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DR. A. A. LINDABURY. Gynecologist—Surgery, Diseases of Women. Office Hours: Station, 9 to 10 a. m. 10 to 12 p. m.

CHAS McMULLEN & CO. Represented a General Insurance Office in 71 Traders' National Bank Bldg.

LACKAWANNA "THE LAUNDRY" 368 Penn Avenue. A. B. WARTMAN.

PERSONALS. Mrs. Samuel Woolner, jr., of Peoria, Ill., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Moore, of Mulberry street.

NOMINATIONS SET ASIDE. Evidence indicated that the same were illegally made. An order was handed down Saturday by Judge Archibald directing that the certificates of nomination filed in the First district of the Sixth ward for the offices of judge and inspector of election be set aside.

TWO NEW PLAYERS. Recently Secured by Manager Swift for the League. Manager Martin Swift, of the Scranton Atlantic league team, has secured two new players for his club, John Lippert and John O'Connell, both of whom played last season in the western association.

DIED ON HIS OWN DOORSTEP. Thomas P. Evans, of Forest City, Overcome by the Cold. Thomas P. Evans, of Forest City, was found dead on the doorstep of his residence Saturday morning.

Smoke The Popular Punch Cigar, 10c. The Wilkes-Barre Record can be had in Scranton at the news stands of Reisman Bros., 404 Spruce and 603 London streets; Mac, Lackawanna avenue.

A Card. We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to refund the money on a 50-cent bottle of Greene's Warranted Syrup of Tar if it fails to cure your cough or cold. We also guarantee a 25-cent bottle to prove satisfactory if money refunded. J. G. Bone & Son, Distributors, 74; John P. Donahue, Scranton, Pa.

THAT SATURDAY MORNING FIRE

TWO OLD LANDMARKS AMONG BUILDINGS DESTROYED. Report that the Fire Was of Incendiary Origin Does Not Seem to Be Well Founded—Insurance Carried by Those Who Were Injured by the Flames—Sidney Jones, of Bromley Avenue, Injured by Falling into a Cellar—Kindness of Clarke Brothers.

The report of Saturday morning's fire on West Lackawanna avenue is still half a century old. The details of the conflagration which rendered so many families homeless and caused such a loss of property to the owners. The report published in several papers that the fire was of incendiary origin could not be verified. County Detective Letcher, when seen by a representative of The Tribune, denied the statement that he had served any notice the day before on the occupant of the building where the fire originated, but said he had notified him about a week previous that action would be taken if the place was not closed up.

There was no one in the barroom when the fire broke out, and the fact that most every family in the city kept warm fires during the cold nights of last week only strengthens the theory that the flames originated from the overheated stove.

The report that Mrs. Jones had been driven away in a cab from the scene of the fire is true but she did not leave until half an hour after the fire was discovered. When she left her late home was entirely destroyed.

The majority of the occupants of the buildings on West Lackawanna avenue that were destroyed, escaped without any of their wearing apparel, save what was hurriedly gathered together in their flight from the flame-enveloped buildings.

At 7 o'clock on Saturday morning an additional alarm was sounded to call out relief men, who worked on the ruins until nearly noon time.

THE INSURANCE. Edward Ferr—On property at 152 West Lackawanna avenue, North-western, \$1,000; Prussian, \$500. On property at 164 West Lackawanna avenue, none. On property in rear of above numbers, none.

George Wrench—On property at 1022 West Lackawanna avenue, Delaware, \$1,000; Prussian, \$1,000. On property at 1022 and 1022 West Lackawanna avenue, Erie, \$1,000; Prussian, \$1,000.

Pritchard Bros.—On property at 1022 West Lackawanna avenue, North-western, \$1,000. On property at 1018 Brown court, Prussian, \$200. A. Barrowman—On property at 1018 West Lackawanna avenue, \$1,000.

