Scranton Tribune.

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FORAKER-HANNA WAR SPREADING

The Contest at Columbus Has Extended to Factional Circles All Over the State.

PRINCIPALS ARE ALSO KEPT VERY BUSY

While the Members of the Legislature Are Fighting at Columbus, Senators Foraker and Hanna, Congressman Dick and Others Are Engaged at the Long Distance Telephone—Mr. Foraker Denies a Silly Yarn—A Movement to Defeat Mr. Hanna Is on Foot.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Cincinnati, Dec. 29.—The contest at Columbus during the coming week, between the followers of Senator Foraker and those of Senator Hanna, over the organization of the legislature, has extended to factional circles elsewhere in the state. While the members of the legislature and candidates are fighting at Columbus, the principals are kept busy at long distance telephones, notably Senator Foraker and George B. Cox in Cincinnati, Senator Hanna in Washington, Congressman Dick, chairman of the state executive committee, and other Republican leaders.

Senator Foraker is being visited here by many leaders and members of the legislature. Today he made the following statement:

"The story published from New York that I spoke to the president in a derogatory manner of Senator Hanna and that the president communicated the same to Senator Hanna and told him to be on his guard, lest he have trouble to maintain his leadership in Ohio politics, is an unqualified falsehood from beginning to end. I never had any such talk with the president and it is not creditable to him to suppose that he would have re-told it to Senator Hanna, if I had. This story is but a sample of many others appearing in newspapers and being peddled about from mouth to mouth for mischievous purposes."

Movement to Defeat Hanna.

Most of the Republican members this year are serving their first terms and according to precedent they are expected to be members of the next legislature which elects Senator Hanna's successor two years hence. While there is no opposition to the re-election of Senator Foraker two weeks hence, it is claimed that there is an organized movement to defeat Senator Hanna two years hence. As the presiding officers in the appointment of committees and other functions have great influence, the friends of both Senators are seeking to control those positions, as well as all other offices, including the clerkships, sergeant-at-arms, etc.

The Hanna men admit that they are working for results two years hence and charge that there is a "conspiracy to retire Hanna." In former years there were contests between the Sherman and the Foraker factions and later between the McKinley and the Foraker factions, but none of the former factional fights approached the present contest in general interest. There are separate Foraker and Hanna tickets, subject to the senate and house caucuses of the Republican members next Saturday. Charles L. Kurtz, formerly secretary to Foraker as governor, and later chairman of the state committee, leads the anti-Hanna forces and John R. Malloy, the present secretary of the state committee and state oil inspector under Governor Nash, leads the Hanna forces. Both sides claim "a sure thing" and these claims and counter claims are expected to continue during the week.

The Democratic minority presents a scene of harmony. Col. James Kilbourne, formerly the Democratic candidate for governor, yesterday notified the members from his county not to present his name to the Democratic joint caucus for their nomination for United States senator. This leaves Hon. Charles W. Baker, of Cincinnati without opposition for the Democratic senatorial nomination.

JUMPED BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

John Pinover Desired to See If He Could Accomplish the Feat.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 29.—John Pinover, a young wholesale liquor dealer of Middletown, N. Y., today jumped from the Brooklyn bridge. He is still alive at a hospital. Pinover told the doctors he simply wanted to see if he could make the jump and live.

The leap was taken in the afternoon from the girders near the New York tower. A government tug lowered a boat and the man was taken out of the water apparently lifeless. At the hospital he was unconscious for three hours.

LEDGER COAL ARTICLE.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—The Ledger in its coal article tomorrow will say:

"The anthracite coal year of 1901 is practically completed, and the estimated tonnage mined and sent to market makes it the banner year for this great industry. The estimate is that about 53,500,000 tons have been produced for 1901, which is an increase of about 8,400,000 tons over 1900 and by far the largest annual product of the trade. With ample facilities for coal shipment and no car shortage at the mines the market would have taken a much larger output, as the demand for anthracite has exceeded the supply during the latter part of the year. Prices are unchanged, the full circular rates being obtained, and there is no indication of any advance in contemplation by the producing companies."

