

FATAL BLAZE IN A CHICAGO HOTEL

Fourteen Guests In a Windy City Hostelry Lose Their Lives. Many Others Injured.

THE VICTIMS CROWDED INTO A MAN TRAP

Visitors to Livestock Exposition Filled Every Available Nook in the Lincoln Hotel, on Madison Street—Careless Smoker May Have Set the Blaze—Small Fire Loss. Investigation Shows the Building to Have Been in the Worst Possible Condition.

Chicago, Dec. 4.—Fourteen persons among the scores crowded into the Lincoln hotel, at 176 Madison street, met death in a fire shortly before 6 o'clock this morning. Some died in their rooms, some were killed in jumping, while others were found in the hallway, where they had expired with their fingers dug into the cracks of the floor. All of the bodies were recovered, as the hotel was not destroyed.

The list of dead follows: M. M. HANDEY, of Janesville, Wis. EDWARD TONK, of Minneapolis. H. K. WOOD, of Lebanon, Ind. R. F. BOSWELL, of Chicago. E. M. L. YOCUM, of Danversport, Ia. E. L. YOCUM, of Danversport, Ia. E. L. EWING, of Marietta, O. A. B. COON, of Marquette, Ill. F. V. SLOCUM, of Waco, Tex. EDWARD LOWE, of Minneapolis. F. W. CAREY, of Bucyrus, O. C. P. COWAN, collector on the Washburn railroad, St. Louis. GEORGE B. GRAVES, compositor, Chicago. Unidentified man, 5 feet 3 inches, 155 pounds, 45 years old.

Fire Trap of the Worst Kind. The victims were taken to Rolston's morgue and all day the place was filled with anxious crowds. The building was a fire trap of the worst kind, according to experts. There were but two exits, a narrow stairway leading down the four doors of the building, and an uncompleted fire-escape in the rear.

The fire started on the second floor, presumably from a lighted cigar dropped on the floor, while others were at the upper rooms in the front part of the hostelry, aroused by the screams of a woman, were able to escape down the stairway, and about thirty people reached safety by means of the fire-escapes. To add to the horror, however, the fire gave way while others were attempting to escape and three men were dashed to death on the pavement below. For the people still in the rear rooms there was now no escape save by jumping.

All but fourteen of the guests at the hotel were saved. The woman, most of them came to Chicago to attend the International Live Stock show. Up to 10 o'clock last night persons were taken in at the hotel, and in every room on place in which a cot could be erected, it is said, guests were accommodated. A large number of students, with their families were turned away.

Shortly after the fire broke out the firemen rushed up the stairway into the place and began the work of rescue. Men, women and children were carried down ladders, fire escapes and smoke-filled halls. In one instance a fireman saved a woman from running to the rear of the building to certain death on the fourth floor, only to be forced to drop her from the third floor to the roof of an adjoining building. The woman held her seven-year-old son in her arms. She was carried from the roof of the building to the Brevoort house, where a physician was summoned. It was found that their injuries were slight.

The hotel was constructed of brick, there was but one stairway leading to the upper floors, and a fire escape in the front of the building. E. C. Weber, the night clerk, was one of the first persons to discover smoke on the second floor. It is believed that the fire began in this section of the building. Weber refused to make any statement, and after he had secured possession of the hotel register he was taken to the Central Station where he is being detained.

Warned by Screams. A short time after the fire was discovered consternation reigned on the upper floors. Frederick Sheppard, seven years old, was one of the first to be awakened by the smoke. He awakened his mother and both began screaming. Many persons were thus warned of the danger and made their escape. The woman was so panic stricken, however, that she was not among the first to attempt to escape, and she was making her way into the most dangerous part of the building when a fireman seized her and her son and conducted them to the floor below, where he dropped them out of a window. J. E. Herbert, of Selleville, O., jumped from the fourth floor, where he had been sleeping. He struck on a roof and his right leg was broken, and he suffered internal injuries. He was taken to the County hospital.