Two of the oldest landmarks on the West Side were destroyed when the building occupied by Mrs. Jones and the building occupied by Dr. Douglas succumbed to the flames. The former was at one time a popular hotel, and the latter was best known as Dick's bakery, years ago.

Sidney Jones, of 294 North Bromley avenue, fell into one of the cellars among the ruins and sustained slight injuries. The firemen employed in repairing the damaged telephone wires were kept busy all day yesterday getting the cases in shape for use.

The building in the rear of 1024 and 1022 West Lackawanna avenue, better known as Farr's rink, was formerly used by St. Paul's Pioneer corps as an armory, and it was at one time devoted to roller skating.

The politeness of the Clarke Bros. was evidenced during the early morning hours. Their home was thrown open for the accommodation of the firemen and newspaper men at work during the progress of the fire, and hot coffee and palatable lunches served. They also provided the firemen with rubber boots and gloves, and also assisted in comforting the homeless families during the night.

COUNCILMEN AT WORK. Councilmen Simon Thomas and Joseph Oliver, who are active firemen, did their share of work to subdue the flames. Lieutenant Thomas Williams, Patrolmen Evans, Matthews, Jones, Thomas and other officers materially assisted in the work of the firemen.

Chief Hickey is to be congratulated upon his excellent judgment in directing the work of the firemen. The Tribune was in error in stating that W. S. Hughes & Sons' safety lamp factory was destroyed. At the time the report was written it was in the danger that apparently nothing would be saved, but the heroic work of the firemen stationed in Brown place was all that prevented its destruction.

The statement that Martin L. Payne suffered loss was also erroneous. The only damage sustained was by water. The building was threatened several times, and was only saved by a continuous stream being kept on the building.

BREWERS ARE VERY ANGRY Say Unpleasant Things About the Tax Beer.

The bill provides that upon each gallon of beer, ale or porter brewed in this commonwealth during three years beginning July 1, 1899, and ending June 30, 1902, there shall be assessed and paid into the state treasury a tax of one-half cent, to be collected semi-annually. The clerks of the courts of quarter sessions shall furnish to the auditor general a certified list of the brewers in their respective districts, for which the clerks shall receive a fee of 10c.

Any brewer who shall fail to make a report to the auditor general within thirty days shall have the license of his brewery suspended until the auditor general shall certify that the provisions of the act have been complied with. Whenever the auditor general shall suspect that the return of a brewer is fraudulent, he shall demand an inspection of the books, and, upon this being refused, the license shall be revoked.

Whereas, Hon. John R. Farr, an active member of Scranton Typographical union, No. 112, has been elected to represent the First legislative district and the interests of organized labor of the entire community during the legislative sessions of 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1902.

Whereas, Hon. John R. Farr, having been chosen to fill the highest honor within the gift of said legislature, having been unanimously elected as speaker of the house of representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, therefore be it

Resolved, That Scranton Typographical union, No. 112, feels honored in having among its members one whose name is known throughout the commonwealth as one of the staunchest friends of organized labor; a man who believes that in unionism there is strength; not merely strength to the members enrolled in the interest of the cause it is designed to protect, but to the community as a whole; a man who believes that whatever tends to benefit one particular craft, directly or indirectly, benefits all; therefore be it

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered on the minutes of the Typographical union, No. 112; that they be printed in the daily and weekly papers in the city of Scranton, and a copy of the same suitably engraved, presented to the Hon. John R. Farr.

UNION DEFENDERS' DAY. Will Be Observed at the Ezra Griffin Post Rooms. Union Defenders' day, the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, will be observed with an excellent entertainment to be held tomorrow evening in the rooms of Ezra S. Griffin post on Lackawanna avenue. The affair will be in charge of the members of the post and of camp No. 8, Sons of Veterans, and the committee of arrangements comprise: H. E. Jefferies, W. C. Henderson, George Simpson, A. J. Schmidt and John McGraw.

