

BIG FIRE SWEEPS BOSTON

THE LOSS OVER TEN MILLIONS

Fire Which Originated From Spontaneous Combustion in Rear of Hoisting Blacking Company's Works Devastates More Than One Square Mile of the Manufacturing, Business and Tenement District of Chelsea...

Among the buildings burned were 13 churches, Frost Hospital, Children's Hospital, City Hall, City Public Library, five school houses, a dozen or more factories and about 300 tenements and dwellings.

The residential section of the city where the wealthier class reside, escaped the flames.

In the retail section, through which the fire passed, were 10 business blocks which were destroyed.

FIRE UNDER CONTROL. The Chelsea fire was practically under control at 9 o'clock to-night.

The fire originated in the rear of the Boston Blacking Company's works on West Third street, near the eastern division of the Boston & Maine Railroad...

The fire started almost in the extreme southwest section of the city and cut a path to the end of Maverick street at the extreme southeastern end of the city, which borders on Chelsea creek.

Among the structures destroyed were the 13 churches, two hospitals, the public library, city hall, five school houses, 10 business blocks, nearly a score of factories and upwards of 300 tenements and dwelling houses.

The flying embers and the showers of sparks were carried across Chelsea creek to the east Boston district and the east Boston engines were obliged to return from Chelsea to protect property in their district.

A militia, called by Mayor Beck, of Chelsea, under the command of Captain Hill, near Admiral Swift, of the navy yard, also sent out all the men from the receiving ship Washaw who were not already out on leave.

The fire started on the marshes bordering the western division tracks of the Boston & Maine Railroad in the rear of the Boston Blacking Company's works, where employees were at work drying out rags.

The exact cause of the fire is not known, but it is supposed that spontaneous combustion among the rags was responsible.

A high wind, blowing at 45 miles an hour from the northwest, drove the flames from the rag sheds directly upon the wooden buildings of the Boston Blacking Company.

The buildings were soon a mass of flames and as surrounding property consisted largely of wooden buildings used for storage of rags, the fire department realized that a serious fire was threatened, and a general alarm was sounded.

In the lake, shingles, burning paper and oil-soaked rags were being blown into the air and were soaring over the city.

THE NEW BRITISH CABINET

CHURCHILL MAY BE DEFEATED

New Cabinet Appointments Are Identical With Forecast Made by London Daily Chronicle—Morley and Pender Made Peers But Retain Their Present Offices—New Premier Will Not Dissolve Parliament...

Herbert H. Asquith, Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury. David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Lord Tweedmouth, President of the Council. Earle of Crewe, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

John Morley, Secretary of State for India and Sir Henry J. Fowler, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, have been made peers, but retain their present offices.

There had been some speculation as to whether the new Premier would think it well to dissolve Parliament and he would have been fully justified in assuming the government under somewhat unusual circumstances.

FOUR BY-ELECTIONS. His aim in composing the Cabinet seemingly has been to avoid as far as possible any by-election in constituencies where the faith in liberalism is wavering.

The recent withdrawal from the race of Messrs. D. S. Henderson, of Alken, and Col. John J. Dargan, of Sumner, has drawn several other candidates to the race, and there have been hints that there would be other withdrawals.

The settlement over the States-as far as the correspondent is able to sound that sentiment from talks with visitors to Columbia from various parts of the State, with persons who make frequent trips to a variety of places, and who have been heard on of their own—appears to be well settled at this time that the leaders now are Messrs. Heyward and Evans—though before the votes are counted, or even before the campaign formally opens in June.

Three Homes Are Burned and Another Damaged, the Loss Being About \$100,000. The fire in the city of Boston, which was a result of the explosion of a gas tank, has caused the destruction of three homes and the damage to another.

PHILADELPHIA LEAGUE SENDS OUT LETTERS URGING THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF GEORGE GRAY TO THE SENATE.

