

LAST EDITION.

THURSDAY EVENING.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, DECEMBER 23, 1909.

THURSDAY EVENING.

TWO CENTS.

MAN IS BROKEN.

Gas Company Finds Bad Break in Big Pipe.

Evidently Cause of Seventh Street Explosions.

MANY OTHER LEAKS.

Service Pipes Rotten—Gas Rushes Forth.

Company Admits Old Mains Are in Use.

While hunting for leaks in the gas mains in the vicinity of Seventh and Jackson streets this morning employees of the Consumers' Light, Heat & Power company heard a roaring, rumbling sound, accompanied by a suffocating odor and before they could remove the dirt covering the source of the noise, a volcano of dirt and dust rose from the trenches, following by a swift and volume of natural gas.

Upon closer investigation it was found that a large three-inch main connecting the lead mains on Jackson street and Kansas avenue was broken square in two, the one section falling about two inches from the other. It was estimated that enough gas was escaping from this pipe in a day to furnish several buildings.

Seventh street between Kansas avenue and Jackson street today is a mass of excavations and piled paving materials and dirt. It has been found that practically everywhere along this street is rotted out and the gas has undoubtedly been escaping for some time.

In some places the holes in the pipes were large enough to stick a finger through and in other places the city engineer and officials on the ground were able to break a hole into the pipes by simply putting their thumb. Not only the service pipes, but the main itself is rotted and useless.

When this condition was revealed to the officials of the gas company today, all of their statements that the late explosions in this vicinity might have been sewer gas or damp, were exploded. It was proven conclusively that the trouble in this part of the city has been caused by the leakage of natural gas from the mains.

Furthermore, it was admitted by Superintendent of Construction Swan that the mains dug up today and the big mains used by the company manufacturing artificial gas many years ago will be remembered that these mains were condemned and declared inadequate at that time. In speaking of the old mains Mr. Swan said:

"Yes, it is true we are using the old gas mains over the city wherever it has been possible. Along Kansas avenue, where the main line is constructed we are using the old mains. We did place in new service pipes along the avenue but the old mains remain as they were at that time."

When asked by a State Journal reporter if he thought "there is any more leaks in the city," Mr. Swan said: "Oh, yes, I believe so. There are undoubtedly more leaks in town—but we know nothing of it at this time. We did not know these pipes on Seventh street were leaky—until we dug down here today and found the conditions. It would be criminal on our part to know that there were leaking pipes in the city and not make any effort to fix them. There may be more leaks but we do not know it at this time."

There is no wonder that there have been so many explosions along Seventh street when the present conditions are exposed. Every tap for service is rotten and out of the ground at this time. It was found that the dirt for many feet around the leaks was dry and crumbly.

"The escaping gas always dries out the dirt and makes it into dust," said city Engineer S. W. Brown this morning. "When we find a leak we find the soil dry and dusty all around it. I have no doubt but what the condition of the dirt around the leaks is the reason for the accidents which have occurred lately. All doubt as to the cause of recent explosions has been removed by the gas officials now admit that the cause is the leaking of gas."

As to the extent of the leakage over Topeka, no one knows. Gas leakages have been found all along Kansas avenue—even in the vicinity of the city. It has been stated that in South Topeka, where the new pavement was laid this summer, a bonfire built near the edge of the paving caused an explosion and a roaring fire until it could be extinguished. Many other reports of gas fires have been made known to the city officials.

The city will demand that the gas company go all over the mains in the business districts of the city and see that there are no more leaks. Whenever a leak is found in a pipe the whole pipe must be renewed. On Seventh street the three-inch main will be replaced. The situation in Topeka is alarming at this time and the underlying stories are coming true.

Superintendent Swan said this morning that he thought the cause of the break at Seventh and Jackson was on account of the new water main which crosses the gas main at this point. This water pipe was laid last summer and it is thought by the gas officials that the pipe settled and broke under the main. Superintendent Swan of the city water works does not take much stock in this theory—neither does City Engineer Fulton.

