

CAPTAIN OF FIRE POLICE AND TWO OTHERS KILLED

Jamestown, New York, Loses its Principal Business Section and Many Public Offices---Telegraph Service Out.

Jamestown, N. Y., March 14.—Beginning on Saturday night, and ending this morning, Jamestown was visited by a series of the most costly fires it has ever had, resulting in a total loss of \$800,000, the death of one man and the serious injury of three others. The original fire broke out Saturday night in the Cokey factory building, and the flames were believed to have been completely extinguished.

At 2 o'clock this morning they broke out afresh and communicated with the Cokey business block, the largest office and business block in the city. The flames spread so rapidly that they were soon beyond control of the local department. Buffalo was appealed to for aid, but within an hour the flames had consumed the Cokey buildings, the Sherman house and had exhausted themselves in the Hall and Briggs blocks. The fire also communicated with the Wellman block on Cherry street to the Sharp block and Brendergast block on Main street, but was extinguished without serious damage to these.

While there was ample time for the guests of the Sherman House to leave the building there was no time for saving any property. The falling of telegraph poles caught a number of persons in a network of wires and George King, a fireman, had both legs broken.

In the fire of Saturday night or early Sunday morning which was the

immediate forerunner and the cause of this morning's blaze, John Hanson, captain of the fire police was instantly killed by a falling wall. Alfred Shoemith had his skull fractured and Joel O'Bert was seriously injured.

The loss on the Sherman house owned by Charles Samuels is \$150,000, the hotel was leased and managed by George F. Hurlbut, his loss on furnishings was \$50,000.

In the hotel buildings were the Postal Telegraph company's office, the office of the Jamestown Street Railway company, and of the Chautauqua company. The Postal lost all its lines and the wires leading into the offices of the Western Union Telegraph company which is a repeater station between New York and Chicago, were broken down and the company's service paralyzed. The Bell company's service also was cut off.

At five o'clock this morning after it was believed the fire was under control and the Buffalo fire department which had been asked for assistance had been notified not to come, the flames were communicated to Erie Hall occupied by the Bijou Theatre which was quickly destroyed as was the Briggs Block occupied by a saloon and restaurant. The loss on the two buildings was \$50,000 and on the contents \$20,000.

The burned district covers a large part of two squares in the centre of the city.

STANDARD OIL AT THE BAR

Case Before the United States Supreme Court Today After Four Years of Litigation.

Washington, March 14.—Found by the lower federal court to be a combination in restraint of trade and a monopoly of a branch of interstate commerce the Standard Oil today appeared at the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States to make final argument against its dissolution under the Sherman anti-trust law. The government was present to insist on the decree of enforcement of the dissolution.

This proceeding before the highest tribunal of the country is the outgrowth of years of investigation of Standard Oil on the part of the government. Its immediate origin was a petition filed in 1906 by the department of justice in the United States circuit court for the eastern district of Missouri, asking for the dissolution of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey as violating the Sherman anti-trust act. Testimony was taken in St. Louis and in New York in the case, John D. Rockefeller himself, being a witness. Four judges had been called in to pass on the case and they finally announced a decree, granting substantially all that the government had asked. It is from this decree that the counsel for the Standard Oil appealed to the Supreme Court.

A DEATH CHAIR ORATOR AT SING SING

Ossining, N. Y., March 14.—Frank Schlsiman, the second of the two men convicted of the murder of Mrs. Sophy Staber in Brooklyn, last July was electrocuted in Sing Sing prison here today. Carlo Ciro, Schlsiman's companion in the burglary of the Staber home, which resulted in the fatal shooting, was put to death here a few weeks ago.

"I die for burglary only, I never took a human life," was Schlsiman's final protest of innocence. "I hope, gentlemen, you will forgive me for my mistake. I now realize mine. I die with a clear conscience," were the condemned man's last words. His speech was said to be the longest ever made from the death chair in the prison here.

MISS EVA STOCKTON DEAD AT SUSSEX

(Special to the Mail.)
Sussex, N. B., March 14.—Miss Eva daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stockton, died early this morning at her home, aged 36 years. Deceased was taken ill in Boston, where she had held a position for some years. She came home in January, but did not recover from her illness. Her trouble was the cause of her death. She is survived by her mother, two sisters, Mrs. Ernest E. Wood, of Baie Verte, and Mrs. W. R. Lynch, Sussex, and two brothers, Roland of Cambridge, Mass., and Walter, Sussex.

