

NEVER DOUBTED THE BOOKS

Examiner Knew Company Profited, But Said Nothing.

INSPECTION SYSTEM IS LOOSE

No Action Taken on Statements Unless Investigation Is Made—State Department in Dark.

Additional testimony as to the management of the Mutual Life Insurance Company was adduced before the Legislative Committee Insurance Investigation, tending to show that the company used profits from the sale of securities to conceal the reduction of book values of real estate, or losses, as Charles E. Hughes, counsel to the committee, called them.

Francis Hendricks, Superintendent of the State Insurance Department, when on the witness stand said he had never heard of such a thing. After auditors of the Mutual Life had testified to this fact, Chief Examiner Vandervoort of the department declared he had not discovered the matter in his examination of the company last year when, in his report, he gave the company a certificate of "good character." He said these manipulations, were not apparent in the books.

Those transfers of profits to the debit side of the profit and loss account were made by the auditors upon instruction of President McCurdy and Vice President Grannis, and the written instructions were produced. They named the figures that reduce the accounts. Last year while there was a profit of almost \$1,500,000 when the transfers were made no profit whatever was shown.

Vandervoort said he had examined the report of 1904, which showed no profits from the sale of securities, although he knew this was untrue, he did not think it was necessary.

The same situation existed in the New York Life, according to Vandervoort, although the practice was not general. When asked what he did he said, "Nothing."

Vandervoort said he had examined the Hanover Bank account of the New York Life in 1904 and did not find the \$100,000 that was paid to Andrew Hamilton.

Vandervoort never knew of the year-end loans of the Metropolitan Life to Vermlie & Co. and never knew how the company handled its collateral loans. He said he never in an examination of a company or went back to its ledgers.

Henry D. Appleton, second deputy in the Insurance Department, testified as to his duties and detailed legislation that had been advised by the department to control assessments of companies. Appleton said that no more attention is paid to the statement of a New York company than is paid to the statement of a company incorporated in any other State. He said no actual inspection is made of a report unless an examination is made.

Suit Over Civil War Seizures.
Secretary Shaw and the United States treasurer are defendants in a suit instituted in the Federal court at Washington to recover from the Government \$250,000, the value of 25 steamboats alleged to have been taken from James E. Montgomery during the Civil War by the Government. The suit is brought by the trustee of the Montgomery estate. The petition states that Mr. Montgomery opposed secession, but was compelled to cast his lot with the Confederacy. He became a commodore in the Confederate navy, but was the first Confederate officer to take the oath of allegiance after the war.

Fire Destroys Four Homes.
Fire at Ridgely, opposite Cumberland, Md., destroyed two double houses owned by Mrs. Laura Bussard of Cumberland. The double houses owned by Adison Martin, of Ridgely. The loss is about \$15,000. William H. Deal, of Clearfield county, Pa., a boarder at the Schrader home, fell downstairs while carrying out his trunk, breaking his right leg.

COAL DEALERS FINED
Plead Guilty to Violating Valentine Anti-Trust Law.

The officers of the Cleveland Retail Coal Dealers' association, indicted on the charge of violating the Valentine anti-trust law pleaded guilty in Common Pleas court and were sentenced to pay fines. The three officials who appeared in court were William Schaeffer, president; H. G. Brayton, secretary, and J. V. N. Yates, member of the executive committee. Each of the three defendants was fined \$500 and costs and ordered to stand committed until the same was paid. Each paid the fine and costs at once. Prosecutor Ross then announced that the indictments against the other coal dealers would be nolle.

Twenty-Five May Have Drowned.
About 25 men, it is believed, drowned when the British bark Pass, of Melfort, foundered on the rocks off Amphitrite Point. The greater portion of the wreckage is washing on the rocks in a small bay a quarter of a mile east of Amphitrite point. The bodies of three men have been found.

"Blue Bell" Palled on Him.
At Steubenville, William Owens was convicted of cutting his lifelong friend, William Ayres. The testimony showed that Owens' only provocation for attacking Ayres was that he persisted in singing "Blue Bell" while they were returning from a dance.

Peter Brady and a negro woman, whose life he was attempting to save, were both killed by an express train at Cranford, N. J. Brady was a flagman.

