

Glance about you in the street almost any time and almost anywhere and you will see someone hurrying along to answer a want advertisement.

10 PAGES—LAST EDITION.

# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1905. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

## COUNTY POORHOUSE GOES UP IN SMOKE

Main Building, Woman's and Hospital Wards, Are Completely Destroyed.

## BAD WIRING IS THE CAUSE

The Loss, Which is Covered by Insurance, Will Closely Approximate Eighteen Thousand Dollars.

## SAVING OF HELPLESS WOMEN,

Thirty Aged Inmates Carried Out of The Female Ward as the Flames Eat Their Way Into the Structure.

The county infirmary was practically destroyed by fire today, and only by the cool and heroic work of the seven employees of the institution were the aged and helpless women saved. But for their splendid efforts the death list must necessarily have been heavy. As it was they carried 39 bedridden women from the building as the flames eat into and destroyed it. Altogether the scene was a most exciting one though coolness characterized every act of the rescuers.

At 1 p.m. the large building embracing the superintendent's quarters, the women's wards, hospital, office, living apartments and storerooms was completely gutted, and the fire department was fighting the fire and keeping the embers from igniting the men's quarters.

At a rough estimate the damage done will amount to close upon \$18,000, the building being valued at \$16,000, and the contents \$8,000.

## HOW IT STARTED.

Just how the fire started will probably never be definitely determined. Those who saw it when it commenced to lick its way across the roof are inclined to believe that it originated from either a defective flue or badly insulated light wires, probably the latter.

## THE BLAZE DISCOVERED.

The blaze was discovered by Mrs. Mary Stewart, the cook at the institution. When she first saw it at 11:15 a.m. flames were issuing from the roof near the kitchen in the women's department. It had made some headway then, but owing to the fact that for some time previous the attention of all had been concentrated on the removal of the body of John Dougherty, one of the inmates who died this morning, it was not until the lady cried "fire" did anybody realize that a tragedy was upon them.

No time was lost in telephoning in the alarm. Either through the excitement of someone at one of the ends of the wire or through a misunderstanding the alarm was sent into the fire department as coming from Fourth South and State street. Later it was changed to Fourteenth South, but not until the department had made the run to the place first indicated.

## SAW IT WAS DOOMED.

Hose wagon No. 1 and steamer Roosevelt then started out on the long run. By the time the scene of the fire was reached it took no expert to see that the building was doomed and nothing could save it. To add to the troubles of the department there was very little water available and the steamer had a very trying time of it trying to pump mud and water out of a neighboring ditch.

## THE WORK OF RESCUE.

In the meantime the employees left by Mrs. W. H. Jones and Mrs. Stewart were working swiftly and untiringly getting the patients out. Later neighbors and volunteers swarmed to the place and carried out the furniture. ALL CARRIED OUT.

In all about 30 old women, nearly one and all bedridden, were carried from the burning building. Alone and unaided Mrs. Stewart carried no less than six downstairs and out into the open air, where they were laid in the shade to await the time when all were saved.

## TO ORPHAN'S HOME.

As soon as the last one had been brought out the old people were moved to temporary quarters in the Orphans' Home and Day Nursery on the same block north of the infirmary. In all there are 82 inmates of the institution who had to be looked after.

## VOLUNTEERS WORKED HARD.

Then the volunteers turned their attention to moving the furniture. Bedding and other articles began to shoot out of the windows in a stream, owing to the employees keeping their heads and working systematically considerate was salvaged. Most of the good furniture including a piano, was rescued from destruction. In this connection A. F. Kendall, the steward, worked like a Trojan and stayed with his work until cracking rafters warned him to desist.

By the time the fire department arrived there was very little to do except to confine the fire to the main building and keep the crowds back out of the danger zone.

## COMMISSIONERS THERE.

County Commissioners Mackay and Wilson arrived shortly after and directed the disposition of the inmates and the staff salvaged.

W. R. Jones, Jr., the superintendent,

left for Weber canyon on Saturday on a four days' leave of absence granted by the commissioners. All efforts to locate him this afternoon were unavailing.

It is cause for congratulation that none was hurt during the exciting half hour preceding the arrival of the fire department. While the fire comes as a calamity eyewitnesses aver that it might have been decidedly worse but for the coolness of the rescuers and the methodical manner in which all went to work to save the inmates and some of the furniture and effects.