Washington, April 12.—The George Gray League, which was organized at a meeting last Thursday evening in the Hotel Walton, Philadelphia, has sent to Senators, Congressmen, delegates to the Democratic national convention, and to the Democratic voters of the country an address urging the nomination and election of George Gray to the presidency.

THE BUDGET OF CONCORD NEWS. Bridge Over Rocky River Being Strengthened—Judge Shaw Opens Prohibition Campaign in Cabarrus—Mrs. Evans Has Made Kitchen. Special to The Observer.

Concord, April 12.—The Hon. Claude Kitchin was in the city last evening, but your correspondent was unable to catch him at a hotel. It is learned, however, that his brother, W. W. Kitchin, has made a kitchen.

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Count Potocki Killed. Governor of Galicia Assassinated While Giving an Audience to a Delegation of Students—Slayer's Brother Commits Suicide.

Will Hold Cotton. Southern Cotton Association and Farmers' Union Complete Arrangements For Holding Remnant of 1907 Crop—Bankers Will Finance Every Bale in Warehouses.

CIRCUS MAN ACQUITTED

George Spivens, Held at Sumter For the Murder of Mr. E. Galliard, Set Free by Jury, and Negro Now Serving as Accomplice May Be Pardoned—Sentential Race Rather Dull as Yet.

Observer Bureau, 206 Skytower Building, Columbia, S. C., April 12.—George Spivens, trainermaster of the Cole Bros' circus, who has been in jail at Sumter since October, 1906, has been acquitted of the murder of Mr. E. Galliard at Manning, yesterday.

There is also a strong feeling in the community that the circus negro, who was arrested in connection with the murder of Mr. Galliard, is not guilty and is being held in the county jail as a matter of convenience.

FROM OCEAN TO OCEAN. The Central of Georgia terminates here and connects with the Illinois Central, thus giving a direct connection from all Illinois Central points with the sea at Savannah.

There has been much mystery about this case, and it is now being hinted that the arrest of a sensational nature in the near future. Various circus periodicals have from time to time been advertised in the papers.

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LAST LINK IS COMPLETE

BIRMINGHAM DIVISION READY

Illinois Central Announces That It Will Open the Birmingham Division Next Sunday—Completes Last Link in Great Harriman Transcontinental Route and Besides Opens the Way to Alabama's Coal Fields—Central of Georgia Will Connect With New Line Thus Giving Direct Line From Illinois Central Points to the Sea at Savannah—Mobile & Ohio Line Reaches Birmingham the Same Day.

Birmingham, Ala., April 12.—The official announcement by the Illinois Central that the new Birmingham division will be opened for traffic April 13th calls attention to the completion of the last link in the great Harriman transcontinental route, for by controlling the Union Pacific, Illinois Central and Central of Georgia this system will extend from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

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PREPARING FOR TROUBLE

STATE TROOPS TO PENNSACOLA

Following Report That Pensacola Mob Had Destroyed the City Jail and That the Federal Troops Had Mutinied—General B. H. Foster Orders Three Companies of Soldiers to Proceed at Once to Pensacola—Further Order Commands Every Available Man in the State to Report For Duty as Soon as Electric Company Will Attempt to Operate Cars To-day and If Further Trouble Develops the Troops Will Be Ready to Take Charge of the City.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 12.—The following order was received late this afternoon from Adjutant-General J. Clifford R. Poston from Tallahassee: "Assemble Companies A, D and F immediately and proceed by afternoon train for Pensacola, there reporting to Colonel Leffler on arrival. Take every available man; heavy marching orders from Tallahassee. Orders of rations allowed for trip, and if possible take field in the ranges. Afternoon train will be held three quarters hour. Sound general alarm so as to get men out quickly, and take as many as possible."

