

FIRE IN C. & O. OFFICES

The Top Story of the Pace Building is Badly Damaged.

FIGHT FLAMES IN THE COLD.

Firemen, Though Almost Frozen, Do Heroic and Effective Work.

INCONVENIENCE MORE THAN LOSS.

Papers of the Railroad Company That Are Burned Out of Great Value—No Interruption to the Business—Temporary Offices to Be Used.

The general offices of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, in the big Fifth and Main streets, were greatly damaged by fire early yesterday morning.

The damage was confined chiefly to the fourth story, in the office of the car-service agent, but the water injured to a greater or less extent the records in the departments on the second and third floors.

The stock of Mr. Muscoe H. Garnett, hatter and dealer in gent's furnishings, on the first floor, was also damaged to a considerable extent.

The offices of the Chesapeake and Ohio, which were affected by the fire, have been removed to the Mayo building, No. 76 east Main street, and while everything will not be working with entire smoothness for several days or weeks, owing to the destruction of records, yet the business of the great railway system has not been suspended for an hour, and will not be.

It is believed the fire originated from a defective flue. It was confined wholly to the fourth floor, on which was located the office of the car-service agent. All other damage was the result of the water which the building was flooded.

FIRST SAW THE FLAMES. A few minutes after 6 o'clock Mr. W. M. Mountcastle, the night superintendent of Mountcastle's livery stables, Nos. 7 and 8 north Eighth street, chancing to glance out of the south window of his office, saw a tongue of flame issuing from the roof of the Pace building.

He sent an employee to notify the firemen at the Cary-street engine-house. Another ran to turn in an alarm at Ninth and Main. On the way he saw a second fire at the Pace building, close to the roof. He sent an employee to notify the firemen at the Cary-street engine-house.

POUGHT AGAINST HEAVY ODDS. The response which the department made to the call could not have been more prompt. The work done was as effective as could be, owing to the difficulties which confronted the firemen. The thermometer was covered with ice. The wind was coming from the east, and as the firemen could work only from the Main-street side, the breeze blew back upon them a heavy rain of water.

ELECTRIC CURRENT CUT OFF. The men worked with the utmost energy and fearlessness. It looked at any times though a poor chance, but the firemen were not deterred by the cold, and it was not long before several of them had to be taken to the hospital.

THE MAIN STREET AND FOREST HILLS. The main street and Forest Hills lines had only started their cars when they had to stop, the current being cut off by the fire. The firemen were not deterred by the cold, and it was not long before several of them had to be taken to the hospital.

WHERE THERE STARTED. The scenes inside the building during the progress of the fire were decidedly fearful, but hardly terrifying. Harry Starwood, the chief janitor, discovered the flames shortly after 6 o'clock, a few minutes after the alarm had been turned in by Mr. Mountcastle.

HE SAVED THE ENGINE. The coolness of Mr. David Gartright, a substitute on Company No. 4, averted a bad accident at Seventh and Main streets, when the firemen were making their way to the engine.

THE OFFICERS AT WORK. Mr. C. C. Walker, superintendent of

MRS. YAGER IN CANADA

The Missing Rockingham Woman Said to Be There.

REPORT BELIEVED TO BE TRUE

Comes Through Direct Source and Thought to Be Authentic.

HER STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE.

Came Here for Medical Treatment.

But Left Next Morning Without Further Word from Her.

It was stated last night in the most authoritative way that Mrs. T. P. Yager, who came to this city from Rockingham county nearly a month ago and then disappeared, had been located in Canada.

The statement was made by a gentleman from a county adjoining Rockingham upon what he believes to be accurate information. He stated that though the fact had not been publicly announced, it was definitely known that the missing woman was in a Canadian city.

The disappearance of Mrs. Yager has attracted much attention. She left home early in December to come to this city for medical treatment. She telegraphed her husband upon her arrival here that she was getting along quite well, and wrote him the next day a very cheerful letter.

Learning that a woman had been seen at Reservoir lake acting rather strangely, the husband and father returned to Richmond, and the water was turned out of the lake, but the body was not found. Then Mr. Yager determined to have the right of the lake searched.

GRIDIRONERS AT SUMMERVILLE. They Visit a Heat Test, Not Cold Test. CHARLESTON, S. C., January 2.—The members of the Gridiron Club and their wives, Senators Depew and Tillman, Representative Champ Clark and Dr. Edward Bellows, of Philadelphia, were taken to Summerville, the famous winter resort near this city, to-day.

THE SHORT-TERM CONTEST SCHEDULED FOR TO-DAY. JACKSON, MISS., January 2.—The Mississippi Legislature met to-day. Informal caucuses were held by the members during the day, on the short-term senatorship contest between Hon. W. V. Sullivan and ex-Governor Lowry.

