

Republican News Item.

VOL. XIV. NO 28

LAPORTE, SULLIVAN COUNTY PA. FRIDAY NOVEMBER 26, 1909.

75C PER YEAR

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CAPITAL STOCK \$50,000

W. C. FRONTZ President.

Surplus and Net Profits, 75,000.

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A. T. & T. NOW RULES WESTERN UNION

Passes Into Hands of American Telephone and Telegraph Company at Once

GOULDS LOSE THEIR CONTROL

Plan to Aid Public by Better Service—Postal and Commercial Cable Company Largest Stockholder in the American Corporation.

New York, N. Y., Nov. 23.—Control of the Western Union Telegraph Company, long regarded as one of the chief properties in which the Gould family was interested, has passed into other hands.

Announcement came from the head offices of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, the operating corporation of the Bell system in Boston, that this company had obtained the control of a substantial minority interest in the shares of the Western Union, and George J. Gould late in the day acknowledged in a formal statement that the interests he represented had sold a large part of their holdings to the telephone company.

While the move had been forecast for months in the financial district, its actual consummation caused a stir, and persons familiar with the telegraph and telephone situation in the United States saw in the announcement the first long step toward ultimate control of wire communication by interests which will work in complete harmony.

Officers of the Postal Telegraph Company said yesterday that the Postal would remain independent, and this statement was regarded as consistent with the announcement from Boston, inasmuch as the Mackay Companies, a voluntary association which owns the entire capital stock of the Postal and Commercial Cable companies, is the largest individual stockholder in the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Both in cutting down expenses and in the combination of office forces wherever there has been rivalry and duplication of effort heretofore it is figured that total outlay for equipment and office expense will be lessened by a very large percentage. With the American Telephone and Company dominating the Western Union and working hand in hand with the Postal many persons foresee elimination of competition, and a rivalry which at best will be entirely friendly. Officers of the Bell system believe the telephone company will save \$75,000,000 in new construction. It is understood that the Gould stock taken over by the telephone company represents about 25 per cent. of the outstanding \$99,787,000 capital stock of the Western Union, the total authorized amount of which is \$125,000,000. Acquisitions from other sources, it is said, bring the amount of Western Union stock held by the telephone company to about 28 per cent. of the total outstanding. This is the biggest corporation merger since the formation of the Steel Trust.

HAD TO CONFESS

Thief Admits Robbing Gas Meter, Causing Girl's Death.

Philadelphia, Nov. 23.—Conscience stricken and unable to sleep for two days by knowledge of the crime that he had committed, John McDavitt confessed to smashing a gas meter in the Meyer Building, No. 1732 South 29th street, to steal \$2.75, and causing the death of Martha Ryan, who was asleep in an upper room. The confession of McDavitt, implicating two companions in the robbery, may send them to the gallows.

With John Barrett and William McCullough, McDavitt said he broke into the cellar of the house and wrenched the meter from the gas tube before committing the theft.

NEW VACCINE FOR PNEUMONIA

Dr. Leary of Tufts Medical School Offers it to Doctors Free.

Boston, Nov. 23.—That a great step forward is probable in the treatment of pneumonia, is the important announcement from the Tufts Medical School, being the presentation to the medical world of a new vaccine, one for the treatment of pneumonia.

The new vaccine for pneumonia is the discovery of the laboratories of pathology and bacteriology of Tufts, of which Dr. Timothy Leary is the chief. In his statement Dr. Leary announces that the new pneumococcus vaccine will be given to any registered physician of the State who applies for it, absolutely free of cost.

NEIGHBORS BANISH BANKER FROM TOWN

Stories Told by Little Girls Result in Matches Exile from Little Falls.

Little Falls, N. J., Nov. 23.—Adverse public opinion, aroused by stories told by little girls, has forced Charles Matches, 55 years old, vice president of the Little Falls National Bank, secretary of the Board of Education and of the Little Falls Building and Loan Association and prominent in the local insurance field, to become an exile from the town in which he was born and in which he has held a conspicuous place for twenty years. He and his wife left here and went to Montclair Heights, where the mother of Mrs. Matches lives. That was the culmination of a scandal which has been talked of in Little Falls for many days. His hasty removal is attributed to the fact that a committee of prominent citizens waited on him and informed him that if he did not agree to leave the State of New Jersey at once and never return they would have him prosecuted for practices of which they accused him and the stories of which had aroused the adverse public sentiment. It is asserted he agreed to go. Anyway, he went away with his wife and all their belongings, and members of the committee were infuriated when they learned that, far from leaving the State, he merely was going only a little way beyond the township line and would settle in Montclair Heights.