Immediately upon receipt of this message the fire whistle sounded the riot call. Almost instantly military men, policemen, deputy sheriffs and special officers rushed to their headquarters and at 6 o'clock one hundred and twenty men were marching double-quick time to the depot. Following them was the Gatling gun detachment and at 6:30 o'clock the train pulled out, amid cheers from the excited crowd that had gathered at the depot.

TROOPS HURRYING TO SCENE. In addition to the Jacksonville companies ordered to the man in the State militia service was ordered to Pensacola at once. A special from Live Oak stated that the Suwanee Guards, the Tallahassee, Apalachicola and other companies had proceeded to Pensacola on the morning train.

Wild rumors were doing the rounds this afternoon that the mob had destroyed the city jail to get at the strike-breakers, and another rumor was to the effect that the Federal troops had mutinied. These reports, however, were not given credence.

Knowing that the Pensacola Electric Company intends to make an attempt to operate cars to-morrow, it is believed that the military companies were ordered to that city to be on hand in case of further trouble.

MONSTER MASS MEETING

Besides Meeting of Laboring Men There Are No Developments in Pensacola Strike—Curfew Law Put in Effect.

Pensacola, Fla., April 12.—With the exception of a monster mass meeting of all organized laboring men of Pensacola, there were no developments in the strike situation here today. Mayor C. C. Goodman early this morning issued a proclamation early this morning in which he ordered that all residents, excepting officers actually on duty must be off the streets by 10 o'clock or else be arrested and detained for the night. This order is to prevent crowds gathering on the streets.

Two additional military companies arrived during the day, making a total of four with two more to come during the night. It is expected cars will be started to-morrow.

A relic of the Civil War. Dr. Hutchinson Ford Presents to the National Museum a Forty-Pound Cannon Ball Fired From Fort Sumter at the Beginning of the War—Rebanded From Battery and Was Picked Up on the Sand Bar.

Washington, April 12.—The United States National Museum has just received as a gift from Dr. W. Hutchinson Ford, now residing in Washington, a forty-pound cannon ball fired from Fort Sumter at the beginning of the engagement on April 8, 1862, which marked the opening of the civil war. In connection with the history of this shot Dr. Ford says:

"This cannon ball was fired by Major Anderson from Fort Sumter on the 13th of April, 1861. At the beginning of the fight Major Anderson devoted his attention to the floating battery, which was moored in the cove at Sullivan's Island, near the western extremity, about a mile and a quarter from the fort. Three of his shots struck the battery and rebounded upon the sand bar, falling to penetrate more than three inches. I was one of the surgeons of the hospital at Mount Pleasant across the lagoon back of Sullivan's Island, and as there was nothing to do, being no wounded, in company with a colleague I visited the island on the 13th of April, and seeing these shots lying in front of the floating battery on the sand bar, I caught up one of them in my handkerchief and brought it away, forwarding it in historic value. I then took the ball to Charleston and Alken, S. C. thence to St. Louis, where it remained until I brought it to Washington."

CRIPPLED STEAMER LIMPS IN. Newfoundland, Badly Leaking and With Bow and Stern Cracked by Ice, Forced Into St. John's Port—Sealer Goes Down With Cargo of Seals Valued at \$120,000.

St. John's, N. F., April 12.—Bringing tidings of a sinking of the steamer Grand Lake of the Great Lakes, and the serious injury of several other caught in the grip of ice floes, the steamer Newfoundland limped into port to-day leaking badly. The Newfoundland's bow and stern were crushed by ice, and her crew of 200 men were forced to stand by for hours pumping and bailing, to keep the vessel afloat.

The Grand Lake met with disaster last Sunday. She was shut up in the ice floes of two great ice floes until her stern gave way and even her engines were crushed. Her crew, numbering 214 men, made their escape to the steamer Vanguard, which was close by.

A catch of 25,000 seals was done with the Grand Lake. This cargo was valued at \$120,000 and was insured. The steamer Iceland and Ranger were also crushed badly by the ice, but were kept afloat until their crews could be rescued on the ice. Both made temporary repairs.