ICE RUNNING AT HAMPTON

(Special to the Mail.)
Hampton, N. B., March 14.—The ice in the Kennebecasis went out early this morning and the river is reported clear from Bloomfield to Pery Point and probably above and below these points.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORER SUICIDES

Melbourne, March 14.—Mr. Armitage, a member of Shackleton's Antarctic expedition, has committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver.

DEATH OF A P. O. OFFICIAL

Halifax, N. S., March 14.—Thomas E. Davison, for a number of years in the post office inspector's office, and a popular officer of 60th Princess Louise Fusiliers, died this morning. He leaves a wife but no family.

STOCK MARKET.

Montreal, March 14.—Business in stocks were dull today but Montreal Steel had a good rise to 131½, the highest in years. Other features were: Dominion Steel, 68. Preferred, 139. Detroit, 65. Scotia, 89½.

AIR CRUISER NEARLY READY

Will Carry From 60 to 80 Persons and Travel 50 Miles an Hour—A German Invention.

Trier, Germany, March 14.—An immense air cruiser to carry from fifty to sixty persons and intended to travel at from 44 to 50 miles an hour, is approaching completion here and will be launched early this spring by its inventor, Anton Bison, an engineer of this city.

It introduces an entirely new departure on the construction of airships as it is built of iron. The skeleton of the balloon is formed of rolled iron-piping. The central hollow shaft is 410 feet in length. The gas is contained in twelve ring balloon nets in the same manner as in the Zeppelin craft.

These balloon nets are just over 27 feet long by nearly forty feet in diameter and they lie end to end along the body of the airship. The vessel is provided with no fewer than five motors developing altogether 480 horsepower. The propeller is fitted at the bow.

It is estimated that these powerful motors will give the vessel a speed of at least fifty miles an hour. The entire weight of the framework motors and equipment is thirty tons.

KEEN CIVIC CONTEST TOOK PLACE TODAY

Much Interest Manifested in the Elections, not a Large Vote Polled—Labor Men Took Prominent Part—Result Uncertain.

The civic election, which took place here today, was undoubtedly one of the keenest political contests this city has witnessed for many years. Two full tickets for each ward was placed in nomination a week ago, since which time the candidates and their friends have been hard at work, canvassing and perfecting their organization. The result of their labor was apparent around the city hall and Court house polls during the day.

Although the campaign has been conducted more quietly than that of last year, public interest appears to be none the less keen. Most of the candidates were in evidence at the polls during the day, shaking hands with the electors and urging them to vote the right way. Each ticket had sharp agents at work inside of the polling booths to see to it that none but qualified voters were permitted to exercise the franchise. There was some wrangling between the workers during the day, but on the whole good order was maintained.

There were 1269 names on the voter's list and it is believed that over 1000 will be polled.

The organized labor men seem to be after Ald. Edward Moore's scalp, because of his connection with the shoe factory, and they dropped his name from their ballots. The alderman for St. Ann's has many friends however who threw plumpers for him and they are hopeful that he will not be behind in the race.

There has been a good deal of cross-voting during the day, and those in touch with the situation look for the election of some members of both tickets.

As there are twenty names on the ballot it will be well on to seven o'clock when the result is known. City Clerk, McCready will make his declaration in the city council chamber.

TRIED TO RESCUE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

(Special to the Mail.)
Windsor Ont. March 14.—An unknown woman believed to have jumped into water with suicidal intent was drowned in the Detroit river about two a.m., yesterday before the eyes of 100 passengers on ferry boat Promise bound from Detroit for Windsor, Walter Hewitt, of Windsor jumped from the ferry in an attempt to reach the woman but his progress was blocked by a big ice floe and he had a narrow escape from losing his own life.

Hon. R. Maxwell returned to the city this morning.

NEW DOCTRINE TO AID STRIKERS

Unions Advise Workmen to Withdraw Deposits from Banks and Cripple Capitalists

Philadelphia, Pa., March 14.—Interest in the general strike today centred on the ability of the labor unions to hold the striking workmen together and prevent a break as predicted by employers and the city authorities. Early reports show that while some men did return to work after a week's idleness there is no indication of a general break but on the other hand some unions which have hesitated about joining the sympathetic strike in aid of the trolley men, cast their lot today with the strikers.