DENMARK HESITATES.

Would Reopen Negotiations for the Sale of Her West Indian Islands.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Copenhagen, Dec. 29.—The agitation against the sale of the Danish West Indies has placed the government in an embarrassing position. There is considerable difference of opinion as to how far public sentiment against the sale is genuine and how far it is the work of speculators and promoters. At any rate, it has impressed the foreign minister to the extent that he is determined to request Secretary Hay to allow of an arrangement being made for a plebiscite. This matter will be settled through Copenhagen and not through the Danish minister, C. Brun, at Washington.

It is generally declared in well informed circles here that the islanders favor the sale. The chief argument advanced, however, by the large majority is that there should be a plebiscite like that of 1867.

The fact that the Danish government is reopening the negotiations indicates that there is considerable doubt in the minds of the authorities as to how accurately they have gauged the national sentiment. In the mean while, those who are opposed to the sale are formulating numerous plans for realizing on the tropical asset so long neglected. A company has just been formed for improving the economic status of the islands, in the event that they are not sold. The capital of the company is not announced, but the directors include Heide and Glenckstadt, bank directors; Andersen, a director of the East Asiatic company, and other influential persons.

THE CHINESE ARE PROGRESSING

A Number of High Officials Dine with United States Minister Conger—Meet American Ladies.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pekin, Dec. 29.—Considerable sensation has been caused in Chinese official circles by a dinner given at his residence by United States Minister Conger, and which was attended by the leading officials of the Chinese foreign office. Among the officials present were Ma Tung, a former "Boxer" leader, and Wang Wen Shao, one of the Chinese plenipotentiaries. The dinner was attended by several American ladies.

It was formerly the custom for prominent Chinese officials never to enter a foreign legation except upon the most formal occasion, while the meeting of foreign ladies socially would have been considered as degrading as would the associating with Chinese women upon the same footing.

This event is significant of the progressive tendency of today, which has recently been manifested in many ways.

TO SELL PANAMA CANAL.

A Representative of the French Company Is Hurrying to Reach United States.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Paris, Dec. 29.—M. Lampre, secretary general of the Panama Canal company, sailed for New York this morning from Havre on the French Line steamer L'Aquitaine. He will confer on his arrival in the United States with a number of the Panama company's American representatives, and overtures for the sale of the canal property to the United States will then be renewed.

In view of the doubt existing in the United States regarding the price the Panama Canal company's representatives intend to ask for the property, the correspondent of the Associated Press made inquiries from the best sources of information on that subject, and is enabled to say that the price will be, approximately, $40,000,000. This figure cannot yet be given as the exact one, because the company has not yet come to a definite decision. But it will not be appreciably higher. The isthmian commission's full report is now in possession of the Panama company, and its valuations will be studied in detail. The report of the directors of the Panama company, cabled to the Associated Press on December 21, said:

"We offer to accept as the basis and point of departure of fresh negotiations the figures and declarations contained in the isthmian commission's definitive report."

The estimates reached by such eminent men are not thought to be open to question, though possibly a few items are susceptible to reconsideration, and a few matters may remain to be decided, such as a valuation of the company's stocks of supplies; but none of these are calculated to modify the gross figure to any extent. The company does not intend to give the slightest ground for any further misunderstanding, and believes the definitive price put forward will now be acceptable. With M. Lampre in America, it will not be necessary for the mandatary who is empowered to submit the definitive price to depart from France until later, when the negotiations are under way.

General Seamens Ill.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The condition of Adjutant General Seamens, of California, who has been ill here for more than two weeks, is very critical tonight. He fails to respond to the medicines given to him.

WATCHMAN MURDERED.

George A. Bruce's Head Split with An Axe—One Arrest Made.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—George A. Bruce, a watchman of a tool house owned by railroad contractors at Jackson street wharf, Delaware river, was murdered some time during last night. His skull was split with an axe and his throat was cut from ear to ear with the same instrument. Harry Johnson, who is employed as a watchman by the same contractors, reported the murder to the police and was subsequently taken into custody by the police pending an investigation of the affair. The police believe the motive for the murder was robbery, as $12 and a revolver which Bruce was known to have had in his possession early in the night, are missing.