However, the main will be relaid and the leaking gas in this vicinity will be stopped. The old system of plugging up leaks with wooden plugs and letting it go at this must stop. W. F. Conklin, city plumbing inspector, is on the scene all day long and he is watching the work to see that nothing is overlooked.

Caused by Water Pipe. What is believed to be a cause of the break in the three inch main is the fact that a six inch water pipe was laid across the gas main by employees of the water company. When the new water main was put in on West Seventh street a fire hydrant was placed at the southeast corner of Seventh and Jackson streets. The service pipe extending from the main to the hydrant was placed on top of the three inch gas main and workmen say this was the cause of the break. It is declared the weight was too great for the three inch gas main.

NO EQUAL AFLOAT

The Battleship Utah Is Launched at Camden, N. J.

Christening Is Performed by Daughter of Gov. Spry.

FIFTH OF HER CLASS.

But More Powerful Than Any of the Others.

She Will Carry 10 Big Breech Loading Guns.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Declared to have no equal afloat as a first class fighting machine, the battleship Utah, the greatest warship ever built in the United States, was launched today from the yard of the New York Shipbuilding company at Camden, N. J.

MORRIS CLIGGITT DEAD.

Was Mayor of Pittsburg at Time of His Death.

Pittsburg, Kan., Dec. 23.—Morris Cliggitt, mayor of Pittsburg, died here today. He was prominent as an attorney, having been assistant United States district attorney during the second Cleveland administration. He was a classmate of William J. Bryan.

Morris Cliggitt was a native of the state of Illinois. Outside of public schools he attended the Northwestern college, Naperville, Ill., for about three years; graduated from the Union College of Law, Chicago, Ill., in 1882. He was awarded the faculty scholarship prize for the junior year and the Cawthron scholarship for the senior year. He was admitted to practice in the supreme court of Illinois in June, 1883.

Afterwards he went to Iowa for about a year, and then to Nebraska, where he lived until January, 1890, at which time he came to Pittsburg, Kan.

In the presence of several thousand persons, who crowded the docks and every vantage point in the vicinity of the yard. As the big hull started to leave the thickly gressed ways, Miss Mary Alice Spry of Salt Lake City, daughter of the governor of Utah, raised her arm and broke a gaily ribboned bottle of champagne against the keel of the great ship as she spoke the words that gave the vessel its name.

Launching of big warships on the Delaware river have become a common sight, but nevertheless the latest contribution to the American navy stirred the enthusiasm of the crowd whose cheers and the din created by the whistles of the river craft, continued several minutes.

Among those on the platform were representatives of the navy department; Governor Spry and members of his family, a congressional delegation, including the members from Utah, representatives of the Utah legislature and nearly all the officers of the shipbuilding company.

The Utah is the fifth of all big gun type of battleships for the United States navy to be launched. When completed she will be more powerful than the Delaware and North Dakota of the Dreadnaught class.

Her Dimensions. The Utah has a length on the load water line of 521 1/2 feet over all, and a beam of 88 feet 2 inches. Her trial draught will be 28 1/2 feet. Displacement, 21,825 tons, or 2,000 tons greater than the Delaware and North Dakota, and her speed is expected to develop 20 1/2 knots or more an hour.

There will be 10 12-inch breech-loading guns in her main armament, mounted on five turrets on the central line of the ship. Two of the turrets will be forward, one amidships and two aft. Each turret will be protected by armor 8 and 12 inches thick and will be supplied with ammunition by electrical hoists from the magazines and shell rooms.

The entire handling of the guns will be done by electric motors. Sixteen 2 inch guns protected by armor varying from four to five inches in thickness will protect the entire ammunition handling machinery for the 12 inch guns in the turrets above.

Ten turbines, six for a head and four for astern, capable of developing 28,000 horse power, will be installed. Steam will be supplied by 12 water tube boilers and coal oil may be used for fuel. The two smokestacks on the ship will extend 70 feet above the water line.

The Utah will be fitted for a battleship and her complement as such will consist of a crew of 1,000, of whom 60 will be officers.