The calling out by the central labor union of all union men employed in the supplying of milk, bread and other necessities of life had no serious effect. Union men declare that the action of the central labor union yesterday did not become generally known until today and that all union men engaged in the curtailing of food products will eventually obey the strike order. Large milk dealers and others, however assert it will not seriously affect the food supply of the city, as men employed in these lines of trade are not strongly organized.

The strike declared against the banks is a new wrinkle in labor warfare.

The new move of the labor leaders in calling upon all working men and car men not only in this city, but throughout the country to withdraw their deposits from all banks and thus deprive capitalists they say,

with one weapon with which to fight organized labor, is being watched with great interest. This act was taken by the central union, which is conducting the general strike because the local banking interests are disinclined to interfere in the fight between the trolley men and the Philadelphia rapid transit company. Bankers seen today admitted that this latest move would be a dangerous one if it was to be unanimously carried out but they do not believe that the unions will succeed in causing a very general withdrawal of deposits. No apprehension is felt in banking circles because the great amount of working men's deposit are in saving fund institutions which require at least two weeks notice of withdrawal of money.

The declaration of central labor union leaders to use every weapon within the present fight may involve many unions with their employers. Several large industrial establishments scenting trouble have made concessions with their employees and have thus prevented strikes of specific grievances. The printers, musicians and several other unions that voted not to join the strike last week, it is believed will stick to that decision and refuse to obey the orders of the central labor union.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit company operated about its regular number of cars today. The cars are being more generally patronized than at any time since the strike was declared.

DAMMING OF THE ST. LAWRENCE

Toronto Ont., March 14.—The World's Buffalo special says; It is learned here on reliable authority that action will soon be taken by Waterways Commission on the application of the St. Lawrence Power Co. Ltd., a Canadian Corporation and the Long Sault development company, a New York state corporation for the privilege to derive power from Long Sault rapids.

The American section is about ready to report suggested amendments to the bill now in congress to enable the power company and allied interests to construct their proposed dam.

The Canadian sections action will come later. The rivers and harbors committee at Washington has pronounced to hold the striking workmen is understood to imply favorable action on the part of the American section of the waterways commission for otherwise the bill would have been offered in its entirety.

A POINT OF GOOD MORALS.

The following observations on secret commissions, by Mr. Justice Magee, in his charge to the jury in the Foster-Macdonald libel suit in Toronto, are of the utmost importance to the business community.

"If you sent your servant to market to buy a horse and there he meets with a man who offers him a horse at \$150 and says 'If you will buy this horse at \$150 I will give you \$10 of it to yourself, and you need not have any compunction about it, because I would not let your master have it for less than \$150.' And your servant gets it for \$150 and puts the \$10 in his pocket, you can recover that \$10 from your servant. It is your money, not his, because it was made out of the transaction which he was carrying on with some person else for you; now, that is clear law. So, a commercial traveller sent out by a house here in Canada to buy goods for that house in the States, and he may be offered a commission by a person in respect to the goods he buys, when he comes back to Canada if the transaction ever becomes known, he is liable to pay over that money to his employers. He has no right to be paid at both ends, unless it is known. This question of double commissions has for a long time past been quite too common, and has been permeating to a large extent the commercial life of the country. So much is that the case that last year the Dominion Government passed an act making it a criminal offence to take a double commission.

ANOTHER INDIAN HELD FOR SEDITION

London, March 14.—An Indian student named Savarak, was arrested here on his arrival last night from the continent on a warrant charging sedition. He is held for extradition.

A HONOLULU HEROINE.

Helen Wilder, of Honolulu, is not a good person for a horse-beater to meet. For as sure as she sees an act of cruelty, she matches the offender off to the police station and leaves him to the punishment of the law.

Miss Wilder is one of the richest women in Hawaii. But she does not lounge in her hammock and weave garlands for her pretty head. Instead of that she is up at dawn and galloping over the region that she has made her beat. For she is a policeman, and her special care is the safety and comfort of helpless children and dumb animals.

She is the champion of the weak; she rides like a vaquero, and springs from her horse to cuddle and croon over some sick or misused baby. By full authority of the law, she arrests and malefactor without going to the trouble to secure a warrant, and thus delay the course of justice. A recent suit in the Honolulu courts settled this matter conclusively.

