

BOMB WRECKS A BANK

Man Throws an Explosive when Loan is Refused.

ATTEMPT TO LOOT VAULTS

Cashier Killed and Bomb Thrown Also Blown to Atoms by His Deadly Missile.

Because his demand for \$5,000 to be loaned on the pictures of relatives, was refused by President Rushton, Rollo Steele, formerly a drug salesman of Garner, Iowa, threw a bomb in the president's office of the Fourth Street National bank, of Philadelphia, blowing the cashier, William Z. McLearn, and himself to fragments, fatally injuring a negro porter, seriously injuring 16 persons, wrecking the bank, and creating a panic in the building and densely settled neighborhood.

Immediately after the explosion, there was a bold attempt of crooks to enter the bank and to get away with hundreds of thousands of dollars which lay scattered about the floor. Before they could succeed, the injured employees and squads of police, rushing from the city hall and all the station houses nearby, drove these men out and guarded every window and entrance to the building.

Laden with nitro-glycerin, the bomb exploded with such terrific force that partitions, desks, wooden walls and windows were reduced to splinters, iron bars were broken and twisted, and the bodies of those within a radius of 25 feet were torn terribly. The cashier's head was blown completely from his shoulders. Of the bomb-thrower nothing was found except a small fragment of skull, swept clean of flesh; a pair of patched shoes and a bunch of keys with a nameplate attached. The name on the plate was "R. Steele, Garner, Iowa."

Telegraphic reports from that town, which is near Des Moines, say he left there six years ago for Philadelphia. With the finding of the bomb thrower's valise in the obscure hotel, where he registered in Philadelphia, and the examination of the contents of the satchel, the police have radically changed their theories accounting for the explosion of the Fourth Street National bank last Saturday morning, that resulted in the death of the assassin himself and the bank cashier and the injury of 20 others.

As was stated by the man who threw the bomb, or dropped it, his name proves to be Rollo Steele, who lived for years in Garner, Ia., and afterward in Chicago. But the most discovery that in his valise he carried electric and slow fuses, of the sort used by miners and blasters, but often pressed into service by burglars.

RELIEF BEGINS IN CHINA

Missionaries Head Work of Distribution—Government Helps.

Famine relief work in China, has been started from three centers. The distribution of relief is being superintended by local committees consisting of the missionaries, aided by prominent Chinese. Fifteen thousand bags of American flour have been purchased and are now on the way out here. It has been decided not to give provisions away, but sell them at the cheapest rates, except in cases of actual starvation.

CONGRESSIONAL

The House convened January 3 after the holiday recess and adjourned after a session of 15 minutes. Immediately after the approval of the journal, the credentials of W. F. Engelbright, of the First California district, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of James Norris Gillett, and Charles G. Washburn, of the Third Massachusetts district, vice Rockwood Hoar, deceased, were read. The new members were sworn in. No quorum being present and no committees being ready to report, adjournment was then taken.

RAISULI'S STRONGHOLD RUINED

Zinat Falls Into Hands of Sultan's Troops After Short Fight.

Zinat, Raisuli's stronghold, was virtually destroyed by fire and fell into the hands of the troops of the sultan after a short and almost bloodless fight.

Raisuli and his 700 followers succeeded in eluding capture and reaching the mountains. There were no occupants of the town, except 15 prisoners, included among whom were four Portuguese. The firing of the gunners and infantry of the sultan's force was almost useless. Considerable booty was obtained in the town.

Family of Six Killed by Gas.

The entire family of George Devino, at Winoski, Vt., consisting of six persons, the father, mother and four children, were killed during the night by illuminating gas which entered the house from a break in the street main through a sewer pipe.

An agreement has been reached and papers signed for the settlement of the Southern Pacific firemen's strike, at Houston, Tex.

Steel Companies Merged.

The long-talked-of merger between the Pennsylvania Steel and the Cambria Steel Companies is said to be practically settled, and that official announcement of the fact will soon be made. While there is no doubt in the financial district that a deal is about to be ordered, its exact nature is not known. It is the belief that an entirely new company is to be formed to take over by an exchange of securities the Cambria and Pennsylvania Companies.

