# 14 DEAD; 100 HURT

## Great Havoc In Terrific Gas Explosion.

## TROLLEY CAR IS DEMOLISHED.

**Concussion From Crash In New York Central Power House Smashes Windows and Throws Pedestrians to Ground—Blame Not Placed Yet.**

**THE KNOWN DEAD.**

Mary B. Pope, passenger in car wrecked by explosion.

Edith Offner, killed in wreck of car.

V. B. Livermore, fifty years old, inspector of the electrical operating department of the New York Central.

Patrick Jordan, forty-eight years old, laborer.

Joseph Guthrie, twenty-three years old, electrician.

M. McMarrow, fifty-three years old, laborer for the New York Central.

Thomas Stagg, watchman employed by the New York Central.

B. McDonald, employed by the New York Central.

Nicola Galluchi, thirty-six years old, employed in Imperial hotel.

Charles Roberts, forty-eight years old, employed by the American Express company.

William Potsho, Corona, N. Y.

Unidentified man about twenty-five years old, light complexion and hair, smooth shaven; body taken to the morgue.

New York, Dec. 20.—District Attorney Whitman said today that he does not intend to cause wholesale arrests because of the explosion at the New York Central's power station, when fourteen persons were killed and a hundred injured.

"Of course there will be an investigation aside from the coroner's investigation," Mr. Whitman said. "If it should be found that there was a quantity of dynamite stored on the premises of course that would constitute a crime and should be punished. For the present there is absolutely nothing upon which to act."

William C. Brown, president of the New York Central, says:

"There was no dynamite in or about the building where the explosion occurred, and there never has been any there."

A statement from the office of C. F. Daley, vice president, reads:

"A careful investigation indicates that the explosion was the result of an electric train backing over a bumping post in the storage yard, breaking a gas pipe, the escape from which penetrated the lower part of the substation power house and became ignited from some cause unknown."

Many of the injured probably will die as a result of the explosion of Pintsch gas, used for lighting railroad cars, which demolished the transformer house of the New York Central's power station at Lexington avenue and Fiftieth street, wrecked the interior of buildings in the neighborhood and shook the city for half a mile around as though by earthquake shock.

A trolley car which was passing the power station at the time of the explosion was blown from the tracks, and four of its passengers were killed. The whirlwind of concussion broke every pane of glass in the buildings within two blocks of the explosion, took the sashes from the casements and tossed the inmates about amid the wreck of the furnishings.

At the conclusion of the investigation before the board of coroners and Deputy Police Commissioner Driscoll in the Fifty-first street station Motorman Albert Seagroat, a New York Central employee, was arrested.

Seagroat backed a train into the cut under the wing of the power house and overran a buffer. In the smash that followed a pipe connected with the Pintsch gas tanks was disconnected, allowing the gas to escape. Half an hour later, when the gas had mingled with sufficient air to give it the explosive intensity of lyddite, a workman dropped a tool on the third rail. There was an electric flash and then the explosion.

The motorman told the board of coroners that he lost his air while backing his train under the power house. He had no sand box and could not stop. He saw that the gas pipe had been disconnected and reported the accident. Then he got his train out and was in another part of the cut when the upheaval occurred. The investigators could not learn just what work was done to repair the severed pipe.

On the corner of Lexington avenue is a five story brick building. Its interior was turned topsy turvy by the blast, and several of the living apartments were wrecked.

Earth tremors following the explosion were felt distinctly as far south as Forty-second street. The noise of the explosion was heard in Brooklyn and by people on the New Jersey ferries.

The tremendous wrecking power of the explosion caused a rumor that a large quantity of dynamite had been set off, but investigations showed that Pintsch gas and nothing more had exploded. It is not known definitely what set fire to the gas.

One story has it that a laborer dropped a crowbar across the third rail while working at the derailed car and that the flame following the short circuit fired the gas, which, mixing with the air, had become highly explosive. Most of the men in the immediate neighborhood of the broken pipe were either killed or too badly hurt to talk. Railroad officials say that it is very likely that an electric spark of some kind set off the blast.

It is agreed, however, that the explosion came as one mighty shock. It tore upward and outward through the power station building, unroofing it and sending the north walls into Fiftieth street. The east wall was pushed bodily out into Lexington avenue. The blast seemed to rebound from the solid wall of the six story ventilating plant just to the west of the power station, for the zone of the wreckage extended much further to the east than in any other direction.