While the Utah will have no equal when completed she will not hold that position long, as the naval program following the one which called for two ships of the Utah class, provides for vessels that will be considerably heavier. These latter ships will mount two 12 inch guns than the Utah and will have a heavier secondary battery.

MT. M'KINLEY REPORT.

Indications That Cook Will Again Be Discredited.

New York, Dec. 23.—The report of the special committee which investigated Dr. Frederick A. Cook's claims to having reached the summit of Mt. McKinley will be delivered to the board of governors of the Explorers' club tomorrow. While the investigation will not divulge the text of the report they do not deny that it discredits Dr. Cook's claims.

HURRAH FOR WARM WEATHER

Mercury Expected to Rise Above Freezing Point at Last.

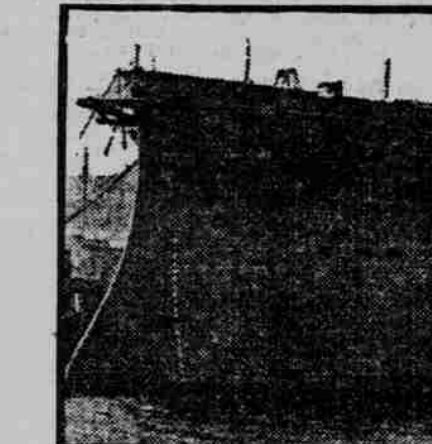
Indications are that the temperature will rise to 32 degrees, freezing point tonight, the first time since December 15, and the fourth time in twenty days. The mercury has been climbing rapidly and it is believed that the "chill" will be reached before tonight.

The wind today is blowing six miles an hour from the east, almost a sure sign of rain or snow. On top of this the weather forecast is for rain or snow tonight and tomorrow. If the temperature goes above freezing point the moisture will likely be rain.

An area of high barometric pressure, which extended over the five states of which Kansas is the center, caused the "chill" which yesterday changed wind direction so rapidly that the government gauge could hardly record them. Two areas of low pressure, one coming from southern California and the other from British Columbia, are moving east, bringing rain and snow, which is expected to reach here tonight.

Following are the hourly temperatures today:

7 o'clock	..... 17 1/2	8 o'clock	..... 22
8 o'clock	..... 17 1/2	9 o'clock	..... 23
9 o'clock	..... 17 1/2	10 o'clock	..... 23
10 o'clock	..... 19 1/2	11 o'clock	..... 23



The Battleship Utah Launched Today.

FOOTBALL SCANDAL.

Joy Miller, Michigan Captain-elect, Not a Student of Institution.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 23.—The election of J. Joy Miller, of Detroit, as captain of the University of Michigan football eleven has been repudiated. Miller's letter "M" had been recalled and letters of apology have been sent to the five universities against which Miller played, because of the discovery that Miller was not enrolled in any classes.

The question of Miller's eligibility came under the attention of Dean Cooley of the engineering department of the university two weeks ago. It was announced Miller appeared before the eligibility committee during the season and signed a statement that he was a bona fide student and eligible to play on the team.

The action against him was taken upon the ground that while he had registered in the engineering department he had not been attending any classes until after the close of the football season, when he induced several professors to accept his enrollment tentatively.

Mass for Leopold. Washington, Dec. 23.—In the presence of the president of the United States, members of his official family and a full representation of the diplomatic corps, regular high mass for the repose of the soul of the late Leopold II, king of the Belgians, was sung today at St. Matthews Roman Catholic church in this city.

Requiem Service for Soul of Dead Monarch in Washington. The service members of the Belgian legation in full uniform received the representatives of the United States government and the entire corps of diplomats as they arrived at the church door. The celebrant was Rev. Edward L. Buckley, pastor of St. Matthews church. Mr. Calocico, apostolic delegate, assisted and gave the absolution.

He Sues Hearst. T. B. Harned Asks \$75,000 Damages for Alleged Libel. New York, Dec. 23.—Thomas B. Harned, a Philadelphia lawyer, brought suit in the United States circuit court today against the International Magazine company, owned by W. R. Hearst, asking damages of \$75,000 for an alleged libel in the current issue of the Cosmopolitan magazine in an article entitled "Tragedies of the Sugar Trust."

In this same article appeared a copy of a letter written by Attorney General Wickersham to Henry A. Wise, a United States district attorney here, which in some manner was copied from an original in Mr. Wise's desk.

Harned is one of the men indicted by the federal grand jury in connection with the Pennsylvania Sugar Refining company's suit, whose demurrer to the indictment, however, was sustained on the ground that the prosecution was barred by the statute of limitations.

ROBBERS BLEW SAFE.

President Brown of Centerville Bank Fired at Yeggmen.

Mound City, Kan., Dec. 23.—Robbers early today blew open the safe of the State bank at Centerville, near here, and escaped with \$1,500. One of the robbers, the last to leave the building, was fired upon by C. H. Brown, president of the bank. The robber returned the fire and after a lively fusillade of shots drowsy Brown to cover and escaped. Neither was wounded.

The interior of the bank was wrecked. The exact number of dead, injured and captured in the two days' fighting near Rama either is not determined or the facts are withheld.

Today Bluefields realizes what real war means. The wounded all the hospital and dead lie in many homes. Funerals are being held in great numbers. Insurgent elation over the triumph that has placed Estrada in unquestioned possession of Rama, Zepo and the strategic point of Tatumia hill, as well as the adjacent territory heretofore disputed, is tempered by the sorrow of grief stricken homes.

There is less of noisy rejoicing at the capital of the provisional government, but the grim determination to overthrow the government of Managua has

BROKAW IS HEARD

Defendant in Divorce Suit Goes on the Stand.

Testifies That His Marital Troubles Began Early.

THE LIE WAS PASSED

On Frequent Occasions During Family Quarrels.

Says Plaintiff Was Unreasonably Suspicious of Him.

New York, Dec. 23.—Principals and attorneys in the Brokaw separation suit entered the court room at Mineola today with knowledge that an arduous session was ahead of them. Justice Putnam thinks that the case has dragged altogether too much and announced

his intention of keeping things moving from now on. A Christmas eve session will be held, if necessary to finish the case.

W. Gould Brokaw was early on hand and ready to begin his testimony. He was obviously nervous. His wife, Mary Blair Brokaw, who wants a separation with substantial alimony, again showed evidences of the strain she has been under.

While the case may be concluded by Christmas eve attorneys will be given the case until the following week. Cook was led by his attorney back to the time of his marriage with Mary Blair in 1907, and gave his version of incidents on their honeymoon. From his account, the troubles between the couple began early, and were due to Mrs. Brokaw's action.

While at the Hotel Seville he testified, he went out and bought some flowers for his wife and on his return she accused him of having been in the company of another woman.

"Did your wife call you a liar?" he was asked.

"Yes, and I called her a liar in return," was the reply.

Mrs. Brokaw also accused him of drinking, when he had not been doing so, he said.

Brokaw told of undergoing an operation and of having requested his wife to remain at home to keep him company while he was convalescing. She insisted, however, on going out with the doctor. When she returned there was a quarrel, Mrs. Brokaw's version of the incidents of that quarrel, however, was controverted by her husband.

Brokaw touched lightly on the episode at the dinner table in which "Jimmie" witness declared that he did not get the table because his wife was flirting with Martin, who at the time was only 25 years old and had been married only once.

Another occasion when Mrs. Brokaw had accused him of visiting another woman was referred to by the witness and said that the epithet of "liar" had again passed between them in the resulting quarrel.

"Did you ever threaten to leave your wife if she did not quit flirting with Mr. Gould?" Brokaw was asked.

His answer was an emphatic negative as that to a question as to whether he had his clothes packed ready for removal on this alleged occasion.

TO PUSH THE WAR.

