afford to stand like a man for his rights, even before President Roosevelt.

The Iron Age, a paper that cannot be accused of being Democratic, asserts that some of the protected manufacturers are selling goods in the Hawaiian Islands so much cheaper than at home that some of the articles sold at the export prices have been sent back to the United States and sold again after paying the duty and freight at less than the manufacturers charge their fellow-countrymen. This but confirms the many similar stories of like transactions. Protecting infant industries like the Steel Trust with its billion and a quarter capital, is so outrageous that no sensible man can think of it without a feeling of disgust and pity for the poor dupes who are willing to pay this trust millions every year under the name of protection. If the great body of American people who have been used for generations and are still being used as the stupid tools of the protected few, would come to their senses for a single month the protection humbug would be wiped out forever, root and branch.

FLORIDA.

Two Weeks' Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The first Pennsylvania Railroad tour of the season to Jacksonville, following two weeks in Florida, will leave New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington by special train on February 4. Excursion tickets, including railway transportation, Pullman accommodations (one berth), and meals en route in both directions while traveling on the special train, will be sold at the following rates: New York, \$50.00; Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore, and Washington, \$48.00; Pittsburgh, \$53.00; and at proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and other information apply to ticket agents, or to Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

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- "A COLOR FORM," illustrating the studios and models of the Metropolis. (This is the most unique feature ever introduced in modern magazine-making.)
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- "TALES FROM HEADQUARTERS," by WALTER BEVERLY CRANE, the famous writer who has recently achieved such great success.
- "PRETTY WOMEN IN FINE FURS," illustrating the latest Fifth Avenue styles. No woman who wishes to move with the smart set should miss this article.

The above are only a few of the many Unique Features in the February Number.

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