W. J. Thomas, a mail clerk of Cedar Rapids, jumped through a window on the fourth floor, and in his blind haste narrowly escaped falling to the street. He managed to make his way to the fire-escape and climbed to the ground. Previous to Thomas' escape twenty-five to thirty persons had climbed down the fire-escape to the street. All were in their night clothing.

Allen Oldford, of Milwaukee, made a desperate descent from the fourth floor

by scaling the wall means of the iron shutters. Oldford stated that he had seen at least a dozen persons on the top floor vainly endeavoring to make their way from the building by means of the front stairway. Many of the bodies were found in the beds. Others were found in the hallways lying face downward. Some were half clad and others were nothing but night clothing. It was by means of articles and letters in the pockets of what little clothing some of the dead persons wore that many identifications were made.

Building Agents Blamed. F. A. Smith, proprietor of the hotel, says: "I am certainly not to blame for this awful catastrophe. Three weeks ago the agents of this building were notified to place a stairway in the rear of the building and also to build a fire-wall around the freight elevator shaft in the rear. The contractors came and looked the building over, but nothing was done. Last night our seventy rooms were all filled and I should judge that we had about 125 or 150 guests. From what I can learn the fire started in the rear of the building on the second floor."

Chief Musham, of the fire department, says that in some ways it was the worst fire he has attended during his career. "The building," said the chief, "was one of the worst fire-traps I have ever seen. The floors in places had cracks in them large enough to drop a penny through, and the smoke just sifted through and suffocated the inmates of the rooms before they had time to make their way into the hallways."

Coroner's Opinion. A jury was empaneled this afternoon by Coroner Truesdell to ascertain the causes of the disaster and to fix the guilt for negligence. After viewing the bodies of the victims of the fire the jury went to the hotel, where an examination was made of the premises. The jurors were then dismissed to meet for the inquest, which will begin Dec. 12. At the conclusion of the inquest, the coroner said: "The fire undoubtedly was caused by the explosion of an oil stove in the rear of the third floor. The building is very carelessly constructed, the fire escapes worthless, the rooms are overcrowded, and it is nothing short of a crime that such a building should have been used as a housing place for human beings."

FIRE IN FOREST CITY.

Yeager's Livery Stable Consumed by the Flames—The Cunningham Hotel in Danger.

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Forest City, Dec. 4.—Fire was discovered in Yeager's livery stable, in the rear of Main street, near Cunningham's hotel, at about 10 o'clock last evening. The flames made rapid progress and the building was soon consumed. The conflagration then spread to the livery connected with Cunningham's hotel and several small buildings nearby. At a late hour the fire was burning fiercely and the hotel property was in danger of destruction.

PROF. HILPRECHT HONORED.

The eminent archaeologist is presented with a medal. Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—Prof. H. V. Hilprecht, the eminent archaeologist, was tonight presented by the University of Pennsylvania with a diploma awarding to him the Lucy Wharton Drexel medal for his excavations at Nippur and his publications on the subject. The fund for the medals was established last month by Lucy Wharton Drexel, who donated to the university the sum of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for medals to be awarded once a year, for the best archaeological excavation, or for the best publication based on archaeological excavations by an English speaking scholar named by those already possessing it.

Fire Department for Tobyhanna.

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Stroudsburg, Pa., Dec. 4.—The village at the Pocono mountains, is to have a fire department. For some time past this important matter has been agitated but not until Wednesday night was any definite action taken. C. F. Barker, the local superintendent of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company's interests, presided and he with Messrs. Lynch and Yothers were appointed a committee to arrange for apparatus and report at a meeting to be held next week.

Blown to Atoms by Dynamite.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—Horace E. Kellig, aged 45 years, superintendent of the Germantown Crematory company, was blown to atoms today by an explosion of dynamite. The dynamite was used for blasting purposes in the cemetery attached to the crematory and Kellig was carrying twelve sticks of the explosive into a tool house when he stumbled and dropped his bundle. An explosion followed and Kellig was blown to pieces.

Pennsylvania Railroad Tunnel.

New York, Dec. 4.—Governor Odell said today that an act of the legislature granting a franchise for the Pennsylvania railroad tunnel under New York in case the board of aldermen refuse to grant the franchise would be unconstitutional.

