

DIRECTORS WANT INQUIRY

Will Assist State in Investigating Equitable Affairs.

SOME BAD LOANS WERE MADE

Excessive Salaries Paid, Secret Pensions and Inside Deals for Private Profit.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society joined with the state of New York in asking for a full investigation in court of its directors and officers and their alleged wrongdoings in managing the money of the society. The document which announced this determination was the answer of the 49 Equitable directors to charges made against them in connection with a suit brought against the Equitable Life Assurance Society by the state. This answer was filed with Attorney General Julius M. Mayer.

Admission is made that some officials of the Equitable have been guilty of improper and illegal acts. In all 13 charges are answered by the directors. Among these answers they admit the \$250,000 loan to the Depew Improvement Company. They admit the \$655,000 loan of the Mercantile Trust Company, but waive responsibility in this loan so far as the board of directors is concerned and indicate Messrs. Alexander, Jordan and Deming as the person having the most intimate knowledge of these transactions.

The charge that excessive salaries were paid to officers of the Equitable is not directly answered, but admission is made that under guise of salaries excessive fees were given to certain Equitable officials who were also directors in other companies. In defense the answer states that these practices were not known to the whole board of directors.

Outlining their belief as to the best policy to pursue in fixing the blame for the Equitable scandals the directors say that the blame for alleged cases of misconduct will be found to rest on individual officers and not upon the directors as a body. Having made this explanation the answer then admits in a general way the wrongdoing charged.

MANY PRIESTS SLAIN

Attack Christians and Burn Their Churches.

Word is received of an outrage in Yunnan province, showing the revival of fanatical antagonism to Christian colonization. A mob of Buddhists Lamas, by a preconcerted arrangement to drive the Christians out of their province, attacked the various French Roman Catholic establishments on the coast of Szechwan, wrecking one church and killing many priests, the number being variously stated at between 18 and 23, with others wounded. The French minister at Peking has made strong protests to the Chinese minister, demanding effectual punishment.

PRESIDENT TAKES DIVE

Goes Under the Water on a Submarine Boat.

President Roosevelt made a descent in Long Island sound, on board the submarine torpedo boat Plunger. He was aboard the vessel about three hours. At one time the little boat was submerged for 50 minutes and in that time was put through all the submarine feats of which she is capable. The president expressed to-night his delight at the novel experience and said that he was immensely impressed with the boat and with the manner in which she was handled.

JAPANESE STEAMER SUNK

Collides With British Steamer in Inland Sea—160 Are Drowned.

A message from Nagasaki, Japan, says: The British steamer Haralong and the Japanese transport Kingdo collided August 22 in the inland sea. The transport was sunk and 160 men were drowned.

LIGHTNING HITS OIL SHIP

Explosion Follows Explosion on Burning Vessel.

Struck by lightning, the ship Mulberry Hill, laden with case oil and asphalt, lying in the stream midway between Tompkinsville and Stapleton, was burned, lighting up the bay from Sandy Hook.

The crew of 24 men left the ship just after the fire started and landed at Stapleton. The lightning hit the mainmast and passed down the steel pole into the hold, where there was an explosion. Five minutes after the alarm was given one of the hatches, about amidships, blew up and the fire settled down into the hold, where explosion followed explosion.

Rebels Repulse Russians.

Fighting has taken place in the Refimo district between Russian troops and revolutionaries. The Russians were repulsed near Atsippoulos, losing 20 soldiers and 20 gearboxes. The revolutionaries, afterward running short of ammunition, retired to Refimo, where they joined another band. Their loss was six killed.

TELEPHONE BEATS CYCLONE.

Family in Minnesota Warned in Time to Escape.

Warned by a telephone message from a neighbor miles away that a cyclone was coming the family of Frank G. Sanders, near Winona, Minn., rushed from the dinner table to a nearby clump of willows, where they lay face downward. They had scarcely reached their places of safety before the storm struck and demolished the house.

CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.

Prominent Feature in Most Reports Received in Country by R. G. Dun & Co.

