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ELEVEN HOTELS ARE TOTALLY DESTROYED

Atlantic City Visited by the Most Destructive Fire in Its History—Property Loss Upwards of a Million, But Not a Single Lost—Thirty Looters Arrested.

Atlantic City, April 3.—But for the fortunate shift of the wind at the critical moment this morning, Atlantic City, with its great colony of hotels probably would be little more than a heap of ashes. As it was the flames left a wake of wreck and ruin for a distance of nearly half a mile along the board walk, right in the heart of the beach front of the hotel district.

Eleven hotels are totally destroyed, three badly scorched and thirty business establishments of various kinds wiped out. The direct property loss is estimated at upwards of a million, while the indirect loss as a result of the destruction of so many prosperous hotels in the height of the spring season brings the figures upwards many hundreds of thousands.

It was the worst fire in Atlantic City's history. The hotels totally destroyed are:

THE LURAY,
THE BERKELEY,
THE NEW HOLLAND,
THE NORWOOD,
THE STICKNEY,
THE STRATFORD,
THE RIO GRANDE MERVINE,
THE RIO GRANDE,
THE MERVINE,
THE BRYN MAWR,
THE TARLETON.

In addition to these the Windsor, the Traymore and the Kentworth are damaged, the Windsor worst of all. Many of the business establishments were of the cheap bargain style commonly associated with seaside resorts. The Academy of music, however, which was totally destroyed, and Young's pier, which was damaged to the extent of \$80,000, were imposing enough structures of their sort.

Most of the hotels destroyed will probably be rebuilt immediately. A fortunate feature of the fire was that it broke out in the day time, and another was the shift of wind that saved the town. The daylight doubtless saved many lives. As was the case in the Paterson and Waterbury fires, not a single life was lost. Several persons were hurt, but none seriously. Of the 1000 guests in the burned hotels home, so far as is known, were injured. Hundreds of them lost valuables. Many were even stripped of pretty much everything they had except the clothes they wore.

In many cases the property will be recovered. There are hundreds of trunks now at police headquarters awaiting owners. Some of them were recovered from thieves who were making off with them. Looting began simultaneously with the semi-panic resulting from the fire. A large percentage of the thieves were negroes. In the confusion the police were comparatively powerless, although they have thirty thieves coked up tonight. The looting did not stop at carrying off property at the fire area; people were held up and robbed in the streets. Portmanteaus were snatched from the hands of women. Pickpockets were everywhere.

Had the fire not been controlled in a comparatively short time, there inevitably would have been a riot of villainy second only in terror to the fire. Excitement among the hotel guests was terrific at times, assuming the proportions of a panic, but daylight, timely warning and the good work of the police and firemen somewhat reassured them.

It was settled conviction for a while that the entire city was doomed.

Guests in the hotels for two miles up the board walk packed their trunks and hundreds of them bundled themselves and belongings into carriages and wagons and went off to the railway stations, where they left for Philadelphia and New York. Outgoing trains all the afternoon were laden to their utmost capacity.

Atlantic City, N. J., April 3, 2:30 p. m.—The most disastrous conflagration that

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7 room house on Cumberland Avenue, \$1250.
Residence 9 rooms, just off paved street and car line, 10 minutes from Public square, modern conveniences, \$3500, easy terms.
Residence on Haywood Street, lot 92 by 200, \$5000, easy terms.
Large list of furnished and unfurnished houses, cottages and rooms for rent.

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has ever visited this city is now raging along the beach front, for a distance of over three blocks. Eight hotels have been either entirely or partially destroyed. A strong southwest wind is blowing and the firemen seem to be unable to cope with the flames. Assistance was asked from Philadelphia and Camden and the former city sent three engines, the train making the run in forty-five minutes.

There is an unconfirmed report that six men have lost their lives in the flames. The fire originated in Brooklyn's bath-house, located on the Boardwalk, New York and Kentucky avenues, and now extends from Illinois Avenue to Tennessee Avenue, three blocks.