MORALES CHANGES BASE

Fugitive President of Santo Domingo Establishes New Capital.

The greater part of Northern Santo Domingo is said to be in favor of Gen. Morales, the fugitive president of that republic. It is understood that Morales left the capital in order to join his partisans in the north, and Gen. Rodriguez, the governor of Monte Cristi, with his followers, has gone to meet Morales. Rodriguez's forces are said to be numerous.

It is claimed that the report that Morales intends to establish a new capital at Monte Cristi is correct and that he will use that place as a base from which he will endeavor to suppress the uprising of the Caeceras party at the old capital of Santo Domingo.

The State department at Washington had another dispatch from Santo Domingo confirming the report that President Morales was said to be about 15 miles west of Santo Domingo city fighting the troops of the cabinet.

THREE MINERS KILLED

Dynamite Explodes and Men Are Blown to Pieces.

A premature explosion of a dynamite charge in the Kantner mine at Stoyestown, Pa., resulted in the death of three men. The dead are: Charles Johnson, 28 years old and married; William Savage, 41 years old and married; Edward Berkebile, 32 years old and married.

The explosion occurred just as the men were getting ready to quit work for the night. They had prepared a big shot of dynamite and were about to place it in the hole when it was prematurely discharged. The miners were literally blown to pieces. The mine in which the accident occurred is a new one and the drift has run only 25 feet. Johnson's body was hurled out of the drift 20 feet into the open. The three men killed were the only ones working at the time.

PAYMASTER HELD UP

Attacked by Gang of Five Highwaymen and Robbed of \$3,000.

Near New Brunswick, N. J., five robbers stole a satchel containing \$3,000 in cash. On a main highway, in broad daylight, paymaster William Schieck of the Delaware River Quarry and Construction Company was robbed of the money which he was carrying to pay off 200 Italian laborers of the company. With him was one companion, but both men were unarmed.

They were carrying the money in a carriage and were attacked while driving through the woods. Five men wearing handkerchiefs over their faces jumped out from behind trees, each man carrying a revolver. The paymaster gave up the money satchel without resistance. The robbers then backed away into the woods.

Balkan States Forming Union.

The reports from Belgrade, Serbia, to the effect that Serbia and Bulgaria are about to establish a customs union, are regarded here as important not only from an economic standpoint, but as possessing far greater political significance. The steps is looked upon here as evidence that the Balkan states are mutually binding themselves closer together in order to better be able to resist future political pressure on the part of the governments of western Europe.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS

Eight men were killed by a fall of 1,000 tons of iron ore from a slip on the 1,300-foot level of the Newport mine, in Ironwood, Mich.

Judge Gary of the Steel Corporation declared steel demands are increasing 10 per cent, and faster than producing capacity.

An attempt to steal the cope of Pope Marcellus II from Gubbio, near Perugia, Italy, was frustrated. The cope is five centuries old and was once stolen from the cathedral of Ascola.

Prime Minister Fortis has formed a new Italian cabinet, with himself as premier and Marquis San Giuliano minister of foreign affairs.

Speakership Candidate Merritt of New York, accused President Roosevelt of planning to secure control of party machine in several states.

Appointed by President.

Herbert H. D. Peirce, Third Assistant Secretary of State, has been selected by the President as the first American minister of Norway. Charles Denby, chief clerk of the department, has been determined upon as successor to Mr. Peirce in the State department. Official announcement also was made that David Thompson, former minister to Brazil, had been chosen as ambassador to Mexico, to succeed Edwin H. Conger.

Rich Old Maid Weds Coachman.

Miss Margaret B. Fisher, a leader in local society and the richest spinster in Rthaca, N. Y., owning \$300,000 worth of real estate, has married her coachman, Patrick T. Kelley, her junior by 17 years. The marriage was a complete surprise to the friends and relatives of both.

Dividends on Penna. Lines.

The board of directors of the Pennsylvania Company declared an annual dividend of 5 per cent. This is the same dividend declared in December, 1904. The stock of the Pennsylvania Company is owned entirely by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad declared a semi-annual dividend of 2 per cent on the preferred stock and a semi-annual dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on the common stock.

GENERAL MORALES FLEES

President of Santo Domingo Is a Fugitive—Troops in Pursuit.

