

FIREMEN CREMATED.

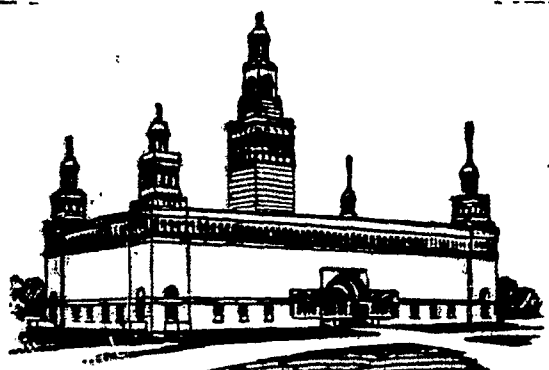
NEARLY FORTY MEN BURNED TO DEATH AT THE FAIR.

The Cold Storage Building Formed Their Funeral Pyre—Surrounded by Flames Far Above the Ground They Leaped to Death While the Multitude Below Turned Sick With Horror.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 11.—Thirty firemen, with the probability of some visitors and laborers at the World's fair were burned to death at the fair grounds yesterday afternoon. At 5 o'clock the report placed the number of dead at 40 and the seriously injured at 20.

Thirty-five thousand visitors saw firemen leap from a roof 200 feet from the ground and with groans and shrieks saw them dashed to fragments on the pavement. Women, with here and there a man, fell prostrate like chaff before a cyclone at the awful sight. The firemen who did not prefer to die more quickly than they remained undaunted upon the roof, had the life partly crushed out of them and then went down, helpless and shrieking with the pain caused by the injuries into a seething cauldron of flame where they were quickly consumed.

In addition to the firemen, it is supposed there were a number of visitors and workmen in the building when the fire broke



COLD STORAGE BUILDING.

out. It cannot be ascertained in the first rush for details if any or all of them got out of the building.

Where the firemen and possibly others lost their lives was in what was known as the cold storage building. It was 200 feet high and surmounted by a tower which ran up into the air another 70 feet. The fire started in the tower. It was a tiny flame at first, but in a bad locality.

Marshal Murphy, picked to head the firemen at the fair, because of his bravery and firefighting ability, was quickly on the scene. The firemen got up in the tower. They came down from the tower and to the roof. The flames burst out suddenly in the building below them. There was no way of reaching the ground, 200 feet below the roof of the burning building from which the 70-foot tower sprang. With death staring them in the face, the men stood on the edge of the roof. Then one of them jumped. He struck the earth, crushed, bleeding and unconscious. Three of his companions followed his example, preferring a death by the fall to the slow torture of the flames.

Before many of the men could decide to make the perilous leap all choice was ended. With a crash the tower toppled and fell and the brave firemen, who had been standing upon it, were hurled with it into the burning furnace below. With them was Marshal Murphy. He escaped with slight injuries.

The cries of the wounded men as they lay for a moment on the roof beneath the rim of the fallen tower could be heard by the crowd which had collected about the building.

Before a hand could be lifted to aid the men there was a puff of smoke and the roof of the warehouse fell in, carrying with it the wounded and half dead men who had fallen with the tower.

The fire department was almost paralyzed by the loss of its men.

The Columbian guards endeavored to keep the crowds back, but it was impossible. The excited multitude, increased to 85,000 persons, surrounded the building at a safe distance.

At first the flames were confined to the cupola at the top of the tower, and they spread downward swiftly. Fire Marshal Murphy, who was among the first at the blaze, ordered his men to the row of long windows near the top of the tower and went up himself. There was great difficulty in getting the hose up or getting a stream to bear on the flames, which all the while were spreading downward. Big gusts of wind swept great sheets of flame down until the fire finally caught at the windows where the men were standing on a foothold not more than two feet wide.

It was then that the most awful catastrophe met the eyes of the thousands of moaning, horrified spectators who stood in the avenues below watching the flames eating their way down to the men. The poor men on the window ledge were hopeless. Their hands were full of hose and they had not noticed the flames so close.

Suddenly they were completely surrounded by fire, and burning timbers began to fall from above. The poor fellows huddled together as close as possible in one corner, hoping that some one below could reach the flames with streams of water or afford some other relief. But it was no use.

They were surrounded by fire, with the roof 70 feet or more below them and the tower ablaze nearly all the way down.

Some of the men tried to slide down the rope on which the hose had been drawn. The first man who tried descended half way to the roof, where the flames flew out and caught him and he dropped doubtless dead before he struck the roof. Another and another tried it till half a dozen had met the same fate.