David Henry, who was employed near Jackson street, was also arrested in connection with the crime.

WATER SPOUT BURST OVER SAFFE, MOROCCO

Two Hundred Persons Are Reported to Have Been Drowned—Damage to Property, Enormous.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Tangier, Morocco, Dec. 29.—A water spout has burst over the town of Saffe, Morocco. It inundated the lower part of the town for the space of 12 hours, sweeping everything into the sea. Two hundred persons are reported to have been drowend. There are no Europeans among the dead. The damage to Saffe was enormous.

Saffe is a fortified seaport town of Morocco. It has a population of 12,000 including about 3,000 Jews. It is enclosed by massive walls and has a palace and a small fort.

CHAFFEE SAYS THAT NO FRICTION EXISTS

Denies Rumor That There Has Been Ill-Feeling Between Civil and Military Authorities.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Manila, Dec. 29.—General Chaffee, when questioned today by the correspondent of the Associated Press concerning the alleged friction between the civil and military authorities in the Philippine archipelago, said that absolutely no such friction existed and that perfect harmony prevailed between the two authorities. General Chaffee said that the only occasion when there had been anything approaching friction was in the matter of habeas corpus proceedings in the case of Oakley Brooks, and that upon this occasion a solution of the difficulty satisfactory to both authorities had been found.

General Chaffee said that he and the members of the commission had at times differed in their views, but that these differences were of purely personal opinion. He said that his relations with Governor Taft and Acting Governor Wright and the other commissioners were both officially and socially extremely pleasant and that he thought the published statement of friction between the civil and military authorities here must have resulted from a misunderstanding of the facts of the case.

General Chaffee further explained that every time the slightest friction had arisen in the provinces between the two authorities he had invariably ordered the military to surrender to the civil authority, and said that the relations of these authorities throughout the provinces, where they frequently hold widely opposite opinions, would in no way interrupt the existing cordial relations at Manila where both worked toward the same goal, namely, the pacification and welfare of the Philippine archipelago. General Chaffee concluded by saying that he thought the prospect of subduing the insurrection in all places to be promising.

When Acting Governor Wright was questioned on this same matter he said:

"Where men of sense are at the head of affairs, there is not likely to be much cause for alarm or friction."

LANDSLIDE ON THE CHESAPEAKE

Engineer and Conductor of a Train Are Killed—Several Other Persons Are Injured.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Lynchburg, Va., Dec. 29.—A landslide on the Chesapeake railroad near Reusen's station, five miles south of Lynchburg on the James river branch today caused a wreck in which the engineer, conductor, flagman, and baggageman of a passenger train were killed and several other persons injured, but none of them seriously. The slide was caused by washouts due to the heavy rain.

Early reports said that 10 or 12 passengers had been killed but it is now stated that the passenger car got out of the way just in time to escape the hillside when it crashed down over the tracks.

The name of the conductor who was killed was Captain Whitaker and that of the engineer, Fisher. Express Messenger Shannon is missing and it is believed that he was drowned, the water being very high about the scene of the wreck. The fireman, it is said, was not killed and his injuries are not likely to prove fatal. The dead will number four to five.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 29.—Arrived: Steamer St. Paul, Southampton.

MORE DAMAGE FROM FLOODS

The Recent Rainfall Causes Inconvenience at Various Points.

RAILROAD TRAFFIC IS HAMPERED

All Trains on the Philadelphia and Reading and the Jersey Central Railroads Have Received Instructions to Proceed with Caution. Damage from Rains in the South.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 29.—Reports from Somerville, N. J., tonight say that the heavy rains of the last twenty-four hours have caused the Raritan river and its tributaries to flood the Raritan valley and do much damage to farm lands. The situation tonight is serious, and the business section of Bound Brook is again threatened with inundation such as it experienced in the winter of 1896. The river at that point has already flooded the tracks of the Brunswick Traction company and stopped traffic.

