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WILMINGTON N. C. TUESDAY JANUARY 5, 1904.

FIVE CENTS

HALLS CLOSED

Churches and Lodge Rooms are all that Escape the Order

FIRE DANGER

Over 400 Dance and Public Halls Have Been Closed in Chicago and They Will Not be Allowed to Re-Open Till Every Requirement That Affords Protection From Fire is Fulfilled—Theatre Managers Again Make a Vain Effort to Have the Order Closing Their Houses Rescinded—Later Developments in the Situation.

Chicago, January 4.—As a result of the Iroquois theatre fire and panic in which 699 persons lost their lives, Building Commissioner Williams tonight issued an order closing all public halls, dance halls, and all similar places of public assemblage until an inspection has shown that they are complying with all provisions of the building ordinance. All the theatres have already been closed. This leaves Chicago churches and lodge halls alone open for public gatherings.

As there are upwards of 400 halls in Chicago, ranging in size from those that will accommodate fifty persons to those with a seating capacity of 500, this order will affect probably as many persons as the theatre closing order. Protests were numerous, but the building commissioner was inflexible. He said: "Many of these halls are worse than any theatre in Chicago, some of them are put up with no restrictions such as govern theatres and many of them are fire traps of the worst kind."

Two years ago a general inspection of halls was made before the beginning of Building Commissioner Williams' administration. Notwithstanding this, the commissioner declares that he will take no chances and that every hall must satisfy the requirements.

Deputy Building Commissioner Stanhope made another inspection of the Iroquois ruins today to prepare for the questions which will be asked by the coroner and jurors when the inquest begins.

Mayor Harrison and seven aldermen who have been appointed members of the city council committee to control legislation in relation to theatres met this afternoon with theatre managers, every play house excepting the Great Northern being represented. The managers asked if they could not open their houses and sell seats on the lower floor only but the mayor and aldermen refused this request. It was declared that all places must remain closed until the ordinance requirements had been fully met.

This afternoon attorneys for the fire department secured from five witnesses corroboration of the charges that a trolley crew of the Fuller Construction Company had destroyed the stage skylights on the day after the disaster. Fire Inspector Fulkerson said:

"It was the intention that those skylights should open automatically to allow the escape of heat and smoke and create a draft which would draw them upwards instead of allowing them to pass over the audience. But from the information I have I am positive that the opening of the skylights was impossible, because over each section of the lights had been placed pieces of scantling which remained there until removed by employees of the Fuller Construction Company on Thursday afternoon."

It has been said by Powers and Davis, managers of the Iroquois theatre, that the house was not filled on Wednesday afternoon at the time of the fire. This assertion was contradicted this afternoon by Manager Edwin H. Price of the "Blue Beard" Company. "I should say," said Mr. Price, "that between 90 and 100 tickets were sold after the theatre was filled. The day's receipts amounted to something more than \$1,700."

Little result followed the examination of seven men of the double octette which was on the stage when the fire broke out.

"We kept on singing and dancing and did not even know that there was a fire until sparks fell on the stage and two girls of the double octette fainted," said William Slick.

"It is the rule of the stage that we are fined if we turn our faces for an instant from the audience. All I know is that we stuck to our work until we had to run for our lives."

The story was corroborated by the other six men.

The police today arrested George M. Dusenberry, chief usher of the theatre on a charge of manslaughter. Dusenberry declares that he tried to hold back the rush of spectators and help save thirty women from the jammed front exits. He is held to furnish

evidence on the statements made by many people in the theatre that the ushers closed the doors and that they at first refused to allow people to pass out. Benjamin Solomon a boy who rented opera glasses in the upper balcony, today declared that all the ushers and attendants closed the doors and shouted to the spectators to remain seated as there was no danger.

Coroner Traeger is looking for the chief scrub woman of the theatre who, it is said, carried all the keys to the doors and exits of the balconies. She will be arrested when found.

In addition to the managers of the theatre, Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, every employee of the theatre has been summoned before the inquest Thursday morning and many members of the Blue Beard Company, who were not permitted to depart for New York yesterday, will also be called on to testify.

John R. Thompson, proprietor of a restaurant which adjoins the Iroquois theatre, has lost the greater portion of his business since the fire. On the day of the disaster Mr. Thompson threw open his restaurant for the bodies of the dead and wounded. His services were widely advertised in the papers, driving nearly all his patrons away.

DR. R. E. CALDWELL DEAD

AN OPERATION PERFORMED IN BALTIMORE PROVED FATAL.