Estrada Is Preparing to March on Nicaraguan Capital.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—General Estrada, it is said today, will immediately assume the offensive against the government of President Madriz. The insurgent leader holds that the Zelayan element was removed from consideration by the sweeping battle of Rama. The march on Managua is believed to be imminent.

The prisoners captured at Rama have been well fed and all who now espouse the cause of Estrada will be armed and enrolled in the ranks of the insurgents.

The details of Estrada's further campaign are not made known, but it is understood his movement on Managua will be by way of Greytown, which he expects to fall with little show of resistance. The various groups of the enemy in the vicinity of San Juan river will be wiped out and the path to the Nicaraguan capital made along Lake Nicaragua.

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RIAL TO BURNS.

Five Story Office Building in K. C. Destroyed by Fire.

Started From Gas Explosion; Loss \$300,000.

NEGRO JANITOR, HERO

Rescues Man From Top Floor After Building Is in Flames.

The Insurance Totals Two-Thirds of the Loss.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 23.—Heroic rescue work on the part of J. Washington Johnson, a negro janitor, saved the lives of a score of persons in the Rialto building, a five-story office structure at Ninth street and Grand avenue, in this city, which was destroyed early today by a fire caused by a gas explosion. The loss is \$300,000.

Johnson was sitting in an office on the second floor when the explosion occurred. In a moment the building began to fill with smoke. Realizing that a number of physicians and medical students were sleeping on the floors above, Johnson dashed up the stairs, shouting, "Everybody out. The building is on fire."

When he believed he had aroused every one in the burning building and had started for the street, he learned that Charles E. Manley, a medical student who slept on the fifth floor, was still missing. Without a moment's hesitation the janitor rushed up the stairs to the top of the building. As he started through the hall on the fifth floor he met Manley, dazed and half choked, groping his way in a direction directly opposite to safety.

Taking the stifled man by the arm, the negro guided him through the smoke to the outside. In the meantime the firemen had arrived and a second explosion occurred just as twenty of the fire fighters had entered the building. Six of the firemen were killed by the force of the explosion, but fortunately none suffered more than minor injuries. After three hours the fire was controlled, having been confined to one building.

The loss falls principally on Albert Morty, owner of the building. The insurance totals two-thirds of the loss.

HAVE FAITH IN COOK.

His Neighbors Believe He Found the Pole, Because He Said So.

New York, Dec. 23.—A committee which was appointed by the Brooklyn neighbors of Dr. Cook some months ago to investigate the alleged discovery of a monument to the explorer has decided to go on with its work in spite of the cables from Copenhagen.

Dr. Cook, according to a member of the committee, "is a noble martyr. The rest of the world may take the word of those indoor polar explorers who are in Copenhagen, but his neighbors in Old Bushwick know that Dr. Cook discovered the pole, because he told us so himself."

William L. Cook said today that he believed that his brother, Dr. Frederick A. Cook, had been the victim of violence abroad.

I had a letter from Dr. Cook early this morning, in which he said he was hurrying to Copenhagen with his proofs of having found the North Pole. He should have reached Copenhagen before this and he had been the conned I fear his enemies have overtaken him."

Report Is on the Way. Washington, Dec. 23.—The report of the University of Copenhagen adverse to the claims of Dr. Frederick A. Cook to the attainment of the North Pole is now on its way to this country for the guidance of the scientific investigators of the case here.

The report was received today from the university by Prof. J. Howard Gore, chairman of the subcommittee appointed by the National Geographic Society to investigate the claims of Dr. Cook. The report is under the auspices of that organization announcing that the university has forwarded its report to the society.

Dr. Cook's investigation of the pole, the original observations of Dr. Cook, the field note book which he kept on his Arctic travels, will, it is believed, be furnished to the subcommittee, but on the submission of the original observations of Dr. Cook, the field note book which he kept on his Arctic travels, will, it is believed, be furnished to the subcommittee, but on the submission of the original observations of Dr. Cook, the field note book which he kept on his Arctic travels, will, it is believed, be furnished to the subcommittee.