The river is rising at the rate of ten inches an hour tonight, and the residents in the lower portion of the town have become alarmed and are moving to the upper stories of the buildings. If the river rises a few feet higher, Middle Brook will be again so chocked that it will rush through the town and cause widespread destruction.

All trains on the Philadelphia and Reading and the Jersey Central railroads have received orders to approach the Middle Brook at a speed of five miles an hour. The big bridge over the stream is being anxiously watched tonight.

Saratoga, N. Y., Dec. 29.—A heavy downpour of rain, which begun at 3 o'clock this morning and continued all day, threatens to bring on a flood which, it is feared, will do much damage.

Rainfall at Lancaster.

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 29.—A heavy rainfall has been continuous in this section since last evening. All the streams in the county are swollen greatly beyond their usual volume, and the Conestoga has overflowed its banks to an extent unknown in recent years. The bridge crossing this stream at Engleside is threatened with destruction, and traffic on the Lancaster-Strasburg railway, of which the bridge is a link, has been suspended. The bridge has begun to move, and is almost sure to be washed away. It was erected seventy-five years ago.

High water at the plant of the Lancaster Electric Light company at Rock Hill, on the Conestoga affected their system and sections of the city are in darkness tonight. The Susquehanna is rising rapidly. At Safe Harbor, where the Conestoga empties, the rise is at the rate of six inches an hour. The tracks of the Port Deposit and Columbia railroad at this point are submerged and much apprehension is felt for property on low lying ground. At Bald Friar, further down the river, a landslide has occurred covering the tracks at Columbia and Marietta. The river has not yet risen sufficiently to cause alarm.

In the South.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 29.—Heavy rains for thirty-six hours here and at all headwater points on both rivers has produced a condition which will result in what may be called a flood stage in the Ohio river by tomorrow, when at least twenty feet is predicted. Timely warning by the weather bureau will be the means of saving much property, and only temporary inconvenience is expected by the interests along the river fronts.

At midnight the marks at Davis island dam showed 14 feet and rising at the rate of 4-10 of a foot an hour. Both the Allegheny and Monongahela are still rising.

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 29.—Incessant rains for the past forty-eight hours through Eastern Tennessee, threaten to do more damage to property than the disastrous flood of last May, when eight lives were lost and fully $2,000,000 was done to railway and farming property. The Southern railway has annulled all trains between this city and Asheville, N. C., owing to water-covered and badly washed tracks between Newport and Rankin. All through traffic and mail will be handled over the Norfolk and Western. It will be impossible for the Southern to handle trains east via Asheville until late tomorrow at least, and possibly longer, for rain is still falling.

The Tennessee river is nearing the 30-foot mark at this point, with indications that it will reach forty feet and do heavy damage.

Hinton, W. Va., Dec. 29.—Heavy rains here for the past thirty-six hours have caused Green Brier and New rivers to become very high. They are rising six inches an hour. The damage along both streams will be heavy. The Chesapeake and Ohio tunnel at Allegheny is blocked by cars being derailed by a landslide.

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 29.—The Potomac river is rapidly rising, and a flood is threatened as a consequence of thirty-six hours' incessant rain.

Socialist Provokes Riot.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Naples, Dec. 29.—The arrival here of the Socialist member of the chamber of deputies, Signor Ferry, to address a meeting, resulted in turbulent demonstrations which the troops were called out to suppress. Wholesale arrests were made.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Newburgh, N. Y., Dec. 29.—John C. Peck, a graduate of Yale and a former instructor in Lehigh university, died here today, aged 28.

TROUBLE IN THE ORDER OF B'RITH ABRAHAM

Police Are Obliged to Interfere to Quell Disturbance.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 29.—Five hundred members of the Order of B'rith Abraham met tonight in this city. The order, which is a fraternal one, is said to number 40,000 in the country, 12,000 living in this city.