Dr. Caldwell was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Winston and He Was Widely Known in the State.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Greensboro, N. C., January 4.—At the Presbyterian church yesterday, while services were in progress, a message was sent to Rev. Dr. Smith, announcing the death of Rev. Dr. Robert Ernest Caldwell, for ten years the pastor of the Winston-Salem Presbyterian church. He left Winston last Monday for Philadelphia, to have an operation performed for appendicitis, stopping in Greensboro to see his sisters here Mrs. J. Sterling Jones and Mrs. J. W. Fry. He was as usual in the best of spirits, and little did his friends realize when they shook his warm hand good bye that it was for the last time. The operation was performed Thursday, and the last news from him was that he was getting on remarkably well, his physician saying he would be in his pulpit again in thirty days; alas in less than thirty hours, he was in his shroud.

The news of his death was phoned to his sisters here from Winston, where his mother resides, and one of his sisters who was at church heard it for the first time when it was read from the pulpit. Dr. Caldwell was greatly beloved here, where he was raised, his father being Hon. Walter Caldwell a prominent lawyer in his day, and his mother being a Weatherly, one of the most highly respected of Guilford's old families. The funeral services will be held in his church at Winston tomorrow, the sermon being preached by Rev. Dr. Egbert Smith, pastor of the First Presbyterian church here, and a life long friend and companion of the deceased divine.

From Winston, the remains will be brought to Greensboro, to be interred by the side of his father in Green Hill cemetery. Dr. Caldwell was about 48 years of age, and had accomplished a great work in life, as well as in the pulpit. His death has caused wide spread sorrow throughout the State, no where more than here, where from his boyhood he was always a favorite with everybody who knew him. He was unmarried.

Nominations by the President.

Washington, January 4.—The President today sent to the Senate the following nominations of postmasters: Georgia—Lizzie Hamilton, Buford; North Carolina—Edwin H. Lorriss, Mockville; Mary A. Timberlake, Wake Forest, Tennessee—Wm. C. Cassidy, Lenoir City.

Feared That Two Coal Barges Are Lost.

Newport News, Va., From advices received by shipping men here tonight, it is feared that two coal barges, with their crews, which sailed from this port Friday night for Providence, R. I., in tow of the tug Navigator were lost in the storm Saturday. The barges were the Liberty and New Jersey.

During the storm their hawsers parted and both were carried out to sea. All day yesterday the Navigator has patrolled the coast near Hog Island in a vain effort to locate the missing vessels. On board the Liberty were Captain Peter Schipp and four men and on the New Jersey, Captain Elmer Hamel and a crew of three. Each barge carried 5,000 tons of coal.

Schooner Bound for Wilmington Suffers an Accident.

New York, January 4.—The schooner M. C. Haskell, of Rockland, Me., Captain Wingard while outward bound today for Wilmington, N. C., went aground in the lower bay. After being fast for several hours a tug succeeded in pulling her clear. She is anchored here.

LAW MAKERS

Senate's Proceedings

Devoted to the Panama Situation

FOR AND AGAINST

Great Interest Manifested in the Reading of the President's Message—Members Then Discussed the Situation, the President Coming in for Quite a Good Deal of Criticism, While His Policy Also Had Its Warm Supporters—Rev. Edward Everett Hale Offers His First Invocation as the Senate Chaplain.

Washington, January 4.—The Senate's first session following the holiday recess was devoted entirely to the Panama situation. President Roosevelt's message on this subject was received and read with great interest. Discussion continued throughout the day, speeches being made both in defense of and against the policy which had been pursued.

Rev. Edward Everett Hale, the newly elected chaplain of the Senate, clad in flowing black silk robes, offered a stirring invocation. His prayer was a plea for the wisdom of Heaven in the affairs of the government. He referred briefly to the Chicago disaster. His invocation was preceded by a short scriptural lesson and concluded with the Lord's prayer.

Mr. McComas, strongly defended the President's action in the Panama matter. He maintained the President's recognition of Panama would be upheld by the courts.

Mr. Culberson questioned the right of the executive to make such recognition, but Mr. McComas maintained positively that the executive had such authority, and he could bring to the attention of the Senate two instances in which the same power had been exercised.

Mr. Tillman wanted the instances cited and Mr. McComas promised later to present them. "But I want to know," broke in Mr. Tillman, "whether the Senator contends that the executive without instruction of the Congress can employ the army and navy to defend his executive action by warring away and preventing Colombia from asserting her supremacy, anywhere except on the Panama railroad?"