Distribution of autumn merchandise is in progress unusually early this year, and the volume of forward business is so heavy that the last half of 1905 promises to establish a remarkable record of commercial activity. Current retail trade is well maintained, the urgency of orders received by jobbers indicating that dealers' stocks are becoming depleted, and there is little complaint regarding collections. Most labor disputes have reached settlement, and no serious controversies are threatened, while in many sections the supply of wage earners is inadequate. Freight blockades and insufficient rolling stock cause delay despite widely extended facilities as compared with last year.

Special reports regarding manufacturing conditions have been received from about 40 leading industrial centers, and there is surprising unanimity in the statements. With scarcely an exception plants are working close to full capacity, with little idle machinery, except where alterations or improvements are in progress, and contracts on hand far exceed those held at this date in 1904. Equally gratifying is the confidence expressed in the future, a prominent feature of most reports. Encouraging crop prospects provide a large share of the good feeling.

Railway earnings in the first half of August surpassed last year's by 5.3 per cent. Sentiment has improved in the iron and steel industry. Actual transactions are still somewhat limited, but confidence in the future is becoming more widely diffused. Mills making textile fabrics are enjoying a larger degree of activity and appear to have more business in sight than any other branch of manufacture. This is due in part to the low position to which stocks were allowed to become depleted before purchasing became general and also to the firmness of raw material, which does not encourage delay in providing for future requirements.

Yellow Fever Recur.

The official report of the Yellow Fever cases in New Orleans up to 6 o'clock p.m. August 25 is summarized as follows:

Now cases, 63.
Total to date, 1,463
Deaths, 6.
Total deaths to date, 292.

RAILROADS BUSY

Large Additions to Working Force in Car Shops.

One of the most significant evidences of the heavy freight traffic that is being handled by the railroads this season appears in the statement that the Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburgh have been compelled to increase the repair forces working in the car shops to keep the freight rolling stock in good condition. This statement was made in the general offices of the Pennsylvania lines, explaining the additional forces that have been put on at the various large car shops of the Pennsylvania lines. The addition to the car repairing employes amounts to several hundred men, distributed over the two systems. Northwest and Southwest, where the disabled cars have accumulated.

Ordinarily, from 1,000 to 1,500 freight cars are turned out of the repair shops of the two systems daily. In spite of this large output the number of cars requiring attention from the repairers, has been growing in the past few weeks, until, less there should be felt a shortage in the supply, and also to forestall congestion in the mechanical department, it was decided to increase the number of men employed at the repair shops. Repairing is being concentrated at Crestline, Toledo, Ft. Wayne and other points.

An official of the Northwestern is quoted as saying that this will be the best year the Western railroads have ever had.

BIG WAREHOUSES BURN

Lightning Causes Loss of Half Million Dollars in Brooklyn.

A loss of more than \$500,000 was caused by a fire started by lightning at the extensive plant of the Bush Terminal Warehouse company at the foot of Forty-fourth street, Brooklyn. Filled with thousands of bales of cotton, the warehouse burned fiercely and stubbornly. The fire department was handicapped by a lack of water in that section of Brooklyn, only one main being available. Fireboats from the Bay side of the burning structure did the most effective work.

When lightning struck the stores the shock was felt for several blocks. Almost immediately flames leaped from the low-lying structures. A large number of trans-Atlantic freight steamers, lying at the Bush company's docks, were in peril, but their captains immediately cut loose and floated out into the stream, being subsequently picked up by tugs or gotten under way with their own steam.

Chinese officials are informed that boycott must cease before there is a new convention to consider the exclusion law.

Conger Resigns.

Edwin H. Conger, of Iowa has resigned his post as American ambassador to Mexico to take effect October 18, and President Roosevelt has accepted the resignation. The president authorized the publication of the correspondence, which passed between him and Ambassador Conger, the ambassador giving reasons pertaining to his private business and personal affairs, for desiring to resign. President Roosevelt praises Mr. Conger for his services to the country.

JAPAN MAKES CONCESSION

Attempts to Bargain with Russia Over Sakhalin Island.

ROOSEVELT'S PLAN REJECTED

Russia Claims That All the Points Involved in the War Have Been Conceded.