The meeting was called by Past Grand Master Oscar Weiner, of Newark, N. J., Past Grand Treasurer Moses Lubolsky and Past Deputy Grand Master Robert Strahl, for the purpose of considering matters regarding the endowment funds of the order. Two factions developed, one led by the men mentioned, the other by Grand Master Samuel Dorf. In an effort to elect a chairman of the meeting there was a fight in which furniture was broken and the police had to interfere. Finally the lights were turned off and the meeting perforce went over until next Sunday.

SIX MEN KILLED IN A MINE CAGE

Tragedy at Mine of the McAlester Coal Company at Hartshorn, Indian Territory.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Kansas City, Dec. 29.—A special from Hartshorn, I. T., says at shaft No. 1, of the McAlester Coal company yesterday while the cage was ascending with eight men it jumped its guidings about 100 feet from the bottom of the shaft. Six of the eight men were killed.

They were caught between the cage and the buntings and their bodies dropped to the bottom of the shaft. Three of the killed so far as could be learned are Alexander Romanchok, Michael Pertke and H. Ketchok. All were Russians. There were two others who held to the cage. They were only slightly injured. The others killed, whose names are not known, came here only recently from Pennsylvania.

FUNERAL OF MISS NELL CROPSEY

Feeling Against Wilcox Is Still Strong, but There Is Less Danger of Lynching.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 29.—Funeral services over the body of Miss Nell C. Cropsey, whose remains were discovered in the Pasquotank river, after a search lasting several weeks, were held in the Methodist church here today. The church was crowded to suffocating and the street leading to it was lined with people, who uncovered as the hearse drove past. The Rev. R. R. Tuttle conducted the services, assisted by the Rev. C. W. Duke and Rev. J. B. Forbes, of the Baptist church. At the conclusion of the services the body was placed in the Sunday school room, and later will be taken by Andrew G. Cropsey, uncle of the girl, to Brooklyn for interment. The citizens' committee investigating the affair acted as pallbearers today. The jail in which young Wilcox, who was arrested for alleged participation in the girl's death, lies only a stone's throw from the church. Wilcox knew the funeral was in progress, but showed no emotion and merely inquired if a large crowd was present. He is more nervous than yesterday, but retains much of the easy manner that has characterized him at all times.

The guards were withdrawn from the jail today and permitted to go home. Public sentiment is strong against Wilcox but there is less talk of lynching and some of the ministers today took ocasion in their sermons to advise against mob violence. Wilcox absolutely refuses under advice of his attorney to say anything regarding the case. He asserts that the first statment made by him covers all he knows of the case. He is charged with the murder of the girl, and as the offense is not bailable in this state, he will have to stay in jail pending a trial.

R. W. Turner, a member of the citizens committee asserted today that they would have sufficient evidence to connect Wilcox with the crime. He said:

"We know Miss Cropsey was killed by a blow on the head with a sandbag or blackjack. If the blow was struck while she was on the porch then her unconscious form was dragged across the lawn to the river only a short distance away. If the blow was struck on the lawn we are convinced she was induced to cross the lawn by Wilcox and that while walking across she was struck by him. There is another witness who may be called upon to testify. It is R. F. Parker, who told his wife the night after Miss Cropsey disappeared that he had seen Wilcox dragging a girl across the road in front of the Wilson residence. We will investigate that."

Zionists Establish a Purchase Fund.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Basle, Switzerland, Dec. 29.—The Zionist congress, now in session here, has resolved to establish a fund of 200,000 pounds to be devoted to the purchasing of land in Syria and Palestine. Collections for this fund will be made in all the countries of the world. The congress also decided to form organizations in various countries to promote the subjects of the present congress and to hold idennial congresses.

Rosebery Declines to Act.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Dec. 30.—The Daily News, a Liberal organ, today admits that Lord Rosebery has declined to act with the Liberal party and although the paper regrets his voluntary severance from this party, it thinks it well that the air has been cleared and that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is more firmly installed in the leadership.