She arrested a street-car driver for beating his mules. She had no warrant and the defendant, claiming that the arrest was illegal, demanded \$5,000 for injuries to his reputation. After a long trial, the jury decided in favor of Miss Wilder, and the court authorized her to make arrests whenever she thought proper.

Helen Wilder goes wherever her duty is to be done. In Honolulu it is swelltest turn-out in Honolulu is drawn too tight, she commands the driver to stop and unfasten it. Fear she has never felt. Coolie, Jap, Kanaka or white man, she arrests them all in spite of threats. Let the drivers overload the buses, or the Waikiki tramcars pull out overloaded, and out come her handcuffs. She will brook cruelty neither toward children nor animals.

Rule of Three.—"I say, old man, can you tell me what is meant by the Rule of Three? My girl asked me about it last night. Never heard of it before."

"Well," said the man at the next desk, with a frayed collar and an incipient bald spot on his head, "if you can wait till you're married, and live with your wife, her ancient maiden sister and their mother, you will know the Rule of Three all right."

BANK FAILURE IS NOT SO BAD

St. Stephen, N.B., March 13.—Rumors in abundance are afloat on every hand in regard to the St. Stephen Bank affairs, but very few of them seem worthy of attention.

Several business men are predicting and even figuring out a most favorable statement for the stockholders of the St. Stephen Bank, and so many of them are now feeling quite hopeful that instead of having to pay double liability they may have a certain percent of their stock returned to them.

This is certainly a most optimistic view of the situation and many are most eager to accept these statements. The report of Mr. Kessen from Montreal in Saturday's papers does not, however, present the matter in such rosy colors.

There were no business failures reported on Saturday. A number of the depositors of the St. Stephen Bank visited the Bank of New Brunswick on Saturday and were paid their deposits made Saturday, 5th inst.

The statement recently issued by the Bank of New Brunswick that they were prepared to advance to depositors of the St. Stephen Bank a certain proportion of their deposits was not very favorably received by some of the depositors when it was learned that in order to receive that certain proportion a note at six per cent. interest must be signed.

"This is but a fair business proposition," say the bank officials, "for we must assume a risk in advancing money, for it is not yet known how much the depositors may receive."

It is understood that General Manager Kessen of the Bank of New Brunswick has notified the Canadian Bankers' Association that there is no sign of wrong doing on the part of any employe of the suspended bank.

WHOLE FAMILY WERE WIPED OUT

(Special to the Mail.)
Rapid City, Man., March 14.—The house of Fred Willis, farmer, was destroyed by fire Saturday, during the temporary absence of Willis and wife. Three small children, all girls, comprising the entire family, were burned to death. Some of the neighbors had a narrow escape from death in an effort to rescue the children from the burning house.

Mr. C. E. Leonard, of St. John, is at the Barker House.

SHAEFER WIZARD OF THE CUE BURIED

Chicago, March 14.—The body of Jacob Schaefer, the "wizard" of the cue, was laid in a vault at Rosehill cemetery yesterday. The funeral was deferred until arrangements are completed for a monument which is to be purchased by billiard players of the country, at which time a lot will be selected.

Probably never before has the funeral of a billiard player drawn such wide attention as did the last services over Schaefer. Prominent players and proprietors from all parts of the country attended the services.

FRENCH EMBEZZLER HAD MANY AIDS

Paris, March 14.—A cipher list of persons, whom M. Duez, the embezzler of the properties of the religious orders declared received hush money from him, promised to play in the present scandal, a part similar to that of the famous check book of M. Thirret, which served to compromise so many French politicians in the Panama Canal affairs. None of the names from this code list have yet been published.

THE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

Sydney, N. S., March 14.—The Australasian Tennis Association has accepted the challenge of the English Lawn Tennis Association for the Dwight F. Davis' international cup. The Australasians have decided to play out their preliminaries in time to permit of the finals being played in December.

SNOWPLOW AND ENGINES BURIED BY AVALANCHE

Seattle, Wash., March 14.—It is reported that an avalanche at Wellington, the scene of the great northern disaster in which more than 100 lives were lost two weeks ago, has buried a rotary snow plow and two engines with their crews.

Halifax, N. S., March 14.—The rate of civic taxation this year will be \$1.97 a reduction of two cents on the present rate.