

MANY LIVES ARE LOST

BLAZES EXPLODED IN GRAND CENTRAL STATION AND OCCURRED DURING THE RUSH HOUR. THOUSANDS RUSH TO THE SCENE.

New York, Dec. 19.—Twenty-four men and women were blown to atoms crushed to death or burned alive by an explosion and fire that destroyed the power house of the New York Central and New York, New Haven & Hartford railroads today. More than 100 were injured and eight of these will probably die.

Thirteen bodies have been recovered, and eleven are still buried beneath the ruins of the buildings which are still on fire.

Many of the buildings in the vicinity were almost shaken from their foundations and threaten to collapse. Several firemen were injured by falling walls and several buildings will be unsafe for occupancy again.

The disaster was caused by the explosion of a battery of boilers in the power house. The fire that followed ignited the gas in an immense main under the building and this also blew up, spreading destruction and injury for more than a mile in all directions.

Three persons were killed on a street car a block away when it was hit from its rails and crashed into a mass of debris.

The power house, a two-story structure of ancient pattern, stood at the southwest corner of Lexington avenue and 5th street.

A series of boilers was installed in the basement, where there was also a compressed air system for furnishing power to operate the steam drills used in making excavations.

An enormous amount of compressed air was carried in the reservoir in the powerhouse. The reservoirs also blew up with terrific force three minutes after the first explosion, which occurred at 8:20 a. m.

The boilers in the basement were the largest used by the New York Central Railroad.

President Brown of the New York Central lines, gave out a statement after a cursory investigation here today but it threw but little light upon the case.

As the men who can explain the cause of the disaster were instantly killed by the force of the explosion, the real origin will probably never be known.

Rumors were current after the disaster that it had been set off by an explosion of dynamite, but no confirmation of this could be obtained.

Almost immediately following the explosion District Attorney Whitman and Assistant District Attorney Lawelle arrived at the scene and began a preliminary investigation into the cause of the explosion.

Later they went to the East Fifty-first street police station, where they examined a number of witnesses and several of the injured who had been brought to the station in a patrol wagon.

"You can say for me," declared the district attorney, as he left the police station and hurried back to the scene of the explosion, "that this investigation will be most exhaustive. None will be spared. I shall try to get at the bottom of this explosion and place the blame where it belongs. I shall devote the entire day, and more, if necessary to clearing things up."

The inmates of the nursery and children's hospital at 571 Lexington avenue nearby, were thrown into a frenzy of fear, and two children were badly injured in the stampede which followed.

Every window in the building was broken.

A score of ambulances were called to the scene and the streets were jammed with fire apparatus to the explosion occurred in the heart of a thickly built up district. Fire broke out following the explosion and the flames rapidly ate their way through the power house. The leaking gas was ignited and belched forth from the pipe in a seething sea of flames.

Firemen directed their efforts to keeping the fire from spreading and in rescuing the workmen who were trapped in the upper part of the structure.

There were many heroic rescues.

In a few minutes thousands of persons were gathered on the scene and hurry calls were sent in for reserves. Every policeman in the East 51st street station was rushed to 50th street, and ambulance calls sent to three hospitals.

Six ambulances were soon on the scene and two more arrived shortly after.

The hospital doctors, however, were utterly unable to take care of all the injured, and three patrol wagons were pressed into service as ambulances.

Many were not injured seriously enough to be sent to hospitals and were attended on the ground.

It was thought at first that the walls of the old Grand Central Station would topple and police were rushed here to keep incoming passengers from making their exit through the partly demolished structure.

DANDRUFF AND ITCHING SCALP YIELD TO THIS TREATMENT

Why experiment trying to drive the dandruff germ from underneath the skin with greasy lotions or fancy hairdressing when Hardy Drug Co. will guarantee ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP to entirely rid the scalp of the germ life that causes the trouble.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP can be obtained in any city or town in America and are recognized the best and most economical treatment for all affections of the skin or scalp whether on infant or grown person. One shampoo with ZEMO SOAP and application of ZEMO will stop itching and cleanse the scalp of dandruff and scurf.

We invite you to try ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP and if not entirely satisfied we will refund your money.

WEBB OPPOSES COMMITTEE

THE CONGRESSMAN OPPOSES THE "COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES" AND WOULD GET AWAY FROM CANNONISM—TO LEAVE IT TO CAUCUS.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Congressman Y. T. Webb has some ideas on the subject of the forthcoming Democratic caucus that are well worth considering. Sometime before the present session of congress began, in fact, as soon as the announcement was flashed over the country that democrats would control the next house, the district representative put on his thinking cap and began to plan ways and means for helping his colleagues along in the contest over the rules, which he believed was almost certain to follow. The result of these ideas, according to what Mr. Webb said today, are not only entertained by himself but by many other members of the house also.

