

For N. C. — Fair, warm; for Raleigh: fair, warmer.

THE MORNING POST.

Temperature for the past 24 hours: Max. 53; Min. 21.

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All Fair Without, but Within a Blackened Tenement of Death

Iroquois Theatre Fulfills All the Requirements of a Whited Sepulchre

SCHOOLS PLUNDER AND STRIP THE DEAD

A Truce of Labor Trouble in the Presence of Disaster

FEW DEAD ARE KNOWN

The Task of Identification Slow and Hindered by Official Red Tape

Indescribable Scenery of Anguish Witnessed in the Morgues—The Mayor Proclaims Saturday a Day of Mourning—Expressions of Sympathy Received From Many Sources in This Country and Europe

Chicago, Jan. 1.—At 1:30 this morning the record of the Iroquois theatre disaster was identified dead 440; unidentified dead 340; missing 235; injured 180; grand total 1,245.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Through the marble foyer of the Iroquois theatre there have been carried since 5 o'clock yesterday evening the bodies of 556 dead and nearly 300 injured spectators of yesterday's holiday matinee. Down the white stairways speechless rescuers have borne blackened corpses and maimed figures, until the disaster has become a horror of horrors, a colossus among the world's holocausts. In a score of morgues the dead now lie in thick lines, so close to one another that they touch. On the side walk surrounding the doors the frenzied crowds clamored from early morn until midnight for admittance. The streets everywhere down town were full of people, sorrowing, silent and appalled.

Scenes indescribable were enacted within the morgues and other centers of the carnival of death. Identifications are progressing with cruel slowness, and of the 556 bodies only 200 have been recognized. With the machinery of the coroner's office clogging the work, pitiable delays have resulted, which adds inestimable weight to the misery of uncertainty that is driving sufferers frantic. Suggestions were made by the chief of police that the unknown dead be taken to the Coliseum and there arranged so that there would be more facility for the work of identification. The coroner refused. All the time the few who could gain entrance to the morgues were trampling over bodies, creeping through the rows of the dead in the search for their friends.

In the office of the chief of police and the city hall corridors adjoining there were packed a half crazed throng waiting the news from the places of death. On a chair in the middle of the room the chief secretary read from the police report the descriptions of the dead as they were formulated at the morgue. Now and then there was a shriek as a man or woman pushed out with the knowledge that in one of the black rows of the dead was the body of a loved one. To each of these was given a permit for the inspection of the bodies, but the morgues were to reveal to admit a tenth of those who had orders from the chief. At one of the down town places a man on his hands and knees peered down into the features of the dead before him. When he came to the porch face of a six-year-old boy he fainted and fell across the body.

APPALLING SCENES.
Daybreak disclosed appalling scenes around the morgues and near the theatre. Crazed men and women all night had haunted the Randolph street entrance to the playhouse with the hope born of desperation that they might find those for whose return others knew there was no hope. At Ralston's morgue, in Adams street, the scenes of anguish were indescribable. Weak-

THE TASK OF IDENTIFICATION SLOW AND HINDERED BY OFFICIAL RED TAPE

ened by their ghastly all-night vigil, two hundred weeping people stood wearily in front of the door, too tired to continue their clamor for entrance. As the morning wore on the crowd became greater and more insistent for admittance.

Men clutched at the sleeves of stolid policemen and begged that they might be allowed to go in. One woman dropped to her knees and crawled after the sergeant who had turned away to avoid her entreaties. Others walked up and down the street, wailing and moaning in their agony. The strain on the nerves of the police became unbearable, and at 7:30 o'clock the officer in charge of the detail of twenty demanded additional men. Fifteen patrolmen were sent to him, and with their arrival the others dropped back to rest. Inside the morgue silent men were passing among the thick rows of dead, seeking to identify them and to tabulate descriptions of those upon whose bodies no identifying mark could be found.

At the other morgues conditions were equally cruel. The crowds beat against the police guards, muttering futile excuses to be allowed to enter. They were pushed back again, dazed and desperate. Many of those who watched the sufferers declared that often the police were unnecessarily harsh and unfeeling in their treatment of the people.

In the second gallery, seen by the light of a fireman's lantern, two rigid figures sat erect in the east side of the front row. The horror look was on their faces. But they had not moved. The man's arm was stretched in front of the woman, as if he had prevented her from rising and joining in the rush for the door. Charred opera glasses were in her burned hands. These were the last bodies to be taken from the theatre.

A DESOLATE RUIN

Interior of the Theatre a Naked Skeleton of Form and Substance

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The formerly magnificent playhouse—upon its completion considered one of the finest in America—is today a desolate ruin. No sign of the terrible holocaust shows on the outside. Even the awning leading from the curb to the door, placed in position before yesterday's matinee to protect arrivals from the falling snow, was still standing this morning, but the interior is a naked skeleton of former magnificence.