## NOTES OF THE FIRE.

The aged women who were burned out of house and home are being looked after by Mrs. C. J. Ballou, matron of the Orphans' home. Shortly after the fire an up town bakery was ordered to send out 75 loaves of bread, with which to feed them.

Miss Ada Bird, assistant matron at the Orphans' home, was in an infirmary clothes closet engaged in rescue work when the ceiling fell. Fortunately, however, the young woman was not injured.

Commissioners Mackay, Wilson and Miller went down on the first car and rendered valuable assistance. They say the infirmary is insured for a good sum, but were not in a position to give details.

Mrs. Nancy A. Bryant, aged 88, lost her false teeth in the fire. "I've chewed on 'em for 20 years," said she to the firemen, "and I don't care what you say, but you save my teeth." The set will have to be replaced by the county commissioners.

Mrs. Metford, aged 76, was frantic over the loss of a shawl, a family heirloom.

Just after the fire and the invasion of the Orphans' home by the aged inmates, one orphan remarked to another, "Say Mickey, gosh, what would we have a lot of dishes to wash tonight?"

The commissioners say that the building will be reconstructed as soon as possible. Whether on the old site or not remains to be determined.

At 2 p.m. the fire was pretty well under control as it had practically burnt itself out.

Credit is due Miss C. Smith, a nurse, for heroic work in removing the old from the burning building.

The steamer "Roosevelt" has a axle deep in mud during the fire. Only one hose could be used, owing to the lack of water pressure.

Chief Bywater's right arm and shoulder were slightly hurt by the kitchen ceiling falling upon him.

## JUDITH ANDERSON HOME.

Fair Young Singer Comes Back to Her Native State and People.

Judith Anderson, the young Salt Lake singer, who has been abroad for a little more than two years, has returned to her home and people. She came in over the Rio Grande yesterday with her mother, who has been her constant companion during her long absence and today has been the recipient of many cordial handshakes and congratulations from the friends of her girlhood.

Mrs. Anderson has little changed except that she has grown considerably taller. Of her voice nothing can be said at this time beyond the fact that her teacher and concert critics speak highest terms of it. She is now a full-fledged contralto of wonderful power, range and quality, covering from E below to B flat above, two octaves and four notes, and has a voice of a very rare and remarkable and Salt Lake will await with pleasureable anticipation an opportunity to hear it. In privilege they will await with pleasure to welcome her mother and the members of her girlhood.

When seen by the "News" today Newton felt keenly the loss of his father, and seemed to think that gross carelessness in making the flying switch was responsible for it. He stated that no warning was given him or his father of the impending danger, as six boxcars were standing next to the flat car on which he was working, and a string of three rock cars and a tank car were behind them. The tank car was shunted into those that did the damage. The shock of impact was terrific, and drove Mr. Reynolds head foremost against a heavy timber at the end of the car on which he was working. He then, with his skull crushed, and unconscious, turned half around and fell down between the rock car and the tank car, hitting the floor of the rail road, and in his struggles rolled over them, the four wheels of the first car, and the front two of the second car passing over him.

When the car stopped he was pinned beneath the rear wheels. The right leg and the right arm were crushed, and nearly severed from the body in addition to the wound on his head, which it itself would probably have been fatal.

## SKULL CRUSHED IN DEPOT YARDS.

Nelson Reynolds, a Teamster, Meets Death Through Alleged Careless Switching.

## CASE IS BEING INVESTIGATED

Was Working on Car When Others Ran Into It With Terrific Force — Son Witnessed It.

It is possible that criminal prosecution may follow the death of Nelson Reynolds, a teamster, who was killed in the Rio Grande switching yards yesterday noon. Acting Coroner Dana T. Smith and Ass't. Prosecuting Attorney Willard Hanson were at work on the case all this morning collecting evidence, and this afternoon have summoned a jury and many witnesses to hold a complete investigation. It is alleged that a criminally careless flying switch caused the accident, and if this view is borne out by an examination of all the facts, Mr. Hanson states that criminal proceedings may follow.

## HOW IT HAPPENED.

The death of Mr. Reynolds happened in a most tragic manner, in which it seems that the responsibility lies with the man in charge of switching on the train crew in charge of switching at the yards. Immediately after the accident the officers took charge and prohibited the train crew from changing the position of any of the cars or removing the body of the dead man until it could be examined. The car on which he was working, when the string of boxcars behind it was driven to a fast to get around a curve, went off the rails ahead of him, an became interests and stopped to ask them questions.

In answer they begged him to take them on to the next station, from which they would continue to walk, but the firemen thought it a quicker way to get them to their destination to bring them back to Salt Lake, and he accordingly took them into his cab. At the depot he called the attention of Patrolman Mervis to the youngsters—two girls and two boys, and they were removed to the station.

On going to his home Cowan told the story to his wife, and she took a ruddier interest, which resulted in a quick trip to the police headquarters and a request for the children. It was granted and she took them home. After giving them a good supper and a bath she put them to bed, where they slept till late this morning after their meal.

THE CHILDREN'S STORY.

The story of the children is a strange one. They are Ada aged 17, Marsh, aged 15, and Henry and Frank aged 10 and 8, all children of Mrs. Robert Lloyd. Their father, Robert Lloyd, was killed five years ago in the coal-field mine disaster, and after that the widow and his babies went to Grand Junction. There she supported them by taking in washing until the girls were big enough to secure places in a restaurant. After that all of them helped make both ends meet, but it was a difficult task.

Two weeks ago the mother left Grand Junction for Los Angeles, where she has been working since, and has given up her children to the care of Mrs. Anna Nannie Tait. In addition to pursuing her musical studies Miss Anderson devoted considerable time to English acquirements and speaks and reads English fluently. The latest indications she looks like a native and with it did much missionary work while away. For months she was organist for the Methodist church in Los Angeles. Last year was a teacher in a vocational school. This year she will again be a teacher in the Sunday school. It was with great reluctance that the Elders said good-bye to herself and the children started west.

## WAITING FOR MOTHER.

When they reached Salt Lake they were welcomed by their mother that their uncle was dead, back in Grand Junction, and that she was hurrying back to her home. She asked the children to wait here for her, and she would take them back with her. They had no funds except a few pennies which were exhausted, so then they took to Pioneer square as a place of residence. After two days here without receiving word from their mother, the children started out to walk back home, and had done a pretty heavy day's march along the ties when discovered by Fireman Cowan.

They will be well cared for and either will be sent back to Grand Junction or in the event of the mother being heard from, will be placed under her charge.

## SAILING DAY CHANGED.

The police were notified at once and Officers Palmer and Furster hurried to the scene with the wagon. They kept the crowd away until the arrival of Acting Coroner Dana T. Smith and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Willard Hanson. After viewing the remains and taking the names of the train crew the officers had the body removed to the undertaking parlors of Jos. E. Taylor, where it now lies.

The train crew of whom have been summoned as witnesses, consists of H. Anderson, engineer; Fireman Mike Dally, and Switchman Mountford. They were all relieved immediately after the accident, and a fresh crew took over the engine. Three other persons who happened to be near the place and saw the accident, were also summoned, with the train crew, as witnesses.

## MAN OF GOOD HABITS.

Nelson Reynolds was a man of sober habits and great industry. He was married and leaves a wife and two children, fairly well provided for, as he had a \$2,000 policy in the Woodmen of the World, order No. 10,000, the home of his family being at 331 E street. He was a brother-in-law of W. W. Willes of the Willes-Horne Drug company, he having married his present wife about a year ago. The children, Newton, aged 15, and Phyllis, aged 8, are from a former marriage.

## FUNERAL TOMORROW.

The funeral services will be held yesterday at 12:30 o'clock at the undertakers' parlors of Jos. E. Taylor. The arrangements will be in charge of the family assisted by the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of the World. J. H. Rothwell, consul of this order, has issued a notice to all Woodmen, requesting them to be present.

## FOR STATE UNION.

Eutchers and Grocers Will Hold Convention Here Tomorrow.

A meeting for the purpose of organizing a state butchers and grocers' association will be held in this city tomorrow, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Jennings block. Delegates from Lehi, American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Logan, Ogden and other places are expected to be present, and addresses of welcome will be delivered by Gov. Cutler and Acting Mayor Frank J. Howlett. After the afternoon session, which it is expected will continue till 6 o'clock, the delegates will be entertained at supper and will later attend the regular meeting of the Salt Lake association in the same building.

## WHERE IS J. PARKER?

William and Elizabeth Dix of Bristol, Eng., write Postmaster Thomas, whom they say, they address as "The Postmaster General of Utah," asking for more or less impossible information as to the possible location of J. Parker, supposed to dwell somewhere in this state. There are certain money matters which can hardly be cleared up until he is found.

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