

There is the usual cold comfort for all parties in the returns from Mechine Hat.

Customs officers in New York had a big job on hand lately. They seized 10,000 kid gloves.

A scientist tells us that "metals get tired." Now you know why the gold gave out before it got to you.

There is one advantage in looking for the north pole. In the face of the gravest danger one can always keep cool.

At a spiritualist seance in New York, we are told, a man's arm was lengthened two feet. That's stretching it some.

Anybody who doubts the ability of the American Indian to be as civilized as anybody should observe him in a football game.

That man who is going to cross the ocean in a balloon should pause to consider that the water in the Atlantic is still deep and wet.

The inventive Yankee is still at it. During the last fiscal year the United States patent office received some 58,527 applications for mechanical patents.

Kissing, declares Dr. Napoleon Boston, spreads more disease than flies. We scorn his statement because we don't like his name. Reminds us of Waterloo and Bunker Hill.

A way has been found to make paper out of cornstalks. This will create a pleasant harmony for the man who likes to combine his reading with the pleasures of a corn-cob pipe.

The plan of the proposed Henry Hudson memorial bridge at New York calls for a reinforced concrete span of 710 feet, and represents one of the boldest engineering projects of the time.

The Highways Protection league reports 932 automobile accidents occurred in Great Britain in 1907, killing 215 persons and injuring 675. For these accidents and other motor car offenses, 2,270 persons were summoned, of whom 2,046 were convicted.

There are at present about 100 in the main thoroughfares of Paris 21 policemen who speak English, nine who speak German, and six who speak Spanish, and their usefulness has been so clearly demonstrated that the prefect of police has decided to add to their number as opportunity may arise.

Brazil has spent \$15,000,000 in the effort to hold up the world's price of coffee by government purchasing and warehousing of the Brazilian production. The theory that a national government can do anything it chooses in a very

It is not unusual for a man to be killed in a mine explosion. Most of the relatives are English-speaking people, who are in grief in silence. It is estimated that one-fourth of the victims are Americans. As rapidly as possible, work of rescue is being carried on. In the mine to relieve others searching for the dead. Owing to the dangerous gases and the mass of wreckage in the mine, the rescue work is slow and is being carried on with great precaution. Experts from Pennsylvania and West Virginia are in charge of the work of exploration and are being materially assisted by J. W. Paul and Clarence Hall of the United States experimental and testing station in Pittsburgh.

According to the Scientific American the fact that our macadamized roads don't wear as well as those in Europe is because we don't apply the theory of the stitch in time. European highway departments watch the roads and mend them wherever and whenever they need it without allowing the damage to become important.

Now a medical expert comes forward to assert that the French heel, considered one of the greatest outrages inflicted by feminine vanity upon suffering nature, is not only proper, but highly desirable. Still, feminine vanity will not make so much of this practical vindication, as, in any event, it would have kept on wearing the French heel.

Felicitation to the cranks! Ambassador Bryce's tribute to them as not infrequently the first pioneers of great causes, is distinguished appreciation. It is scarcely so enthusiastic, however, as Dr. Holmes' earlier observation that there never was an idea started that woke up men out of their stupid indifference but its originator was spoken of as a crank.

Horace E. Bixby, 82 years of age, still at the wheel after 60 years as a Mississippi river pilot, enjoys the distinction of having taught Mark Twain the art of navigation on the "Father of Waters." He says Mark Twain became a good pilot, having but one fault—the excessive use of tobacco. Capt. Bixby is still Hale and hearty and enjoys telling of the various episodes of his eventful career upon the river.

During the five years preceding 1904-05 the total acreage annually under indigo cultivation in India was 755,900. In 1905-06 this area had decreased to 330,400 acres, or a falling off of a little less than 44 per cent.

The Mecca railroad is being constructed rapidly, solidly and methodically. Foreigners are employed in positions of leadership and management. By imperial order it is now proposed to complete the line from Medina to Mecca, a distance of 280 miles, before the next pilgrimage.

It is a good sign when in the non-sectarian colleges the president urges upon the students a proper observance of Sunday, as did the president of Cornell university at the opening of the college year, remarks Youth's Companion. In protesting against the discussion on that day of athletic and social matters pertaining to the college, he said: "The observance of Sunday is the temporal sign that man belongs not only to time, but to eternity. I earnestly hope that Sunday may be observed as a day of physical rest and spiritual meditation."

138 DEAD IN MINE

HORRIBLE RESULTS OF EXPLOSION AT MARIANNA, PA.