By order of Coroner Traeger the charnel house was placed under a light police guard this morning. No person could enter without a written order from Chief of Police O'Neill, who was notified that he would be held responsible for keeping the theatre building in the exact condition in which it was left by the sweep of the flames. Thirty patrolmen were stationed across the front of the building and twenty men guarded the rear. Within were thirty more officers, the whole interior, including the stairways and fire bidden balconies, being jealously guarded. An additional detail of policemen went through the burned building from top to bottom.

of the ordinary, for the exterior of the building was the same as before the fire. The giant stone head of an Iroquois Indian over the grand entrance, fitting symbol of the cruelty of the deserted structure, stood forth from the front unstained by smoke or water.

A WHITED SEPULCHRE

Though serene without the interior of the theatre marked it as a true whited sepulchre. Upon the marble staircases at the left and right within were the mess and confusion of the grim march of the bearers of the dead. Among the thousands of bits of brilliantly colored glass, scattered in the fight against the flames, lay many scorched pieces of clothing and occasional fragments of charred bodies. From the upper galleries the view seemed a reminder of a burned out volcano crater.

In a saloon near the theatre was being guarded a huge pile of garments and furs gathered up in the theatre after the fire. Five bushel baskets were filled with the purses, gloves and handkerchiefs of the fleeing, terror-stricken women. Two barrels were needed to hold the overshoes and shoes found.

The greatest center of excitement today was not the theatre, but Rolston's morgue. All of the morgues were surrounded, but at Rolston's where more bodies of the dead were taken than to any other, the scenes of anguish were the worst. The numerous police stationed could not begin to handle the crowds and extra details were hurried to the besieged morgue. On a lesser scale the same fearful siege was in progress at the various other morgues.

GHOULS REAP A HARVEST.
Immediately after the fire ghoulsh thieves reaped a harvest. They succeeded in passing the fire lines by shamming grief and telling the police they wished to search for bodies of relatives. Inside the theatre the floors were strewn with purses, watches and pieces of jewelry which the people either had lost or thrown away in the ghoul scramble for their lives. The ghoulsh plundered the purses and stuffed their pockets with the jewels. They snatched rings from charred fingers, in some instances breaking off the fingers. They tore ear drops from the ears of patrician women and fished the watches from their pockets.

The police stopped one thief whose pockets were bulging with loot and asked him what he had. The ghoul replied that he was "taking some things to place in the care of police authorities," and in the excitement of the occasion, when any answer was sufficient, he was allowed to go. A number of arrests were made. When the police learned of the depredations they searched the bodies themselves, gathered up the scattered valuables and placed them in the hands of the authorities to be claimed later. Some of the bodies were stripped of clothing, and with distorted limbs and mangled and charred features, were seen in all their ghastliness.

TRUCE OF CARRIAGE DRIVERS.

By a vote which was without a dissenting voice, it was decided to establish a truce of ten days, President Albert Young of the union, following the meeting, issued the following decree, which was distributed broadcast:

"Owing to the great disaster to the public, caused by the fire at the Iroquois theatre, I do hereby declare a truce in the present strike of undertakers and livery drivers for ten days, and do further request that every man now on strike report at once to their respective places of employment and do everything in his power to assist his employer in caring for the wants of the public. Wages are to have no consideration."

In their turn, the employers issued a call to their striking employees to return to work irrespective of any previous affiliations with any and all organizations.
(Continued on page two.)

graph says that the railways have been ordered to transport five thousand troops to that port Jan. 2 en route to Korea. They have also been ordered to bring twenty thousand tons of coal from Kusatsu to increase the great stock now at Nagasaki.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Peking says that Japan is supplying field guns to China. It adds that the imperial railway has withdrawn its rolling stock from the north, and in the event of trouble will ask Great Britain to take it over its line. The southern viceroys have advised the government not to be an ally of Japan in the event of war with Russia.

TREASURY SURPLUS

A Decided Gain Woe Made During the Month of December

Washington, Dec. 31.—Conditions in the United States treasury were more favorable in December than in any other month of the present fiscal year. There was a deficit in November, for the first time in many years, but this was changed in the month which closed today to a surplus of more than ten millions of dollars. This surplus applies to the month of December alone. The excess of receipts over expenditures for the whole first half of the fiscal year was \$8,433,677, the deficit at the end of November having been \$3,088,136.

Secretary Shaw will make no statement regarding the probable size of the fiscal year surplus, but he is highly pleased with the outlook. A month ago there was some worry among members of the administration lest the revenues of the government would not be large enough between now and next summer to meet current expenses. This, it was realized, would not look well on the eve of a presidential campaign and would be sure to be used to some advantage by Democratic campaign orators in 1904. Mr. Shaw has the comfortable feeling, however, that the temporary uneasiness about the treasury receipts and expenditures had the effect of silencing all talk of tariff revision, for revision, in his opinion, would have meant reduction, and this would have seriously affected the gross income of the government.