ARMY RECRUITS ARE FEW

Lots of Work and Good Wages Keep Men From Enlisting.

Not in recent years, except in war times, has the army been so badly in need of men as at present. A recent circular addressed to all officers of the recruiting service, made public at the War Department, calls attention to the fact that recruits are needed in large numbers for the coast artillery, the field artillery, the white infantry and the white cavalry. Recruiting officers are enjoined to redouble their efforts to secure recruits qualified for the military service.

Officers on duty at the War Department admit that the situation is one calling for the most extraordinary efforts to get more men, not only to fill the vacancies that now exist, but also which will occur during the present year among the three-year men who enlisted in 1914.

It is declared at the War Department that the present prosperity and the labor famine of the country are more or less responsible for the inability to get new men and it also was stated on account of the lack of the canteen a great many men were refusing to re-enlist.

Incidentally, it was stated at the department that an effort would be made to make army life more attractive and to impress the men with the idea that they are listed as soldiers and not as laboring men.

GOVERNOR'S SUGGESTIONS

To Stop Insurance Abuses, Betting on Races, Etc.

In his message to the Missouri Legislature, Governor Folk outlines legislation of a reform character which he urges the two houses to enact. The following are the principal recommendations:

The prohibition of rebating between insurance agents and policyholders; an act requiring life insurance companies to distribute dividends annually; an act prohibiting insurance companies from making political contributions; an act prohibiting insurance companies from paying an official more than \$50,000 annually; the abolishment of railroad passes and the enactment of a two-cent a mile rate law; the enactment of a State primary law tending to deprive political bosses of power; prison punishment as a penalty for violation of the anti-trust laws; a maximum freight law and a State railroad rebate law; a law making it a felony to register a bet on a horse race, either on a blackboard or any other device or by telephone.

In his biennial message to the Colorado Legislature, Governor Jesse F. McDonald advised the members to frame anti-trust legislation along the lines of the Ohio law, which, he said, had stood the test of judicial determination.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

The Norwegian mail steamer Lindholmen was burned and five passengers met death before craft was beached.

Independent coal companies representing \$60,000,000 met to outline a plan against the railroad rebate law; Ohio Railroad Company for alleged discrimination in the distribution of cars.

The government, encouraged by Judge Landis' decision at Chicago, will push prosecutions against the Standard Oil Company in Chicago, St. Louis and Tennessee.

Dissatisfaction is felt among foreign merchants at Newchwang, over allegations of rate discrimination in favor of Japanese goods on the Japanese section of the Manchurian railway.

New Railroad Construction.

The Railway Age computes the amount of new railroad construction in 1906 at 6,067 miles, making this the greatest year for new mileage since 1888, when 7,106 miles were completed. The record year in the United States is 1887, when 13,090 miles were constructed. The same authority says that had the railroads been able to get labor in abundance the actual construction of this year would have outstripped that of 1887.

BIG JOB PROJECTED

Waterways Commission to Raise the Level of Lake Erie.

Having disposed of the Chicago drainage canal question and the international boundary line on Lake Erie, the International Waterways Commission will next take up the question of damming the lower end of Lake Erie so as to raise the level of the lake.

While no definite plan has been submitted to the commission, the general scheme in view is to build a great dam or regulating works at the lower end of Lake Erie or somewhere in the Niagara river.

Carnegie Gives \$750,000.

It was announced in Washington, D. C., that Andrew Carnegie has given \$750,000 for the construction of a building to be used by the Bureau of American Republics. Provision for the site has been made by the United States and South American republics. The announcement of the donation of \$750,000 was made after conference which Mr. Carnegie had with Secretary of State Root and the President.

Rhode Island Inaugurates Governor.

James R. Higgins of Pawtucket, who was elected Governor of Rhode Island last November, and the others chosen to the several State offices at that time, were inaugurated January 1, with the usual ceremonies. Roswell B. Burchard was elected Speaker of the House.

Demurrers of the Standard Oil Company to indictments charging violation of the Elkins law overruled by Judge Landis in the United States district court in Chicago.

MINE SWINDLER CAUGHT

Said to Have Defrauded Investors Out of \$1,000,000.

