

Eureka or Crown Mills warehouse, which had only the same protection from No. 5. Streams were withdrawn from the central portion of the doomed structures and set at work on the ends with some effect and by continuous fighting against the iron sides and roofs of the burning buildings which helped to shut them off the firemen were successful.

The warehouses were well filled with grain, for both the union and its clients have been among those who were waiting for the price of wheat to advance. The lowest estimate on the amount of wheat destroyed is 10,000 tons and many put it higher. This was beside considerable barley and rye.

Much of the grain was the property of the union but by far the larger part was held on storage by farmers. The loss is placed at more than \$500,000, though the territory covered by the fire was not large. The loss on the warehouses will be heavy though both of the buildings and grain were insured for a reasonably large share of their value.

The fire started in the machinery of a grader and cleaner. The warehouses are built partly on a pile foundation along the bank of the channel. While the firemen were fighting the flames two other alarms were turned in from other portions of the city but fortunately they amounted to nothing. The steamer Ellen with the barge Cricket was lying alongside No. 6 taking on a cargo, but was towed out of danger by rowboats.

The fire continues to burn in the great piles of wheat, which are in places as high as the warehouses themselves, and they will continue to smoulder for days.

There has been some slight damage in parts of the other two warehouses by smoke.

Lewistown, Ills., Jan. 4.—George Callender and Ellwood Moore, farmers, living three miles northeast of here, became engaged in a quarrel and Callender struck Moore over the head with a large club, cutting his head to the bone. Callender then sent his wife into the house, got his rifle and shot Moore under the right shoulder. Moore died in a few hours. Callender came in and gave himself up to the sheriff.

Jacksonville, Ills., Jan. 4.—The trial of Charles L. Draper for the murder of Charles L. Hastings has been begun in the circuit court in this city. It is thought the jury will be completed tomorrow.

The tragedy occurred on the night of March 31 last. Both men were in the employ of Judge E. P. Kirby, abstract maker, and both were middle-aged. They had quarreled, which caused Draper to resign his position about a year before the murder and set up an abstract office of his own.

Before long it became evident that someone was tampering with the books of Judge Kirby and stealing copies of his records, which he had made at great expense, and he employed a detective to sleep in the office to capture the thief, but although the utmost secrecy was maintained during the 35 nights of watching the thief failed to appear, and the sentinel was withdrawn.

A few nights afterwards, when the street lights were out and the night was particularly wild and stormy, a fearful shriek was heard in the vicinity of the office a little after 9 o'clock and then all was still. The next morning when the janitor came to build the fire he was horrified at finding the body of Hastings lying on the floor, with his body stabbed 170 times.

Draper was arrested on suspicion, but stoutly denied any complicity in the murder, but later he made a confession, alleging self-defense.

The trial was continued from May term of court to the November term and delays have extended it until today. The following formidable array of attorneys appeared: Col. "Pat" Dyer of St. Louis; Gen. John M. Palmer of Springfield; Judge Richard Yates, Judge Cyrus Epler and George W. Smith of this city, with ex-Gov. Johnson, the noted criminal defender of St. Louis to appear tomorrow.

The prosecution consists of state's attorney, J. M. Miller, Judge Charles A. Barnes, J. P. Lippincott, W. P. Callon and John J. Reeve of this city.

Public interest in the matter is intense, as no trial of equal magnitude has been held in this city for many years.

New York, Jan. 4.—In response to a request from the monetary commission for an expression of his views on various financial questions, Thomas G. Shearman of this city has submitted to the commission a paper on the establishment of branch banks on a large scale.

"I regard this plan as far more important as well as more practicable," says Mr. Shearman, "than any other remedy which has been proposed for the settlement of the currency question."

Mr. Shearman insists that nature has driven conditions forward to a point at which the whole country is virtually on a banking basis instead of a money basis, for exchange.

"Those sections of the country which have the fewest good banks are just as much upon a banking basis as the rest of the country," he said. "The tremendous increase of exchange which has gone on with advancing civilization, has reached proportions which make it hopeless to expect that such exchanges can even be carried on by the use of actual money, however that term may be defined. And whether money consists only of gold and silver or includes also bank and government notes representing gold and silver makes practically no difference. There is not, therefore, and there never will be enough money even with these liberal conditions to enable business to be conducted by the actual use of any such money. The disproportion will increase instead of diminish."