The cash balance in the treasury increased greatly in December, standing at the end of the month at \$227,251,313, as against \$219,630,830 at the end of November.

TUGS PLAY SMASH

Government Boats Collide in Heavy Sea at Currituck

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 31.—The United States tugs Peoria and Hercules were in collision on the North Carolina coast yesterday, and as a result both vessels were badly damaged. The Hercules, in charge of Lieutenant Boglas, has returned to the Norfolk navy yard with her port guard rail forward broken and splintered and the boat otherwise injured. The collision between the two vessels occurred in a heavy sea and was entirely unavoidable.

The Peoria arrived at Currituck from this navy yard to relieve the Hercules, which has been standing by the stranded submarine boat Moccasin since it went ashore December 3. In manoeuvring about the Hercules for the purpose of shifting the 800 fathoms of hawser attached to the stranded submarine on the beach, and the Hercules nearly a mile distant, the Peoria was swept broadside with terrific force against the Hercules. That the blow was a great one is evidenced by the splintered condition of the Hercules' guard rail, which will require some time to repair. Both vessels staggered under the force of the blow, the Peoria backing off, her starboard guard rail being badly damaged.

Later the Peoria went safely alongside the Hercules and the hawsers attached to the submarine on the beach were shifted to the Peoria, which will await a favorable wind and tide before attempting to haul the submarine from her bed in the sand.

LIONS FOR ROOSEVELT

The Emperor of Abyssinia Sends a Gift to the President

Jibuti, French Somaliland, Dec. 31. The United States expedition to Abyssinia, under Consul General Skinner of Marseilles, which arrived at Adis Abeba December 21, has successfully carried out the principal feature of the mission. A treaty between the United States and the empire of Ethiopia, opening for the first time friendly relations, has been negotiated and signed. Emperor Menelik has also given his formal acceptance of the invitation to participate in the St. Louis exposition.

As a personal tribute from Emperor Menelik to President Roosevelt Mr. Skinner has been charged to deliver to the president two lions and a pair of elephant tusks. Each member of the American party has been tendered a decoration, the acceptance of which is held in abeyance, owing to the official character of the expedition. The closing audience granted by Emperor Menelik to Mr. Skinner and the leaders of the American escort was of a particularly cordial character.

Rollins Has Things Fixed to His Liking

He Gets the President's O. K. On the Wilmington Post Office Contest—He Assures Roosevelt That Tar Heels Are for Him

BY THOMAS J. FENCE

Washington, Dec. 31.—Special.—The Wilmington post office contest was settled by the president of the United States this afternoon, and on Monday morning the nomination of Mrs. D. L. Russell as postmaster at that place for a term of four years will be transmitted to the Senate. A number of telegrams from Mrs. Darby's friends reached Washington today, but as for their having any effect they were like chaff before the wind. Mr. Rollins heard of the arrival of these telegrams before noon, and as soon as he was ushered into the president's private office he voluntarily brought up the subject. He had hardly proceeded when the president interrupted to say that he would be governed by the state chairman's recommendation entirely in this and all other matters of federal patronage in North Carolina.

Mr. Rollins explained to Mr. Roosevelt that an effort was being made to have a big fight over the Wilmington appointment and he said that he desired to have the matter settled finally today. "Rest assured, Mr. Rollins, I will stand by you in all matters in North Carolina," was the president's reply, and he then took the recommendation of the state chairman, writing on the back of it a note to the postmaster general with the request that the nomination be sent to the Senate Monday. Afterward Mr. Rollins took the document, which the president signed with his initials, "T. R.," to the postmaster general.

The most interesting feature of Mr. Rollins' interview at the White House related to Mrs. Margaret B. Shipp, who is soon to receive an appointment in the office of Collector Duncan. When Mr. Rollins said that he had made this arrangement the president manifested extreme pleasure. "This is exceedingly good news," the president replied. "I am very much gratified," he continued, "to know that you have exerted yourself in behalf of such a worthy and noble woman. I can never forget the bravery and kindness of Lieutenant Shipp and I am glad to be the means of rewarding in this way his estimable widow." The president made a number of inquiries about the position Mrs. Shipp was to receive, and Mr. Rollins informed him among other things that it paid equally as much salary as the Lincoln post office, and in some respects was more desirable. This, the president said, was highly gratifying, and he again thanked Mr. Rollins for his interest in the matter.

The way having been cleared, Postmaster Barclay will be reappointed postmaster at Lincoln. The president stated to Mrs. Shipp and half a dozen other people that she should be the postmaster at Lincoln, and it was only through the good offices of Chairman Rollins that the program was changed.