SECOND BLAST IS FEARED

Fifty-Six Bodies Are Recovered, But Work of Finding Victims Is Slow, Owing to Gases and Debris.

Marianna, Pa., Nov. 30.—Fifty-six bodies, all but two of them horribly taken Sunday from the mine of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Coal Company here, in which an explosion occurred Saturday, killing many men and casting into gloom what was until then considered the model mining town of the world.

There is no doubt that the death list will reach 138 men. Officials of the company, who had stated that not over 125 men had been killed, Sunday night admitted that 138 men went down the shaft to work Saturday morning. According to miners and others familiar with the number of men generally employed in the mine, the death list will exceed the company's estimate by at least 50.

Exact Number Is Not Known.

As in nearly all mine disasters, there seems no way at present of knowing how many men went to work. The number check-off system has again proved defective and from no source can an accurate statement as to the fatalities be secured.

It is possible that the exact number of men killed will never be known. Up to darkness Sunday night 25 bodies had been brought to the surface in an iron bucket. Arms, legs or heads were missing from some and the trunks of others were burned, bruised and cut.

Two Were Suffocated.

Two of the men taken from the mine had been suffocated and their bodies were not even scratched. One of these was John Ivill, a cousin of John H. Jones, president of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Coal Company, owners of the mine, who was employed as head time-keeper. Ivill's body was found beneath a coal-digging machine and it was apparent that the young man had crawled there in a vain effort to escape the deadly fumes.

The body of the other man was found near Ivill. The unfortunate had placed his face in a pool of water, which all miners are advised to do when an explosion occurs, in a desperate attempt to fight off suffocation until rescued.

The opinion was expressed by a number of expert miners that the mine will not be cleared of victims for several days.

Danger of Second Explosion.

Reports have been in circulation that a second and more terrific explosion is likely to occur at any moment. The company officials assert this is not true. There is considerable gas in the mine, however, and there is undoubtedly danger.

AMER RAMMED AND SUNK.

Master in Fog Off Sandy Hook Costs Four Lives.

It is not unusual for a man to be killed in a mine explosion. Most of the relatives are English-speaking people, who are in grief in silence. It is estimated that one-fourth of the victims are Americans. As rapidly as possible, work of rescue is being carried on.

The rest of the passengers, who included 18 women and 14 children, as well as others of the crew, were rescued by the boats of the Georgie. The freighter was not damaged.

Of the passengers lost, one was a woman, Miss Irene Campbell of Panama, who clung frantically to the rail of the sinking vessel and could not be persuaded to release her hold, nor were the men who manned the small boats able forcibly to remove her.

12 WEDDINGS, ONE DIVORCE.

Starting Statistics on Legal Separations in United States.

Hot Springs, Va.—Timothy L. Woodruff, chairman of the New York Republican state committee, Sunday eliminated himself from the senatorial race in favor of Secretary of State Elihu Root.

This action was taken after a protracted conference with President-elect Taft and was followed by statements by both Messrs. Taft and Woodruff. Aside from these statements, each of which concedes the election of Mr. Root to succeed Senator Platt on January 19 next, no details of the conference were made known.

CARNEGIE SENDS \$30,000 CHECK.

Fayette, Ia.—President William A. Shanks of Upper Iowa University Sunday received a check from Andrew Carnegie for \$30,000, in payment of his pledge to give that amount when \$150,000 had been raised.

Wild Man of Woods Dead.

Virginia, Minn.—The "Wild Man of the Woods" was found dead in his shack about 20 miles northeast of here and his body brought to this city. In the shack of the strange man was found a notebook with the name "William J. Hill, Massey, Ontario."

Many Coke Ovens Reopen.

Huntington, W. Va.—More than 2,000 coke ovens in the Norfolk & Western fields, which have been idle for almost a year, resumed operations Sunday night.

Hermit Author Found Dead.

Chicago.—Surrounded by his only friends—his books—Dr. John Norris, 70 years old, an author and recluse, was found dead in his little cottage in Riverside. For several years Dr. Norris has been known as the "hermit of Riverside."

Ohio to Test Option Law.

Findlay, O.—Suit was filed here Friday afternoon to test the constitutionality of the Rose local option law, by which 54 of the 88 counties of the state have voted out the saloons.

GETS FIRST CABINET PLACE

HITCHCOCK TO BE POSTMASTER GENERAL UNDER TAFT.

