

The Democrat

DECATUR, IND.

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LIFE'S UPS AND DOWNS

VISITING THE GOOD PEOPLE OF THE WORLD.

Thousands of Acres of Prairie Land Burned Over—Electric Cars Collide—World's Fair Souvenir Coin—Killed by a "Live" Wire—The Wheat Yield—Severe Storms.

Severe Storms. The severest storms ever known in Mexico have prevailed along the eastern coast of the Republic during the past several days, causing much damage to vessels and coast towns all the way from Tampico to Vera Cruz. In the state of Vera Cruz there has been great destruction to property. The Vera Cruz Railroad was compelled to suspend operations temporarily on account of land slides which carried away the track in several places. The town of Soila Barranca was struck by a terrible cyclone and forty houses were razed to the ground. A large number of others were so badly damaged that they cannot be occupied. There was one person killed outright and several injured at that place. No further reports of loss of life have been received.

Prairie Fire in Dakota. Huron (S. D.) special: A terrible prairie fire started seven miles northwest of the city, burning over a stretch of country ten miles wide and twenty miles long. The towns of Broadland and Hitchcock narrowly escaped destruction. Citizens turned out and fought the fire, aided by a large force of men from this place. The country burned over is thickly settled by prosperous farmers, many of whom have lost everything. This country was devastated by prairie fire last fall. The fire originated by men burning a fire break at a timber claim. The wind blew at a velocity of forty miles an hour, driving the flames before it at fearful speed.

The Wheat Yield. The agricultural department's monthly report for wheat gives the State averages of yield per acre, ranking from six to twenty-two bushels and averaging thirteen bushels. The averages of the principal wheat growing States are as follows: New York, 14.3; Pennsylvania, 14.4; Texas, 12.3; Ohio, 13.2; Michigan, 14.7; Indiana, 14; Illinois, 14.7; Wisconsin, 11.5; Minnesota, 11.7; Iowa, 11.5; Missouri, 12.1; Kansas, 17; South Dakota, 12.5; Nebraska, 13.5; North Dakota, 12.2; Washington, 14.4; Oregon, 13.7; California, 12.8.

World's Fair Souvenir Coin.

The first World's Fair souvenir half dollar coin over which there has been such lively competition among the business firms of Chicago, will bring at last a much greater price than the officials have hitherto hoped for. A number of firms have been raising back and forth until most of them were raised out by a bid of \$1,050. There it stuck for a while, but now the amount offered for the much wanted souvenir has risen to \$10,000. The coin has not been sold, but is being held for yet higher bids.

Killed by a "Live" Wire.

Joseph F. Tolliver, an electrician in the employ of the Indianapolis Electric Company, was killed by a "live" wire in that city. He had just cut a "live" wire, and was about to make a connection. He had placed one foot on a stone curb and was just starting to climb a step ladder when he accidentally took hold of a second "live" wire. Tolliver died in an instant. He received a shock of 2,000 volts.

Lost at Sea.

Seattle (Wash.) special: The Canadian Pacific Navigation Company's steamer Premier was struck by the steam collier Willamette in a dense fog at Whidby Island, about ten miles south of Port Townsend. Four men were killed, one drowned and seventeen badly injured. The steam tug Goliath has arrived here with three of the dead, all of the wounded and the other passengers.

Death Broke.

Chicago special: The Western Union Telegraph Company has taken its wires out of the office of the Press News Association, a small news agency which has had a struggling existence since its organization by James J. West some years ago. Three years ago it leased a wire from the telegraph company, but of late has been unable to pay for it and the service was discontinued.

Electric Cars Collide.

Two electric cars collided at Canton, Ohio, owing to a heavy fog. The cars were demolished, and the motormen, David Henderson and Willard U. Tyron, were severely injured. M. D. Spader and John Meekley, conductors, were cut and bruised, and C. R. Frazer, a passenger, was badly gashed about the head, and several others more or less hurt.

Sacred Robbers.

Burglars opened the doors leading into St. John's College Catholic church, Omaha, and broke open two safes containing the church plate and jewels. Articles to the value of upward of \$1,400 were stolen or destroyed.