Skiff Went Over the Dam.

Rice's Landing, Pa., Dec. 4.—A skiff containing Charles Love, aged 22 years, and John Rock, aged 16 years, went over Dam No. 6 on the Monongahela river, last night, and the occupants were both drowned.

MINISTER BUCK DEAD.

The American Representative to Japan Dies Suddenly. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The Japanese minister called at the state department in haste today to communicate to Secretary Hay that a cablegram which he had received from the minister for foreign affairs at Tokio, dated today, stated that while Mr. Buck, the United States minister to Japan was on a hunting trip this morning, he was taken suddenly ill and expired. Death is said to have been due to heart failure. The hunt which Mr. Buck was attending took place in the suburbs of Tokio. The deceased minister was born in Maine, but was appointed to his post from Georgia, in April, 1897. His service covered a critical and important chapter of Japanese history. The state department will take the necessary steps to see that Mr. Buck's remains are brought to this country for interment if his family so desire. Huntington Wilson, the secretary of legation, will be designated to take charge.

CONNECTICUT CATTLE ARE NOW INFECTED

Spread of the New England Foot and Mouth Disease Is Alarming. Cases in Rhode Island. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Waterbury, Conn., Dec. 4.—Byron Bridge, of this city, has discovered in a herd of twenty cows on a dairy farm at Goshen nine cases of foot and mouth disease. One cow died early last spring, after a terrible swelling of the tongue. Of the nine cases now reported, six cows were saved by extracting the ulcers in their feet and by careful cleansing methods. The other three cases could not be cured. The cows, as soon as afflicted with the ailment, are said to immediately cease giving any regular quantity of milk. These are the first authentic reports of the disease in this state.

Boston, Dec. 4.—Shipments of cattle may be made to Great Britain from Portland, Me., but without sanitary disease is being fought in New England. A cable message from England received yesterday by C. P. Jameson, general manager of the Dominion line, announced the British government will allow cattle loaded at Portland to be landed in Great Britain if they can be got on board ship without passing through an infected district. At present there are no known cases of the foot and mouth disease in Maine, and the state is not quarantined by the United States government.

In a telegram to Acting Secretary of Agriculture Moore, Dr. Salmon says that the situation here is very serious, and that there are about 3,000 cattle in the herds known to be affected. New cases, he says, are constantly being found. Extensive outbreaks of the disease have occurred in Vermont, but Dr. Salmon believes the situation can be handled by slaughtering and disinfecting the herds. Providence, R. I., Dec. 4.—The spread of the foot and mouth disease among cattle in this state is becoming alarming. Thirty-seven cattle on two farms in North Providence and Lincoln were found to be affected yesterday. Two men who have been tending these herds have the disease.

IMMIGRANTS ARE HELD.

Commissioner Is Determined Upon More Rigid Inquiry. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Dec. 4.—Out of 2,900 immigrants arriving here today on three steamships, five or six were held for examination by the board of inquiry at Ellis island. This is the largest proportionate number of immigrants ever detained on the island, of those arriving within the last ten days, sixty-two were deported yesterday.

It is understood that the immigration commissioner had determined on a more rigid inquiry into destinations, business and financial status of immigrants and also on a more thorough inspection of them with a view to preventing the entrance of contract laborers and persons suffering from contagious diseases.

SNOW EXPECTED TODAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 4.—The south storm in conjunction with a high area now over Lake Superior will cause snow Friday over the northeastern districts, probably heavy in New England and New York, northwestern New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania. There will be also rain or snow in south portion of the middle Atlantic states, while in the south the weather will clear. There will also be snow in the lake region, the central valleys, the northwest and extreme central west.

Two Children Burned to Death.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 4.—A special to the Free Press from Saginaw, Mich., says that two children of Mrs. Anselmy Bowers, 94 State street, were burned to death this afternoon, when the mother left them alone in the house for a few minutes. One child was a girl of six years of age and the other an infant of two months.

