

Increasing cloudiness and warmer to-day; showers.

142 DIE WHEN SHIRTWAIST FACTORY BURNS

SEÑOR DE LA BARRA ENTERS CABINET; LEAVES TO-NIGHT

Ambassador to U. S. Called to Aid Government.

VISITS WHITE HOUSE

Notifies President Taft and Secretary Knox.

Succeeds Enrique Creel, Whose Retirement from Public Life Now Seems Assured—Position Similar to That of Secretary of State in This Country—Personal Friend of Limantour—Popular in Washington.

Francisco L. de la Barra, Mexican Ambassador to the United States, has been appointed foreign minister in the new Diaz cabinet. Señor de la Barra will succeed Enrique C. Creel, whose retirement from public life in Mexico now seems assured.

CALLS ON TAFT.

The Mexican Ambassador received word last evening of his appointment to this important post in the new cabinet, and he immediately called upon President Taft and Secretary Knox and informed them of his intention to leave Washington. Both the President and Secretary Knox expressed their regret at his departure, but extended their best wishes for the important work he is about to undertake.

Señor de la Barra probably will leave Washington to-night for Mexico City. His hurried departure is evidence of the determination of President Diaz to bring his new cabinet into power with the least possible delay.

Señor de la Barra has been identified with the Diaz administration for many years, but has not been included among the oligarchy of wealthy men whose continuance in power has fanned the revolutionary spirit of Mexico. He has been particularly active in the United States in combating the Mexican revolutionary propaganda, and it is doubtful whether his appointment will be accepted by the revolutionists with any great satisfaction.

Señor de la Barra has the reputation among Washington diplomats of being an exceedingly able man. He was Minister to Belgium before he came to the United States. He has been in the Washington post only two or three years, having succeeded Enrique C. Creel as Ambassador.

Came as a Surprise. Señor de la Barra said last night he had had no intimation of his appointment until he had received President Diaz's message offering him the portfolio. In the opinion of diplomatic officials here, Señor de la Barra's appointment

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FOIL PLOT TO FREE 5,000 PRISONERS

Mexico City, March 25.—What might have caused a frightful scene of terror here was averted by the government's discovery last night of a plot to liberate the 5,000 desperate prisoners confined in Belen Prison.

The matter was discovered last evening and fifty men concerned in the scheme were arrested and placed in jail. The government assigns the plot to the Maderistas, who are said to have promised the prisoners to enroll them in the insurrecto forces.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN REPLIES TO TAFT

President Taft yesterday received a reply from the Emperor of Japan to his message of sympathy sent several days ago through Baron Yasuura Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador here. Baron Uchida called at the White House to present personally the Emperor's reply. The President's message assured the Emperor that he put no credence in the reports that sought to misrepresent Japan's relations with Mexico.

Here is the Emperor's reply: "To the President of the United States of America: "I was greatly pleased to receive your very kind message conveyed to me through my Ambassador in Washington, and I thank you for it. I was already well convinced that you had given no credence to the false and wicked reports regarding Japan, but it was especially a source of profound satisfaction to me to receive from you the assurance that the relations of amity and good understanding between our two countries were never better or more cordial than at this time. I am most happy to be able entirely to reciprocate that assurance."

RECALLED TO ENTER CABINET.



SEÑOR FRANCISCO L. DE LA BARRA. Ambassador from Mexico who will become minister of foreign affairs.

YOUTH DROWNS AS CANOE UPSETS IN RAPID STREAM

Duncan McRae, jr., Loses Life in Upper Potomac.

COMPANIONS IN PERIL

Three Fraternity Mates Struggle to Rescue Victim.

Caught in Dangerous Current Near Sycamore Island, Son of Wealthy Broker Disappears in River While Friends Make Frantic Effort to Save Him—Searching Parties Recover Body at Early Hour.

Duncan McRae, jr., twenty-one years old, living in the Theta Delta Chi fraternity house at Eighteenth and K streets northwest, was drowned yesterday afternoon in the Upper Potomac River, near Sycamore Island, when a canoe which he was paddling overturned.

He was a son of Duncan McRae, a prominent broker of Macon, Ga., and a nephew of Maj. James H. McRae, U. S. A., of the Northumberland apartment house, who is detailed at the War College in this city. At 2:45 o'clock this morning the body was recovered.

STORY OF HEROISM.

With the drowning of McRae comes a story of heroism which reflects credit on his three companions, Robert L. Jones, Harold Keats, of 1806 S street northwest, and Renner Welker Argo, of Hyattsville, Md., the latter two members of the dead boy's fraternity, played a part in the tragedy by attempting to rescue their companion.

The four lads were seated in the fraternity house yesterday afternoon, when it was suggested that they take a trip up the river. A fraternity mate of McRae was found who was a member of the Washington Canoe Club, in Georgetown, and from him they procured a written order to the commodore of the club to use his boat.

The four boys left the fraternity house about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and took a car to the club. Upon their arrival there it was explained to them that no canoes were allowed to leave the boat-house unless the owner of the craft was present to launch it and see the party off. Undaunted by this, it was decided by the quartet to take an Old Dominion car and ride to a station near Sycamore Island, where Jones had a canoe stored for the winter. Upon alighting from the car the four boys walked to the shore line and followed a path up the river to the summer camp.

Known to Be Dangerous.

Keats suggested that one of the canoes be launched and that he be allowed to paddle for a few minutes. The canoe was taken from its winter home and placed in the water. Keats climbed in

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NEGRO IS LYNCHED.

Slayer of Contractor Soon Captured by posse. Bluefield, W. Va., March 25.—Two hours after he shot and instantly killed Morover Lambert, contractor for the Walton Construction Company at Cedar Bluffs, Va., this afternoon, John H. Morgan, a negro, was swinging from the limb of an oak in the sunshine with his body riddled with bullets, lynched by a posse which had run him down.

CHINA GETS CZAR'S FINAL ULTIMATUM

Reply to Protest Demanded by March 23.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—China received Russia's final ultimatum to-day. In a telegram sent by N. Neratoff, the acting minister of foreign affairs, to M. Korostovetz, the Russian minister at Peking, the Russian government demands that a reply to Russia's note of February 15 be submitted not later than March 23. If this is not done, China will be held responsible for the consequences. To-day's ultimatum contends that "China has attempted to evade positive reply to Russia's note protesting against the conditions imposed upon Russian traders in Mongolia and Western China in violation of the commerce treaty and to the five lesser points of the note. Following is the concluding paragraph of the telegram: "If an exhaustive and satisfactory reply to all six points of the note of February 15 is not received by March 23, