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167 Known Dead in Theater Fire.

When nightfall put a stop to the work of recovering the dead from the ruins of the Rhodes opera house at Boyertown, Pa., where Monday night's holocaust occurred, the official roll of victims numbered 167.

Whether any more bodies are buried beneath the ruins cannot be positively stated, but it is the belief of those who had charge of the work that all of the dead have been removed and that the total list of victims will not go above 170. The ratio of women and girls to men and boys is about nine to one.

The inhabitants of the little borough in the Berks county hills are steeped in grief. The calamity is terrible when it is realized that the population of the place is about 2,500. Its enormity has paralyzed the town, and the people are going about dazed. They do not realize what has happened and cannot believe that the loved one, friends, or acquaintances were lost in the awful panic and fire.

It is safe to say that everybody in the place either lost one or more relatives or was intimately acquainted with those who died in the fire.

In several cases whole families were wiped out. If ever a community was truly in mourning it is the town of Boyertown Pa.

It was almost daylight Tuesday morning before the flames were extinguished and rescuers were able to enter the ruins to remove the dead.

The Rhodes opera house was located on the second floor of a three-story brick building. The first floor was occupied by a national bank and several stores and the third floor was used for lodge rooms.

So far as can be learned there were about 425 persons packed in the room most of whom were adults. A number of children were present. There were about sixty-five persons, all local talent, on the stage, who were giving a performance of "The Scottish Reformation."

The entertainment was nearly over, the audience waiting for the curtain to go up for the last part, when something went wrong with the calcium light apparatus that was perched on a small platform near the front entrance of the building, and at the back of the audience.

The light was in charge of H. W. Fischer of Carlisle, Pa., and he says a rubber tube slipped from one of the tubes. At any rate there was a loud hissing sound, which caused many in the audience to turn their heads in curiosity to see what it was.

There was absolutely no panic up to this and probably nothing would have happened if one or more of the performers behind the curtain had not been curious to learn what was causing the noise. Who he or they were probably will never be known.

Hearing the hissing sound and the slight commotion in the audience, one of the performers raised the curtain from the floor. In front of the curtain and serving as footlights was a tin tank eight feet long, three inches wide, and three inches high. It contained coal oil and ten lights.

In raising the curtain the performer accidentally turned this tank over and it fell to the floor within a few inches of the persons in the front row.

The Rev. Adam A. Weber pastor of St. John's Lutheran church, for the benefit of whose Sunday school the entertainment was given, tried to pick up the tank with the assistance of others but before they could do so the oil flowed out and caught fire.

Then came the inevitable cry of "fire" and what followed has been impossible to accurately tell. Even witnesses say that the audience rose en masse and the one impulse was to reach the front door.

All attempted it, but few got out. The seats in the center of the hall were of the usual folding variety, while those along the side of the hall were loose chairs. In the scramble to get out many persons fell over the chairs and were never again able to regain their feet.

A Comparative Study.

Those farmers who were discouraged because hog prices dropped below five dollars, might gain consolation by taking a retrospect. In Indianapolis, in 1841, housekeepers could buy oats at six cents a bushel, chickens at fifty cents a dozen and eggs at three cents a dozen. Other farm products ranged in the same priced proportions. You could get all the fat cattle and hogs you wanted for two and a half cents per pound, net, the great western market at that time being a Cincinnati, which was reached after a circuitous trip over bad roads. These prices for live stock may seem ruinously low to a farmer of this day, who winces and grumbles without getting the appointment as delegate, too.

APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES.

To Attend State Branch of Rivers and Harbors Congress.

Harry L. Unger of this city has received a communication from Henry Riesenberg, vice president of the Indiana branch of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, asking him to appoint two representatives to attend the congress, to be held at Indianapolis, Jan. 21, and 22nd.

He appointed John R. Jones and Harry Grube. Both men expect to attend.

Major Schmitz Not Guilty.

The District Court of Appeals handed down a decision Thursday setting aside the judgment in the case of former Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz of San Francisco, Cal., convicted of extortion in the French restaurant case. Abe Ruef also benefits by the ruling of the upper court, for according to its decision, he pleaded guilty to an act that was no offense against the laws of the state.

According to the Appellate judges the compelling of the French restaurants to pay "fees" to Abe Ruef was not a crime, even though Ruef divided the "fees" with the mayor.

After discussing the point the court reversed the judgment against Schmitz on the ground that no acts constituting a crime have been proved against him. Abe Ruef, who pleaded guilty to extorting money from the French restaurants, is therefore equally guiltless.

The decision wipes out the French restaurant cases, and pending charges of extortion against Schmitz and Ruef must be dismissed. Both are now entitled to release on bail.

If they obtain the necessary bondsmen they can remain at liberty until such time as a jury finds them guilty on one of the indictments charging them with receiving bribes from corporations. Owing to the number of cases against them, the bail, figured at \$100 a case, would reach an enormous figure.

The news of the decision spread rapidly over the city, causing consternation in some quarters and delight in others.

District Attorney Langdon said Schmitz and Ruef will be prosecuted on other indictments that are public offenses.

Bad Place for Country Girls.

In a speech last Monday, Judge Newcomer, of Chicago, said in part: "Don't labor under the impression that the country boy can save Chicago. Boys from the country, and girls too, go wrong in Chicago quicker than those raised in the city. Don't think that the bulk of criminals come from the city's slums. I was asked some time ago if many Evelyn Thaw cases come to light in the criminal courts of Chicago. I answered that I know of a dozen such cases that have come before me in court. I made the remark once in public and when I left the platform a man came to me. He had a revolver in his hand. He said he had come here from a little town down state to shoot the betrayer of his daughter, and asked me if it would be murder. Following the publication of a case of that nature, I received seven letters from as many fathers requesting me to help them find their daughters who had come to Chicago and had never been heard from since. No young man is safe in this city or any other city if he sets up one moral code for himself and another for his sister."