Princeton's Football Captain.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 4.—At a meeting tonight of the foot ball club who played in the Yale-Princeton game, John R. Dewitt, 184, right guard on the team, was elected to succeed Ralph Davis, 184, who was re-elected but declined to act as captain for another season.

An Allentown Shoplifter.

Allentown, Pa., Dec. 4.—Mrs. Mary Shopliffe was arrested this evening in the act of shoplifting. Police searched her home and found thousands of dollars worth of articles including 122 silk neckties, hundreds of yards of lace, three fur coats, several silk dresses, boxes of buttons

PANAMA CANAL TREATY SOON

Dr. Herran Representing the Colombian Government Is Preparing to Rush Negotiations.

DEADLOCK DUE TO MINISTER CONCHA

The State Department Now Understands That Concha Acted Wholly Upon His Own Views in Blocking Cession—Resort to Telegraph Now to Hasten Procedure—Improved Prospects for Satisfactory Treaty with Colombia Will Suspend All Negotiations with Nicaragua. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Negotiations for canal treaty have been resumed with Dr. Herran, representing the Colombian government, and the state department is hopeful of being able to present a treaty to the senate within a short time. The firm attitude of this government in its refusal to be lured by the South American republic seems to have brought about a better understanding, and Minister Herran has approached negotiations in a more liberal frame of mind than his predecessor, Mr. Concha, exhibited.

Mr. Herran has been a resident of this country for many years, and has a better understanding of American characteristics than most of the men who come to Washington to represent South American governments. He has been secretary of the Colombian legation for several years. He has begun this country with arrangements in a way that encourages the hope of speedy and practical results.

There are certain communications that Dr. Herran will have to exchange with his government at Bogota before the final draft of the treaty can be agreed upon, but it is understood that these communications will be made by telegraph rather than to wait for the slow transmission of the mails. It is not usual to settle such serious negotiations in this way, but time is very important, and there is no reason why the state department should not accept telegraphic instructions giving Minister Herran full power to close the negotiations.

Concha's Fault.

It now appears that the deadlock created a week ago was due more to the arbitrary assumption of power by Minister Concha than to the misunderstanding or deliberate refusal of the Colombian government to accede to conditions named by the United States. Mr. Concha seemed to regard himself as an ambassador having full power to decide for his government what it should accept, and what interpretations it should place upon its own constitution. His own judgment was that the constitution of Colombia gave no power to congress for the alienation of territory even by perpetual lease. The legal representatives of the state department could find no such prohibition in the Colombian constitution.

The secretary of state has resumed negotiations with the representatives of Nicaragua and Costa Rica for a treaty granting concessions for a Nicaraguan canal also had a good effect on the Colombian government; but it is believed that these negotiations with Nicaragua had a tentativeness character. The president has power under the Spooner bill to negotiate for the Nicaragua route until he has given up the hope of securing the Panama canal.

President's Power.

Senators Spooner and Hanna had a conference with Secretary Hay today and Mr. Spooner tried to make it clear to the secretary that his power to negotiate a treaty with Nicaragua is conditional on the abandonment of all effort to secure the Panama canal. The senator holds that the president's power is explicit and his instructions from congress mandatory.

He is authorized by the Spooner act to purchase the Panama canal when he is satisfied that the company can give a clear title and when that security from Colombia is satisfactory, concession granting the United States perpetual control over the necessary territory for the construction, operation and protection of that waterway. But if he cannot secure these assurances, he is authorized to proceed to negotiate with Nicaragua and Costa Rica and build a canal by that route. The senate would regard a treaty with Nicaragua as an admission that the president had abandoned the Panama route.

The secretary of state has therefore been advised to be careful in regard to his negotiations and not send to the senate a treaty with Nicaragua and Costa Rica until the president has abandoned the hope of completing the Panama canal. The improved prospects for a satisfactory treaty with Colombia will naturally suspend all negotiations between this government and Nicaragua, and these will not be resumed until the president is satisfied that he cannot deal with Colombia.

Killed by Fast Mail.

Greensburg, Dec. 4.—Lizzie Ewert and Maxine Myers, aged about 12 years each, were struck by the fast mail train on the Pennsylvania railroad while crossing the tracks at Southwest Junction today. Miss Ewert was instantly killed and Miss Myers fatally injured. Miss Railing, a companion, escaped unhurt.