CAPTAIN OF THE PORT WAS SHOT

Governor of Puerto Plata Defies the General Government and Barricades Town.

Following the announcement that the president of the republic of Santo Domingo, Gen. Carlos F. Morales, had left the capital for an unknown destination, troops were sent in pursuit of the chief magistrate.

Advices received by cable at the State and Navy departments from Santo Domingo indicate that a serious condition of affairs exists there. The captain of the port of Puerto Plata was shot and killed during an insurrectionary movement and the government forces have defied the general government and barricaded the town. The Dominican government had issued a decree removing the governor. The State department has determined that this is an internal difficulty and will not intervene at this stage.

The Secretary of War received the following cablegram from acting controller and receiver of the Dominican customs, Edwards, dated at Santo Domingo:

"Carlos F. Morales, dissatisfied with Cabinet support, left the capital last night with a few followers. His intention is said to be to join the followers of Jimenez in opposition to the followers of Horacio. Conflict between the two forces is imminent, probably in the vicinity of San Juan or vicinity of Puerto Plata. Carlos F. Morales may attempt to establish a new capital and create a new Cabinet. Political excitement but without disturbance here. Receivership is not affected yet."

The immediate cause of the rupture is a desire on the part of Morales to be President in fact as well as in name. Under the Dominican Constitution Vice President Ramon Caeceras and the members of the Cabinet exercise the executive authority in conjunction with the President. Before doing anything, must have the consent of the Council of Secretaries, which very closely resembles the Council of State in France.

THOUSANDS SLAIN

Machine Guns Cut Down Insurgents in Moscow.

All reports agree that the fighting in Moscow Sunday, which continued until midnight, assumed the nature of a butchery by the machine guns of the artillery, grape and cannister being employed mercilessly against the ill-armed insurgents.

Atrocious tales are told of the Cossacks, who piled with vodka until drunk, fired down the streets, sometimes charging with lances. The insurgents displayed great stubbornness in holding barricades, even advancing in a mass to the slaughter where bombs were thrown from the windows.

The artillery was summoned and battered the houses to pieces. The plan of the insurgents, it is stated, is to hold the outskirts and gradually enclose the troops in the center of the city. Leaders announce that an army of 30,000 is concentrated at Orechovskoi, northeast of Moscow, and will soon be ready to march to the city's assistance.

The latest report is that both sides were exhausted at midnight with fighting practically ceased. The streets were in absolute darkness save for searchlights in the towers of bivouacs behind the barricades.

The number of killed is estimated at 5,000 and wounded at 14,000.

Report \$22,000 in Fees Illegal.

According to the report of the examiners of the Ohio State bureau of inspection, more than \$22,000 in alleged illegal fees has been collected by officers of Montgomery county in 18 months ending September 1, 1905.

To Build 600 Engines.

Six hundred locomotives will be built for the Pennsylvania railroad system in 1906, at an estimated cost of \$11,000,000. Orders for 500 have been approved by directors of the several companies composing the Pennsylvania system. Directors of the Pennsylvania company, at a meeting held in Broad street station, Philadelphia, authorized the construction of 115 locomotives for the lines west of Pittsburgh.

Jerome's Plurality 15,064.

District Attorney W. T. Jerome's plurality was increased by nearly 5,000 by the official returns made public by the board of elections in New York. His plurality is 15,064, instead of 11,450, as originally printed. This gain was the result of corrections made by the board of canvassers and the counting of so-called voted and protested ballots before Justice Giegeich.

Two bombs were thrown at the prefecture of police, of Moscow, killing two policemen, and wounding a soldier.

Killed at Crossing.

Returning home after gladdening the hearts of relatives and friends with Christmas gifts Charles H. Hansen, a well-to-do farmer and his 8-year-old daughter, Edna, were killed by a Reading railway train at Camp Hill, near Philadelphia. Father and daughter were riding in a runabout and were crossing the railroad tracks when the fast train came upon them. Their view of the approaching express was obstructed by a high embankment.

WARN ENGINEER IN VAIN

Train on B. & O. Runs Into Rock Though Boys Try Hard to Flag It.