When the peace envoys met on August 23 Baron Komura in a few words explained that Japan in her great desire for peace was ready to make certain "modifications" of the original articles in the hope the Russian court would find it possible to accept them. He then presented in writing to M. Witte the compromise proposition which President Roosevelt had suggested.

It offered to withdraw article 9, providing for the payment by Russia of Japan's bill for the cost of war, on conditions that Russia would accept article 5, which provides for the cession of the island of Sakhalin, so modified as to include an arrangement for the purchase by Russia of the northern half of the island for 1,200,000,000 yen. In addition it offered to withdraw entirely articles 11 and 12 (surrender of the interned warships and limitation upon Russia's sea power in the far east.) It was the president's compromise and M. Witte knew its contents as well as Baron Komura. The question of whether he had been "buffed" was put to the test.

Without a moment's hesitation M. Witte explained that the modification proposed was merely a sham, a diplomatic attempt to ask Russia to pay war tribute under another name. He could not accept it. He told Baron Komura Russia wanted peace. She had given the proofs in accepting every article involving the issues upon which the war was fought, but she could fight, and money for tribute she would not pay, not a kopeck. He asked a withdrawal of all demands for tribute. And so the plenipotentiaries separated to meet again on Saturday, ostensibly to permit M. Witte to place in writing, as the rules of the conference require, his reply to the Japanese compromise proposition. In reality the adjournment over the two days was to give each side an opportunity to consult its government for the last time.

BIG GAS DEAL

Kansas Natural Gas Company Buys Out Rival.

The Kansas Natural Gas company controlled by Pittsburgers, with T. N. Barnsdall as president, concluded negotiations for the purchase of the Peoples Natural Gas company of Coffeyville, Kas. The price paid was \$900,000.

This purchase gives to the Kansas company 43,000 acres of the best producing gas and oil district in Montgomery county, Kansas, the same field in which the main properties of the Kansas lies. The Peoples company has a daily capacity of 550,000,000 feet of natural gas.

The purchase puts the Kansas company in a class by itself as a large factor in the Kansas gas fields. It removes the only large competitor and strengthens the position of the company greatly.

NEW CATTLE DISEASE FOUND

Hemorrhagic Septicemia Appears at Edinboro, Pa.

A new disease called hemorrhagic septicemia has been discovered among a herd of cattle at Edinboro, Erie county, Pa., by Dr. George B. Johnson, of Franklin. Five cows have died, but Dr. Johnson thinks the disease has been checked and that there is no danger of an epidemic. When a cow is attacked death follows in four days. The diagnosis of J. B. Irons, of Erie, and Dr. Johnson has been sustained by the State authorities. The disease has been common in Europe for a number of years, but so far as is known cases have only been reported from Pennsylvania and Minnesota in this country.

SLAUGHTER OF JEWS

Drunken Soldiers Kill 60 and Wound Hundreds at Bialistok.

The New York representatives of the Russian Jewish Bund got this cablegram from the European committee of the bund, whose headquarters is at Geneva, Switzerland:

"In Bialistok on August 12 many Jews were shot by a company of drunken soldiers. Sixty are known to have been killed and more than 200 wounded. Among these are many women and children.

"In various other towns the soldiers parade the streets and do not allow the Jewish workmen to pass through or congregate.

"In Berditschev 60 were wounded, in Homel 29, in Pinsk three were killed and many wounded."

Fatal Cloudburst in Colorado.

It is reported that a cloudburst at Tabasco, a coal mining camp near Trinidad, Col., flooded the town and drowned nine persons. Considerable damage to property was caused also. All communication with Trinidad was cut off after the report was sent.

Twenty-Four Killed in Battle.

A telegram received from Batavia, Dutch East Indies, reports an ugly outbreak of Achinese rebels who attacked the Dutch post at Rambong, killing two officers and 22 men. Only six men of the post succeeded in escaping, and these were wounded.

Three cases of yellow fever have developed at Gregory, Mo., within the last 24 hours. All the victims are Italians. One has died. The other two cases were discovered August 21st.

PROHIBITION TICKET

Democratic Candidate for State Treasurer Indorsed.