BIGGEST SWINDLER OF THE AGE

Arrest Ends Long Chase Through Mexico, Central and South America and Canada.

R. C. Flower, alias C. G. Dalney, who has been a fugitive from New York since 1903, where he is wanted to answer charges of grand larceny and swindling creditors investors out of about \$1,000,000 on alleged bogus mining operations, was arrested in Philadelphia, January 4 by Detective Sergeant McConville, of New York, and several local officers.

Flower, who the detectives say, is the most colossal mine swindler of the age, was captured in a room in one of the big office buildings, where he has been located for some time. Under the name of Professor Oxford, the detectives say, he was seeking to secure money from investors by representing that he had a wonderful chemical process whereby he could make diamonds and other precious stones.

The arrest of Flower ends a chase by the detectives and postal authorities that carried them through Mexico, Central America, part of South America and Canada, beside many points in the United States.

When the detectives eventually ran him down they found that he was so changed in appearance that they could scarcely recognize him. As Professor Oxford, he was apparently a benevolent old gentleman who wore a long white beard. The detectives were afraid they had made a mistake and kept him under surveillance for several days before making the arrest. He denied being the missing Flower at first but after being placed in a cell admitted his identity.

TERRORISTS STILL AT WORK

Prefect of Police Shot Down at St. Petersburg.

The Prefect of Police of St. Petersburg, Major General Von der Launitz, was shot and killed by a young man at the Institute of Experimental Medicine.

Von der Launitz was attending the consecration of the institute chapel. During the services, and while mingling with several high officials, the Prefect was approached from behind by a young man, who drew a revolver and shot him in the base of the brain. Von der Launitz fell forward and died in two minutes.

As the assassin turned to flee an officer present drew his saber and cut him down. As he fell out, the man pointed his revolver at his own breast, and the shot killed him instantly. The assassination of the Prefect was preceded by an attempt to kill Dr. Dubrovny, President of the Advisory League of the Russian people. A revolutionist fired several shots at him on the street while he was returning home at night.

SULTAN SENDS COMPLIMENTS

President Roosevelt Receives Letter from the Ruler of Morocco.

President Roosevelt has received a letter from the sultan of Morocco expressing his gratitude for the appointment of Samuel R. Gummere as American minister to Morocco. The letter is written in Arabic.

The sultan addresses the President as "The beloved, the most cherished, the exalted, the most gracious friend, most honored and excellent President of the republic of the United States of America, who is the pillar of its great influence and the director of its most important affairs, the most celebrated preserver of the ties of true friendship, the faithful friend, Theodore Roosevelt."

Minister Gummere, the letter says, will be shown every courtesy and attention by the government of Morocco.

PRESIDENT NOT SATISFIED

With Decisions Concerning the Employers' Liability Act.

The recent decisions by Judge Evans in the Federal court at Louisville and by Judge McCall in the Federal court at Memphis, declaring unconstitutional the employers' liability act, passed at the last session of Congress were brought to President Roosevelt's attention and the White House. The President will direct that an appeal be taken from these decisions.

President Roosevelt is greatly interested in this act and earnestly recommended to Congress at its last session that it be passed.

Another Complaint Against Standard.

Discrimination in favor of the Standard Oil Company, by railroads against other shippers is charged in a petition and complaint filed with the interstate commerce commission by the National Petroleum association against the Ann Arbor Railroad Company and 50 other lines constituting the Central Traffic association, the Trunk Line association, and the New England territory.

Calumet Copper Miners Strike.

Nearly 500 copper miners about Calumet, Mich., struck for higher wages, causing operations at the property of the Massachusetts Consolidated Mining Company in Ontonagon county to be suspended.

Governor Cummins of Iowa, has issued an appeal to the people of that State to contribute corn for the relief of the starving millions of China and has appointed a commissioner to take charge of the work of collecting and forwarding the contributions.

TO BOOST COAL PRICE

Inter-State Commerce Commission Probe Coal Famine.