Baltimore & Ohio passenger train No. 12, consisting of eight passenger coaches and Pullman cars, was wrecked near Davisville, a few miles east of Grafton. Engineer Phillips says he saw a lot of small boys on the platform at Davisville waving their hats and arms, but never thought they were warning him of danger, and so passed on at the rate of 40 miles and hour. When the engine swung around the curve Phillips saw a large rock on the track ahead. He applied the emergency brake and reversed, but succeeded only in lessening the speed of the train, which crashed into the stone with great force. The engine was disabled and the passengers shaken up. The boys had seen the rock roll down on the tracks, and being unable to remove it, had divided their party and started both ways to warn an approaching train.

HELD FOR FATHER'S DEATH

Son Defending His Mother Strikes Other Parent Down.

Defending his mother against her quarrelling husband, Joseph Pollock, aged 22, of 138 West Cumberland street, Philadelphia, struck his father in the face, which resulted in his death.

William Pollock, the husband, was called to Christmas dinner by his wife. He became angry because his sleep had been disturbed and was in the act of striking his wife when the son stopped the blow. This enraged the husband, who struck the son and the latter retaliated by hitting his father. The child sustained a fracture of the skull by his head striking the kitchen stove. He died on the way to the hospital.

The son has been arrested charged with the murder and his mother is held as a witness.

TWO BROTHERS PERISH

Seven Members of Family, Including Blind Father, Escape.

The dwelling of Jeremiah Davis, a farmer, living near Johnstown, W. Va., was destroyed by fire. Two sons were cremated. They were Jefferson Davis, 16 years old; William Davis, 20 years old.

Seven members of the family, including the father, who is 80 years old and blind, escaped from the burning house. The two sons who lost their lives were sleeping in an upper room, and it is supposed they were suffocated by smoke. All the household effects were consumed. There was no insurance. A spark flying from a wood fire in an old-style open grate is believed to have caused the fire.

DOUBLE LYNCHING REPORTED

Two Negroes Taken from Lockup and Literally Shot to Pieces.

News of a double lynching at Barnwell, S. C., has been received. Sheriff Creech has wired Gov. Heyward that the affair was brutal murder; that helpless prisoners were butchered in open daylight and that the officers were guilty of dereliction of duty. H. S. Craddock, a well-known white merchant, was killed by Frank and John de Loache, negroes, who were arrested by the constable and placed in a lockup. The men were taken out and shot to death with guns and pistols Friday.

Boston Wool Market.

High prices continue in the wool market, in which a fair amount of business is done for the season. The current quotations in the market were about as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 35c; X 33@34c; No. 1, 32@33c; No. 2, 33@34c; No. 3, 32@33c; quarter blood, unwashed, 32 1/2@34c; 3/4 blood, unwashed, 29@30c; fine washed delaine, 30 1/2@32c; Michigan fine unwashed, 26@27c; 1/4 blood unwashed, 32 1/2@33c; 3/4 blood, 33@34c; 1/2 blood, 32 1/2@33c; unwashed delaine, 28c.

THREE MEN KILLED

Kentucky Shooting Match Ends in Fight and Tragedy.

At Big Fork, Ky., a crowd of men congregated at a turkey shooting match. A dispute arose over the match and a general disturbance in which John Duff and Jacob Wilson shot and killed Joseph Wilson and Alexander Little shot and killed Mack Roberts, a deputy sheriff. Duff and Wilson were arrested. Little escaped. At Goose Creek, James Creech was shot by William Vanover in a quarrel.

DEATH IN PUNCH BOWL

Alleged That Strychnine Was Used in Drink Served at Banquet.

At Torreon, Mex., nine persons were poisoned at a banquet have died and many others are ill. It is alleged that the poisoning was part of a political plot. Strychnine was put into a bowl of punch. All the dead are said to have been of one political faction. The members of the opposing faction who attended the banquet were not affected by the punch they drank.

Confederate Veteran Dead.

Maj. James C. Lacoste, a Confederate veteran, who took a prominent part in the firing of the first gun at Fort Sumter, died at Birmingham, Ala., aged 65. He came to this city from Charleston, S. C.

Frightful Slaughter of Tartars.

A dispatch from Constantinople says that the Turkish consul at Batoum reports that the Armenians are massacring Tartars at the rate of 500 daily.