Then the others drew still closer together with the flames playing madly about their heads. Finally the heat became unbearable, and one after another the poor fellows took to the rope. They fell as the others had done, only farther, as the rope was burning shorter and shorter all the while.

As the last man on the window ledge swung himself on the rope and was away free in the air the whole flaming tower crashed down upon him and the dozen or more victims whose lives had been crushed and burned out on the roof below.

When the first man jumped a scream of terror ran up from the crowd, women fainted and men fell on their knees and prayed for the souls in the deathtrap. Groan after groan followed each leap of the firemen.

No one knew who was among the ill-fated firemen, but there before the eyes of thousands men were being burned to death and killed by mad leaps into space. A more terrible sight was never witnessed by a pleasure-seeking crowd.

The excitement was increased to a fever

by the arrival of the entire ambulance force. The clanging wagons rushed through the crowd. A rush call for every ambulance and wagon on the grounds had been sent out.

The building contained restaurants and the roof was arranged for a promenade, while the big tower which cost the life of the firemen was used for an observatory.

The building had been on fire on two previous occasions and each time the flames were discovered in the tower. Chief Swenne had made a thorough examination of the structure and had decided that it was not properly built.

World's Fair Notes.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 7.—With the royal standard flying over the main entrance to Victoria house, streamers of union jacks strung at the four corners of the typical building, with the naval pennant of England interspersed, in honor of the royal bridegroom's association with his grandmother's navy, with decidedly English music from an English military band, and finally with a punch of a more decided English brew and effect, the royal subjects of her majesty who are identified with the British and colonial exhibits at the fair, celebrated the marriage of the Duke of York and Princess May of Teck, which took place at 8 o'clock in the morning, Chicago time. The festivities were informal and lasted from 4 to 6 o'clock.

The Woman's branch of the Music Congress is attracting large crowds and so great was the audience that hall 3 was found to be too small and a change was made to Columbus hall.

President T. W. Palmer of the World's fair has urged the adoption of the Houndley-Tousley resolution, which has for its purpose the closing of the gates on Sundays.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 8.—There is to be a reunion of the former pupils of the Troy female seminary July 17 and 18 in the Women's building under the auspices of the Emma Willard association. Those who have been in any way connected with the Troy seminary are invited.

The Spanish caravels have finished their long journey. As they arrived off the exposition grounds they were saluted by many cannon and the steam whistles from many craft lying in the lake and the lagoons. Captain Case and the escorting party were met by a party from the director general and escorted to the grounds. Judge Jenkins has assumed his place on the United States circuit bench, but he failed to give a decision in the Wasmaker & Brown Sunday fair suit.

"The press of business has been too great for me to give the application for an injunction against the World's Columbian exposition any thought," said the judge. "Besides I did not receive the briefs in the case until Thursday. It will take me several days to look them over and prepare a decision. I cannot tell how long, but probably not before the beginning of next week will a decision be given."

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 10.—A windstorm of terrific force followed by a heavy downpour of rain passed over the White City last evening doing considerable damage to the different buildings and to the exhibits stored within. Some damage, principally in broken glass, was done in nearly all the buildings, but the exact amount of harm done the display by the soaking they received is not known.

The attendance at the World's fair yesterday was very light, so light as to raise doubt in some minds as to whether the open Sundays are to prove the financial boon to the fair that was expected.

While the exposition officials express satisfaction over the attendance it is no secret that concessionaires are generally greatly disappointed at the lack of the bustling multitudes that were fondly anticipated for this period of the fair.

As nearly all concessionaires are compelled to pay 25 per cent of their gross receipts into the exposition's coffers they are the first to feel the results of light attendance.

The regular Sunday services were the only special attraction at the park and the now established fact that many exhibits are entirely closed on Sundays no doubt worked somewhat to diminish the Sunday attendance.

The attendance at the religious exercises at Festival hall was not large. The Rev. Jenkins Lloyd Jones preached.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 11.—Chief Allen of the Manufacturers building has ordered Robert H. Ingersoll & Bro. of New York, exhibitors of novelties, to remove their display from the building.

The New York firm was found to be selling their goods now on exhibition for immediate delivery, in direct violation of a recent order by Director General Davis which says that all goods on display must remain as part of the exhibit until the close of the fair, sales being permitted only on condition that the delivery shall not be made until after Nov. 1.

Both foreign and American exhibitors are attempting to secure a modification of this order, permitting them to sell duplicates of their exhibits and have addressed a communication to that effect to Colonel Davis. The matter is still before the director general, but it is hardly probable that he will grant the concession.

WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS, July 12.—The council of administration met in secret session at the Administration building, all the members being present. The horrible catastrophe of Monday, of course, necessitated the convening of the council. The council contends that if the cold storage building was unsafe or had been condemned, they had not been notified to that effect. The correspondence purporting to convey this intelligence was had, it is alleged, between Director of Works Burnham and those in charge of the building. The director of works and his assistant, Mr. Graham, were summoned to appear before the council.

The council is inclined, it is said, to severely censure Mr. Burnham and there were rumors around the big domed building that he would lose his head. From the other side comes the intelligence that the council had been advised of the unsafe condition of the building by Chief Murphy and his assistant, James Fitzpatrick, who lost his life.

Charged With Grand Larceny. BUFFALO, July 11.—E. O. Van Brocklin, secretary of the board of fire commissioners of Buffalo, has been arrested charged with grand larceny. It is alleged he has systematically robbed the city of \$500 or \$600 per month by falsifying the pay rolls of the department by placing fictitious names on them. It is said his embezzlements will amount to several thousand dollars.

Off For the Pole.

PORTLAND, Me., July 10.—The British steamer Falcon, with Lieutenant Peary and party aboard, has sailed for Greenland on their Arctic expedition.

SIGHTS TRAVELERS SEE.

The rock of Gibraltar is an exact representation of a lion in a resting position.

Near Dermut, in Morocco, a natural aqueduct of rock carries a river over a wide and deep gorge.

On the summit of the Brocken there is a pulpit-shaped mass of granite which goes by the name of the Devil's Pulpit.

The Great Northern tunnel, to be built under the Cascade range of mountains in Oregon and Washington, will be, when completed, 13,168 feet long.

On the northwest coast of Australia the maps show an island some thirteen miles long by one wide named Expedition island. This has lately disappeared, and there is now an average depth of forty-eight feet of water over the area where the island once stood.

The old cemetery of Barcelona is in truth a "city of the dead." Streets upon streets of walls, with five or six stories of niches, into which the coffins are to be placed, give one indeed the idea of a deserted city. This fashion obtains all over Spain and in some parts of Italy.

From base to summit of an immense mountain of dark red sandstone, 800 feet high, in Weber canon, Utah territory, is a smooth white stone floor with all the appearance of a slide, reaching from the top of the mountain to the bed of the Weber river. This is not inappropriately named "The Devil's Slide."

A remarkable hollow in the midst of the hills near Koberbrunn, in Silesia, contains about 2,000 acres, and is filled with water and emptied in quite regular periods of somewhat less than thirty years. It is almost perfectly dry for a brief season. Water then oozes in through the ground, and gradually rises in the basin, which is now half full and still filling.

Tourists visiting the Indian and Banana rivers in Florida are astonished and amused at the antics of the mullets of those streams. These fish grow to be five or six pounds in weight and are famous jumpers. They leap from the water, shoot three or four feet through the air, come up again and leap twice as far, and keep on for a half dozen of leaps, each longer than the other. Now and then a mullet takes a leap of fifteen or twenty feet and disappears. It happens not infrequently that a leaping mullet falls into a passing boat.

PLEASANT PARAGRAPHS.

Ethel—Who was the friend I saw with you a moment ago? Ellen—He's not a friend. I'm engaged to him.

Mr. Micawber—I wish I knew some nice easy way to make money. Mrs. Micawber—Well, you might get your life insured, and then die.

Young Gotnix, sadly—I saw a sign in a window down the street that exactly described my condition. Jinks—What was it? "Cash girl wanted."

Miss Pert—Who is that fine intelligent, elderly man over there, Mr. Softleigh? Cholly Softleigh—Aw, that's my father, Miss Pert. Miss Pert—Impossible.

Deacon Bogie—I noticed that you seemed deeply interested in the sermon this morning. "Yes; you see I had bet Jones \$2 that I could stay awake until church was out."

Employer—William, Mrs. Spriggans complains that she received only one of all the bundles she had put up here last night. William—That's funny, sir. I wrote "Mrs. Spriggans" on one bundle and put "Ditto" on the others.

"You have had many severe trials, I dare say," said the tender-hearted housewife. "Yes," answered Rusty Rufus, spearing another cold potato with his fork, "but on account of my youth I've generally got off pretty light."