Not the least interesting feature of the state chairman's conference with the president related to politics. Mr. Rollins took occasion to say that there was not a shadow of doubt but that North Carolina Republicans would send a solid Roosevelt delegation to Chicago. The chief executive was at once de-lightened and proceeded to throw a bouquet at the chairman. He remarked that North Carolina has splendid specimens of young Republicans and that he always took a special interest in the Old North State for this reason. He said also that he had pleasant recollections of his visit to Tar Heeldom.

Throughout the interview the president made it plain that Mr. Rollins is to be his spokesman in North Carolina in the distribution of federal patronage. R. H. McNeill, secretary of the state committee, was present. Judge Pritchard accompanied the party with two of his sons, whom he introduced to the president. They took their departure before Mr. Rollins introduced the subjects of patronage and politics. It was learned today that Wilmington is the only first-class post office in the country that has a lady postmaster. Now this will be the case for four more years. Mrs. Russell's term will probably begin next week, though this will depend entirely upon the date of her confirmation. No authoritative statement was made today as to the selection of an assistant postmaster, but it is learned upon the highest authority that Thomas E. Wallace, the incumbent, can retain the position if he desires.

A special from Norfolk today stated that the Seaboard elevated Mr. Barr to the presidency in order to retain his services for the reason that the Southern was after him with large offers. The special from Norfolk further said: "It is generally conceded that had Barr not been elected president of the Seaboard he would have become a high official with the Southern Railway when his contract as general manager

with the Seaboard expired next year." While no official statement could be obtained with reference to this story, it was stated here today that the Southern Railway has never tendered Mr. Barr such a position.

The vacancy created by the resignation of S. J. Collins as general superintendent of the eastern division of the Southern has been filled by the appointment of Mr. C. S. McMannus as general superintendent of the eastern and western districts of the road, with offices at Greensboro, N. C. The appointment will take effect tomorrow.

General Manager C. H. Ackert of the Southern Railway today announced the appointments of Mr. J. J. Cotter as superintendent of the Birmingham division, Mr. F. J. Eagan as superintendent of the Mobile division and Mr. M. M. Richey as assistant general superintendent of the western district of the system.

The Southern's Palm Limited train will make its first trip January 11, leaving Washington at 6:31 p. m. and week days thereafter during the season. Its equipment consists of compartment, drawing room, sleeping, library, observation and up to date dining cars, and will be operated from New York through to St. Augustine with the exception of one drawing room and state room sleeping car, which will be operated to Alken and Augusta. The dining cars are handsomely appointed with matchless cuisine, affording every luxury that can be had at any of the metropolitan hotels.

The statement is published today that Mr. Barr's salary as president and general manager of the Seaboard will be \$50,000.

EARLY RATIFICATION

The President Will Urge the Senate to Take Action on the Panama Treaty

Washington, Dec. 31.—The president will send to Congress next Monday a special message in regard to the Panama-Colombian situation and setting forth the reasons in detail why the administration deems the early ratification of the canal treaty a necessity. The president and the state department are seriously concerned over the situation. They have no doubt that the canal treaty will ultimately be ratified by the Senate, the president having received assurances that enough Democratic senators will vote for the convention to make the necessary two-thirds.

He dreads the consequences, however, of a protracted debate and the attendant delay in making effective the provisions of the treaty. The administration realizes that under certain conditions, such as an aggressive military campaign by the Colombians, the authority of the United States on the isthmus would rest on a rather slender basis. This basis is the treaty of 1846, by the terms of which the United States are bound to maintain undisturbed traffic across the isthmus of Panama. Circumstances might arise, however, in which it would appear that the United States were stretching the authority of this convention to an unwarranted extent. The pending treaty with the Panama republic gives the United States authority to protect the whole isthmus from hostile invasion and to guard the infant republic from all enemies.

It is expected that the message which the president will send to Congress upon its reassembling next Monday will explain the situation with much frankness, and that it will place the issue of early ratification of the Panama treaty squarely before the Senate.

BLEW HIS BRAINS OUT

A Bank Cashier Commits Suicide to Avoid Exposure of His Staeling

New York, Dec. 31.—Otta Ahlmann, the cashier and largest stockholder of the Bank of Staten Island, the largest financial institution in Richmond borough, one of the island's most respected residents and a leading figure in Staten Island society, blew out his brains some time Wednesday night at the Albemarle hotel, Broadway and Twenty-fourth street, where he had taken a room early Wednesday evening.

As soon as the news of this reached the bank this afternoon, State Examiner Judson, who had begun the day before his regular examination of the bank, ordered the doors of the institution closed. It is a state bank. It was learned that a lot of the bank's securities have been found to be missing, the amount may reach over \$200,000. That Ahlmann had taken the money no one doubts.

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