In answer Mr. McComas referred Mr. Tillman to the closing statements of the President's message.

Mr. Bacon asked several questions in an effort to bring out how long the new republic would last, should the sustaining power of the United States be withdrawn.

"For many years," replied Mr. McComas. He added "but for the restraining power of the United States the independence of Panama might have been established long ago."

"Will the Senator state the respective populations of Panama and Colombia," asked Mr. Bacon.

"Panama has about 300,000 and Colombia 4,500,000," was the reply. "And yet the Senator thinks the 300,000 could maintain themselves against the four and a half million," again injected Mr. Bacon.

"Such things were frequent in history," was the reply. Pressed by Mr. Bacon for instances, Mr. McComas mentioned the successful contest of Japan with thirty five million population against China with four hundred million; also Montenegro's successful contest of two centuries.

Senator Stewart endorsed the course of the administration and severely criticized the Bogota government for its selfish action in preventing the construction of the canal, referring to it as a "band of robbers."

Mr. Morgan said that his colleague, from the south could not fail to see that the President's attitude was in-

tended to force them to vote for the Panama route. As for himself he was not opposing the present onslaught ground, but because he believed the course of the President to be such as to threaten the integrity of the United States. He argued that according to precedents, the defect of government of Panama has no right to transfer territory, but he declared that the President knew that by his recognition of Panama alone could he acquire a concession there. Indeed, he asserted that the prospects of securing this acquisition was found the only motive for the President's recognition. He declared that President Roosevelt's interference in Colombia's affairs on the isthmus was unjustified by the constitution. For one he would not vote to ratify the wrong done by the President. The President, he said, desires this ratification to justify what he and the Panama junta have done. "And for that purpose," said Mr. Morgan, he wants the assistance of three Democratic Senators, to do what he and his party cannot do." He assured the Democrats that they need not feel bound to follow the course desired by the President. The only question at issue was whether there should be a canal at all for he did not believe that a canal would ever be built across the isthmus at Panama. He predicted that a canal would ultimately be built along the Nicaraguan route, because of its eminent feasibility.

"If there are Democrats who think that the best way to defeat the Republicans is to follow their lead," he said, "I must still remain an obstinate man of one idea, as I have been charged and stand by that rather than be led on by these commercial practices in politics or into political gambling with the laws, as pawns on the chess board, to be moved back and forth at the will of the player with the use of the army and navy in an unlawful way to give spectacular effect to the leader of a campaign for the Presidency."

The senate adjourned until tomorrow.

THE HOUSE.

Washington, January 4.—With the reassembling of Congress today after the recess, the chaplain of the House in opening the session of that body prayed that war between Russia and Japan might be averted by a peaceful adjustment of their differences.

A privileged resolution, offered by Mr. Hay (Democrat of Virginia) recited that certain statements contained in the Bristol postoffice report reflected upon the membership of the House. It provided for an investigation by a committee of five, to be appointed by the speaker.

The resolution recited that the Bristol report charged that long time leases for postoffice premises were cancelled and rent increased upon the recommendation of influential representatives; that Beavers allowed increases in clerk hire on the request of members of Congress, regardless of the merits of the case; and that Beavers made contracts with members of congress for rental of premises. The resolutions asserts these charges and others reflect on the integrity of the members of the House.

A point of order made against the resolution by Mr. Gardner (Republican New Jersey) was overruled, and the previous question was moved by Mr. Hay. Mr. Payne (Republican New York) desired to move its reference to the postoffice committee for consideration. The speaker declared not in order. The vote on ordering the previous question resulted in a tie, the minority supporting Mr. Hay and developed no quorum.

At this point the House adjourned.

STATE BANK BILL VETOED.

Governor Montague Says the Law is Not in Accord With Sentiment of Policy.

Richmond, Va., January 4.—Governor Montague sent to the Assembly his veto of what is known as the State Bank bill. He says in part:

"I do not think it in accordance with public sentiment or business policy to withhold from our state banks the privilege of the issuance of notes of circulation. It is true that privilege has not been exercised for many years by reason of the very large tax imposed by the national government. Yet no one can foresee when it may be most desirable or urgent to exercise such authority. I would suggest that if the present statute authorizing state banks of circulation be incompatible with any existing law, the statute be not repealed but rather perfected to preserve the full power of issuance."

For Secretary of War.