At the Pennsylvania State Prohibition Convention in Williamsport by a vote of 120 to 70, William H. Berry, the Democratic candidate, was nominated for State Treasurer, his opponent being Dr. Charles W. Huntington, of Williamsport. The choice was made unanimous amid the protests of the friends of the Williamsports.

An effort to nominate John Stewart for Supreme court justice failed and John D. Gill, of Greensburg, was placed on the ticket instead. It was decided to name only one candidate for the Superior court, and Homer L. Castle, of Pittsburg, was selected by acclamation.

At the mass meeting William H. Berry and Homer L. Castle accepted the nomination tendered by the convention. The State Central committee held a meeting and elected David B. McCalmont, of Venango county, as State chairman.

The declaration of principles asserts that the traffic in intoxicating beverages is the most important political issue in this or any other State, it arraigns the license system as wrong, demands the repeal of all laws governing the same, pledges allegiance to the National Prohibition party and charges that false registration, etc., and unclean methods practiced by managers of our State and municipal affairs are prompted by the saloons. The present management of the Republican party is held responsible for the fact that Pennsylvania is recognized throughout the country as the abode of political graft and plunder. Legislative distribution of appropriations, regardless of institution at merit, as a reward of party fealty or as personal perquisites of legislators is declared to be in essence bribery and embezzlement.

FATAL FEUDS

Four Killed and Others Wounded in Tennessee and Kentucky.

A feud battle occurred near Alice station, Tenn., on the Queen & Crescent railroad, in which Frederick Miller and his son John Miller, aged 23, and Fred Johnson, were killed, and Henry Miller, another son of Fred Miller, aged 18, was dangerously wounded. For more than 20 years a feud war has raged between the Miller and Rawlings families.

In a feud fight on Black creek, in Powell county, Ky., Campbell Anderson was killed and Tom and Gale Morton, brothers, were seriously wounded. Will Pansley and Troy Plunkett were slightly hurt.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

The Denver Savings bank has closed and a receiver has been named.

Officials, press and public in Russia said to be opposed to yielding to the Japanese.

China's government administrative system will be reorganized after western ideas.

While emptying cinders from a car in the yards of the National rolling mill in McKeesport, Pa., the car upset and four laborers, all foreigners, were badly burned.

A tornado struck Roosevelt, Arizona. Almost every house in town was overturned but only one person was injured. The town is situated in a gorge.

Emperor William announces he and the empress will not receive presents on their 25th anniversary of their marriage, but money contributions will be welcome.

Dependent over her husband's lack of work and the fear of losing a finger Mrs. Joseph Loefer, 323 Huntington street, Cleveland, took arsenic and died at St. Alexis' Hospital. She was aged 24 and had been married but four months.

The Pennsylvania Steel Tube company, now located on Second avenue, Pittsburg, has purchased 10 acres of land from the Colonial Land Company at South Monaco, and will erect a steel tube plant on it at once.

The United States government building at the Louisiana Purchase exposition, erected at a cost of \$500,000, has been sold to a wrecking company for \$10,500. The steel trusses in the structure alone cost \$100,000.

The United States Courts has been appealed to for the appointment of a receiver for the National Croatian society, of the United States, a fraternal insurance society. The receivership proceedings are the result of internal disagreements, which threaten the existence of the association.

All the rail mills of the United States Steel Corporation have sold up their entire output of steel rails for this year and are now taking orders for delivery in 1906.

Contempt proceedings charging violation of the order restraining the giving of rebates have been filed in the United States District court in Chicago against the Chicago and Alton, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, the Missouri Pacific, the Chicago, Rock Island, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway companies.

Three Killed in Explosion.

By an explosion of giant powder at Paris Cal., Mrs. A. W. McRae, wife of a mine owner, her son, George, and Oscar Ducloux, another mine owner, were instantly killed. Mr. McRae suffered probably fatal injuries.

Large Shortage.

The expert accountant who has been at work on the books of the Platt-Barber company, wholesale grocers of Phillipsburg, Pa., has completed his examination and announced that the books showed the amount of the alleged embezzlement of John G. Platt, for years the secretary and treasurer of the company, to be \$168,000.

A new plot to kill the czar is reported, the date of assassination being fixed for September 7.