A Buyer's Opportunity. When the buyer of house furnishings for Jonas Long's Sons dropped into New York a few weeks ago, he little expected to bring back with him at once an entire manufacturer's stock of household utensils. But circumstances and events provide rapid changes in the big city, and the sale of this big stock came on the spur of the moment. It will provide one of the biggest trade bargains of the year. The store has ever had. The selling begins this morning in the big basement of the store.

CURE SCROFULA promptly and permanently by a thorough course of Hood's Sarsaparilla. All forms of this painful disease yield to the blood purifying power of this great medicine.

HOODS PILLS are the best family cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Gibbons & Co., Coal at Retail. Delivered to any part of the city at the lowest prices. Telephone 542.

Valentines. Unique and dainty novelties. Belding the Bookman.

Smoke The Pococo Cigar, 5c.

Do you value your health? If you do, buy PURE FOOD PRODUCTS. Our canned goods are examined by agents appointed by the commonwealth. Their verdict was, "no purer goods sold in the state."

Buy Pure Food. Our canned goods are the finest vegetables naturally prepared, and are better than stale market vegetables. All goods reduced for February.

E. G. COURSEN PHONE, 2542.

BIG COMBINE OF COAL COMPANIES SIMPSON & WATKINS AT THE HEAD OF THE MOVEMENT.

The Various Companies in Which They Hold the Controlling Interests Are to Be Merged into One and Made the Nucleus of the Contemplated Combine—If Feasible and Expedient Other Desirable Properties Will Be Secured and Brought In—Purely Local Affair.

The combining under one head of the independent coal companies of the upper anthracite region is the immense project now occupying the attention of the individual operators. The movement is well under way and the only feature of the affair that is speculative, is as to how far it will be carried.

Simpson & Watkins are at the head of the movement. The nucleus of the combine will be their various collieries controlled by the following companies, in each of which they hold the controlling interest:

Forty Fort Coal company—Capital \$20,000. C. D. Simpson, president; T. H. Watkins, treasurer; A. F. Law, secretary. Babylon Coal company—Capital, \$100,000. T. H. Watkins, president; W. S. Welles, vice president; C. D. Simpson, treasurer; A. F. Law, secretary.

Edgerton Coal company—Capital, \$20,000. C. D. Simpson, president; T. H. Watkins, secretary and treasurer. Mount Lookout Coal company—Capital, \$20,000. T. H. Watkins, president; W. S. Welles, vice president; C. D. Simpson, treasurer; A. F. Law, secretary.

Northwest Coal company—Capital \$50,000. C. D. Simpson, president; T. H. Watkins, treasurer; A. F. Law, secretary. Sterrick Creek Coal company—Capital, \$100,000. Simpson & Watkins, owners. Summit Coal company—Capital \$10,000. C. D. Simpson, president; T. H. Watkins, treasurer; A. F. Law, secretary.

THE FIRST STEP. These companies are all to be merged in one as a first step in the contemplated combine. This having been consummated, the matter of bringing in the other companies will be taken up.

The recent purchase of the Sterrick Creek colliery at Pockville, by Simpson & Watkins is in anticipation of this move. The Newton Coal Mining company, which operates the Ravine and Twin shafts at Pittston and exercises control over several other valuable properties is one of the larger of the concerns that will probably be taken into the combine.

The Forest Mining company, of Archbald, of which J. J. Williams is president, and which has a capitalization of \$300,000, is also to be included. A story that it had been purchased by Simpson & Watkins was circulated last week, but it was characterized as a hoax by the interested parties.

Hon. C. P. O'Malley, of Willard, Warren & Knapp, attorneys for Simpson & Watkins, went to Wilkes-Barre last Friday, and is there still, to look up the title of properties that the syndicate has its eye on.

NOT MORGAN SYNDICATE. A rumor following this story was to the effect that the Morgan syndicate, which is setting out to centralize the control of the entire anthracite trade, was at the back of the Simpson & Watkins movement. This was, however, positively denied from a most authoritative source and circumstances, which just at present it would not be judicious to make public, were cited to substantiate the assertion.