Before Matches went away he admitted the committee had waited on him in his home and had allowed him twenty-four hours in which to leave town. He said he married a little more than a year ago, and that his wife has been lonely in Little Falls.

During the afternoon there was some disquiet over a story that the county authorities had begun an investigation and indictments might result, and that there was a serious question as to those concerned not being liable for compounding a felony. No verification of this, could be had. Assistant Prosecutor Ralph Shaw lives here in Little Falls, but is not on duty owing to a death in his family.

GOMPERS CHOSEN

Federation of Labor Re-elects Renowned Official as President.

Toronto, Nov. 23.—After unanimously re-electing President Samuel Gompers, Second Vice-President John Mitchell, Secretary Frank Morrison and other executive officers, and selecting St. Louis as the place for holding the next meeting, the twenty-ninth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, which had been in session here for two weeks, adjourned. Uncertainty as to whether an appeal to the United States Supreme Court will be allowed in the Bucks Stove and Range contempt proceedings and the possibility that Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison may have to go to jail, hung like a cloud over the closing convention and the renomination of the trio was the signal for noisy demonstrations of approval.

THREE BURIED ALIVE

Mine Caves in at Mount Hope, N. J., 500 Feet Below Surface.

Morristown, N. J., Nov. 23.—Three men were buried alive in the Leonard mine of the Empire Steel and Iron Works, at Mount Hope. The men are under thirty feet of dirt and rocks in a drift 500 feet below the surface. They are Andrew Betner, Michael Rosack and Frank Krans. According to the miners who were in the drift at the time of the cave-in and who narrowly escaped with their lives, there was no warning of the disaster.

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN DEAD

Publisher of the "Sun" Succumbs to Operation for Appendicitis.

New York, N. Y., Nov. 22.—William M. Laffan, successor of the late Charles A. Dana in the management of the New York Sun, and publisher of that newspaper for the last twenty-five years, died at his home in Lawrence, L. I. An operation for appendicitis had been performed on Monday. He was well known as a man of letters and an art connoisseur, and his influence in journalism was far-reaching.

KILLED BY FALL FROM HORSE

Eugene Unger, a Newark Silversmith, Victim of Accident.

Madison, N. J., Nov. 22.—An hour after he had been thrown by his saddle horse Eugene Unger, president and treasurer of the firm of Unger Brothers, silversmiths, of Newark, died at his home here. In falling Mr. Unger's head struck a stone in the driveway, and a hemorrhage of the brain resulted. He was sixty-eight years old.

MINERS OUT OF DEATH'S JAWS

Twenty of the Men in the Cherry, Ill., Disaster Are Brought Up Alive

THEY BUILT SAFETY BARRICADE

Walled Up a Chamber So That the Gas Could not Reach Them and Then Sat Down to Wait—Had a Little Food, Which was Divided Up.

Cherry, Ill., Nov. 23.—One week to the minute after fire started in the St. Paul mine, entombing more than three hundred miners and bringing upon them what looked like inevitable death, twenty were rescued. Almost the last hope for life had faded away.

There was then some reason to believe that others were alive in the mine. Some estimates went as high as 100. This aroused the rescuers to a frenzy of labor. The rescuers will work night and day until it is settled.

Hysteria and humor were intermingled in the scenes incident to the deliverance of the men, who had sat during the slow passing hours and days with death at their elbow, into fresh air and into the arms of their families.

In spite of their long burial and the accepted belief that a short time under such conditions seems an age, some of the men thought that it had been only twenty-four hours since the fire started.

Cut off by the flames in one of the tunnels the men had rushed in terror to the shaft, where escape was impossible, and then back to a chamber at the further end. Assembled here under the leadership of George Eddy, one of the mine examiners, who was below when the fire started, the entrapped men, panting with excitement and fear, took counsel.

Soon after they had arrived at the chamber some rocks and dirt fell into the passage, partly blocking it. This fortuitous happening helped them to carry out an idea they already had. The men under Eddy's direction began to add to the obstruction. They made a barrier between themselves and the noxious gases which in a short time would certainly stifle them if permitted to enter.

When the entrance had been closed the men sat down to wait for deliverance or death.

When hope was nearly gone, the miners sought consolation in prayer, and as it seemed that human aid could not reach them, they were led by William Clelland and Walter Waite in song.

The men, suffering from intolerable thirst, lapped up the trickling water from the coal rifts which they had broken open. Banded together in their fight for life, they battled day and night, not knowing the possibility of rescue without hope.

The relief corps, while working, heard the cries of the men behind the debris of rock of the wreckage. They worked like demons to reach the imprisoned men. In a short time they had broken down the barrier and carried two of the men to safety.