PLANS FOR SETTLEMENT

Propositions to Aid in Solution of Peace Problem.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S PLAN

Suggestion That Russia Repurchase the Island of Sakhalin in Lieu of Paying Indemnity.

The suggestion of President Roosevelt for breaking the existing deadlock in the peace negotiations and rescuing the conference from failure has become public. The President's solution would ingeniously permit the satisfaction of the Japanese demands for reimbursement for the cost of the war and at the same time enable Russia to face the world with the declaration that she had not ceded a foot of territory or paid a kopeck of war tribute to the victor.

The solution, tersely stated, consists in an agreement by Russia to repurchase possession of either all or half of the island of Sakhalin, now in the military occupation of Japan, for a sum the amount of which, if the two countries cannot agree, shall be decided by some method of arbitration hereafter to be determined. The purchase money, together with the sum Japan would obtain from the cession of the Chinese Eastern railroad and the maintenance of the Russian prisoners in Japan, would, it is estimated, about equal the amount claimed by Japan as her bill for the cost of the war.

Practically, therefore, the solution offered by the President involves cession by Japan upon article five, the cession of Sakhalin and recession by Russia upon article nine, indemnity.

BENNINGTON INVESTIGATION

Naval Board Blames Wreck With Causing the Disaster.

Secretary Bonaparte made public the proceedings and findings of the court of inquiry, which investigated the explosion on the gunboat Bennington, at San Diego, California, on July 21.

The findings were a complete surprise, for they at once set at rest the stories that had been circulated that the Bennington's boilers and perhaps those of other naval vessels of the same age were defective.

As a matter of fact, the court found the explosion resulted from the closing of a valve, which connected the exploded boiler with its steam gauge, so that the pressure on that boiler may have been several hundred pounds to the square inch when the accident occurred.

While praise was accorded to the officers and ship's company for their conduct during the harrowing scenes following the accident, the officer and men who were responsible, in the opinion of the court, are pointed out and court-martial proceedings suggested in the case of the only one of them surviving. Ensign Charles T. Wade. The court consisted of Commodore Stevenson, retired, and Captain E. J. Moore, and Captain Thomas S. Phelps.

NOT AFRAID OF TAINT

Inventor's Wife Sues Standard Oil for \$50,000,000 Royalties.

A motion was made in the Supreme Court at Boston for the appointment of a commission to take the testimony of John D. Rockefeller and other officers of the Standard Oil Company in the \$50,000,000 suit brought by Elizabeth F. Greenough of that city, who alleged that amount to be due her as royalty on the oil refined by the company since 1874.

The suit is based on an alleged contract made with the late Benjamin F. Greenough, the inventor of a refining process, by the terms of which Greenough was to receive one-quarter of a cent on every gallon of oil sold by the Standard Oil Company.

W. H. Rogers, who is made the chief defendant, in his reply to the suit says an agreement was made, but that Mr. Greenough himself vacated it on January 1, 1875.

THREE STATES SHAKEN

Earthquake Shocks Greatly Frighten the People.

An earthquake occurred at Cairo, Ill. It lasted about 1 minute and shook the strongest buildings. The shock was preceded by a rumbling noise. Many persons were frightened and took refuge in the streets.

Owensboro and Henderson, Ky., and Evansville, Ind., were shaken by an earthquake. Two distinct shocks were felt. Citizens of Owensboro were greatly frightened. Many rushed from their homes. No damage was done.

Pennsylvania Heir.

William O'Hara, of Westmoreland county, Pa., has been declared the rightful heir of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O'Hara, both of whom were murdered near Brighton, Col., in January, 1889. O'Hara's estate consists of a lot on Market street, Denver, valued at \$900, and \$262 in money. The estate of his wife, Mrs. Mary O'Hara, consists of a valuable ranch near Brighton, \$2,265 in money and considerable jewelry.

Panama Merchants Act.

A permanent committee of three has been appointed by the merchants of Panama to seek a modification of the arrangements establishing commissariats in the canal zone. This committee will present to Gov. Magooon a statement showing the losses merchants are likely to suffer and will endeavor to obtain an equitable readjustment of the matter.