The full force of the blast struck the north bound Lexington avenue trolley car, which was almost on the Fiftieth street crossing. The car was blown from the tracks and toppled over on top of a touring car belonging to the Edison Electric Light company.

At the same time Miss Edith Offner, a stenographer employed by the Cosmopolitan Magazine, who was passing the Lexington avenue side of the power station, was blown across the street and underneath the trolley car, where her body was wedged underneath the forward trucks. Her body was so terribly mangled that her brother was able to identify it only by the shoes.

The trolley car was torn and splintered as though riddled by artillery fire. Four of the seven passengers were killed. Miss Mary B. Pope, a schoolteacher, was one of the passengers. Charles Roberts, an Adams Express company clerk, was found dead in the wreckage of the car.

In addition to those injured in the wreck of the trolley car, scores of persons in the streets were hurt by debris, which was blown to a great distance, and by the glass, which showered down until it covered the sidewalks like snow. Francis Kelley, a policeman, was helping school children at the Fifty-first street crossing of Lexington avenue. He was knocked down by the force of the explosion and showered with debris. One of his legs was broken, and he was badly cut and bruised. A little girl he was helping across the avenue was said to have been hurt, but neither police nor hospital records contain her name.

While priests, ambulance surgeons, firemen and policemen were at work caring for the wounded in the streets, forming fire lines and inspecting the shattered buildings, a smaller force was digging into the debris of the ruined power station as fast as the streams from the hose drove back the flames and cooled the tangled mass.

Just how many men had been at work on the derailed car that started the trouble no one was quite certain, but by 6 o'clock four bodies had been found, one man apparently mortally hurt had been taken from the debris and the list of employees treated for minor injuries at an emergency hospital in the New York Central's terminal building had grown to over thirty.

A gang of fifty-five bricklayers working on a long scaffold sixty feet in the air and almost directly above the scene of the explosion had an escape from death that bordered on the miraculous. A cushion of air forced upward by the explosion hoisted the big scaffold, tilted it inwardly and tossed the fifty-five men over the wall they were building and upon another scaffold on the inside. Only one was injured, Andrew Anderson, and he got off with a scalp wound.

It was a matter of the way the scaffold tilted that settled the fate of the fifty-five. Had the air pressure, upwardly directed, been the stronger alongside the wall the scaffold would have been tilted outward, and the men would have fallen through their protective wall of canvas and rope and down sixty feet into the fire and wreckage below.

**SCENES AT EXPLOSION.**

Wrecked Building Across From Station—Carrying Out the Dead.

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**Santa Claus.**

(Since its original production The New York Sun has refrained from reprinting the article on Santa Claus which appeared several years ago, but this year the requests for its reproduction have been so numerous that we yield. Scrap books seem to be wearing out.)

**Is There a Santa Claus?**

We take pleasure in answering at once, and thus prominently, the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor: I am 8 years old.

"Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.' Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

"VIRGINIA O'HANLON."

"115 West 95th St.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance, to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not; but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

**The Outdoor Christmas Tree.**

Even in books it is hard to find a Christmas tree so perfect as one that is left still growing and decked

outdoors exactly where it stands. Such a tree Louise Morgan Sill describes as having been arranged by a family in Washington for their two children, an assembly of friends, and some little orphan visitors. Mrs. Sill describes the tree, which was real enough, in her Harper story-book "Sunnyfield," telling how it was suddenly uncovered from its canvas wrappings, and how it stood forth, clad with gold, silver, and color, and with light from tiny hidden electric bulbs, dazzling against a velvety dark sky. The tree that grew in the sunny field was a hemlock, and as the little group watched that night they sang the carol Longfellow translated from the German, "O hemlock tree! O hemlock tree! How faithful are thy branches," while the round-eyed pickaninnies, peeking over the fence, said one to another, "Did you ever see such a thing in all you' born life?"

# WILSON TO SPEAK

## Will Make Tour Opposing James M. Smith.

## MARTINE NEEDS HIS HELP.

**Advisers of Governor Elect Believe if He Gets Actively Into Senatorship Campaign He Can Swing the Necessary Votes.**

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 20.—Governor Elect Wilson visited the statehouse for the first time in his life when he came in response to an invitation from Governor Fort to attend a conference of the heads of all institutions. Incidentally he went over and approved the plans which are being made for the inaugural ball, took luncheon with the governor and several state officials and wound up the day with a conference devoted to furthering the candidacy of James E. Martine.