The six men who are supposed to have been burned to death are two policemen, believed to have been buried in the ruins of the Berkeley hotel, two firemen and two musicians, members of the Royal Italian band, who are said to have been in the Berkeley. Practically all the property on fire is attached to the Board walk, a frame structure forty feet wide skirting the edge of the ocean, and consists mainly of flimsy wooden stores and bath houses. Fortunately the brisk wind which is blowing is carrying the flames away from the section of the city in which the most valuable hotels and cottages are located.

Three Philadelphia fire companies arrived here shortly before 1 o'clock and immediately began an attack on the flames. Shortly after 1:30 o'clock assistance began to arrive by special train from Camden, fifty-six miles distant, and it is expected that six fire engines will be added to the force now fighting the fire. The wind from the west has increased somewhat, placing firemen at a disadvantage, as they were compelled to retreat to the beach. In some instances the fire companies were unable to get their hose off the board walk and it was destroyed. The firemen from Philadelphia and Camden pumped water direct from the ocean to the flames wherever this was practicable.

The Luray hotel had the greatest number of guests, and as this was one of the first places attacked by the flames there were many scenes of excitement as the guests made a hasty exit. Fashionably dressed women helped carry trunks and valises, while a few people, who had not yet left their beds, ran out on the board walk in night clothes.

Young's pier and the Marine ball room of the pier is entirely gone and the interior portion of the structure is being torn down to save the adjacent properties. At 1 o'clock the fire leaped across Tennessee Avenue and unless the Philadelphia volunteer engine can stop it in its path, the following places will be destroyed:

M. Moher & Bros., fancy store; J. Williams, optician store; Caswell's candy factory; L. R. Adams, baths, two fronts; Chong King & Co., auction store of imported wares; Parisian Diamond parlors; Victor Fresinger's antique and foreign wares store; John Young's new apartment house.

If the fire is not stopped at this point, which is improbable, the Dunlap hotel, the Blue Cavern cafe, Bleakhouse and the merry-go-rounds will follow.

Several negroes were arrested for looting property.

The Hotel Windsor, which appeared to be doomed, is only partially destroyed. The east wing is still on fire but the flames will spread no further.

The Hotel Richmond, on Kentucky Avenue, which was in the path of the flames, was saved, to the surprise of all, the fire being stopped at the New Holland House. The Kentworth Inn has been saved, although the Eward House, alongside, was partially destroyed.

The fire will prove a great hardship on many hotelmen, who had just rented and opened for the spring season. They have lost all they had, with very

(Continued on fourth page.)

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When You buy confectionery you should insist that it be of good quality. Only the best sold
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Phone 183 26 S. Main

OLEOMARGARINE BILL PASSED

WENT THROUGH SENATE WITH SMALL MAJORITY, BUT LARGER THAN PREDICTED.

Vest, the Last Speaker on the Question Called Bill "Parliamentary Assassination."

THE SENATE TAKES UP CHINESE EXCLUSION BILL

THE BILL TO CREATE A RETERRED LIST FOR THE REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE PASSED BY THE HOUSE.

Washington, April 3.—The oleomargarine bill passed the senate this afternoon 39 to 31. While the vote was close, it showed that the senate was not as evenly divided on the measure as was predicted. The bill was debated most of the day. Just before the vote was taken Vest made a passionate speech against the bill. He characterized it as "parliamentary assassination." He declared in substance that every senator who voted for the bill was guilty of violating his oath to support the constitution, because the bill was not a revenue measure. For himself, he asserted, he would not vote for the bill if every man, woman and child in the union had requested him to do so and the legislature of Missouri demanded he should do so, because by doing so he would violate his oath to support the constitution. Before the bill was put to final passage an amendment was adopted placing a tax of ten cents a pound on "renovated" butter. After brief consideration of the Chinese exclusion bill the senate adjourned.

Washington, April 3.—The senate committee on military affairs today authorized favorable reports on the nomination of Colonel Geo. L. Gillespie to be chief of engineers and Colonel Geo. B. Davis to be judge advocate general, and an unfavorable report on the nomination of Captain Wm. Crozier to be chief of the bureau of ordnance, all with the rank of brigadier general. The reason why an exception was made in Crozier's case is found in the fact that he is charged with being interested in certain ordnance patents.