"My idea of this whole matter," Mr. Webb said, "is that it would be a bad mistake to appoint a committee on committees, about which a great deal has been said already. At the same time I am not in favor of having the speaker name the committee members because I realize that one of the main issues in the last campaign when we knocked the republicans off the earth, was 'Cannonism.'"

The people were tired of seeing one man clothed with almost unlimited power. They had suffered under such a restriction for so many years that when the opportunity was afforded them of throwing off the yoke they did so in a way that would leave no doubt of what they meant.

"It is clearly out of the question now for the speaker ever again—certainly not at this time—to name the committee members. At the same time it is equally impracticable, according to my view, for a committee on committees to be named for this purpose. If the latter plan were followed what would probably be the result?"

Simply this. Say that such a committee was composed of five members of the house. They might get together and fix up a slate. A good man might be given a poor assignment, and might this cripple his usefulness in congress, because it is recognized that often a man's best work is his committee work. They might fix the slate as I said, to suit themselves."

Smart walking dresses reveal the fact in coquettish fashion of the first empire.

Muffs scarfs and turbans for school girls are made of serge or velvet bordered with fur.

Some of the cleverest touches of the toilettes are found in the back of the new costumes.

The squaw-like fashion of wearing tails, heads and paws is discarded by well-dressed women.

White-tipped black fox fur is being cut and mounted like quills, as a rival to its feathered cousins.

Silks, satins, velvet and furs—especially sealskin—are much used for the new winter hats and toques.

Unpretentious blouses may be smartened and brightened by a few beads carefully selected as to colors.

More fashionable than the long nap or furry beaver is the one that has shorter fur and is smooth and shiny.

with purchases today and the merchants say the same condition has prevailed since the first of the month. They are looking for the biggest week in their history beginning tomorrow and they are prepared for it. At three of the largest establishments in the city this morning it was said that the business done during the first fifteen days of December was the largest on record, and far ahead of last year. The people living in the city this morning it was said that the business done during the first fifteen days of December was the largest on record, and far ahead of last year. The people living in the city this morning it was said that the business done during the first fifteen days of December was the largest on record, and far ahead of last year.

The stock of goods in every line is larger and of greater diversity this season than the dealers have ever known.

Many novelties have made their appearance on the market and are good sellers. The toys are attractive and of a more substantial character in many respects than usual, and the merchants handling them are so busy filling orders and waiting on customers that they believe Santa Claus will have about all he can do to distribute what he is buying.

The clothing merchants, the shoe dealers, the jewelers, the department stores, furniture dealers, music dealers and the toy dealers are all having the same busy season and there was not one who complained today of the lack of business.

STARTLING, ASTONISHING, ASTOUNDING.

Has been the sale of Bloodins during the past few days. We never have had such a tremendous sale on any remedy in our store. Bloodins is highly endorsed by some of the most learned physicians in America for Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Stone in the Bladder, Rheumatism and Catarrh, and if you are suffering with any of these terrible diseases you should not fail to buy a bottle of this wonderful remedy today. Full \$1.00 size bottles for 50 cents at Dr. Ira M. Hardy's or from the Bloodins Corporation, Boston, Mass.

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The old-fashioned...
A similar case is that of Webb's...
A party of men were out hunting...
Making a Gunstock...
The ancient judge sat before the...
"Bring forth the royal treasure!"...
"The learning of the ages be added,"...
"A Good Sleeper..."

These are delightfully...
The portals...
They are...
Decidedly new...
The ancient judge...
"Bring forth the royal treasure!"...
"The learning of the ages be added,"...
"A Good Sleeper..."

Santa Claus Store

Dolls and Toys of all Kinds and Prices

Xmas Week Specials

Pianos	25c, 50c and \$1.00
Dressed Dolls	25c, 50c and 1.00
Iron Wagons	75c, 1.00 and 1.50
Doll Carriages	25c, 50c and 1.00
Horns	5c, 10c and 25c
Drums	10c, 25c and 50c
Stores	10c, 25c and 50c

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6 = Small Farms = 6

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A Lot and Other Valuable Prizes

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Terms of this sale will be easy.

Atlantic Coast Realty Co., Washington, N. C.

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Washington's Greatest Store

ALL Persons paying on accounts on Saturday, December the 24th, will be entitled to votes on the Automobile for who ever they may wish.