The conference, which took place in one of the anterooms of the executive chamber, was the most interesting happening of the day, for it was practically decided that after the first of the year the governor elect should undertake a state wide campaign in the interest of Mr. Martine. The others at the conference were Senator Harry V. Osborne of Essex county, Assemblyman Joseph P. Tumulty of Hudson county and Judge Mark M. Sullivan of the court of error and appeals.

The political situation resulting from the declaration of James Smith, Jr., that he is a candidate for the senatorship was carefully gone over in its various aspects. The governor elect was advised that, in the judgment of three other conferees, sufficient opposition has been developed to the candidacy of Mr. Smith to make his election seem improbable. At the same time it was admitted that Mr. Martine lacks considerably the support necessary to make him the choice.

The list of members of the legislature was carefully gone over, and the governor elect was advised how additional converts might be made to the cause of Martine. It was agreed that Hudson and Essex counties furnished the best field for missionary work, and Governor Elect Wilson probably will begin his public speaking in those places. If the plan agreed upon is carried out he will then go into other counties where Democrats have been elected and in which he may have been invited to speak.

When asked how he expected to get the legislature to vote against Smith even if public opinion were against him Dr. Wilson said:

"Some of the legislators will hold out to the end, I suppose, but the majority of them will know how they stand and what their constituents want them to do before the 24th of January, when the balloting starts."

Dr. Wilson said that he as yet was unable to announce any definite plans for the speeches. He seemed quite confident over the prospects for the election of Mr. Martine and spoke of him as an honest and able man who has served his party faithfully many years.

## DELAY FOR CHARLTON.

**Hearing of Extradition Case Postponed Until Jan. 9.**

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 20.—With the composure apparently of a merely interested spectator, Porter Charlton listened to the preliminary skirmish in the habeas corpus proceeding by which his father, Paul Charlton, seeks to prevent the young man's extradition to Italy to answer the charge of murder resulting from the killing of his wife, Mary Scott Castle Charlton, at Maltrasio last June.

The proceedings went only as far as the consideration of some preliminary technical details by which R. Floyd Clarke of New York hoped to pave the way for Charlton's release, when Judge Rellstab granted a motion for an adjournment until Jan. 9. There were enough questions raised, however, to indicate that advantage will be taken of the least opportunity to thwart the extradition, the application for which has already been passed upon and honored by the state department.

## CHARLIE TAFT WOULD FLY.

**Finds a Model of an Aeroplane and Instantly Becomes Interested.**

Washington, Dec. 20.—Charlie Taft, the president's youngest son, is home for the holidays, and things around the White House are beginning to hum.

Charlie appeared in the executive offices attired in his first suit of long trousers and started out scouting. The first interesting thing he discovered was a two foot model of an aeroplane that had laid about the building for months. The model is equipped with a dummy engine. Charlie believes he will attempt a flight.

**J. P. Morgan, Jr., Back From Europe.**

New York, Dec. 10.—J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr., returned from Europe on the steamship Baltic of the White Star line after a lengthy stay abroad, during which he made a motoring trip, penetrating as far as Finland.

**Weather Probabilities.**

Snow in northern, snow or rain in southern portion; colder; tomorrow fair; moderate to brisk westerly winds.


**YOU TAKE NO RISK.**

**Our Reputation and Money Are Back of This Offer.**

We pay for all the medicine used during the trial, if our remedy fails to completely relieve you of constipation. We take all the risk. You are not obligated to us in any way whatever, if you accept our offer. Could anything be more fair for you? Is there any reason why you should hesitate to put our claims to a practical test?

The most scientific, common sense treatment is Rexall Orderlies, which are eaten like candy. They are very pronounced, gentle and pleasant in action, and particularly agreeable in every way. They do not cause diarrhoea, nausea, flatulence, griping or any inconvenience whatever. Rexall Orderlies are particularly good for children, aged and delicate persons.

We urge you to try Rexall Orderlies at our risk. Two sizes, 10c. and 25c. Remember, you can get Rexall Remedies in this community only at our store—The Rexall Store.