POLES PLAN A REBELLION

Encouraged by Success of Insurgents in Baltic Provinces.

SMALL BOY THROWS A BOMB

is Allowed to Approach Because of His Youth, and Terrific Explosion Follows.

According to information received by the revolutionary leaders in St. Petersburg an armed rebellion on a large scale has been planned in Poland.

The Socialist revolutionaries, encouraged by the success of the insurgents in the Baltic provinces, and of the situation at Moscow and in Russia generally, have decided that the moment has come to try to cast off the yoke of the autocracy.

The correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph at St. Petersburg, as an instance of the ferocity of the struggle conducted at Kharkoff, relates as follows what he calls a "typical incident."

"A little boy was seen approaching Kenney square, where a detachment of Cossacks was stationed. The Cossacks, however brutal, draw the line at children, and the boy was allowed to approach, and the boy swung his right hand vigorously and then turned and ran, a violent explosion preventing the Cossacks noting his further movements.

"The boy had thrown a bomb which plowed up the ground. Fragments of horses were all around and some of the Cossacks convulsed in the agonies of death while streams of blood were flowing along the torn-up roadway."

RECORD BROKEN

Heaviest Order for Structural Steel Ever Booked by Carnegies.

The "Iron Trade Review" says:

"The Carnegie Steel Company last week booked the heaviest tonnage of structural steel of any week in its history, in spite of the fact that it was unable to promise delivery on any of the material before three or four months, while in some instances shipments will be delayed fully six months. The American Bridge Company expects to book enough orders this week to make the total for the year a new record. Sales of rails during the past 10 days aggregate nearly 200,000 tons, a remarkable total in view of the heavy orders already on the books. Among the recent sales were: Erie, 52,000 tons; West Maryland, 5,000 tons; Florida East Coast, 16,000 tons; Gainesville Midland, 3,500 tons; Oklahoma railroad, 15,000 tons; Trolley roads, 15,000 to 20,000 tons. "The Eastern bar iron manufacturers have reaffirmed their official price of \$30 on bar iron, but are exacting premiums of from \$5 to \$10 per ton.

COAL MEN INDICTED

Leading Fuel Concerns Charged With Conspiracy.

The Grand Jury returned a joint indictment against representatives of the leading coal companies in Cincinnati. The indictment includes over 20 names. The indictment is for "conspiracy in restriction of trade." It charged that these companies or their representatives have associated themselves together to fix and establish prices of coal and that the price to the consumer was controlled absolutely by them.

Little Girl Cremated.

Mr. and Mrs. George Banger of Cecil, Pa., left their 11-year-old daughter alone at home Christmas eve while they went to do some shopping. When the parents returned the daughter's body was found, burned almost to a crisp. It is believed that the child attempted to light the candles on a Christmas tree and set fire to her clothes.

Many Hurt in Wreck.

Two trolley cars crowded with passengers collided at the foot of a steep incline on the line of the Tamaqua & Lansford railway, near Tamaqua, Pa., injuring a number of persons. George Eneis a passenger, was probably fatally hurt. Bernard Glick, John S. Kike and Mike Solinsky, passengers, and Martin Reese, motor-man, were seriously injured.

Four Hurt in Wreck.

Four trainmen were seriously injured in a freight wreck on the Pennsylvania railroad at Hartsdale, Ind. The injured: Edward Manus, engineer, internally; F. L. Messer-smith, fireman; R. C. Berkshire, brakeman, and L. Duckwall, student freeman. The injured live at Logansport.

Seven Drowned in Shipwreck.

The three-masted schooner Sakata, of Parburo, Nova Scotia, has been wrecked and its crew of seven men drowned. They include John Conlin, managing owner of the schooner, and his son, both of Parburo; John Cox, of St. Johns, the steward, and four seamen.

Death at Holiday Frolic.

A bloody riot among negroes was reported from Ewing, a turpentine camp between Fargo and St. George, on the Georgia Southern & Florida railroad. The riot was the result of a Christmas frolic among negroes, who had been drinking. A general fusillade occurred and probably 50 shots were fired. Two negroes were killed outright, three were mortally wounded, and died later, while eight others received bullet wounds.

ANOTHER STEEL COMBINE

Proposed Consolidation of Independent Plants.