Washington, January 4.—The President today sent to the Senate the nomination of Wm. H. Taft, of Ohio, to be secretary of war.

TRYING TO AVOID WAR BUT IT DRAWS CLOSER

Malta, January 4.—Five Russian torpedo boat destroyers sailed from here today in an eastward direction.

St. Petersburg, January 4.—The Associated Press has the authority of the foreign office for the statement that the Russian reply will be transmitted to Japan in a day or two. The reply will not be merely "yes" or "no"; but will be made up of reasonable propositions. The general basis of this communication is already complete; but the details are being elaborated.

The Japanese minister, here, M. Kurino, has authorized the Associated Press to say that he had a cordial conference with Foreign Minister Lansdorf on Friday last and that he

is convinced by the latter's sincere conciliatory attitude that the Russian government is disposed to seek a peaceful settlement.

An official note published today announces that instructions have been sent to Viceroy Alexieff as to the reply to be given to the last Japanese note.

According to the Novoevremya, the Russian government is trying to avoid war because it is peacefully disposed and the Japanese government is doing the same, because it does not desire bankruptcy and the British and French are doing everything possible to maintain peace.

"Nevertheless," the Novoevremya continues "War approaches nearer and nearer."

A LOVE FEAST

Prominent Democrats

Outline Plans for Party Policy

ACT IN HARMONY

The Leaders Assembled at a Dinner Complimentary to Mayor Geo. B. McClellan, of New York—A Letter From Grover Cleveland Was Read. Speeches Were Made by Mayor McClellan, Hon. Richard Olney, David B. Hill and Others—The Republican Party is Severely Criticized.

New York, January 4.—Democrats of prominence from the city, state and nation assembled here tonight at the dinner at Sherrys in honor of George B. McClellan, the newly installed mayor of New York city, among those present being Richard Olney, of Massachusetts, ex-Governor David B. Hill, of New York; Congressman David de Armond, of Missouri, Charles A. Towne, ex-Senator from Minnesota, ex-Governor R. E. Patterson, of Pennsylvania, William A. Gaston, of Boston and Charles F. Murphy, now leader of Tammany Hall; Judge Alton B. Parker, Senator Arthur P. Gorman, of Maryland, and Senator John P. Morgan, of Alabama, sent letters of regret.

The following letter from Grover Cleveland was read:

"I very much regret that a vexatious indisposition prevents me from attending the dinner tendered by the citizens of New York to the newly elected mayor, Hon. George B. McClellan. As a former resident of the city, still interested in all that pertains to its welfare, I would be pleased to participate in an event which will give opportunity for the expression of a well grounded anticipation of the civic benefits which should result from the triumph of the New York Democracy."

"While the assumption of the duty involved in the government of the greatest city of our country creates grave responsibilities, the impressive thought cannot be evaded, that the manner in which the Democracy of the city shall meet its municipal responsibilities, will in a large degree determine the extent to which our fellow countrymen, in every part of the land will be willing to trust the Democracy of the nation in broader fields of governmental rule."

"Those far beyond the limit of New York who love the Democratic party, confidently expect that the methods of the new municipal administration will be so clean and efficient and its high purposes so manifest in all things, as to impress the entire country with the purity and peace promised by the national supremacy of a safe and conservative Democracy."

The speakers included Mayor McClellan, Richard Olney, David B. Hill, Charles A. Towne and Congressman David de Armond.

Mr. Bourke Cockran, who acted as toastmaster, introduced as the first speaker Mayor McClellan, in an address in which after referring briefly to questions of national policy he took up political conditions in New York city, declaring that Democratic government had been abolished in New York so far as law could abolish it, but that the Democratic population of New York city had made New York Democratic, not through the laws, but in spite of the laws.

Mr. McClellan introduced as "the illustrious son of an illustrious sire," said:

"I ask you to join with me in sending from this Democratic gathering, in the great Democratic city, the glad news to our brethren throughout the land that we Democrats of New York resolve in our purpose to wrest the state and nation from Republican misrule. Because we are capable of much, much is expected of us; because much has been given to us, much will be required.

Let us then, at the beginning of the presidential year, present to the country the spectacle of a united and loyal party, striving earnestly to be worthy of the name of Democrats. Wherever there are tonight, in the east in the west, in the north or in the south, let all Democrats hear our national, and sink every sordid, selfish and unworthy motive; united for a common object and in a common cause, as were our forbears in the days gone by, we stand for right and justice within and without the boundaries of our country, that we may restore the rule of the people in its truest sense and insure to ourselves and to posterity the blessings of liberty."