THE NASHVILLE REACHES MANILA. WASHINGTON, January 2.—The Nashville arrived at Manila Saturday, making the fourth of the five vessels recently ordered to Manila at the suggestion of Admiral Dewey.

THE SCHOONER ROSE ASHORE. NEW YORK, January 2.—The three-masted schooner Eva D. Rose, from Norfolk for Cape May, was driven ashore near Cape May, N. J. Life-savers have gone to her assistance.

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BOERS AGAIN BEATEN.

British Score a Success at the Orange River.

ANOTHER FLANK MOVEMENT.

It Turns Out as Well as Did French's at Colesberg.

CONFERENCE WITH BRYAN.

Meeting of Democrats and Fusionists at Lincoln.

LINCOLN, NEB., January 2.—The return of William J. Bryan to-morrow will be followed by a conference of Nebraska Fusion leaders, as well as some Democrats of prominence from other States.

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BLACKBURN NAMED.

Duly Nominated by Democratic Caucus for Senator.

A BRILLIANT ASSEMBLAGE.

Galaxy of Kentucky Beauties and Through of Blackburn Admirers.

BLUE GRASS LEGISLATURE MEETS.

It Organizes by Election of Democratic Nominees—Goebel President.

PRO TEM. OF THE SENATE—GOEBEL'S MESSAGE ANTI-CIGARETTE.

FRANKFORT, KY., January 2.—After four years' retirement, former Senator Joseph Clay Styles Blackburn was chosen to-night by the joint caucus of the Democratic members of the Legislature, as the successor of William Lindsay in the United States Senate.

Notwithstanding the fact that Blackburn's nomination was a foregone conclusion, and his election morally certain, the proceedings to-night were acted in the presence of a galaxy of Kentucky beauties and a dense throng of Blackburn admirers.

TWO DEMOCRATIC DISSENTERS. Senators Alexander and Hayes (Democrats) and McConnell (Populist), stayed out of the caucus. Senator Blackburn was placed in nomination by Senator Goebel, who said that the longest and bitterest fight ever fought for senator in this State, which began four years ago (when the late Senator Blackburn) was about to reach its termination. The State Capitol rang with cheers as he placed Blackburn in nomination.

LEGISLATURE ORGANIZED. FRANKFORT, KY., January 2.—Both houses of the Legislature organized to-day by electing the nominees of last night's Democratic caucus. In the House, South Trimble, for Speaker, received the full fifty-eight Democratic votes and J. P. Hixwell all of the forty-two Republican votes. For president pro tem. of the Senate, Goebel was elected.

WHALLEN GIVES BOND. FRANKFORT, KY., January 2.—John H. Whallen, who is accused by Senator S. B. Harrell of having attempted to bribe him by offering the right to vote in the election of the State Auditor, was arraigned to-day in the Circuit Court, and gave bond in the sum of \$10,000. He was accompanied to the Sheriff's office by General P. W. Harrell and other prominent leaders. His examining trial is set for 2 o'clock to-morrow, when he will enter a plea against the jurisdiction of the local courts, claiming that the offence, if there is one, was committed in Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, KY., January 2.—Count Attorney Polsgrove and Sheriff Suit came here from Frankfort to-day, via Suburban for President Loring, and Vauit-Clerk Speed, of the Louisville Trust Company, to appear before Judge Cantel of the Franklin County Circuit Court with the box in which Senator S. B. Harrell and John H. Whallen, according to the former's story, placed \$4,000, the price which Harrell says was agreed upon for the election of the State Auditor.

GOEBEL NOTICE OF CONTEST. Nine Different Grounds for Succession Action Set Out. FRANKFORT, KY., January 2.—The notice of contest by Senator Goebel against J. C. W. Beckham against Governor Taylor and Lieutenant-Governor Marshall of the Franklin County Circuit Court, was served late to-day. Nine different grounds of contest are embraced in the notice, the substance of which is as follows: 1. Alleged use of tissue ballots in for counties. 2. Military interference with the election.

THE WEATHER. WASHINGTON, January 2.—Forecast for Wednesday: Partly cloudy; light westerly winds. Thursday: Partly cloudy; light westerly winds. Friday: Partly cloudy; light westerly winds. Saturday: Partly cloudy; light westerly winds. Sunday: Partly cloudy; light westerly winds.

THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND. YESTERDAY was clear and cold, though milder in the afternoon and at night than several days. State of thermometer: 6 A. M. 33; 9 A. M. 35; 12 M. 38; 3 P. M. 40; 6 P. M. 38; 12 night 35. Mean temperature 36.