The causes, but not the cure, for the coal shortage and the consequent coal famine in North Dakota, have been determined by the members of the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Franklin K. Lane, who served as chairman of the investigating commission, filed his report with the full commission and sent it to President Roosevelt. He finds:

"It is a fair inference from all the testimony, that the real cause of the coal scarcity in North Dakota, was such an abundance of Westbound traffic at the head of the lakes that cars were not available for the carrying of coal to North Dakota."

Referring to the report that the coal shortage was due to the presence of a trust or combination who fixed prices in the Northwest and refused to sell to "outsiders" and "irregulars," the report says:

"The commission has gained indisputable proof of an agreement between coal dealers to maintain prices and to boycott all who do not so agree; but there is no evidence justifying the contention that this combination is chargeable with the coal shortage prevailing, nor that the railroads were party in such a way to such a conspiracy."

HUGHES TAKES OFFICE

Republican Governor Begins Two-Year Term in New York.

Charles E. Hughes took the oath of office as governor of the state of New York and with his Democratic colleagues began his two years' term. The inaugural ceremonies were unusually brilliant and the attendance almost unprecedented. The new governor in his inaugural address said among other things:

"Whether or not we have laws enough, we certainly have enough of ill-considered legislation, and the question is not as to the quantity but as to the quality of our proposed enactments. It must freely be recognized that many of the evils of which we complain have their source in the law itself, in privileges carelessly granted, in opportunities for private aggrandizement at the expense of the people recklessly created and in failure to safeguard our public interests by providing means for the regulation of those enterprises which depend upon the use of public franchises."

MILLION ENTER ONE PORT

Official Report Gives an Idea of Immigration From Europe.

During 1906 1,198,434 persons arrived at New York from foreign ports, according to a statement from the Department of Commerce and Labor. There were 119,231 first cabin, 134,286 second cabin and 944,917 steerage passengers. Of these 124,988 cabin and 920,848 steerage passengers were aliens, making the total number of immigrants arriving at this port for the year 1,055,831.

Among the cabin passengers there were 118,529 citizens of the United States, while 24,074 of the persons coming in by steerage were citizens of this country.

HUNDREDS FREEZE TO DEATH

Blizzards in Southern Russia Find Many Victims.

Snowstorms and blizzards are prevailing throughout Southern and Southwestern Russia. Traffic on railroads is interrupted and great loss of life is reported. According to some accounts 100 persons succumbed to cold in the Southwestern provinces alone.

Woman Shoots at Judge.

Just after Judge J. A. McDonald, of the Circuit Court at St. Louis, Mo., had convened court Miss Rosa Well arose from among the spectators and fired point blank with a revolver at the judge. The bullet missed him. She was disarmed and arrested. She was a litigant in a case that was tried by Judge McDonald several months ago and was apparently incensed at the judge's decision regarding the partition of the estate of her father, August Weil.

The Boston Wool Market.

The wool market is fairly active and firm and in a general way is said to be satisfactory to merchants. During the year just closed the market has been steady throughout, but on the whole, quiet. Manufacturers are showing continued interest in the short clothing wools of Texas and California. Foreign grades are firm. Leading domestic quotations follow: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 34 to 34½c; X, 31 to 32c; No. 1, 40 to 41c; No. 2, 38 to 39c; fine unwashed, 25 to 26c; unmerchantable, 29 to 30c; half-blood, unwashed, 33½ to 34c; three-eighth blood, unwashed, 33 to 34c; quarter-blood, unwashed, 33 to 34c; delaine, washed, 37 to 37½c; delaine, unwashed, 29 to 30c.

Nebraska Legislature Organizes.

The Legislature of Nebraska organized January 1 for its thirtieth session. In the House D. M. Nettleton of Clay was elected Speaker and in the Senate C. L. Saunders was elected President pro tempore. Speeches made in both houses promised legislation regulating the railroads and other corporations.

TELLS OF OLD DISASTER

Note in Bottle Reveals Fate of Steamship in 1902.

There has been washed up on the beach at Castle Rock in the north of Ireland a bottle containing a message from several members of the crew of the steamship Huronian, which disappeared in the spring of 1902, to the effect that she was sinking fast.

This is the second time the Huronian has been heard from since she sailed from Glasgow on February 11, 1902, for St. Johns, N. S.