A. M. LEINE.


**ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF ERIE TRAINS.**

Trains leave Union depot at 8.25 a. m and 2.48 p. m., week days.

Trains arrive Union depot at 1.10 and 8.05 p. m. week days.

Saturday only, Erie and Wyoming arrives at 3.45 p. m. and leaves at 5.50 p. m

Sunday trains leave 2.48 and arrive at 7.02.

TRIAL LIST—Wayne Common Pleas, Jan. Term, 1911.

Week beginning Jan. 16, 1911.

1. Olszefski v. Taylor.
2. Hawker v. Poppenheimer.
3. Keltz v. County of Wayne.
4. Barnes v. Miller.
5. Fives v. Auto Transportation Company.
6. Clancey et al. v. Tuttle.
7. Gray v. Herbeck-Demer Co.
8. Whitney v. Ridgeway.
9. Cromwell v. Cortright & Son.
10. Cole v. Cole; adm'x.

M. J. HANLAN,
Prothonotary.


A. O. BLAKE,
AUCTIONEER & CATTLE DEALER
You will make money by having me.
BELL PHONE 8-U Bethany, Pa.

**If Your Liver is Wrong, You Are Wrong All Over.**

A torpid, inactive liver goes hand in hand with constipation, and is a chronic condition, one requiring a systematic, well-directed effort to overcome effectually and establish conditions of health and perfect body drainage.

Smith's Pineapple and Butternut Pills, containing the two elements needed to increase liver activity and muscular action, go accurately to the sluggish liver and bowels, restoring them to perfect action. They are composed of the two great vegetable agents, pineapple for the stomach, liver and gastric secretions, and butternut for the mucous membrane, circulation and bowels, and always give best results—they are Nature's own laxative.

Thousands of satisfied and grateful people have written us about the great benefit they have received from these pills. Here is one: Mrs. W. A. Leslie, of Fairchance, Pa., writes: "I took Smith's Pineapple and Butternut Pills for headache, backache and painful periods, and they worked like a charm."

Physicians use and recommend. They form no habit. You should always keep them on hand. These little Vegetable Pills will ward off many ills.

**To Cure Constipation Biliousness and Sick Headache in a Night, use**

SMITH'S PINEAPPLE AND BUTTERNUT PILLS — FOR Constipation, Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache and Diseases of the Stomach, Liver and Bowels — NATURES LAXITIVE PRICE 25¢

60 Pills in Glass Vial 25c.—All Dealers.

**SMITH'S BUCHU LITHIA KIDNEY PILLS** — **For Sick Kidneys** Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, the one best remedy. Reliable, endorsed by leading physicians; safe, effectual. Results lasting. On the market 18 years. Have cured thousands. 100 pills in original glass package, 50 cents. Trial boxes, 50 pills, 25 cents. All druggists sell and recommend.

# Christmas Presents

## Both Rich and Beautiful

--AT--

## Menner & Co.'s Stores

Table Settings in Double Damask Napkins and Cloth, Center Pieces and Doilies.

Bureau Scarfs, Carving Cloths, and Side Table Mats.

Rugs in Royal K Wilton and Smyrna, Regular Sizes.

Portieres, Colored Curtains, Lounge Throughs.

Table Covers. Velour and Tapestry.

Irish Point Bon Feimme and Nottingham Lace Curtains

MENNER & CO.'S
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BUY YOUR PRESENTS EARLY TO SECURE SELECTION

## Go to BETZ'S Harness Store

TO BUY YOUR

# Christmas Presents!

We have the Largest and Best line of the following goods in the county at prices ranging as follows:

Horse Blankets at 75c to $7.50 each.
Lap Robes for Carriage or Auto use. Fur, Plush and Fine Wool, at from $3 to $12 each.
Trunks from $3 to $20 each.
Dress-suit Cases, $1 to $12 each.
Traveling Bags, 50c to $15 each.
Ladies' and Gent's Pocket Books, 10c to $10 each.
Gentlemen's Fur Driving Coats, $10 to $35.
Fur Driving Gloves, $1.25 to $6.
Fur Lined Gloves, $2 to $3.50.

We also carry a full line of Working and Driving Gloves and Mittens.

HAVING SECURED MORE HELP IN THE Work Shop I am prepared to do all harness work promptly.

BETZ Harness and Horse Furnishing Goods.