Thomas H. Watkins, junior member of the Simpson & Watkins firm, when approached on the matter said he was not prepared to talk about it as yet. When the time was ripe, he said, the details will be freely given to the public.

MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION. Wrecked a Kitchen Range at Dr. Caldwell's Residence. A terrific explosion occurred Saturday morning at the residence of Dr. Caldwell, of West Market street, North Scranton, by which the kitchen range was entirely destroyed. The cause of the explosion is a mystery, but its force would seem to lend strength to the belief that it was due to a high explosive compound. The front part of the range was blown into atoms, many fragments being imbedded in the walls and ceiling.

That instant death and serious injury did not follow is miraculous, and fortunately so, as a few moments before the explosion occurred a nurse and Dr. Caldwell's little daughter had retired to another room. The baby's high chair, and a rocker upon which they were seated, were broken into kindling wood by the flying pieces of iron. Mrs. Caldwell, who was about to remove a kettle from the stove when the explosion occurred, was struck on the left cheek by a live coal, making a painful burn, but escaped any further injury. The scattered coals set the carpet ablaze, but the flames were quickly extinguished.

KNOWN IN WILKES-BARRE. General Otis, Now in Manila, Has Many Friends Here. Brigadier General Elwell S. Otis, who is making army history at Manila with his regulars and volunteers, is well-known among many of the older residents of Wilkes-Barre, and they are taking a keen interest in his career. This interest is increased by the fact that the gallant officer's wife is a daughter of the late Colonel Hamilton Bowman. Mrs. Otis is now residing in Rochester, N. Y. Once or twice each year General Otis has visited Wilkes-Barre to look after matters connected with his private estate.

General Otis is a native of Maryland. He has arisen from a captain in the One Hundred and Fortieth New York, serving during the Civil war, to his present position, which he got in 1880. While lieutenant colonel of the

CROWD WAS IN A VERY ANGRY MOOD WEBBER WOULD HAVE FARED BADLY IF UNPROTECTED.

South Side Men Purchased a Rope and Seriously Contemplated Lynching the Accused Man—Constable Joseph Woelkers Threatened to Shoot Any Man Who Interfered with His Prisoner and Succeeded in Getting Him to Jail—Offense Webber Is Charged With.

South Scranton had a narrow escape from being the scene of a lynching yesterday afternoon. Adolph Webber, a man 51 years of age, was the intended victim. He is a watch repairer, and little of his present history is known.

Webber is charged by Martin Miller, of Pittston avenue, and Constable Woelkers with criminal assault on Miller's daughter, Mary, aged nine years; Lillie Hamm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hamm, and Maggie Nealon, daughter of James Nealon. The last named are each eight years of age.

When arraigned for a hearing, Webber stoutly denied the charge. Dr. R. J. Ritz, who examined the Miller girl, testified as to her condition. This was Saturday morning. Upon request of Constable Woelkers, Miller asked that the hearing be adjourned until the afternoon.

In company with Miller the constable visited the girl and from her learned that the Hamm and Nealon girls visited at Webber's watch repairing shop frequently during the past three weeks. The latter-named girls stated that Webber enticed them to his place by giving them candy and small sums of money. Acting for their parents, Woelkers gave the information for the issuing of the second warrant.

TESTIFIED AGAINST WEBBER. The Nealon and Hamm girls were present, and testified against the defendant. At the close of the hearing a commitment was made for Webber's delivery to the county jail. He asked permission to go to his shop to arrange his affairs. In company with the officer, followed by an angry crowd, Webber was taken to the place.

It was while on his way that the posse was formed to lynch him. Fifty feet of clothes line, now in the possession of Charles Kaestner, the hotelman, was purchased. When the affair at Webber's abode were arranged he was taken to Constable Woelker's office, a few hundred yards away, later to be removed to the county jail in a cutter.