BELEGIUM HAILS NEW KING

Albert I. Makes State Entry into the Capital.

Brussels, Dec. 23.—Albert I, king of the Belgians, with his queen, Elizabeth, made a state entry into the capital from Lieke on this morning. The king was greeted with a royal salute, church bells rang out and hundreds of thousands of loyal subjects lined the route of the "regal train," crying: "Long live Albert and Long live Elizabeth."

When the procession arrived at the chamber where the oath of ascension was taken, the successor of Leopold II, was given a notable reception by the assembled senators and deputies. A feeble attempt of the socialists to make a republican demonstration failed miserably. At every discordant note, a fresh outburst of cheering drowned the voices of the malcontents.

King Albert's speech from the throne was an eloquent tribute to Leopold I, and to his uncle, the late King Leopold II. He declared that Belgium's future was in her religion, her work in Africa, with the constant thought of enriching the nation and increasing the economic resources of Belgium.

The new monarch expressed his gratitude for foreign sympathy at the death of Leopold, saying that the special missions dispatched to yesterday's funeral testified to the admiration felt in other countries for the high qualities of the late king.

"Turning to the subject of Belgium's future, King Albert said: "We must continue our unshakeable attachment to constitutional liberty and the love of independence as the only basis of our national life. We are advancing toward the peaceful conquests in the fields of labor and science."

TURKEY FOR JOHN D.

Price Will Not Handicap His Christmas Dinner.

New York, Dec. 23.—John D. Rockefeller will spend a simple Christmas. He will have turkey, but no Christmas tree. The Rockefeller will attend a service at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church in the morning and will dine at her parents' and when she arrives at the evening, Mrs. Harold McCormick of Chicago, and her husband, will be guests of the Rockefeller.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Congressman James A. Tawley of Minnesota states that the Panama canal will be completed and opened by January 1, 1915 at a cost of \$25,000,000.

The committee on appropriations of the house, by a vote of 237 to 100, recently returned from an inspection of the canal. It will appropriate \$25,000,000 for completion of the canal, making the total cost \$75,000,000.

Weather Indications. Chicago, Dec. 23.—Forecast for Kansas: Rain or snow tonight and Friday; warmer tonight.



Morris Cliggitt, Mayor of Pittsburg, Who Died Today.

YOUNG HILL UP A TREE.

He and a Companion—Marooned by a Wounded Buffalo.

St. Paul, Dec. 23.—Walter Hill, youngest son of James J. Hill, and Rudolph J. Schiffmann, both of St. Paul, were marooned in the branches of a tree on the railroad magnate's North Oaks farm, a few miles out of St. Paul, until a late hour yesterday by a wounded buffalo bull.

The pair, with two others, went to the farm to kill the animal. The hunt was a success, the killing of so many being no longer practicable. Hill shot at the first one, but the bullet was counted into the beast had no effect and he escaped the bull's horns and found refuge in a tree all ready occupied by Schiffmann. The pair were rescued by neighboring farmers on snow shoes. They then continued the hunt and killed three more animals.

OUT AFTER LEOPARD.

Colonel Roosevelt and Kermit Make a Side Trip.

Kamapia, Uganda, Dec. 23.—The Roosevelt expedition got under way for Home this afternoon. Before leaving the members of the party had luncheon at the home of Mr. Knowles, Colonel Roosevelt and Kermit are making a side trip to hunt leopards and will rejoin the expedition tomorrow.

The Indian merchants here have presented Mr. Roosevelt with a number of pieces of ivory and Congo curios.

FORTY PERSONS HURT.

Passenger Train on the St. Paul Plunges into the Ditch.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 23.—St. Paul passenger train No. 43, running north at 35 miles an hour, spread the rails one-half mile east of Good Thunder, Minn., near Mankato, and plunged into the ditch last night. Forty passengers were hurt, some fatally. It is believed a side trip to hunt leopards and will rejoin the expedition tomorrow.

The mail car rolled down a 30-foot embankment and caught fire. The injured were taken to Mankato.