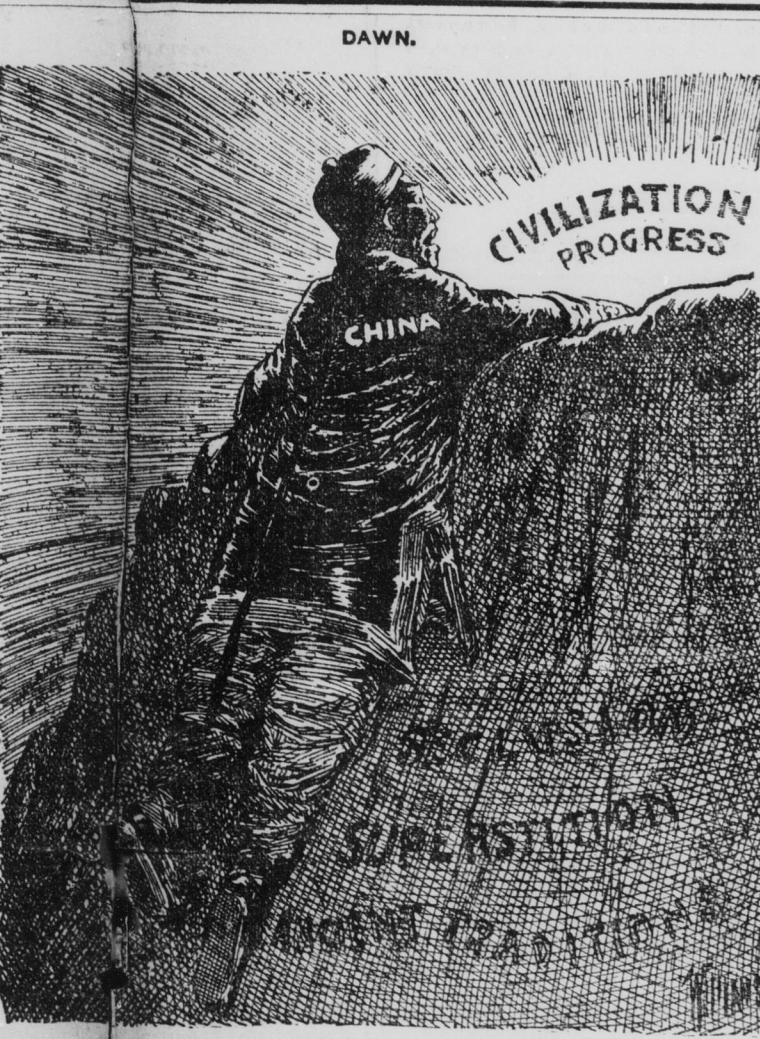
Republican National Chairman Selected Because of His Ability to Advise President-Elect.

Hot Springs, Va.—Frank H. Hitchcock has been offered and has accepted the position of postmaster general in the Taft cabinet that is to be.

The official announcement of this conclusion regarding the first cabinet selection of President-elect Taft doubtless will not be made until Mr. Taft has completed his cabinet, at which time it will be announced en bloc. Because of this view of the situation no expression regarding the selection of Mr. Hitchcock was obtainable for publication from either Mr. Taft or the Republican national chairman. There were many reasons, it was pointed out, why it was expedient that Mr. Hitchcock's status should be



FRANK H. HITCHCOCK



LAMPHIRE GUILTY OF ARSON

IS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR TWO TO 21 YEARS.

Verdict Is a Compromise—Several Juries Held Out Long for Life Sentence for Murder.

Laporte, Ind.—Ray Lamphere, charged with the murder of Mrs. Belle Gunness and her three children, by setting fire to the Gunness house April 28, was found guilty of arson Thursday evening by the jury which had the case since 5:30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

Within five minutes after the verdict was reported, Judge Richter had sentenced the defendant to the state penitentiary at Michigan City for an indeterminate term of from two to 21 years. He will be taken to Michigan City at once to begin his sentence.

Besides these reasons the national chairman admittedly possesses a comprehensive as well as a technical knowledge of postal affairs, gained by a protracted experience as first assistant and acting postmaster general. Mr. Hitchcock, accompanied by Charles H. Boynton of New York, left here Friday night for Washington, where Saturday night he was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the executive and advisory committee of the national committee. He will then visit headquarters in New York. It is altogether probable that from this time on Mr. Hitchcock will be frequently in evidence with Justice Root.

MASTERS RAMMED AND SUNK.

Master in Fog Off Sandy Hook Costs Four Lives.

There was something of a compulsion to the jury, for in life it was held out long in the first degree with a life sentence. So far as could be learned, he was for hanging.