Following closely after the officer and his prisoner was the posse of would-be lynchers. The prisoner's life was demanded, and all sorts of unpleasant things were said. Woelkers pulled his revolver and shouted that he would shoot dead the first man who made an active demonstration against his prisoner, who was crouched behind the officer.

"He is in my charge, and I will do my duty," the constable said to the mob. Philip Robinson, manager of the M. Robinson brewery, at this point came on the scene and argued in favor of allowing the law to punish Webber, but it was some time before order was restored.

TAKEN TO JAIL. Webber was taken from Woelker's office by a rear door and hastily driven to the county jail. As the big doors of iron closed on him he sank into a chair, showing every indication of being greatly relieved. He almost collapsed from nervous excitement.

When seen by a Tribune man at his hotel yesterday afternoon, Mr. Kaestner said: "The crowd would have lynched that brute just as sure as you live, had not Joe Woelkers threatened to shoot. People think it was a joke, but it would have been the most serious joke ever perpetrated hereabouts if Woelkers had not taken such a decided stand."

Notice. The banks of this city will be closed on the following days of this month, they being legal holidays: Monday, Feb. 13, Lincoln's birthday; Tuesday, Feb. 21, election day; and Wednesday, Feb. 22, Washington's birthday. C. W. Gunster, Secretary Scranton Clearing House Association.

Thiele-Burmeister Concert. Bicycle hall, Friday, Feb. 17, introducing the famous pianist, Richard Burmeister. Tickets at Hulbert's music store.

Steam Heating and Plumbing. P. F. & M. T. Howley, 221 Wyoming ave. at half-price.

F. L. Crane offers all cloth jackets at half-price. Finest wines and cigars at Lane's, 329 Spruce street. Smoke The Pococo 5c. Cigar.

A MOST COMPLETE LINE OF Fancy Suspenders, Dress and Driving Gloves, Bath and Night Robes, Umbrellas, Mackintoshes, Etc., Etc. PRICES ALWAYS RIGHT CONRAD, 305 Lackawanna Ave.

MATTHEWS BROS. DRUGGISTS.

ATLANTIC WHITE LEAD. FRENCH ZINC. Ready Mixed Tinted Paints, Convenient, Economical, Durable. Varnish Stains, Producing Perfect Imitation of Expensive Woods.

Raynolds' Wood Finish, Especially Designed for Inside Work. Marble Floor Finish, Durable and Dries Quickly. Paint Varnish and Kalsomine Brushes. PURE LINSEED OIL AND TURPENTINE.

BUY NATIONS' PRIDE CONDENSED MILK. Manufactured by SCRANTON DAIRY CO. Ask your grocer for it.

Hot House Cucumbers, Hot House Tomatoes, Green Beans, Lettuce, Cauliflower, Egg Plant, Salsif, Strictly Fresh Eggs, Creamery Butter, Grapes, Oranges and Fruits.

Pierce's Market. DOWN THEY GO. We refer to our \$2.50 and \$3.00 HATS which we have reduced to \$1.90.

HAND & PAYNE, On the Square, 203 Washington Ave.

BARGAINS GALORE. AT THE ECONOMY'S February Trade Sale.

Solid Oak Bed Room Suits, \$10.00. Iron Beds, 1.95. Parlor Suits, 14.90.

THE ECONOMY'S February Trade Sale.

225-227 Wyoming Ave. Just arrived 1899 lines of Refrigerators, Baby Carriages and Go Carts.

MALONEY OIL AND MANUFACTURING CO. TELEPHONE 622. 141 to 149 Meridian Street, Scranton, Pa.

BURNING AND LUBRICATING OILS. PAINT DEPARTMENT.—Pure White Lead, Colors and Varnishes.

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. The best remedy for whooping-cough. Give the child Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, and relief will come at once and the sufferer will soon be cured. Price only 25 cts.