

THEATER BURNS; CROWD IS CALM

Audience Makes Quiet Exit
As Flames Flare About
Them.

PLAYHOUSE IS DESTROYED.

AS HERALD SQUARE THEATRE
GOES UP IN SMOKE, CHORUS
SINGS TO HIDE THE DAN-
GER.

New York, Dec. 23.—Not more than two minutes before the time for the fall of the final curtain in the Herald Square theater last night the house caught fire, and in less than 30 minutes was destroyed.

By an extraordinary and fortunate combination of circumstances there was nothing in the nature of a panic, and so far as could be ascertained no lives have been lost.

At the same time the excitement was such that it threatened to reach perilous proportions until the ready action of the management of the house and the policemen in the vicinity got into play before the arrival of the engines.

Many persons already had left their seats and others were starting for the doors when there was a smell of smoke, and then a spurt of flame showed on the under side of the balcony, just above those who occupied the rear seats of the auditorium.

There was an uneasy movement in the audience, but the fact that the play so nearly had reached its end was a point in favor. Then those nearer the stage were not aware of the danger, as a matter of fact, because the flames had started in the very front and they were out of the house before they knew in what a situation they might have been placed a minute or two later.

Actresses Are Prostrated.

Meantime those behind the curtain were in the most dangerous situation, but attacks of the house and policemen hurried back to tell them there was no danger. There was no loss of time in getting out after the fall of the curtain, however, and many of the women of the company were prostrated by fright and left costumes and other valuables to the mercy of the flames.

Some of the actresses and chorus girls fled in their pellucid attire to the streets.

Women in the balcony of the theater were among the first to discover the fire, and though some of them, those in the rear rows, left their seats and went down the stairways to leave the house, the alarm did not spread. The unexpected appearance of those who did not leave and their hurry, as they passed through the lobby, was the first intimation those in the box office had that there was trouble.

Instantly, when the danger was known, H. M. Hynes, manager of the house, went to the ushers and others and told them what to do. R. W. Long, the treasurer, went back of the curtains. The result was a most orderly departure of the entire audience, which had filled the house.

In the play the Yama Yama dance was on and had just taken its first round of applause at the conclusion of Bessie McCoy's gyrations. In the midst of the applause the music was stopped and the curtain lowered.

Hundreds thought the play merely was over. They got up, put on their

wraps and started to leave the house. When the audience was half out smoke began to appear near the ceiling, and some of those present noticed it. At this the ushers, under instructions from Mr. Hynes, began to move through the aisles, speaking to the people, telling them to move slowly and keep cool, saying nothing about the flame.

Crossed Wire Did It.

The fire started from a crossed wire on an illuminated electric sign immediately over the main entrance of the theater. The same thing happened several times within the last month, but with less serious results. Before an intimation of the real situation had reached those within the theater clouds of smoke were rolling out into Broadway, and presently a sheet of flame burst from the roof of the little playhouse.

RHEUMATIC FOLKS.

Are You Sure Your Kidneys are Well?

Many rheumatic attacks are due to uric acid in the blood. But the duty of the kidneys is to remove all uric acid from the blood. Its presence there shows the kidneys are inactive. Don't dally with "uric acid solvents." You might go on till doomsday with them, but until you cure the kidneys you will never get well. Doan's Kidney Pills not only remove uric acid, but cure the kidneys and then all danger from uric acid is ended. Here is Richmond testimony to prove it.

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton, of 27 North Ninth street, Richmond, Ind., says: "About eight years ago I began to have severe pains in my back, loins and shoulders, and at times my head ached severely. I thought the pains in my shoulders came from rheumatism, which had troubled me previously, but finally after suffering for almost two years I decided to use a kidney remedy. Doan's Kidney Pills were very highly recommended and I procured a box at A. G. Luken & Co.'s drug store. I began taking them and noticed an improvement in my condition in a short time. I continued with the remedy until I was free from all aches and pains, and since then I have never had a return of the trouble. I believe Doan's Kidney Pills the finest kidney cure on the market, and I am glad to tell how much they have done for me. I can recommend them to all persons who are troubled in a similar manner."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

In the eighteenth century the Londoner could look at royalty on Sunday for a modest fee. In a guide to London, published in 1767, it was said: "At St. James chapel royal, by knocking at the side door and slipping a shilling for each person into the hands of the verger who opens it, you may have admittance and stand during divine service in presence of their majesties; and for one shilling each person more, you may sit in their royal presence, not in pews, but in turn-up seats on the side of them."

"Municipal Affairs" was the subject of an address by Mayor Hibbard, of Boston, before the Prospect Union at Cambridge recently. One of the features of the address was the statement that next year Mr. Hibbard will ask the Legislature to pass a bill providing for the pensioning of all employees who have worked for the city twenty-five years or more.

Largest stock of both fresh and cured meats in the city at Schweigman's Meat Markets, Phones 1084 and 2204.

PHYSICIANS REGRET

Wayne County Medical Society Does Not Like to Lose Dr. Weist.

TO PASS RESOLUTIONS.

The Wayne County Medical society will, at its next meeting, the first Wednesday in January, pass resolutions expressing its regret that the society is to lose one of its most prominent members, Dr. Harry Weist. Dr. Weist will leave about the first of the year for New York, where he will engage in the practice of medicine and also be the private physician of D. G. Reid, formerly of this city. The latter was instrumental in securing Dr. Weist to go to New York. The society probably will not hold a banquet or any other similar social function in Dr. Weist's honor.

Dr. A. L. Brankamp, secretary of the Wayne County Medical society, has received word from the State Medical Board, acknowledging the receipt of resolutions passed recently by the society to inquire into the standing of Dr. Arthur Jones, the Whitewater druggist and physician. The local society went on record against their associate for selling liquor in violation of the laws.

CHILDREN HAPPY; VACATION HERE

Christmas Vacation in Public Schools Begins Today.

Pupils in the city schools will experience their first vacation since the opening of the fall term in September, aside from the two days given at Thanksgiving time. Christmas vacation is for eleven days commencing this evening. Many of the teachers have been devoting much of the time in the last few days to assisting the pupils make Christmas presents. In the lower grades and in the kindergarten department this especially has been true. This afternoon will be devoted almost exclusively to Christmas entertainments. In some schools the entire student body will unite in the celebration, but in others the rooms will celebrate according to the own desires.

Mrs. Mary Carr Moore and Mrs. Alice Harriman, of Seattle, are preparing to give a suffrage vaudeville. The libretto was written by Mrs. Harriman and the music by Mrs. Moore, who is described as having sung her way through a suffrage campaign in California. Mrs. Moore has already published several popular songs and will shortly add to the number a suffrage song intended to be used as a war song by the militant branch of the suffragists.

The United States Tobacco Journal tells of a curious scheme in use in Germany for raising money for charity. Boxes for cigar and cigarette ends have been placed in cafes and public buildings by a charity organization, and enough money is expected from the sale of this class of refuse to feed and clothe 1,728 children during the winter months. What becomes of the stumps is a secret fortunately kept from the smokers.

DOHERTY UNPOPULAR

New England Fans Don't Like The Big Half Back.

THE CROWDS HISS AT HIM

"Barney" Doherty, the old Richmond half back in the Western Polo league, now playing in a similar position on the Boston team of the Eastern league, is the most unpopular man in the league. The reputation of "Wild Charley" Farrell in the days of the old Western league does not compare with that of Doherty among the fans of the Eastern league. Immediately upon his appearance on the floor, according to a local young man who has just returned from the East, the crowds begin to hiss him and keep it up until he leaves the floor upon the completion of the game. Ado Mansfield who plays at center on the same team with the blonde boy is regarded in somewhat the same attitude although it is much less pronounced. However the two are accomplishing the work, necessary to all capable defense men.

Truth Versus Politeness.

Ethel was going to take supper with a little friend.

"Now, dear," said her mother, "when you are leaving you must bid Marian's mamma good night and tell her you have had a very pleasant time."

When the little girl returned her mother asked if she had done as she told her.

"Not 'zactly, mamma," was the reply. "Marian took the biggest piece of the apple and spilled lemonade on my new dress, so I couldn't say what you told me, but I told her mother good night and said I guessed Marian had had a very pleasant time."—Judge.

Called Him in Writing.

A tourist in an out of the way region of England put up one night at an amiable old lady's cottage, the village inn being full. Now, the tourist was very deaf, which fact he took pains to impress upon the old lady, together with instructions to wake him at a particular hour in the morning. On waking a good deal later than the time appointed he found that the amiable old lady, with commendable regard for propriety, had slipped under his door a slip of paper on which was written:

"Sir, it is half past 8."—Harper's Weekly.

Her Husband's Business.

"Now, madam," said the gas man with the gray curl in the middle of his forehead after he had asked her twenty questions more or less apropos of her application for the privilege of paying for gas, "what is your husband's business? What is he doing now?"

"I can't be sure, of course," the woman replied, "but I have my suspicions. I had to divorce him before he died."—New York Press.

A Stinging Retort.

Wax Bead proudly—I am going in a necklace which I am assured cannot be told from real pearls. Brass Ring (sarcastically)—Aw, they're stringing you.—Baltimore American.

As a Caution.

Weeks—The true American always saves the under dog in the fight. Wise—Yes, and then gives him a swift kick for being chump enough to get into it.—Boston Transcript.

In infants levery is a prettiness, in men grown a shameful defect, but in old age a monstrous folly.

PALLADIUM WANT ADS. PAY.

A Merry Christmas

READY

A Merry Christmas

—FOR THE—

FINAL RUSH

TODAY ONLY REMAINS

Your Christmas Shopping Days

Have Shortened Into Hours.

What is to be given must be bought today and gift buying will draw to a merry close, despite the heavy demands that have been made upon our immense Jewelry stock during the past few weeks. You'll find here complete and splendid assortments at this ELEVENTH HOUR to choose from.

OUR LAST APPEAL TO GIFT SEEKERS is to visit our store and inspect our elegant display of Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Rugs, Brooches, Toilet Sets, Cut Glass, Art Goods and Novelties that will make your last shopping efforts a satisfaction and pleasure. Remember the place.

Jenkins & Co.

The Jewelers

TRY MERIT SYSTEM

Postal Employees to Be Pledged By Their Own Records.

THE PLAN IS SUCCESSFUL.

After the first of the year there will be instituted a merit and demerit system of grading in the local post office by Postmaster A. L. Spekenhler. The system has been tried in other localities and has the recommendation of the department officials at Washington. The clerks and carriers will then determine by the efficiency of

their records whether or not they deserve promotion. These records will affect the men in this way, those who make excellent records will be recommended for a raise in salary. In the other event the carrier or clerk may find himself drawing less salary. The recommendations will be made exclusively on the records of the merit and demerit system. The least mistake will count so much against the postal employee.

Kodol For Indigestion. Relieves sour stomach, palpitation of the heart. Digests what you eat.

The new constitution of Michigan, which has just been ratified, gives tax suffrage to women. A large delegation of women representing all classes had a hearing before the constitutional convention asking that women have full suffrage with men. Their plea was backed by a petition with 175,000 individual signatures. Michigan is the fifth State to give women tax suffrage.

Mississippi valley pine mills shipped 1,299,108,991 feet the first nine months of 1908, a decrease from the same period last year of 39 per cent.

OYSTERS in the SHELL
20c PER DOZEN.
Order for XMAS **HADLEY BROS**



CHRISTMAS ...CANDIES

In Elegant Imported Boxes

PURITY AND FRESHNESS ALWAYS

The one thing for which people should look when buying Candies is clean, fresh, pure goods. No one wants stale, adulterated candy. It is neither healthful nor toothsome. Our candies are all hand made.

We guarantee them to be absolutely pure and the freshest CANDIES that can be had anywhere, as we make them every day. We pride ourselves upon these two points.

For the Christmas trade we have the largest and most elegant line of fancy confectionery boxes ever displayed in Richmond.

When filled with our home made candies they range in price from 20c to \$8 per box. See the display of Fancy Boxes and Fine Candies in our windows.

THE GREEK CANDY STORE

624 MAIN STREET