Ohio Miners Demand Increase.

Columbus, O., Dec. 4.—It is authoritatively stated that the Ohio miners will demand an increase of 20 cents a ton in the scale for pick-mined coal.

PAINTERS' UNION RESTRAINED.

Supreme Court of New York Interferes in Case of William Potter. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Supreme Court Justice W. O. Howard today granted a writ of mandamus restraining Painters' union, No. 42 of this city, from in any way treating William Potter as not a member of the union. Potter was expelled from the union because he is a member of the militia and as such served as a private during the Hudson river strike.

Potter's complaint states that he has been refused a copy of the accusation, and was never given a trial, hence the expulsion is null and void. On this ground and on the ground that the disqualifying of militiamen, special police officers or deputy sheriffs, is in contravention of public safety, the injunction was applied. Included in the complaint is a letter written by Potter to every master painter in Schenectady asking employment and requesting that if work cannot be given him the reason be stated. Every master painter replied refusing him work, all saying that they would employ him if they could, and one man said frankly that it was a humiliating admission for him to make that he has nothing to say about it. Another said that he was in need of men, but could not employ Potter.

MR. REED'S CONDITION PRONOUNCED CRITICAL

A Philadelphia Specialist Called—Uraemia Has Developed with Alarming Symptoms. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 4.—At 11:30 o'clock tonight the condition of ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed, who has been ill here since Tuesday evening, was reported to be critical. A few minutes before that time, Dr. Gardiner, one of the attending physicians, handed the following bulletin to the press:

"At 10 p. m. Mr. Reed's condition is as follows: Temperature, 100.5; pulse, 88; respiration, 31. He is unconscious, and from some degree of uraemic coma during the afternoon, but his mind is again clear this evening. His appendicitis symptoms are rapidly subsiding, but his condition is not a factor in his present condition. (Signed.)

"W. C. Goodnow, M. D. "E. C. Gardiner, M. D. "T. L. MacDonald, M. D."

Dr. Gardiner made two visits to his patient during the evening, leaving the first time at half past eight o'clock. Later he and Drs. Goodnow and MacDonald came and remained at the hotel for nearly two hours, some of the time with Mr. Reed and the remainder in consultation over his case. Dr. Goodnow, whose name appears to the bulletin tonight in addition to the other physicians, is a Philadelphian and was called into the case as "expert consultant." He expected to leave for home again on the midnight train. Dr. Gardiner was not disposed to talk about the case tonight nor to add anything to the bulletin, saying that it contained an exact statement of Mr. Reed's condition. He did say, however, that Mr. Reed's condition was critical, but that it was better than at 5 o'clock this afternoon. In some reports, Mr. Reed, he added, was better than last night and in some reports he was worse. He was better so far as the appendicitis symptoms were concerned, but the uraemic features give the case a graver aspect. After issuing the bulletin the doctor said he was going home for the night and would leave his assistant, Dr. Bishop, who would remain with Mr. Reed during the night.

BEDFORD BRIDGE BURNED.

Fire Which Destroyed the Structure of Incendiary Origin. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Bedford, Pa., Dec. 4.—The long wooden bridge that crossed the Juniata river at the narrowest of the Bedford and Chambersburg turnpike, about a mile from here, was destroyed by fire this morning.

The fire is believed to have been the work of some persons who have become angered at the protracted litigation over the condemnation of the turnpike by the court and taken the law into their own hands. A notice was posted for the keeper of the toll-gate telling him to move out, as his house would be blown up soon. There is no clue to the incendiaries.

Pershing Locates Spanish Vessels.

Matanzas, Dec. 4.—Captain Pershing has located what is left of a fleet of small gunboats which the Spaniards sank in Lake Llanos, island of Mindanao, in 1898. While returning from Higuay to Camp Vicars recently, Pershing guided the captain to a point where some portions of the wrecks were visible. An effort will probably be made to raise the vessels.

Fireman Decapitated.