Mrs. Mann—It is strange that you cannot hold the baby a few moments, when you used to be able to hold me on your lap for hours at a time. Mr. Mann—The young one is restless. He squirms and kicks all the time. You didn't kick the least bit.

American Magistrate—Hov'n't Oi seen you befar? Prisoner—Yis, Oi honor. It wor tin years ago whin Oi sat in that seat, y'r honor, and you was brought befar me, y'r honor, an' Oi discha-arged ye. Magistrate—Be jabbers, that's so. Discha-arged!

Missress—I'd just like to know what was the meaning of that loud and angry talking down stairs last night? Domestic—That was just me and me husband, mum. "Your husband? You told me when you came that you were not married." "I wasn't then, mum, but you complained about having so much love-makin' in the kitchen, so I married one of 'em."

FACTS AND FIGURES.

London's latest census showed the population to be 4,211,058 people.

The life saving service in 1890 cost \$1,000,000 and saved 800 lives and \$5,000,000 of property.

The sales of shoes in St. Louis have increased more than 500 per cent during the last ten years, while the population has increased but fifty per cent.

San Francisco is the banner city for saloons. It has one such institution to every ninety-three persons. Albany comes next with one to every 110 persons, and New Orleans one to every 121 persons.

The number of business failures in the United States compared with the number of similar failures in Canada, is as follows: In 1890 there was in the United States one failure to every ninety-three business concerns, while in Canada there was one failure to every forty-five.

In 1891 there was one failure to every eighty-two in the United States, and one to every forty-two in Canada. In 1892 the figures were one in ninety-two for the United States and one to forty-five for Canada.

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PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS.

The American appetite for prunes is growing. Last year 22,000,000 pounds were imported, against 7,000,000 the year before.

The twin screw and triple screw steamships with improved engines develop more power with less coal than the single engines. The Eturia burns about 300 tons a day.

The electrical bicycle is cropping up in England. The weight of the batteries when filled with liquid is to be forty-four pounds, and the whole weight of the machine is to be 155 pounds.

Two little Newark, N. J., boys, aged about six and ten years, while attempting to cross a street in that city one day got stuck in the mud. A laborer heard their cries, and, coming to their assistance rescued them.

The word "syndicate," which is of American origin, is now used in the British house of commons to characterize combinations by which a number of members having a common object in view unite for balloting purposes.

The students of Yale college divide the scholastic year into four seasons—the football season, the base ball season, the training season and the book beer season. The latter comes in March between the training season and the base ball season.

The guns in use on the ships of our modern navy have a plate of steel armor fastened over them and bent slightly back, so that a missile striking it would be deflected upward. A visitor said he supposed that this was a serviceable protection to the men who were working the guns. "Lor' bless yer!" replied the old salt who was explaining the mechanism of the big rifle, "tain't to protect the men, it's to keep the works from gettin' knocked out of order. There's men enough."

The equestrian statue of Washington which is to find its home in Philadelphia is the work of a German sculptor, Professor Rudolph Siemering. The whole structure is fifty feet high and the octagonal base is fully thirty feet in diameter. Eight emblematic figures are grouped about the base of the pedestal, and on other parts of the base are various American animals and figures of Indians. The figures of Washington and his horse are many times larger than life, and all of the figures around the base of the statue are modeled on a heroic scale.

CRICKETS FOR BAIT.

A Tennessee Man Who Raises Them for Fishing Purposes.

"Yes, cold weather is mighty hard on my cricket herd," said Afton K. Hooten, of Greenfield, Tenn. "My cricket herd? Why, haven't you read about it? You see, I live in the middle of Tennessee, surrounded by the prettiest lakes that ever eye gazed upon. The waters are filled with trout and other game fish, and in the spring, summer and fall the sportsmen flock here from all sections of the country. One of the most curious facts about Tennessee fish is that they wish nothing but crickets. Red worms, tall sawyers and the like, find no fish that will bite at them in our waters, except snappers and small perch.

"The most serious obstacle, therefore, with the fishermen is to get crickets. I organized a stock company with a few hundred capital and started to work last spring. I had a large pasture fenced in with boards about ten feet high, sowed grass, built my hothouse and incubators, and then began gathering in my stock. My pasture consists of about twelve acres, and I calculated that I could well graze 50,000 crickets to the acre. They sell readily to fishermen at \$1 per hundred, so you see what a rich harvest there is in such an industry. They flourished like a green bay tree all during the summer and fall, but since the cold weather has reached them they have been dying off at a remarkably sad rate, and if the freeze should continue much longer I doubt if I will be left with seed for next spring."

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