The condition of most of the men is marvellous. They inquired for their homes and children.

When the first two living men were brought to the surface the scene was dramatic in the extreme. Screams of joy were heard on every side.

John Semmick was among the living brought out. His wife and two children are delirious with joy and threw themselves on the ground, kissing the feet of the rescuers.

Hundreds of men, women and children flocked madly to the shaft as the news spread like wildfire.

Dr. Howe, the physician in charge of the rescuing party, said this is the most remarkable recovery in the history of mine disasters in the world.

NO MORE FOOTBALL

Game is Declared Too Dangerous for Lads of New York City.

New York, N. Y., Nov. 22.—Football as a recognized sport by the official heads of New York public schools has been abolished.

Action looking toward the elimination of the most popular branch of sport in the schools was taken by the Board of Superintendents of New York public schools at a meeting.

The action is more sweeping than any that has yet been taken against the game, as it included in its effect the abolition of the game at a large number of institutions.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared in the Canadian House nothing in the new French treaty could be construed as discrimination against the United States.

WORLD NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Covering Minor Happenings From All Over the Globe

DOMESTIC.

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, gave its first recognition to other Christian Science churches by having read from the pulpit the order and time of service in various churches.

Boston reported that Mrs. Stetson would resign as a trustee of the New York Christian Science Church and would give up her \$5,000 a year salary.

James J. Hill said national extravagance had grown to an extremely serious height.

St. Paul Mine at Cherry, Ill., was flooded with water, which failed to quench the fire, and the opinion was general that the 300 entombed miners were dead. Gov. Deneen was asked for troops to quell a riot expected when the news is told the miners' families.

One human being is killed an hour and one injured every ten minutes, said W. E. Park to the New York and New England Association of Railway Surgeons, but he reported progress was being made in safeguarding life.

John M. Briggs, an independent ice dealer, testified in New York that he hunted Charles W. Morse with a revolver for two weeks because the Ice Trust persisted in spoiling the crop of rivals on the Hudson River.

Canon Peters declared that the increase in socialism is due to Thomas F. Ryan, the late E. H. Harriman, and in general to the way great business affairs are being conducted.

Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson appeared before the directors of the Mother Church of Christian Science in Boston, and her hearing was begun on charges that may lead to excommunication.

Evidence tending to show that the American Ice Company sent boats up the Hudson River early in 1900 to break up the ice of rival companies was given in the anti-trust case.

WASHINGTON.

The United States intends to obtain speedy reparations from Nicaragua; the transport Buffalo is under hurry orders for Panama, and the Pacific will probably be sent to Colon, whence they could carry marines to enforce demands.

Addressing the National Press Club at Washington, Henry Watterson deprecated the tendency toward sensationalism in newspapers.

The Attorney-General and Secretary MacVeagh were told by the Cabinet to collect all money due from the Sugar Trust and to prosecute all persons involved in the sugar frauds.

The Civil Service Commission asserted that twenty-two assistant weighers at the Custom House in New York were involved.

Gifford Pinchot is said to have written a peremptory letter to President Taft, demanding that he choose between the Chief Forester and Secretary Ballinger.

Mr. James B. Reynolds, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, denies the charge that he had hindered the sugar fraud investigation.

The United States Supreme Court sentenced Sheriff Shipp of Chattanooga and two others to ninety days and three men to sixty days' imprisonment because of the lynching of a negro while his case was pending before the court.

There is good reason to believe that the scandalous state of affairs disclosed in connection with the operations of the sugar trust will be made a subject of discussion at a Cabinet meeting.

FOREIGN.

The Viceroy of Pe-Cho-Li has been punished for failure to carry out the ceremonial prescribed at the burial of the Empress Dowager.

President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, reported two revolutionists defeated in battle before Greytown, and that port again open to commerce.

Eugene Higgins and his party and all the crew escaped from the wrecked Varuna, which was being pounded to pieces on a rockbound part of the coast of Madeira.

Official estimates place the damage in Jamaica from the storm at \$1,250,000; five steamers were wrecked, but only the Avalon is a total loss.

The Salvation Army is planning to establish farm colonies in Newfoundland.

Lord Lansdowne, opposition leader in the House of Lords, will move rejection of the budget, which will mean a general election in January.

Advises from Kingston, Jamaica, say that about fifty persons were drowned in the floods on the north coast and that the property loss will not be less than \$1,250,000.

China and Japan sent assurances to the State Department that the recent treaties between those countries would not exclude Americans from mining along the South Manchurian and Antung-Mukden railways.