In the House.
Washington, April 3.—The house today resumed the consideration of the senate bill to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service. Mr. Padgett (Tenn.), the first speaker, opposed the measure.

Mr. Johnson (S. C.) also opposed the bill. Mr. Littlefield (Maine) made an earnest speech in favor of the measure. After some remarks by Mr. Shafroth (Colo.) against the bill, Mr. Mann (Ill.) closed for the opposition. He denied that the first gun in the Spanish-American war was fired by the revenue cutter service. He said the first gun was fired by the Spaniards at Manila because through negligence aboard the revenue cutter McCulloch the burning out of that ship's smokestack gave notice of the approach of the American fleet.

The bill, which will create a retired list for the revenue cutter service and thereby promote its efficiency, was passed by the house this afternoon.

ANARCHIST CIRCULARS AT ALTGELD MEETING

DENOUNCED ROOSEVELT AS A TYRANT AND JUSTIFIED CZOLGOSZ'S CRIME.

New York, April 3.—Anarchists attempted this evening to identify themselves with the assembly at the Altgeld memorial meeting held by the Central Federal union and the workmen's committee of one hundred in Cooper Union. In the streets they industriously circulated pamphlets entitled, "Roosevelt, Czolgosz and anarchy." The police arrested two for distributing circulars in violation of a city ordinance. The pamphlets denounce Roosevelt as a tyrant and say Czolgosz was justified in "making war" on McKinley for

making war on the Filipinos. Emma Goldman sat inside the hall well in front.

Henry George, Jr., acted as chairman of the meeting. On behalf of the meeting he repudiated the circular distributed. Several speakers eulogized Altgeld.

"ARKANSAS" JONES' MEN NOT WANTED IN PRIMARY

GOV. JONES ISSUES AN ADDRESS TO HIS FRIENDS WARNING THEM AGAINST JONES.

Little Rock, April 3.—Governor Davis today issued an address "to my friends in Arkansas," upon the subject of the county conventions to be held Saturday. Davis says in his address: Don't let Jones' men come to the convention if possible; because his friends, in my judgment, would thwart any proposition written by the next state convention so ringing and clear that no man can mistake it and that will commit the democratic party of my native state to the destruction of trusts and combines that are inimical to the welfare of my people. Do not let any wolf in sheep's clothing fool you."

THE NEGRO EARLY SHOT WHILE ON WAY TO PRISON

HAD BEEN CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS—BADLY WOUNDED.

Elizabeth City, N. C., April 3.—The negro, Early, accused of attempting to criminally assault Pearl Perry at Ryland, was tried today, convicted and sentenced to fifteen years.

While Early was in custody of the sheriff en route to the Raleigh penitentiary on a train this afternoon he was fired on and wounded four times by an unknown man.

One of the shots struck the negro in the head and three others in the chest. When the train reached Norfolk the prisoner was reported badly wounded and bleeding profusely.

Norfolk, April 3.—The man who shot Early is believed to be Miss Perry's father. He has not yet been identified and it is understood he escaped.

On arriving here the prisoner was escorted to the Norfolk jail where his wounds were dressed. The attending physician said although the bullets made ugly wounds Early would recover. It is the present intention to take Early to Raleigh tomorrow.

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CHRISTMAS DISCREDITED

BY ABNER M'KINLEY, REPRESENTATIVE GARDNER AND COL. BROWN.

McKinley Says He Met Christmas Once, Most Casually, in Hotel Lobby.

REFUSED TO CONCERN HIMSELF IN THE MATTER

GARDNER AND BROWN ALSO DISCLAIMED ALL KNOWLEDGE OF CHRISTMAS, EXCEPT OF THE MOST CASUAL CHARACTER.

Washington, April 3.—The investigation of charges in connection with the Danish West Indies negotiations was resumed today by the house committee having it in charge. Among those present when the hearing began were Abner McKinley, Col. W. C. Brown, Carl Fischer Hansen and Representative Gardner, of New Jersey.

Mr. McKinley was the first witness. He gave his residence as New York, his business that of a lawyer and in response to Chairman Dalzell's inquiry, he said he was a brother of the late

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