THIRTY BURN IN WRECK

Collision on Rock Island Attended by Terrible Holocaust.

MOST OF THE DEAD MEXICANS

All the Victims With Three Exceptions Mexican Laborers—Operator Arrested.

Thirty-five persons, all Mexicans but three, were killed, and the bodies of 30 Mexicans were incinerated January 2 in a head-on collision of two passenger trains of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad, near Voland, Kan. The wreck occurred while both trains were running slowly on a curve in a cut where the grade was steep.

All the killed were in the southbound train, except a tramp, who was on the baggage car of the northbound train. This tramp, a negro porter, and a workman accompanying a gang of 22 Mexican laborers, were the only Americans killed, so far as known, although a passenger says that a woman and a child were burned in a tourist car.

Most of the injuries were due to the setting of the emergency brakes. Nearly every passenger in the southbound train was thrown to the car floor by the quick setting of the brakes. The northbound train was running 10 miles an hour up grade.

The Mexicans were pinioned under the seats, and the doors were jammed so they could not get out. In the chair car, also, many passengers were held down by the seats.

The train caught fire from the gas tanks, which were broken. The passengers in the rear cars escaped in night clothes and dressed in the mud beside the tracks. Then came the cries for help among the Mexicans in the smoking car, and the people pinioned fast in the chair car. Every man and nearly every woman on the train tried to rescue the unfortunates, but the flames soon became too hot to permit of approaching the car.

The injured were removed from the chair cars with less difficulty and apparently all were rescued alive from these cars.

STEEL PLANT IN CANADA

Trust to Take Over 1,000 Acres of Land Opposite Detroit.

The United States Steel Corporation will, within the next few weeks, formally take over 1,000 acres of land at Sandwich, Ontario, across the river from Detroit, the property having been acquired gradually by Dr. R. Adlington Newman of Detroit, in the interest of the steel corporation. It is reported that a mammoth steel plant employing 5,000 men is to be erected there. It is expected that ground will be broken for the new project early in the coming summer.

P. R. R. EARNINGS INCREASE.

Statement for Eleven Months Shows Growth of Business.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company comparison of earnings and expenses for month of November, 1906, with same period of 1905; Pennsylvania Railroad Company lines directly operated—Gross earnings increase \$605,400; expenses increase \$500,900; net earnings increase \$104,500. Lines west of Pittsburg and Erie directly operated—Gross earnings increase \$531,800; expenses increase \$639,000; net earnings decrease \$107,200.

EXPRESS KILLS FIVE BOYS

They Were Walking the Track When Train Hit Them.

Five boys were instantly killed and one seriously injured by an express train on the Lehigh Valley railroad near Plainfield, N. J., January 1. The boys, none of whom have been identified, are believed to have been in Newark and were walking on the track on their way home.

WARSHIPS GO SOUTH

Atlantic Fleet Will Cruise and Practice off Cuba.

Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, commander of the Atlantic fleet, sailed from Hampton Roads with his squadron of eight battleships for Guantanamo, Cuba, which will be headquarters of the winter maneuvers of the fleet.

The ships which sailed are the Maine, flagship; Missouri, Kearsarge, Kentucky, Alabama, Iowa, Indiana and Illinois. They later will be joined by the Connecticut, Louisiana, Georgia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee Washington and St. Louis.

Insurance Reforms.

The insurance reforms secured by the New York legislature went into effect January 1. For the year 1907 and thereafter no company will be allowed to write more than \$150,000, 600 worth of business a year; agents' commissions will be reduced at least one fourth; every new policy must contain the full contract under which the holder and insurer alike are bound, and no more deferred dividend policies may be issued.

Saved by Celluloid Collar.

Mike Ambrosia, an Italian, was stabbed in the neck by some unknown person while passing along a dark street in Butler, Pa. The dirk struck Ambrosia's celluloid collar and but for this the wound might have been fatal. The Italian figured in an episode with Louise DeFoggi recently.

The city of St. Petersburg is proceeding vigorously with the development of its urban transportation system. An order has been given for 190 British-made electric trolley cars.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

GOVERNOR'S FINAL MESSAGE

Chief Executive Calls Attention to Excellent Conditions in the Affairs of the State.