Richard Olney was then introduced as a diplomat who had never followed the policy of wandering around the world seeking quarrels with weaker nations, and in the "pride of New England, but enthroned in the hearts of all his countrymen." Mr. Olney said in part:

"In matters of foreign policy, the Democratic party will stand for international morality and decent international conduct; for continuing our traditional role as the defender of the weaker states of this hemisphere, instead of becoming their spoil-

RESCUED FROM THE SEA

THRILLING ACCOMPLISHMENT OF BRAVE LIFE SAVERS.

A Three Masted Schooner Was Being Battered to Pieces—Smith's Island Crew Battled With the Ponderous Seas and Finally Landed the Crew Ashore.

Norfolk, Va., January 4.—In a fifty mile gale of wind that whipped up extremely rough and dangerous seas, the gallant crew of Smith's Island life saving station, in the darkness of early Sunday morning, rescued the crew of the stranded three masted schooner Joseph J. Pharo, which was blown ashore on Carter's bar during the height of the severe storm that swept up the coast. It was one of the most thrilling rescues of the season. Captain Berry was beating his way along the coast from New York bound to Richmond when he ran into the howling blow that struck the Atlantic seaboard about midnight Saturday. The craft which was unladen became unmanageable and was driven aground not a great distance from the life saving station. She was sighted shortly after she struck and the life savers hurried at once to the assistance of the crew of six men. The tremendous seas broke over the helpless craft at every ponderous roll. In a short time it was very evident that vessel was doomed.

With the aid of the breeches buoy, the life savers succeeded in bringing the old brigade with safety ashore. The rescue was one of the quickest and cleverest executed performances in the recent history of the life saving service.

It was reported here that the Pharo will prove a total loss. The vessel was a frequent trader at this port and is owned by a New York shipping firm.

MOURNING IN GAINESVILLE.

Business Will be Suspended on the Day of General Longstreet's Funeral.

Gainesville, Ga., January 3.—The funeral of General James E. Longstreet will be held here Tuesday. All the civil military organizations of the city will attend in a body. Comrades in arms of the distinguished dead will act as pallbearers. Over the grave in Alta Vista cemetery sons of Longstreet's old brigade will salute.

Mayor Thompson will tomorrow issue a proclamation calling upon the citizens to suspend business during the hour of the funeral and asking all lodges and business and military organizations to participate.

The remains will be carried from the home of General Longstreet's daughter to the court house on Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. There they will be in state until noon and be viewed by various organizations and citizens. Shortly after noon the funeral services will be begun. At the conclusion of these services a line of march to the cemetery will be formed and the interment will be with full military honors. The funeral rites will be conducted according to the formula of the Catholic Church, of which Gen. Longstreet was a member.

Among the honorary pallbearers will be Governor J. M. Terrell, Mayor Howell of Atlanta; John E. Gordon, ex-Governor Chandler, Chief Justice Simmons, Adjutant General Harris, General C. A. Evans, General W. A. Wright and Capt. John W. Lindsay.

Charters by the State.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., January 4.—The State charters the Hebron Industrial Home at Montreal, Buncombe county. W. H. Worth, of Raleigh, and J. G. Lee, of Ohio, being among the incorporators. The purpose of the home is to receive and correctly educate orphans and indigent children.

Another charter granted is to the Shamrock Hosiery Mills, of Winston, with a capital stock of \$100,000. Mrs. Anna H. Hanes and other members of that family being stockholders.

TO INCREASE OFFICE FORCE.

Greensboro is Headquarters of Whole Southern System—New Street Car Line.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Greensboro, N. C., January 4.—The street cars made regular trips yesterday for the first time over the new line and a half extension of the line from Revolution to White Oak Mills. Large numbers of people went out to the immense mills now in course of construction, for the first time. Despite the cold weather the cars were more comfortably heated than many homes, and they have always been heated since the car line was completed in Greensboro, 18 months ago.

General Manager of the Southern railway Acker of Washington, has been here since Saturday in conference with General Superintendent McManus, the new Superintendent of the whole system since the Eastern and Western Districts were consolidated. It is learned this morning that there will be no practical change whatever in the two office forces at Birmingham, Ala., and at the general headquarters in Greensboro, except that the force at Greensboro will be increased. Mr. McManus family reside in Atlanta, but will move to Greensboro this spring, as soon as the schools there close, his five children now being in attendance on them.

(Continued on Seventh Page.)