Lamphere Thursday night said that he was confident the dead body in the fire was Mrs. Gunness' regardless of what other people may think. He reiterated his innocence of setting fire to the house, though admitting that he was on the road and saw the fire that night. He also declared that he did not see Mrs. Gunness kill Helgele.

"I have no complaint to make about the verdict. Things looked pretty blue, but the verdict might have been worse."

ACTRESS ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Mrs. Eleanor Cowper Shoots Herself in New York Hotel.

New York.—Mrs. Eleanor Merron Cowper, a widely-known playwright and actress, shot herself in her room at the St. Regis hotel Friday and will probably die. She was a protege and business partner of the late James H. Wallack, manager and actor, who killed himself at his home in Middleton, N. Y.

Before shooting herself, Mrs. Cowper wrote letters to her lawyer, Judge Herbert B. Royce of Middleton, and to John Hood, manager of the King Edward hotel in West Forty-seventh street, where she formerly lived, advising them of her intention to kill herself. A brief history of her life, largely devoted to recounting her career on the stage, was found in her effects.

Boat Sinks; Hundred Drown.

Manila, Philippines.—The coasting steamer Ponting, carrying a large number of laborers from Nanyacan to the rice fields in Pangasinan province, struck a rock and sank early this morning during a storm, off the town of San Fernando, in Union Province. It is estimated that a hundred of the passengers and crew of the Ponting were drowned. The steamer Vigilia rescued 55.

Missouri Woman a Suicide.

Nevada, Mo.—Mrs. H. C. Moore, wife of Col. Moore, a leading merchant of Nevada, committed suicide Saturday night by drowning herself. Mrs. Moore threw herself into Lake Park Springs, near here, which is owned by her husband.

Addison Lysle Is Dead.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Addison Lysle, once a prominent citizen of Pittsburgh and formerly president of the national board of navigation, died here Sunday, aged 72 years.

Kaiser Worried Into Illness.

Berlin, Germany.—Emperor William's cold has passed off, it is currently reported. But he is suffering from obstinate insomnia brought on by worrying over recent events in Germany. It is rumored, too, that his defective ear, which always becomes painful when he is run down, is causing him great suffering. His doctors have ordered him to take a complete rest. It has been decided that he shall go to Corfu—the Greek island in the Ionian sea as soon as possible after the Christmas festivities of the court at Berlin.

Escaped Convict Is Caught.

Chelsea, Mich.—A man arrested on suspicion here was identified Friday as Harry Robinson, 58 years old, who escaped from prison at Atlanta, Ga., March 21, 1908. He was serving time for a train robbery in Arkansas.

DAWN.

HUNDREDS PERISH

JAPANESE STEAMERS IN CRASH OFF PORT OF CHEFOO.

DISASTER IN DENSE FOG

Both Ships Sink, Carrying Down with Them Many American and European Passengers—Victims May Number 700.

Chefoo, China.—Two Japanese steamers collided off this port Monday afternoon. Details of the accident were lacking, but it was reported that a total of 700 persons had been drowned.

According to the best information available, the vessels were passenger boats and heavily loaded with Europeans and Americans.

The crash suddenly came in a dense fog. The lookouts were unable to see more than a few yards ahead, and could not give the alarm in time for the passengers and crew to take to the lifeboats.

The ships crashed with a mighty impact within two minutes after warning shots had been sent down to those below.

Instantly there was a frantic rush for safety. Not stopping to lower the boats, scores leaped into the sea. Most of these were drowned.

The vessels sank soon after the collision, taking down with them the passengers and crew who were asleep at the time of the accident.

Two Irishmen celebrated St. Patrick's day and started home together, but became separated. Finally they discovered themselves hugging lamp posts on opposite sides of the street.

"How are ye, Pat?" called Mike.

"Fair," says Pat, "how are ye?"

"I dunno," says Mike; "come over and see."

"I can't come," says Pat.

"Why can't ye?" says Mike.

"I've got me hands full shytain" where I am," says Pat.—N. Y. Herald.

SEEMED WORSE EVERY DAY.

A Dangerous Case of Kidney Complaint and How It Was Checked.

Mrs. Lucy Quebeck, Mechanic St., Hope Valley, R. I., says: "Eight years ago I contracted severe kidney trouble and my back began to ache continually. Every day it seemed worse. The least pressure on my back tortured me, and I could not stoop without a bad twinge. The kidney secretions passed irregularly with pain, and I bled badly. My head swam and spots flitted before my eyes. One doctor said I was incurable. However, I found prompt relief when I started using Doan's Kidney Pills, and the troubles I have re-lated gradually disappeared."