Columbus' Bones.

President Ulises Heureaux, of San Domingo, offered the remains of Christopher Columbus to the United States as security for a loan of \$100,000 at 6 per cent interest. The proposition was not considered.

Ill Health and Suicide.

Samuel Traxter, aged 63, committed suicide at Huntington, Ind., by shooting himself with a revolver. Ill health is ascribed as the cause.

Murdered by Robbers.

Intense excitement prevails in the neighborhood of Ottis, La Porte County, Ind., over what is supposed to have been a murder.

The body of Mrs. Michael Cook was found in a shed adjoining the family residence with a big wound in the side, and head from which it is believed her death resulted. The unfortunate woman had on only her night clothes when discovered. The house showed evidence of having been ransacked from top to bottom. The husband of the murdered woman is employed on the Lake Shore road and was absent from home. The assassin evidently used a pistol in killing

her, and had evidently pursued her as she ran terrified from the house. Mrs. Cook was a native of Poland.

COMPLETE TRIUMPH.

General Crespo's Victorious Army Enters Caracas.

A special from Caracas, Venezuela, dated the 10th inst., says: A portion of Gen. Crespo's victorious army, 3,000 strong, entered the city last night amidst the plaudits of sympathizers and those too cowardly to fight on either side. The overthrow of the Government is complete. After defeating the army of the Government at San Pedro, Gen. Crespo began his march upon the capital. Gen. Crespo, with the balance of his army, remained at Calvira, a short distance from the city, and entered the capital this morning. Had the advance troops of General Crespo's army been angels of peace instead of messengers of war their advent would not have been more welcome to the people of Caracas.

After the crushing defeat at San Pedro the Government perforce its last card had lost and Acting President Pulido and his cabinet fled before the advancing army.

The news caused an instantaneous exodus to the city. The stragglers and refugees from the defeated army came pouring into the city telling the terrified inhabitants that Gen. Crespo and his army were close at their heels. Confusion and disorder reigned and hundreds of persons joined the army of fugitives which had started for La Guaira when the first news of the disaster to the government forces was received. Then all semblance of order was at an end. People who had been too cowardly to fight, either for or against the government and many of Pulido's soldiers took advantage of the situation to begin rioting and pillaging.

As Crespo's men marched into the city they were greeted with the applause of hundreds of their sympathizers who have long been shut up in the capital. It was a good account of themselves, too, that Crespo's troops gave to the inhabitants of the city by the businesslike way in which they dispersed the rioters whenever they encountered them and put an end to their nefarious work. United States Minister Scruggs has sent word to Admiral Walker suggesting that fugitives be prevented from embarking.

DASTARDLY DEED.

An Attempt to Blow Up a Non-Union Boarding House at Homestead.

An attempt was made to blow up a non-union boarding house in Homestead by dynamite. No one was hurt but the house was badly damaged and the occupants badly frightened. Mrs. Morror keeps the boarding house. All of her boarders were non-union workers in the Homestead mill, and there were thirty-five of them. A cartridge was thrown through a window into the dining-room. It struck the floor and a terrific explosion followed. All the windows were broken and a large hole was torn in the floor through which many things were hurled into the cellar below. The beds on the second floor were thrown six feet up in the air, and the occupants tumbled to the floor. No one was hurt, but the most intense excitement followed. The building, known as the Mansion house, was soon surrounded by officers, and the military was called out. In the excitement and darkness the perpetrator escaped. The strike leaders claim that the deed was performed by others than strikers. They say it has been done with the purpose of keeping the soldiers here and also to again change public opinion favorable to the Carnegie firm.

BEHEADED.

Albert Fink of Brooklyn, Meets with an Awful Accident.