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 4.—James Hill, a fireman on the Pennsylvania railroad, was decapitated near Christiana last night. During shifting of the wood ahead of his train as it passed a west-bound train and he was struck by a west-bound train and his head completely severed from his body. His home was in Philadelphia and the body was sent there today.

Justice Holmes Confirmed.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Hon. Oliver Wendell Holmes, was today confirmed by the senate to succeed the late Justice Gray as a member of the bench of the United States Supreme court. There was no opposition and the nomination was not discussed.

To Fill Un-expired Term.

Shamokin, Dec. 4.—James Finley, of Wilburton, elected minor inspector of the Seventh Anthracite district last fall, received notice today of his appointment as inspector for the unexpired term of Inspector Edward Brennan, of this place, who resigned last week.

COMMISSIONERS HEAR FROM MORE MINERS

GERMAN GOVERNMENT STILL DISSATISFIED

Note of President Castro, of Venezuela, Is Deemed Inadequate—An Ultimatum in Prospect.

Berlin, Dec. 4.—The note of President Castro, of Venezuela, presented to the German minister at Caracas a week ago, is not satisfactory to the German government. It is deemed inadequate and as being probably designed to gain further time. Its partial acceptance of the German demands was coupled with conditions that are unacceptable. The exchange of views with the British foreign office has resulted in a decision to proceed with the joint action. An ultimatum will almost certainly be presented in a few days. The phrasing of the note is the subject of present correspondence between the respective governments, whose action will not await the arrival in the West Indies of the cruisers Amazon, Niobe and Aridane, as Germany already has an ample force there. The departure of these cruisers has been indefinitely postponed.

A seemingly inspired article in the Cologne Gazette today says that despite Germany's patience with Venezuela, all hope has been abandoned in Berlin of a peaceful settlement and that Venezuela has treated Germany in a manner almost insulting because Venezuela published official communications without Germany's consent, coupled with improper comment. The statistical evidence which was to be prepared during the ten days' recess is still wanting and nothing is heard of it. The more orderly and expeditious method of procedure which was to be agreed upon by the attorneys is not apparent. Practically all the evidence submitted yesterday concerned companies not represented before the commission, and scarcely a word came from any attorney representing one of the big companies.

PRESIDENT OF LEHIGH VALLEY.

E. B. Thomas Elected to Fill Out the Term of Alfred Walter. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—E. B. Thomas was elected president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad company and the Lehigh Valley Coal company, in place of Alfred Walter, resigned, at special meetings of the boards of directors of those companies held today. Mr. Thomas makes the statement that the Lehigh Valley railroad will be operated independently as heretofore, and in no manner connected with the operations of the Erie railroad or with any other of the trunk lines. While maintaining friendly and cordial relations with all of them, the property, he says, must be worked on its merits. Mr. Thomas is chairman of the board of directors of the Erie railroad.

REGARDING THE CANTEEN.

Records Support the War Department in Recommending Restoration. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 4.—General Bates, paymaster general of the army, has sent a communication to Adjutant General Corbin in regard to the army canteen question in which he says: "The claim of the war department in recommending the restoration of the canteen to the army, during the operations of the canteen law the discipline of the army was superior, desertions much less and that there were fewer fines and forfeitures by court-martial on account of breaches of military discipline resulting from the use of intoxicants by men. The records appear to be fully borne out by the records of the paymaster general's office."

JOHNSTONE STILL ALIVE.

The Doctors Claim That His Recovery Will Be Improbable. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—Barry Johnston, the actor, who last Monday night shot and killed Kate Hassott, of Keith's Bijou Theater Stock company, and then turned the woman upon the fire, is gradually dying at the hospital. During the day he revived slightly, but the physicians say his recovery is impossible. A consultation was held by the doctors today, at which it was decided that an operation to remove the two bullets which Johnstone fired into his breast, would be futile, and they are now awaiting the end. The murdered woman's body was today forwarded to the home of her parents at Aurora, Ill.