FATAL WRECK ON THE NORTHWESTERN

MANILA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Ex-Chief Hugh J. Bonner May Organize the Service.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 29.—From a reliable source comes the information that ex-Fire Chief Hugh J. Bonner is considering a proposition made by President Roosevelt and the war department to reorganize on New York lines the fire department in Manila, Philippine islands. It is said that such was Mr. Bonner's business in Washington during the week just ended.

Mr. Bonner, when seen today, practically admitted that such a plan is in contemplation.

Washington, Dec. 29.—The tender of the appointment to Mr. Bonner was made in consequence of a cablegram from the Philippine commission to Colonel Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the war department, asking that the best available man for head of the Manila fire department be recommended to them. The cablegram said that a strictly first-class man to organize the department was wanted.

After some inquiries Hugh J. Bonner was decided on as in every respect the best selection that could be made. He came to Washington not quite a week ago, went over the situation and when he left was given about a week to think over the matter of his acceptance of the post, he not being prepared to give an immediate answer. It is believed that he probably will accept. A law was passed some time ago creating the fire department. The original chief of it is no longer in the service and it was decided to secure a man of experience and ability. The place probably will pay $3,000 to $3,500 a year.

CHILEAN-ARGENTINA AFFAIR SIMPLIFIED

Peaceful Adjustment of the Difficulties Is Looked for—Infante Says There Will Be no War.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Advices received by Senor Infante, the Chilean charge, today confirmed the news already published that the Argentine minister at Santiago had informed the Chilean minister of foreign affairs that Argentina could not accept all the terms of the proctocol heretofore signed for the settlement of the dispute and that some changes would be necessary in the instrument. The understanding here is that no formal demand has been made upon the Chilean governement for a change in the terms of the proctocol but that the matter has simply been one of informal talk at Santiago. This being the case the hope is expressed that a satisfactory arrangement may yet be reached.

Senor Infante continues to express his firm conviction that there will be no war because of the present misunderstanding. The government of Chile, he says, has been conducting the negotiations in a very amicable manner and he confidently look for a peaceful solution of the difficulty.

GENERAL MENDOZA CLOSELY PURSUED

The President-elect of Carabobo Is Routed by Castro's Troops—Alban's Faith in Government.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 29.—General Luciano Mendoza (president-elect of the state of Carabobo, who rebelled against President Castro, marched on La Victoria and was said to have been defeated, and who was later reported to have escaped to the neighborhood of San Juan de las Moros) is now said to have reached Villa de Cura, in the state of Miranda, where he was routed by the government troops. In company with a small number of followers, he escaped and reached La Puerta, where he was again overtaken and again defeated. Accompanied by only forty men, General Mendoza passed Ortiz, in the state of Guarico, December 24. He was proceeding in the direction of mountains considered to be almost inaccessible.

Colon, Dec. 29.—The Colombian gunboat Boyaca left Panama early this morning, carrying troops to reinforce General Castro in the interior. The Colombian gunboat General Pinzon is expected here shortly with 500 men from Barranquilla. She will return immediately to bring more men from that port. General Carlos Alban is confident that the Colombian government is able to defeat the revolutionists, notwithstanding the help, he alleges, they have received from Salvador.

Skeleton Found in Church.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 29.—The skeleton found in the negro church, near Eastlake, is that of Winter White, a negro who is supposed to have shot a man several years ago, and who was a fugitive from justice. A negro woman, representing herself as the wife of White, has identified the man as her husband.

British Prisoners Released.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Dec. 29.—The war office has received a despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg, saying that the British prisoners captured when the Boers successfully rushed Colonel Firman's camp at Zeerontein, Dec. 24, have been liberated and returned to Bethlehem.

School Building Burned.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pottstown, Dec. 26.—The new east wing of the Hill Presbyterian school was destroyed by fire early this morning, entailing a loss of $40,000. The wing contained the swimming pool, manual training room, class rooms and dormitories. Most of the contents of the rooms were saved.

FREIGHT COLLIDES WITH "OMAHA FLYER"

Four Persons Killed and Eighteen Wounded — Several Probably Fatally.