Brooklyn special: Albert Fink, 24 years old, living at 45 Witmer street, was killed in a horrible manner in a grain elevator at the foot of North Tenth street. Fink, when last seen, was engaged in oiling the machinery. Suddenly his bloody head rolled through the chute with the grain in the presence of several workmen. They cried out in terror and shouted for the engineer to stop the machinery. The revolving cog wheels had in the meantime drawn in the balance of the unfortunate man's body, twisting it into an unrecognizable mass of pulp. Blood was thrown in all directions and even to the floor below, where it dripped upon the men at work there. It was found necessary to remove the machinery before the planed.

On the night of forty miles an hour the Detroit limited train on the Wabash railroad plowed into an open switch at the east end of the yards at Hammond, Ind. Those injured were:

John Mitchell, engineer, arms terribly scalded and severe cuts and bruises about head and body; fatally hurt.

James Kelsall, fireman, thrown through the window of the cab and badly cut and bruised.

John Shook, passenger in smoking car, two cuts on head and several severe bruises.

Maria Carr, Burlington, Iowa, passenger in ladies' coach, rendered unconscious by shock.

Infant of Mrs. Carr, severely cut in arm by broken glass.

Frank Price, baggage man, slightly wounded.

The wreck damaged rolling stock to the extent of \$25,000.

The Poet, Tennyson, Is Dead.

Lord Tennyson died at his residence in London. His passing away was calm and peaceful. Sir Andrew Clarke, who attended the poet in his last hours, said, in an interview with a representative of the International Telegram Company, just after leaving the death chamber, that Lord Tennyson's end was beautiful.

"In all my experience," said the eminent physician, "I never witnessed anything more glorious. There were no artificial lights in the chamber. All was darkness except for the silver light of the full moon which fell upon the bed and played across the features of the dying poet like the halo in one of Rembrandt's pictures."

A Lake Disaster.

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Shocked to Death.

Peter Berthiam, 35 years of age, a lineman for the United Electric Light Company of Springfield, Mass., was shocked to death while making a cut-out at the top of a live pole. He grasped both ends of a live wire and received 2,000 volts. As he fell he cleared the wires so there was no burning except on the hands, but caught on a pin and was half an hour hung head downward, fifty feet in the air. The unfortunate man leaves a widow and three children.

Good Work at Great Cost.

The Dalton gang has been exterminated, wiped off the face of the earth. Caught like rats in a trap, they were shot down, but not until four citizens of Coffeyville, Kan., yielded up their lives in the work of extermination.

Six of the gang rode into the town Wednesday morning and robbed the two banks. Their raid had become known to the officers of the law, and when the bandits attempted to escape they were attacked by the Marshal's posse. In the battle which ensued four of the desperadoes were killed outright, and

WIPE OFF THE EARTH.

THE NOTORIOUS DALTON GANG EXTERMINATED.

Four of them drop in their tracks—Five Citizens Killed—Coffeyville, Kan., Scene—A Most Daring Raid—The People Were Ready.

Spears' Wife Again Speaks.

The firing attracted the attention of Marshal Connally, who, collecting more men for his posse and with the few that he had already gathered, ran hurriedly to the scene of the conflict.

After firing their volley from the windows of the bank the bandits, appreciating that their only safety lay in flight, attempted to escape. They ran from the door of the bank, firing as they fled. The Marshal's posse in the square, without organization of any kind, fired at the fleeing bandits, each man for himself. Spears' Winchester spoke twice more in quick succession before the others of the posse could take aim, and Joseph Evans, the only survivor of the bandits, was shot through the head, making three dead bandits to his credit. In the general fusillade Grant E. Dalton, one of the two surviving members of "Texas Jack's" squad, Marshal Connally, D. M. Baldwin, and George Cubine were mortally wounded and died on the field. Allie Ogee, the only survivor of the band, succeeded in escaping to the alley, where the horses were tied, and mounting the swiftest horse of the lot fled south in the direction of Indian Territory.

Instead of doing as directed, the cashiers snatched up a pair of weight and went about dealing the heavy nearest hand a blow when two shots were fired by the intruders. One of the bullets struck Kepler in the left cheek, inflicting a serious but not dangerous wound. The young man fell fainting to the floor, and the robbers becoming frightened ran from the bank and fled up Eighth street.

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