"Large control banks ought to be allowed to establish branches in every part of the country," continues Mr. Shearman. "These branches could be conducted with great economy and therefore could furnish the means of exchange at but a slight advance over the cost of exchange in the cities. They would have practically just as good information as the city banks have because every morning they would be advised by telegraph of every change in affairs which the central bank considered important in the management of its own transactions. The amount of actual money used in each of these branch banks would be extremely small; and yet the amount of actual money available in each, in case of some local pressure, would be fifty times as great since all the resources of the central bank would be behind it."

"The effectiveness of the branch system involving the currency problem is sufficiently provided by the example in Canada where this system is in full operation, and the currency question is never raised."

"As a consequence of permission to establish branches, the present bank and every branch thereof should be required to accept the certified checks of any banks on deposit as equivalent to cash which, however, they would undoubtedly do without compulsion. If the central bank issued bank notes, all the branches should be required to redeem these notes up to such a moderate amount as might be reasonable. As a further condition every bank es-

tablishing branches should be required to accept on deposit and collect without charge checks upon any other national bank, though not, of course, to credit the amount of such checks as cash until collected."

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 4.—A distressing accident occurred on South Broadway last evening, resulting in the instant death of J. E. Sandusky, a pioneer of Kentucky and once a companion of Daniel Boone. His son-in-law, John H. Blackford, of Keene, who was with him, was fatally hurt.

The buggy in which they were riding was struck at the street crossing by the northbound Queen Crescent Florida express. Both men were thrown fifty feet.

Blackford is a well known trotting horse breeder, who bred Hinda Wilkes and other good ones.

London, Ont., Jan. 4.—The Union Jack today floats at half mast over the city hall, but it is not needed to remind the citizens of the horror of last night. The city hall presents the appearance of a wreck and the streets in front of it are crowded with the curious and sorrowing citizens.

The list of dead numbers 25, but it is much to be feared that it is not yet complete.

Some of the injured are expected not to recover, and some will be confined for weeks and months. Some of the list of dead can never be made complete, and some of the minor sufferers are unknown, as many are able to be about though suffering bruises, aches and pains as a result of their terrible fall.

City Engineer Graydon states that the cause of the accident was the breaking of a heavy beam which ran beneath the floor almost at the center of the space which gave way. The beam broke in the center, throwing all the people standing within a large space, into one mass. The engineer did not consider the hall dangerous and says that the tremendous weight simply caused the beam to snap.

The inquest was begun today, but no evidence will be taken until after the funerals of the victims.

The dead are: Benj. Knash, carriage maker; John Turner, carriage maker; John Burridge, shoemaker; Frank Robinson, plasterer; Crawford Beckell, contractor; Edward Luxton, farmer; W. H. Bell, baker; E. D. Leigh, plumber; Abraham Phillips, flour dealer; Benjamin Jacques, painter; Stephen Williams, laborer; W. C. Smith, gardener; L. W. Burke; J. W. Fellows; James Harris, molder; Wilson Carruthers, farmer; W. J. Borland, wood worker; Noble Carruthers; Fred Heaman, son of W. Heaman; W. E. Talbot, young son of W. Talbot; Oswald Bruce, son of W. Bruce, shoemaker; Allen Towe, son of E. Towe; John Burgess, laborer; Herman Hilbert, peddler; James McLean, young son of James McLean. Total, 25.

San Jose, Cal., Jan. 4.—Rebecca Smith, the five-year-old daughter of George F. Smith, was fatally shot by her ten-year-old brother. The children were playing in the garret of their home and the boy found an old revolver. He pointed it at his little sister and pulled the trigger. A bullet penetrated the child's eye and she died in five minutes.

Two boys who happened to be on the hilltop at Seventeenth street, Clarendon Heights, San Francisco, found the dead body of John Donovan in a ditch. Deceased was about 65 years of age, had been an inmate of the county almshouse, and was discharged Saturday at his own request. He had been eating candy when death overtook him, and it is doubtful whether he fell from the top of the hill to the ditch below or died suddenly while resting.