Richard MacElliott of Pennsylvania has been admitted to the Annapolis Naval academy.

CORN CONTINUES EXCELLENT

No Improvement in the Outlook for Apple Crop.

The weekly summary of crop conditions issued by the Weather Bureau says:

The previously reported excellent condition of corn continues generally throughout the principal corn producing states and also in the Atlantic coast and eastern gulf districts.

The harvesting, stacking and thrashing of spring wheat on lowlands in the northern part of the spring wheat region, where grain is fully ripe, were interrupted during the forepart of the week, the fields being too wet for the reapers. Satisfactory yields are generally indicated over the southern portion.

While cotton has improved in portions of the central and western districts, the crop as a whole has suffered deterioration, which is most marked in the eastern districts.

Wet weather has proven injurious to tobacco in Ohio and Indiana, but most reports respecting this crop are favorable, an improvement in Kentucky, the middle Atlantic states and New England being indicated.

There is no improvement in the general outlook for apples, nearly all reports showing an inferior crop.

Much complaint of blight and rot in potatoes is received from the lake region and the northern part of the middle Atlantic states, but the reports from the Missouri and central Mississippi valleys are more favorable.

JAPANESE ADVANCE

Drive Back Russians and Get in Communication With Oyama.

The London "Daily Telegraph" Tokyo correspondent says that despite the heavy rains the Japanese have advanced in Northern Korea. The Russians abandoned their advance works and were driven back. After crossing the River Tumen the Russians destroyed the bridges and there is no sign of Russians south of the Tumen. The Japanese army in Korea already has effected a certain communication with Field Marshal Oyama.

The "Telegraph's" Japanese correspondent at Moji says that Gen. Linevitch's defense works are now complete. His troops number between 400,000 and 500,000. Train loads of troops are arriving from Russia, and many are being sent to the Tumen.

The commander of the Japanese squadron sent to Kamchatka reports that he has seized the Russian transport Australia in Petropavlovsk harbor August 13.

MARTIN A WINNER

Virginia Democrats Renominate Him for Senator.

In the Democratic State primary at Richmond, Thomas S. Martin was nominated to succeed himself in the United States Senate, and Representative Claude A. Swanson, of the Fifth congressional district, to succeed Andrew J. Montague as governor of the State, by large majorities. Chairman J. Taylor Ellyson, of the Democratic State committee, was nominated for lieutenant governor by an overwhelming vote. William A. Anderson was chosen for reelection as attorney general and J. D. Eggleston, Jr. of Prince Edward county, was nominated for superintendent of public instruction by majorities approximating those of the leaders of the ticket. The nominations are claimed by the Democrats to be practically equivalent to elections, though the Republicans have a ticket in the field and propose to make a strong fight.

SULTAN PROPOSES TO ALICE

Miss Roosevelt Receives Offer of Marriage in Sulu.

Advices from Jolo, where Secretary Taft and his party visited last week in the tour being made of the Philippines, states that the climax of the festivities arranged in honor of their visit came when the sultan of Sulu offered his hand in marriage to Miss Alice Roosevelt, the President's daughter, and asked her to become the sultan's of the Sulu archipelago.

His offer is regarded as a form of Oriental politeness.

Boston Wool Markt.

The wool market is firm with fine high count wools scarce. The noticeable strength of the market has been found in half bloods. Territory and Montana. Leading quotations follow: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 37@38c; X, 34@35c; No. 1, 40@41c; No. 2, 41@42c; fine unwashed, 28@29c; unmerchanted, 30@32c; 1/4 blood, unwashed, 34@35c; 1/2 blood, 34@35c; 3/4 blood, unwashed, 36@37c; 1/2 blood, 36@37c; 3/4 blood, 36@37c; 1/2 blood, 36@37c; 3/4 blood, 36@37c; 1/2 blood, 36@37c; 3/4 blood, 36@37c.

TO FIGHT BEEF TRUST

Chicago Hotel Men and Butchers Will Build Plants.

Chicago hotel men, wholesale butchers and restaurant keepers have formed a combination to fight the beef trust. Two plants, one costing \$150,000 and the other \$300,000, are in course of erection and a third to cost \$500,000, is contemplated.