Kankakee Dream Ended.

Warren G. Sayre, of Wabash, representing the First National bank of that city, was in Knox Tuesday arranging for the sale of 233 acres more of the C. A. Jamison land, in the Kankakee country. This will wind up the once noted Jamison ranch, the home of the full-blooded Hereford and the dream of a financier who forgot that time flies and pay day arrives. The Jamison ranch was an imposing affair in its palmy days. Splendid buildings, lighted with electricity, stood in the center of a broad and fertile tract of land comprising some 3,000 acres. Hundreds of fine cattle covered the pasture fields, and an army of workmen took orders each day from a high priced superintendent who had a private secretary to assist him in managing the business of the magnificient ranch. They receive their orders and must obey or lose their position. The constable in this city is the only reliable officer. He uses the jail, the marshal and night police the calaboose.

The story that an aged woman at Findlay, O., was burned to death while engaged in the "ancient rite" of burning incense for worship, is marred by the incidental statement that she poured kerosene on the incense. That is a modern rite, numbered by many among the evils for which the Standard Oil company is responsible.

John A. McFarlin has about completed the remodeling of his fine double residence on South Michigan street and has gone to California on a business trip. The residence corner of Michigan and Louisa streets, is now modern in every respect, having polished floors, mantels, bath rooms, electric light, gas and other conveniences.

The new law, giving the appointing power to the mayor of the marshal and night police proves to be a failure, as it increases the influence and lessens the expense of those wishing to violate the law. There being only a few to divide the spoils, with the officers are frequently blamed for closing their eyes when crime is in sight. They receive their orders and must obey or lose their position. The constable in this city is the only reliable officer. He uses the jail, the marshal and night police the calaboose.

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West Township Convention.

The Republicans of West township pursuant to a call of the county chairman, held their township caucus in West school house Saturday afternoon. Meeting was called to order by Township Chairman Chas. W. Ramsay. On motion Mr. Ramsay was selected chairman of the meeting and J. W. Kephart secretary. The precincts separated and proceeded to elect committeemen. Precinct No. 1 selected L. K. Hill, and A. E. Adams as assistant. Precinct No. 2 Samuel A. Garnett, and J. W. Kephart as assistant. Delegates to the congressional convention to be held at South Bend Tuesday, January 14th were selected as follows: Charles W. Ramsay delegate and Samuel A. Garnett alternate. H. B. Hall was elected township chairman.

State Bank Elects Directors.

At the annual stockholders of the Plymouth State bank held on the 14th inst. at their banking rooms in this city for the purpose of electing a new board of directors for the ensuing year as required by law, the following named gentlemen were elected as such board: Henry H. Hirschauer, Charles T. Mattingly, Theodore Cressner, Samuel Gretzinger, David E. Snyder, Oliver G. Soice and Fred H. Myers. The report made to the stockholders as to the affairs of the bank was most satisfactory and shows this institution to be in a flourishing condition.

Immediately after the election of the new board they qualified and held a meeting for the election of the new board they qualified and held a meeting for the election of officers as follows: David E. Snyder, president, Charles T. Mattingly vice-president, and Oliver G. Soice cashier.

Laborers Send Coin Home.

South Bend bankers estimate that the foreign born workers in that city spent \$75,000 to their native lands during the last twelve months. One Hungarian agent sent \$46,431 to relatives of his countrymen and this was from but a small part of the twenty-seven nationalities which make up the employees of the factories of that city.

Loans.

I can furnish you five-year loans at 5 per cent, with reasonable commission. Privilege to pay on principal at interest paying time. Money obtained quickly. C. A. Bondurant, officer State Bank Bldg, Plymouth, Ind.

SPOOKS ARE OUT

POLICEMAN JACOBY AND CONSTABLE MILES GET MIXED UP WITH TWENTIETH CENTURY SPIRITS.

Eben Parish aged 35, and his wife, were visited by a host of spirits, big and small, at their home near the Brownlee bridge, Tuesday night, which played havoc with their belongings, and which host could not be put to flight either by Constable Miles nor by Policeman Dan Jacoby.

At about 12:30 Tuesday night, some neighbors living near the Parish home came to the home near the Brownlee bridge, Tuesday night, which played havoc with their belongings, and which host could not be put to flight either by Constable Miles nor by Policeman Dan Jacoby.

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Charles W. Miller was endorsed for governor by the district convention at South Bend. A typographical error made our paper say congress instead of governor.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woods, have returned to their home in Warsaw, after visiting with Mrs. Catherine Saley for a few days.

Here are the ballots, from the second to the forty-second:

Second to Thirty-eighth. JACKSON ERWIN

Scales Pleasant Eschweiler Ellingham Padgett Hoffman

Korby M. E. Foley

BARNHART HEIMBURGER

Stevens Thirty-eighth to Forty-Second JACKSON HEIMBURGER

Scales Peter Foley Pleasant Eschweiler Ellingham Padgett Hoffman

Osborn M. E. Foley

BARNHART

Stevens Forty-second Ballot. JACKSON ERWIN

Scales Pleasant Eschweiler Hoffman Ellingham

Osborn M. E. Foley

BARNHART

Stevens

Second to Thirty-eighth. JACKSON ERWIN

Scales Pleasant Eschweiler Hoffman Ellingham

Osborn M. E. Foley

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