The Pennsylvania Legislature of 1907 was organized at noon January 1. Senator Cyrus E. Woods of Westmoreland county was elected President pro tem of the Senate and Representative Frank B. McClain of Lancaster county Speaker of the House.

Governor Pennypacker's message was read in both branches and given the attention which his deliverances always command.

After this the vote for Governor at the recent election was tabulated, resolutions providing for an inaugural committee and for money to defray the expenses for the same were adopted. Both branches adopted the rules of the last session, after which they adjourned to meet again January 14.

The new President pro tem, announced the following appointments: Chaplain, Rev. K. J. Stewart, D. D., Lancaster; clerk to the President pro tem, Kirk McConnell, Westmoreland county; stenographer, James H. Varnum, Chester county. Senators Phillips of Lawrence, Langitt of Allegheny and Melhenny of Philadelphia were appointed a committee to notify the House that the Senate was in session and ready for business.

Chief Clerk Thomas H. Garvin called the House to order. The returns were canvassed, the oath administered and Thomas V. Cooper of Delaware, presented the name of Mr. McClain for Speaker.

John E. Sipes of Fulton county nominated John M. Flynn of Elk, the Democratic candidate for Speaker. The vote was: McClain, 157; Flynn, 50.

The governor's message opens by disavowing any purpose to make recommendations such as are embraced in the ordinary message, conceding that measures for legislative consideration as well be left to the incoming executive.

He directs attention to the remarkable success of the preservation and the improvement of the state and the progress made by the indigent insane, for charities and penal institutions and the schools and public highways, as constituting a record of which the people of Pennsylvania have good reason to be proud.

He renews his suggestions as to the importance of adequate protection to game and game wardens. He reviews the accomplishments of the state highway department and enlarges upon their advantages to the whole state. In the matter of public health he indicates with striking clearness the progress made by Pennsylvania, the success with which measures inaugurated by the state have been marked and the incalculable benefits that have been derived by the community from the system and agencies employed. The state constabulary, too, is to him a subject for congratulatory record of its experimental stages being creditable alike to the minds which conceived its organization and the spirit which has controlled its operations and conduct.

The governor finds also that factory inspection and agricultural departments have secured excellent results for their several fields of endeavor and that the national guard "well deserves all the support that can be given it."

Gov. Pennypacker surveys the whole range of state government and takes pleasure in portraying "conditions existing" in their best and most gratifying aspect. This brings him down to the special session of the legislature of last winter. Here, after quoting the unusually cordial tribute tendered by the legislature last October, he deems it proper to demonstrate the significance of this legislative achievement and its tremendous importance to the people of the state.

As to the state capital, with the consideration of which the governor closes his message, he does not mince matters nor apologize, but at once and candidly declares that the commonwealth has accomplished a difficult and complicated task in a manner which will reflect credit upon her for ages to come.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

One man was killed and 30 people hurt when street car ran down steep hill at Cincinnati.

Secretary Taft issued a statement declaring while he is not a candidate for president, he would not decline. Postmaster General Cortelyou issued a statement vindicating Anthony Comstock and his methods of warfare on indecency.

Demands on all the railroads operating west of Chicago for an increase in wages and an eight-hour day were made by 57,000 locomotive engineers.

Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock, in his annual report, recommended paying better salaries to postoffice clerks and carriers.

Former United States Senator Donelson L. Caffery, died at New Orleans. The body was taken to his home in Franklin, La., for burial. Frederick McMasters, American consul at Zanzibar, has rendered his resignation and proposes to embark in private business. He assigns as his reason for his resignation the impossibility of properly conducting the consulate at Zanzibar on the \$2,500 salary authorized by law.

Soldiers Die of Starvation.

A thousand Turkish soldiers, the remnant of about 4,000 sent to the Nejd peninsula two years ago to suppress the Arab revolt, have returned to Busreh, Asiatic Turkey, in a deplorable condition. Over 2,000 of their comrades died of disease or starvation and the rest deserted.

The total production of the Butte copper district during December was 25,980,000 pounds, against an average monthly output during 1905 of 25,707,460 pounds.