Two Passenger Coaches, One Sleeper and Eight Freight Cars Are Burned—The Injured Passengers Are Conveyed to Chicago by Special Train—List of the Dead and Injured—The Freight Train Too Long for the Siding.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Four persons were killed and 18 injured, several of them possibly fatal, in a collision on the Chicago and Northwestern road today at Malta, Ills., 60 miles west of Chicago. The trains in collision were the "Omaha Flyer," an east bound passenger train, and an eastbound freight train. The wreck caught fire and two passenger coaches, one sleeping car and 8 freight cars were burned and another sleeping car was partly consumed.

The Dead.

GEORGE W. RUDIO, western agent Kirk Soap company; residence Omaha.
MRS. GEORGE W. RUDIO, Omaha.
D. O. NICHOLS, Council Bluffs, Ia.
E. B. DUNCAN, sleeping car porter, Chicago.

The Injured.

Bert Carr, Chicago.
Fred Dunham, Chicago.
George W. Fox, Boulder, Colorado.
H. D. Gray, Evanston, Ill.
Edward Hinckley, Surprise, Neb.
Mrs. J. L. Kael, Chicago.
Clarence Lauzerus, Chicago.
W. A. Sweeny, Larchford, Iowa.
Marion Wilkes, Fremont, Neb.
Mrs. Eva Hall, Chicago.
Lincoln Taft, Chicago.
Veronica Bohrmoser, Millard, Neb.
F. Larrabee, passenger engineer; leg fractured.
E. P. Corran, fireman.
C. W. Aiken, yardmaster.
P. D. O'Neil, special agent Northwestern railroad.
John W. Wilson, civil engineer Northwestern railroad.
W. R. Dawes, Pullman conductor.

The injured passengers were attended immediately by surgeons from Rochelle and DeKalb and later were removed to a hospital in Chicago by special train.

The freight train had taken a siding at Malta, but the train was longer than the siding and the freight locomotive protruded upon the main track beyond the side track. The incoming train from the west was not stopped until the two locomotives "cornered" at the switch, the passenger engine being thrown into the ditch and several coaches piling upon the wreck. The cars caught fire from the locomotive.

Duncan, the sleeping car porter, was the only person killed outright. Mr. and Mrs. Rudio and Mr. Nichols died from their injuries while being brought to Chicago. At St. Luke's hospital it is stated that while several of the injured are in a serious condition, all, it is believed by the attending physicians, will recover.

GREAT BRITAIN'S COAL.

Indications That It Will Be Exhausted in 100 Years.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Dec. 29.—A royal commission has been appointed to inquire into the coal resources of Great Britain. The questions to be covered by the commission's inquiries will include the rate of possible exhaustion of British coal fields, the effect of export coal on the home supply, the possibility of a reduction in its cost by cheaper transportation and whether the coal mining industry of Great Britain, under the existing conditions, is maintaining its competitive power with foreign coal fields, etc.

The commission is composed of seventeen members and includes the chairmen of railroad companies, heads of big colliery companies and prominent engineers and geologists. William Lawles Jackson, M. P., chairman of the Great Northern Railway company is president of the commission.

A similar commission was apointed in 1865 and in 1872 delivered an opinion to the effect that the supply of coal to the depth of 4,000 feet was 90,206,000,000 tons.

It is estimated that during the years from 1871 to 1900 inclusive the British output of coal was 5,025,000,000 tons, a rate of exhaustion far in excess of that assumed by the royal commision and due to the enormous increase of exports. If this rate of doubling the output in thirty years be maintained the end of the present century will see the exhaustion of Great Britian's coal field.

Fire in Department Store.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 29.—Spencer's arcade, Victoria's big department store, was ruined by fire and flooded with water Saturday night. The loss is estimated at $200,000 and the insurance amounts to about $125,000. The fire was caused by a cross wire in the carpet department. Before it was discovered the place was full of smoke and the flames were leaping out through the roof and front walls. The firemen managed to confine the fire to the one store, which extends through a block.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Forecast for Monday and Tuesday: Eastern Pennsylvania —Rain in early morning, followed by fair and colder Monday. Tuesday, fair, brisk northwest winds.