Diplomatic Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Dec. 4.—An amendment to the diplomatic appropriation bill, appropriating \$200 for the benefit of the heirs of the late Thomas P. Prentiss, was favorably reported to the senate today from the committee on foreign relations. Mr. Prentiss was United States consul to St. Pierre, Martinique, when that place was destroyed by the eruption of the Mont Pelée volcano, and was among the victims of that disaster.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Dec. 4.—Arrived: Steamers Zealand, Antwerp; Teutonic, Liverpool; Liverpool, arrived, steamer Majestic, New York; Naples, arrived, steamer Frave, New York; Queenstown, sailed, steamer Kron, Prince Wilhelm, from Bremen and Southampton and New York.

Dr. Duncan Out on Bail.

Pittsburg, Dec. 4.—Dr. Ellis S. Duncan, who is charged with shooting Bruce Pennington, held on \$10,000 bail, was released from jail in Pittsburg today. Head is reported out of danger.

EMPLOYEES OF COXE BROS. & CO., SUSQUEHANNA COAL CO. AND D. L. AND W. GO. ON STAND.

THERE WAS LITTLE CROSS-EXAMINATION

Attorneys for the Big Companies Sit Back in Their Chairs and Allow the Statements of the Miners' Witnesses, for the Most Part, to Go Unchallenged—Local Independent Operators and Mr. Lenahan for the Non-union Men Do the Bulk of What Little Cross-examining Is Done—Commissioners Ask Some Questions.

Yesterday nothing occurred to halt and nothing occurred to further the impression gained by many at the sessions of the Mine Strike commission that the parties to the controversy are expecting another interruption for the active renewal of the negotiations for amicable settlement.

The statistical evidence which was to be prepared during the ten days' recess is still wanting and nothing is heard of it. The more orderly and expeditious method of procedure which was to be agreed upon by the attorneys is not apparent. Practically all the evidence submitted yesterday concerned companies not represented before the commission, and scarcely a word came from any attorney representing one of the big companies.

It was given out the night before that the miners would proceed during the succeeding three or four days with the examination of witnesses from the Hazleton district. The witnesses from the collieries of Coxe Bros. & Co.—an unrepresented company—were exhausted before adjourning time, and instead of taking up the other and represented companies from that district the miners stepped over the mountain to Nanticoke, in the Wilkes-Barre district, and took up the consideration of affairs at the collieries of another unrepresented company. There were not enough of these to fill in the remainder of the day, and another skip was taken up the valley to Scranton, and a couple of Delaware, Lackawanna and Western witnesses put on to tell harmless stories about being refused employment. The only one to controvert any considerable amount of testimony was Attorney John T. Lenahan, representing the non-union men. Attorney H. C. Reynolds, of the Hazleton district, and several of the independent operators themselves, helped some in filling in the day by asking a few questions now and then on rather general matters. As far as furthering the work of the commission is concerned the day was not what might be properly termed a big success.

Not Yet Instructed. At the opening of the morning session, Attorney Wolverton stated to the commission that he had not heard from Coxe Bros. & Co., as to whether he should or should not cross-examine the witnesses who were being put on from this company's mines. He hoped, however, by 2 o'clock to be able to say definitely whether or not he would conduct such cross-examinations. At 2 o'clock Mr. Wolverton asked to be further indulged until morning as he had not been able to get in communication with the company. It was brought out later on the witness stand that Mr. Cuddeback, of Coxe Bros. & Co., was in the city during the day. It appears, however, he did not come clothed with authority to advise the counsel as to whether or not the company would become a party to the hearings.

General interest in the proceedings seem to be materially on the wane. Yesterday morning for the first time in the history of the sessions there were vacant seats, both in and out of the bar enclosure. Usually, it has been that the four policemen and as many more independent operators were particularly brought out some important qualifications by questions regarding statements that seemed to them, vague, unreasonable and erroneous. Scores of half truths would have gone on the record unchallenged had it not been for the commissioners' questions.

For instance, a fireman from one of

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WEATHER FORECAST. Washington, Dec. 4.—Forecast for Friday and Saturday—Eastern Pennsylvania: Rain or snow in a squall, snow probably heavy in northern portion Friday; brisk to high, cold this night; Saturday, fair, cold.