Unconfirmed rumors are current of the proposed consolidation of independent iron and steel interests into a \$150,000,000 holdings company. The reported consolidation, it is said, will embrace the Republic Iron & Steel Company, the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company, the Sloss-Sheffield Company and the LaBelle Iron Works, John A. Topping, who retires as president of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company, is reported as being slated for the presidency of the new corporation.

Rumors of the big deal are strengthened by the absorption of the controlling interest in the Tennessee company by the Republic company last week and the fact that Edward N. Ohl has secured options on the controlling interest in the LaBelle Iron Company at substantial figures. The option has as yet been exercised, but it is believed that Mr. Ohl has been acting for the proposed consolidation.

ENDS DANGER OF STRIKE

New York Building Trades Unions Sign Trade Agreement.

No workers were happier on Christmas than the 100,000 skilled men in the building trades in New York, when it was announced that every union, with the exception of the housesmiths and bridgemen, had signed a trade agreement of from one to three years, to go into effect on January 1 next.

By this action the unions have officially repudiated the strike of the structural iron workers.

In many of the trades the prevailing wage will continue for the coming year. The wages of the house carpenters, however, will be increased 30 cents a day, and the cabinet makers will receive an increase of 22 cents, beginning next July.

ALLEGED BLACK HAND THREAT

Rich Man Told to Give \$2,400 or Have His House Blown Up.

"Charles M. Crouse, one of the wealthiest men in Syracuse, N. Y., has received two strange letters from some person who pretends to be a member of the Black Hand, threatening to blow up Mr. Crouse's house if he did not place \$2,400 in a cigar box on the curb in front of his residence, to be called for in the night. The letters were turned over to the police.

The second letter said that dynamite would be used on Mr. Crouse's house and that an attempt would be made on the lives of his family, if he did not produce the money.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

The revolt at Moscow is practically at an end and troops have control of the situation.

From the standpoint of the government the situation in St. Petersburg is much improved.

The safe in the Corinth Deposit Bank at Corinth, Ky., was robbed of \$2,500.

Much opposition has developed to the joint steehold program in congress.

Much Pittsburg money has been invested in new Cuban railroad to develop vast sugar districts.

A heavy earthquake shock was felt at Bakersfield, Cal., and several buildings were damaged.

The official count of New York vote on mayor was completed, giving McClellan majority of 3,472.

It was reported in New York that the Standard Oil Company will in-balance its capital from \$100,000,000 to \$800,000,000.

The Vatican white book, which has reached Paris attempts to throw on us for separation of church and state on French cabinets.

L. H. Finstad of Los Angeles at whose home two Americans were killed and one wounded at Diaz, Mex., has been arrested by the Mexican authorities.

President Roosevelt signed the Panama canal appropriation bill and Secretary Shaw stated that bonds would not be issued at present.

At Kalamazoo, Mich., David and Thomas Fuller, brothers, aged 70 years, died in Thomas' home at Bronson from poisoning. They ate meat tainted by standing on a tin plate.

A Newton C. Dougherty, the Peoria, (Ill.), school board defaulter, has been given the job formerly held by Edward S. Dreyer, the Chicago banker, in the record room at the penitentiary.

Isaac Bloom, who was convicted of perjury in attempting to secure \$25,000 damages from the Metropolitan street railway of New York, was sentenced to seven years in prison.

Wife of the Rev. H. S. Wannamaker of Elyria, O., testified in her divorce suit, that her husband prayed with her for her own death so that he might marry another.

B. J. Gibbons, aged 37, of Norfolk, Va., after leaving a letter in which he admitted he was a bigamist and expressed undying love for two wives, put a bullet through his head.

The Kitty D, an American fishing boat seized by a Canadian revenue cutter on Lake Erie for alleged fish poaching, is released by a decision of the Privy Council of Great Britain.

New Pennsylvania Line.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company filed articles with the Secretary of State at Trenton, N. J., incorporating the Pennsylvania & Newark Railroad Company, capital \$500,000, to construct and maintain a railroad from a point in the middle of the Delaware river at Trenton through the counties of Mercer, Middlesex and Union in New Jersey, to a point in Essex county, near the northern boundary of Elizabeth and there connecting with the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad.