

EXPLOSION ON GUNBOAT

Boilers of The Bennington Blow up in San Diego Harbor.

OVER ONE HUNDRED INJURED.

Mangled Victims Were Blown High in Air—Water Strewn With Scalded and Burned.

Thirty-nine members of the crew of the United States gunboat Bennington are known to have been killed and nearly one hundred sailors were injured, some fatally, on July 21 by a boiler explosion which disabled the battleship in the harbor at San Diego, Cal. Fifteen sailors are missing, and the death list may reach 50.

There were more than 250 men aboard the warship when the accident occurred, and many men were hurled or forced to jump into the sea by the terrific explosion, which lifted part of the deck and compelled the beaching of the ship.

The Bennington at the time of the accident was lying in the stream just off the commercial wharf at B street. The warship had received orders from the navy department at Washington to sail that morning for Port Harford to meet the monitor Wyoming and convoy the monitor to Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco.

Steam was up and everything was in readiness for the departure of the Bennington, when the starboard forward boiler exploded with a deafening roar. The explosion was terrific. People standing on shore saw a huge cloud of steam rise above the Bennington. Columns of water were forced high into the air. A dozen or 15 men were blown overhead by the force of the terrific explosion.

Capt. Wentworth, who was looking at the Bennington when the disaster occurred, says he saw human bodies hurled over 100 feet upward. The air was clouded with smoke, which enveloped the ship. When the haze cleared away, only a few men could be seen on the decks, while a number were floundering in the water. A boat was lowered from the vessel's side and most of the men in the water were picked up and taken on board.

On board the Bennington were present terrible scenes. The force of the explosion had torn a great hole in the starboard side of the ship and the vessel was already commencing to list. A section of the upper deck was carried away from stem to stern. Blood and wreckage was distributed over the entire ship, and over the water and that part of the ship adjacent to the exploded boiler resembling a charnel house. The shock of the explosion penetrated every section of the ship, blood and ashes being found as far as the stem of the captain's cabin.

The ferryboat Ramon, which was crossing the bay at the time of the accident, changed its course and hurried to the aid of the stricken warship. The government launch, General De Russey, and a large number of other launches and water craft which were near the scene at the time, also rushed to the assistance of the Bennington.

DUN'S WEEKLY REVIEW.

General Disposition to Provide for a Large Volume of Fall and Winter Trade.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: "Hot weather tended to retard activity in many productions and undertakings and postponed forward business that could be delayed without loss, but accelerated the consumption of seasonal merchandise and advanced the crops much nearer maturity. Confidence in the future increases with each day favorable for harvesting, and much of the winter wheat is now beyond danger, while late corn is rapidly gaining lost ground. Inquiries indicate a general disposition to provide for a large volume of fall and winter business, clothing and manufacturers receiving liberal orders from traveling salesmen, while cancellations are exceptionally few. Real estate transfers are large and building operations numerous, often overtaxing facilities for delivery of lumber and other materials. There is comparatively little interruption from labor disputes, and the net result in all commercial and manufacturing branches is exceptionally satisfactory for this mid-summer period, which is usually the duldest of the year.

Some improvement is noted in demand for pig iron, which has been the least active of the industrial undertakings, while footwear factories are less eager to secure forward business because of another advance in hides.

Railway earnings thus far reported for July exceed last year by 7.4 per cent, and foreign commerce at New York alone for the week shows gains of \$2,105,120 in exports, and \$3,667,648 in imports, as compared with the corresponding week in 1904. Collections are improving, money is easy and fluctuations in securities narrow.

Failures last week numbered 192 in the United States, against 231 last year, and 23 in Canada, compared with 20 a year ago.

Nelson Brown, a well-known society man of Philadelphia, was found dead in bed at a hotel in Atlantic City.

Mutiny in Black Sea Fleet.

A report has reached Odessa from Sebastopol to the effect that a mutinous conspiracy has been discovered among the crews of the vessels of the Black sea fleet, in consequence of which the summer maneuvers have been cancelled. General Ignatieff, president of the special conference for the revision of exceptional laws designed for safeguarding public order, arrived at Odessa for the purpose of investigating the recent disorders.

SWAM NIAGARA RAPIDS.

Two Men Accomplish the Feat Without Injury.

Carlisle D. Graham, of Niagara Falls, and William J. Glover, Jr., of Baltimore, Md., successfully swam the lower rapids of the Niagara river from the American side of the whirlpool to Lewistown. The distance of four miles was covered in 26 minutes by Glover.

The start was made at 4:02 p. m. from Flat Rock, which is on the American side. The swimmers did not venture in the upper rapids, where Captain Webb lost his life.

Both men wore life belts and inflated rubber rings around their necks. Until the Devil's Hole was reached the swift current and roaring rapids had the swimmers in their grasp. At that point a swirling eddy caught Glover and he was down nearly two minutes. His life belts saved him. At 4:28 o'clock Glover was pulled up on the dock at Lewistown. He was dressed and about 15 minutes later telling his story. Graham was taken to a hotel in a wagon and did not leave bed until late in the afternoon. Neither of the men were injured.

Graham swam the lower rapids twice before, first on September 7, 1901, and again on August 31, 1902. He is 55 years of age, while Glover is about 35 years of age.

COAL MEN ENJOINED

Government Stops Mining Under Monongahela River.

Proceedings were instituted in the United States court at Pittsburgh, Judge Joseph Buffington presiding, to finally test the right of coal mining companies to mine coal under navigable rivers. An injunction was issued by the court against officers of the Bessemer Coal and Coke Company, with mines near Monongahela Pa., restraining the company from mining coal on what is termed government property, but which simply means mining coal under the river, which it is claimed is property of the government and cannot be taken without special grant from Congress.

The action is said to have been instituted by the legal representatives of the government in this district, but it is understood that they have been urged forward by interested private persons. The case will shortly come up for a hearing.

BATTLE WITH MOONSHINERS

Bloody Encounters Fought With Makers of Mountain Dew.

A posse of revenue men led by C. N. Randall, destroyed six stills in Leitcher, Ky., and were attacked by a gang of moonshiners led by Ben Brown. A desperate encounter took place, Brown being shot and wounded. Bloody trails lead into the mountains and it is thought more than one moonshiner was hurt. Granville Wallen, a noted moonshiner, was captured.

This was the second battle in Leitcher county in a week. Two moonshiners were killed last week.

PAYMASTER HELD UP

Highwaymen Get \$5,000, but One of Them is Killed.

L. D. Barr, paymaster of the Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company, was held up by two masked highwaymen on the railroad between Littleton and Flat Top, Ala., and relieved of \$5,000, which was to be used in paying off the men.

Less than five minutes afterwards Detective George Bodecker, Police-man Joseph Nix and Charles Pickard, a Flat Top guard, had shot and killed one of the highwaymen and recovered the money. The other robber escaped.

PAYS FOR VIOLATING ANTI-TRUST LAW

The Hartford Fire Insurance Company will pay the state of Arkansas \$10,400 penalties for operating in violation of the anti-trust law. Under the maximum penalty the company would have forfeited \$500,000, but an agreement had been reached to confess judgment at \$250 a day from May 23 to the time the opinion of the court was handed down.

ELECTION FRAUD

Ward Leader and Election Board Held for Ballot Box Stuffing.

Thomas H. Hartman, a city employe and Republican leader of the Twelfth district of the Fourteenth ward, Philadelphia, was held in \$2,000 bail; Otto T. Kurz, judge of elections; Charles Judge, inspector; Benjamin Williams, clerk, of the same division, were each held in \$1,500, and E. M. Cunkel, also a clerk, was held in \$500 bail, on the charge of ballot box stuffing and conspiracy. The men were given a hearing before a magistrate and evidence was produced showing that out of a total of 374 votes in the division 201 were fraudulent.

The arrest of the election officers was brought about by the City party, a reform organization. A watcher for this party testified that within half an hour after the polls had opened and before 20 persons had voted he had seen one of the defendants take a stick and push a large bunch of ballots into the box. Reform organizations are making a systematic investigation of the last election and wholesale arrests for ballot frauds are being wanted.

Want Regular Troops for Bandits.

Owing to numerous robberies by armed bandits near Fairbanks, Alaska, recently the miners and prospectors' Association has asked the Secretary of war to send troops to Fairbanks from Fort Gibbons. General Williams, commanding the department of the Columbia, has been ordered to investigate.

The Union passenger station, at Tenth and Broadway, Louisville, Ky., was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$50,000.

MANY INJURED IN WRECK

Express on the Bessemer & Lake Erie Crashes into Freight.

INJURIES ARE NOT SERIOUS

Engineer Sees Danger in Time to Apply Airbrakes and Reduce the Speed.

A head-on collision at Hallston station, on the Bessemer & Lake Erie railroad resulted in injuries to nine passengers of the express train and to the fireman and engineer. None of the injured were able to continue traveling.

A freight train was standing on a siding near the station waiting for the express to pass. The latter was going 30 miles an hour and at the curve at the switch jumped from the main track to the siding. Both engines were practically demolished, and the baggage car of the express was splintered at the front end.

Engineer S. B. Brown and Fireman J. C. Lang jumped a moment before the collision occurred, and were struck by splinters from the baggage car. The passengers were hurled from their seats at the impact, and landed in heaps on the floor of the cars.

After nearly two hours' waiting an engine reached Hallston from Butler, and started with the train toward Pittsburg. Another wreck was probably averted at Onelda station. It was found that a trestle bridge over Connoquenessing creek was ablaze, and upon examination it was decided to run the train over before the fire gained further headway, as there was no fire fighting apparatus about. This was done, and two hours late the train reached Butler.

That many were not killed in the collision is charged to the coolness of Engineer Brown, who maintained his place in the engine cab and applied the emergency brakes until the engines were almost touching.

OPERATOR KILLED

Aeroplane Falls to Work and Plunges Downward.

Daniel Maloney, who had made numerous successful ascensions with Professor Montgomery's aeroplane, fell 4,000 feet to his death at Santa Clara, Cal.

Maloney made an ascension from the grounds at Santa Clara college. About 2,000 persons watched with interest the machine, as it shot upward from the college garden, attached to a huge balloon.

At a height of 4,000 feet, Maloney cut loose from the balloon and began maneuvering the aeroplane. He sailed gracefully about, then essayed a steep dip. Suddenly the machine swerved, hesitated, and then turned over. It righted itself and descended a considerable distance and turned over again. Maloney was clinging desperately to his seat and evidently endeavoring to regain control of the aeroplane, but all his efforts were in vain. Again the aeroplane turned in the air, the wings came together, and the man and the machine plunged straight downward, while the horrified spectators gazed helplessly.

A number of cadets carried him to the college hospital. His skull was fractured and blood was flowing from his ears and mouth. He died within a short time. The aeroplane was demolished.

SIX DEAD IN HOTEL FIRE

Gas Tank Explodes and Victims Are Burned in Their Rooms.

Six persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the depot hotel at Wauasha, Minn. The dead are Mrs. A. Hoffman and baby, Robert Johnson, expressman; Gertrude Stenthor, Rebecca Herman and James Hunt.

The fire was caused by the explosion of a gas tank used for the hotel illuminating plant. Mrs. Hoffman was the owner of the hotel. She and her baby and the other victims were burned to death in their rooms.

A NEW COMBINE

Independent Tin and Sheet Plate Works May Unite.

Independent manufacturers of tin and sheet plate are contemplating an organization for the purpose of working to obtain a large portion of the domestic tin and sheet business. President Theodore J. Shaffer of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers will probably be Secretary of the new concern.

The position has been tendered him at a salary of about \$3,000 per annum. The organization is to include practically every independent sheet steel and tinplate manufacturer outside the American Sheet & Tinplate Company in the United States.

Chief of Police Assassinated.

Colonel Kremarenko, chief of police of Helsinki, Finland, was shot and killed by a man named Procope, who was arrested. The assassin has been identified as an accomplice of the man who recently attempted to assassinate former Governor Missoujedoff.

MURDER IN CHURCH

Kentuckian Kills One Man and Wounds Another.

John Miller, of Breathitt county, Ky., shot and killed John Grees and wounded James M. Thomas during a fight in a church on Fraley creek, Lee county. Miller announced that he was the best man in the house. Grees and Thomas disputed it. A mob formed to lynch Miller, but the sheriff landed his prisoner in the Beattyville jail.

MADE JAP VICTORY EASY

Rojestvensky's Report Shows Bad Condition of His Fleet.

According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of "La Liberté," Admiral Rojestvensky, in his report on the battle of Tsushima straits, which resulted in the practical annihilation of his fleet, says that his ships were not only badly but dishonestly built. The thickness of their armor did not agree with the official figures in the case of any of the vessels. Moreover, it was of inferior quality.

The shells were bad. Two-thirds of them did not explode. None of the ships were able to carry the necessary coal. None of them attained the guaranteed speed. The engines and boilers were poor and always required repairs.

Two-thirds of the crews, including those of Vice Admiral Negoboff's squadron, were ignorant of the elementary laws of firing. A mutiny occurred while that fleet was at Madagascar, and 14 men were executed.

Admiral Rojestvensky had to train guns on two of his ships, the Admiral Senilavin and Admiral Apraxine to restore order. The crews had decided secretly to surrender to the enemy. This was discovered too late.

There was another mutiny in Vice Admiral Negoboff's squadron near Formosa and Admiral Rojestvensky had difficulty in preventing the mutineers from seizing the greater part of the squadron.

Admiral Rojestvensky saw from the outset of the battle that the Admiral Senilavin and Admiral Apraxine were not fighting and were ignoring orders. They only fired when he sent torpedo boats to them and threatened to sink them unless they obeyed.

If Admiral Rojestvensky had not been wounded at the beginning of the battle the result might have been different. Almost simultaneously with his removal to a torpedo boat, Admiral Enquist disappeared, Admiral Foelkersahm was killed and Admiral Negoboff, who was unpopular with the sailors, was obliged to take command.

Then the rout began. Admiral Negoboff's orders were ignored. The crews of some of the ships threatened to kill their officers unless they surrendered.

Admiral Rojestvensky confirms what is generally known of the shattering and scattering of his fleet.

ANOTHER LEAK

Woman Said to Have Sold Examination Questions.

Secretary Wilson of the department of agriculture has begun an investigation of a report that certain female employe of his department has sold questions to be asked in civil service examinations prior to the holding of such examinations. Applicants are said to have paid liberally for the service. The examinations alleged to have been thus manipulated were for positions requiring technical knowledge and the questions were prepared in the department.

Morgan H. Beach, the United States attorney for the District of Columbia, who is in charge of the investigation into the cotton crop scandal, has gone to New York in search of evidence. It is understood that he intends to interview L. C. Van Ripper and other New York brokers who made disclosures of the methods employed by Former Associate Statistician Edwin S. Holmes.

Explosion Kills Three Men.

Three men were killed and four were injured by an explosion in the Kirwin gold mine in Wyoming. There was no doctor nearer than Thermopolis, 100 miles to the southeast, but Dr. Richards at that place covered the mountainous distance in a little less than 11 hours. Four relays were used by him in making the trip, ratchmen along the route supplying the horses.

May Settle Their Differences.

Both houses of the Swedish riksdag have concluded their secret meetings in a joint committee is preparing a bill embodying the suggestion of the different factions a settlement of the differences between Sweden and Norway.

FIVE MINERS KILLED

Heads, Arms and Legs Scattered About by Explosion.

Five miners were literally blown to pieces by the explosion of dynamite in a storage powder house to the West Riverside coal mine near Des Moines, Ia. The dead are: Charles Brown, Luke Miller, Harry Belknap, Dell Vance and George Arrowood.

Heads, arms and legs were scattered around for a distance of 500 feet. The victims were engaged in sinking a new shaft and they sought shelter in the powder house. Lightning struck near the building and glanced off to the house itself, igniting the dynamite as well as two kegs of powder. Not a piece of wood larger than a foot long remains of the building.

Miss Olive Johnson, of Lima O., was crushed to death and burned, and five other persons were severely burned and bruised when a large automobile plunged into a ditch near Broad ripple, exploding the gasoline storage tank.

Prominent Mormon Arrested.

John Q. Cannon, former secretary of the Utah world's fair commission at St. Louis, was arrested at Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, charged with forgery and embezzlement. Extradition papers are now being prepared. Cannon is a son of the late President George Q. Cannon, of the Mormon Church, brother of former Senator Frank J. Cannon. He is accused of forging the name of former Governor H. M. Wells to warrant.

ARE ORDERED TO DISPERSE

Russian Police Sent to Prevent Zemstvo Congress.

CREATES CLASS DISTINCTIONS

Scheme Thoroughly Discussed and Pronounced Inadequate to Meet All Wants of the People.

The zemstvo congress opened at midday July 19 in the residence of Prince Dolgorukoff, in Moscow. The congress was attended by 225 delegates. Count Heyden, leader of the deputation representing the congress recently received by the emperor, presided.

M. Golovine, president of the organizing committee, had barely started a statement dealing with the obstacles placed in the way of the congress, announcing that Gov. Kozloff had promised there would be no recourse to extreme measures, when the chief of police, with numerous commissaries and officials, entered the room. The chief announced that the perfect had prohibited the meeting of the congress and ordered the seizure of the documents.

Count Heyden protested against the proceedings, but the chief of police began taking the names of the delegates. Then came cries of "Write down the whole of Russia." Many persons present who were not delegates to the congress requested that their names also be taken.

The police then departed in order to draw up summonses and the sitting was resumed. The scheme of a national assembly on the basis outlined by the commission presided over by M. Boulign, minister of the interior, was minutely and critically discussed and denounced as totally inadequate to remove Russia's internal grievances, because, including a property qualification and an electoral system by classes, it prevented the assembly from truly interpreting the will of the nation, while the exclusion of numerous categories of citizens from the franchise was a contradiction of the principles of equity and a reasonable state policy.

Numerous resolutions embodying the foregoing criticisms were adopted unanimously, as were also resolutions complaining of excessive administrative and political control of elections and insisting that publicity be given to the proceedings of the proposed assembly, which should be in direct relations with the emperor without interference from the council of the empire.

WILL SELL HIS STOCK

Hyde Holdings Will Become Property of Equitable.

From a director of the Equitable Life Assurance Society it was learned that Thomas F. Ryan, who recently purchased the stock holdings of James H. Hyde, has made an agreement with the three trustees of the Ryan holdings and the newly elected directors to sell the stock he purchased back to the Equitable Society.

This sale is to be made as soon as possible, it is stated, and Mr. Ryan has agreed to turn it in to the society, thus thoroughly mutualizing it, for the same sum he paid for it, \$2,500,000, plus 4 per cent interest between the dates of his purchase and the sale.

It was stated that a number of the newly chosen directors, those selected by Grover Cleveland, Judge Morgan J. O'Brien and George Westinghouse, the trustees, accepted posts in the directorate only when they had been assured most emphatically that such an agreement existed between Mr. Ryan and the three trustees.

Japs Occupy Sakhalin.

The correspondent of the London Daily Mail at Hakodate, Japan, says that the Japanese have practically completed the occupation of the Island of Sakhalin, and are organizing a government. The Shanghai correspondent of the Standard says that the Japanese have landed on Sakhalin 125 miles of light railway and 3,000 coolies.

SHIPS NOT MUCH HURT

Russian Vessels Sunk by Japs Still Valuable.

An officer who has returned from Port Arthur, reports that the extent of damage to the sunken Russian ships was slighter than was anticipated. It has been known that the Russians applied explosives inside the vessels before they were abandoned and the resulting damages were expected to be serious.

It has been found, however, that the vital portions of the ships were strangely unhurt. The Bayern, which sustained the most severe damage, has been taken in tow and the Peresveit is navigable with her own engines. Both of these vessels will soon be brought to Tokyo to complete the necessary repairs. Even the Palladia, which sustained the heaviest damage, is expected to be refloated by the middle of August and before the Retvizan and Pobeda will be afloat.

John Erfaw, of Mannington, W. Va., took refuge under a tree during a storm. It was struck by lightning and Erfaw had his clothes torn off. He will recover.

General Wood is Convalescent.

General Leonard Wood, who recently underwent an operation at a private hospital in Boston, left the institution. Accompanied by Mrs. Wood, a trained nurse and a physician, he has gone to the country for a few days. He expects to sail early next month for Manila.

It is expected that the Russian warships Palladia, Pobeda and Poltava, sunk at Port Arthur, will soon be refloated.

RUSSIA'S TROUBLES

Soldiers in Revolt—State of Selge Exists at Lodz.

Part of the Ekaterinburg regiment stationed at Lodz mutinied and killed an officer. The mutineers were arrested. Owing to the state of siege the citizens of Lodz are compelled to contribute \$1,500 daily toward the maintenance of the troops.

The St. Petersburg Official Messenger reports an attempt to poison a number of railway workmen at Tiflis because they resisted revolutionary intrigues. The paper says that arsenic was placed in a boiler from which the workmen made their tea. Many of the men became ill and then died.

A sergeant of detectives was shot and killed in Warsaw by an unknown man. A patrol of infantry, while pursuing the assassin fired a volley, killing a merchant.

DRAGGED INTO RIVER

Steamer Entangles With Line—Passenger Drowns, Five Hurt.

The steamer Shamrock, plying about Valley View on the Kentucky river, while carrying a party of 50 excursionists up the river, three miles from Valley View, ran into a rope stretched from log boom.

The rope swept Miss Nancy Carpenter into the river. She was drowned. The smokestack was thrown down on George W. Hutchinson, superintendent of the Kentucky River Poplar Company, probably fatally injuring him. Five others were badly hurt.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

The earnings of Bethlehem Steel, it is said, will reach \$3,000,000 annually.

United States Steel's undivided profits for the first half of the year are \$30,000,000.

Miss G. W. Glass, granddaughter of General Winfield Scott Hancock, was drowned at Easton, Md., while bathing in the Miles river.

William F. Hubbard, aged 28, a forest assistant in the forest service of the department of agriculture, was drowned in the Potomac river near Great Falls, Md.

Gen. Wilmon Whildin Blackmar, commander-in-chief of the G. A. of the Republic, died in Boise Idaho, July 16, of intestinal neoplasia. His wife was with him during his illness.

A report says that Anwa, Shawano county, Wis., was wiped out by a windstorm. No confirmation of the report has been received. Anwa has a population of 500.

Two distinct earthquake shocks were experienced at Portland, Augusta, Bangor and Brunswick, Me. The State prison house at Thomaston was considerably shaken, but only slight damage done.

It is learned from a most reliable source that Dowager Queen Margherita of Italy, will go on an automobile tour through Spain and Portugal in September, and later will visit the United States, sailing on a German steamer.

Fire destroyed the summer residence of Anson Phelps Stokes at Lenox, Mass., causing a loss of \$100,000.

The French submarine Farfadet was finally raised and towed to port. Examination shows the 14 men who perished used every device to escape.

One person was killed and 14 injured, two probably fatally, by a tornado which swept a portion of Rosebud reservation, South Dakota. Roy McFadden was killed near St. Elmo.

James W. Alexander, former president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, is critically ill, which raises the doubt that he was able to sign his resignation.

Hazel Offered, 14-year-old daughter of Frank Offered, of near McConnellsville, O., was instantly killed by lightning while riding a horse, which was also killed.

The National Association of Automobile dealers was organized in Buffalo, N. Y. W. C. Jaynes of Buffalo, was elected president, and H. C. Wilcox of Buffalo, secretary-treasurer. Nearly all large automobile dealers in the United States were represented.

The British government was defeated in the house of commons by a majority of three on the motion to reduce the membership of the Irish land commission.

One of the most shocking stories of murder, with robbery as the motive, by which 12 lives were sacrificed, was brought to New Orleans by Capt. Hans Holm of the Norwegian frigate Braten. The captain of the little trading schooner Olympia sailed from Utilla, Honduras, with \$1,400 to buy cattle at Truxillo to sell at Belize.

Boston Wool Market.

Although the wool market is still quiet, it is believed that an active period is about to open. In prices the market was notably strong. The range of prices is about as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania—XX and above 36@37; X, 33@34; No. 1, 41@42; No. 2, 42@43; fine unwashed, 28@30; 1/4 blood, unwashed 35@36; 3/4 blood, 35@36; unwashed delaine, 29@30; unwashed, 32@33; fine unwashed delaine, 37@38; Michigan—Fine unwashed, 27@28; 1/4 blood, unwashed, 33@34; 3/4 blood, 34@35; 1/2 blood, 32@33; unwashed delaine, 25.

Equitable Officers Removed.

Thomas D. Jordan, comptroller of the Equitable Life Assurance society, was summarily removed from office, by Chairman Paul Morton because he refused to furnish information regarding that \$985,000 blind loan standing against the Equitable society on the books of the Mercantile Trust Company. Chairman Morton appointed in his stead William A. Day, assistant to the attorney general of the United States.

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS

TO RAISE PRICE ON PAUPERS.

Westmoreland County Undertakers Organize to Increase Cost of Burials.

Undertakers of Westmoreland county met in Greensburg to effect a permanent organization. The following officers were elected: President, A. H. Kelley, New Kensington; secretary, Edward J. Perry, Greensburg; treasurer, Homer Miller, Jeannette. A committee was appointed to confer with the county commissioners relative to increasing the fee for burying paupers.

A fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin, starting in the bakery of Mrs. Eva K. Delp, at Meadville, communicated to adjoining buildings and did more than \$11,000 damage before it was brought under control by the fire companies. The heaviest loss was sustained by the Walter Harper Lumber Company, damage to whose warehouse and stock is valued at \$10,000, with insurance of \$4,000. Mrs. Delp's loss is placed at \$600, with no insurance. Kaufmann & Hannah's meat market in the rear of the bakery sustained \$500 damage.

A deal in real estate believed to make certain that the Pennsylvania railroad will build the proposed new four-track line from Beatty to Greensburg has been consummated. The farm of Lee Swamy, of Youngstown, which lies to the north side of the railroad's present line, was sold to Recorder of Deeds James Gallagher, who it is believed is acting for the railroad company. The proposed line runs through the farm. The consideration was about \$7,500.

Martin Shultz, a coke worker, was beaten to death while on his way to work in Continental mine No. 1 near Uniontown. Justice of the peace M. B. Clifford found the body about daylight Shultz's head was mashed so badly that he could hardly be recognized. County Detective Alexander McBeth has made information against Andrew Mastischek, charging him with the killing of Shultz.

The Clarion county Republican convention nominated the following ticket: Prothonotary, R. L. Craig; register and recorder, W. H. Kiser; treasurer, George E. Arnold; district attorney, John W. Moffett; commissioners, George M. Myers and S. K. McClelland; auditors, James O. Craig and J. W. Phipps. John B. Lonaker, Clarion, was re-elected county chairman.

Henry Brombach, a freight conductor employed by the West Penn railroad was sand-bagged and robbed of \$147 and his ring while passing the Guckenheimer distillery at Freeport. Mr. Brombach was notified, but not seriously hurt. He notified the police as soon as he regained consciousness. A young man named Edward Patsinger was arrested on suspicion.

A beautiful monument will be erected at Harrisburg by the grand lodge of Elks to the memory of the late Meads D. Detweiler, for two consecutive terms of the grand exalted ruler. Action to the effect was taken at the meeting of the grand lodge in Buffalo last week.

Alleging that they are not being paid standard wages the 250 employes of the Hazel Mountain Coal Company, at Block Ridge, went on strike. The company is not a party to the