Bandits Annihilated.

An official dispatch from Gen. Linevitch to the Russian emperor, dated August 16, says that a Russian detachment has annihilated a band of Chinese bandits in the Lungcheen district. The leader of the band and two Japanese were among the dead.

Two walls and an arched floor at the ruins of the old Avenue Theater, Pittsburg collapsed, carrying down in the wreckage 15 workmen, all of whom were injured. Five of the men are suffering from serious injuries.

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS

ESCAPED FROM OFFICERS

Two Morganza Boys Jump Out of Car Window While Train is Moving and Escape.

Two Morganza boys escaped from State Parole Officer George M. Fernar at Transfer, 30 miles north of New Castle, by making a headlong dive through the car window when the train was running 40 miles an hour. Fernar secured the boys at Erie and had them manacled together in the seat behind him. While he sat talking with a friend just after the train had pulled out of Transfer and had attained speed the boys dove through the window. The alarm was given and the train backed to the point of escape but the boys had disappeared.

After a short idleness for repairs the Carnegie Steel Company's blast furnace in Sharon resumed operation, affecting about 150 hands. The company is planning to install the Monnell, or direct metal, system at the North works. At present the pig iron from the furnace is allowed to cool, but with the Monnell system it will be taken in a molten state to the open-hearth department. The system is now working successfully at South Sharon. The Fanny blast furnace at West Middlesex also resumed to-day after a six weeks' idleness.

A large frame shanty used by the laborers employed on the straightening of the Pennsylvania railroad tracks at Tyrone was destroyed by fire. Many of the wardrobes of the occupants were consumed, together with money which most of them had secreted in their lockers and trunks. Over \$1,500 in money was burned up. Contractor H. S. Kerbaum's loss is \$500. The fire was caused in a peculiar manner. A gasoline lamp burning in the shanty was blown out. The next man to come in struck a match and the escaping gas was ignited, causing an explosion.

The New Castle forge and bolt works was almost completely destroyed by fire, throwing over 300 men out of employment. The entire forge department, containing valuable machinery, gas generators, etc., burned having caught supposedly from the gas. The engine rooms operating the remaining departments were destroyed. President C. J. Kirk says the loss will reach over \$1,000,000. All the departments were called and it took three hours to get the fire under control.

The eleventh annual reunion of the old Atlantic and Great Western railroad employes was held in Meadville and the attendance was exceptionally large. Kent, O., was chosen as the next meeting place and the following officers were elected: President, Charles Bortz, Kent, O.; vice president, M. H. Ricker, Gallion; treasurer, John Eckert, Meadville; secretary, W. E. Nichols, Meadville. The secretary reported that there are 11,228 members of the organization on the roll.

State Health Commissioner Dixon has appointed the medical examiners of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad to be special railroad medical inspectors in the department of health. They will receive no salary from the state. The commissioner is co-operating with the chief medical inspectors of the Pennsylvania railroad in guarding against an invasion of yellow fever from every possible danger point.

The sawmill and company store of Hyde & Rout, contractors for the Grandin Lumber company at Eagle Rock, 12 miles east of Oil City, together with 5,000,000 feet of new lumber, were destroyed by fire. Firemen with steamers from this city and Warren succeeded in checking the flames, which started from the boiler in the mill. The loss is estimated at \$40,000.

Plans for consolidating the Pennsylvania and Mahoning Valley lines, operating the local lines of Youngstown and New Castle, and the interurban lines and the Park and Falls line of Youngstown, are ready, and the proposition is to be submitted to the stockholders.

An epidemic of typhoid fever has broken out in the vicinity of McCleary postoffice, Butler county, and within a week 23 cases have developed. The first case was fatal. The whole countryside attended the funeral and within three days there were seven new cases.

The general store of Jennings & Artess at Bradleytown, which contained the postoffice, was entered by burglars Monday night and \$120 worth of stamps stolen.

Frank Adams is in the Washington hospital as the result of injuries inflicted by another boy with whom he quarreled over the possession of a dog.

Mrs. Nancy Wilson was burned to death at her home near Laurel, Fayette county. A lamp she attempted to blow out exploded.

James K.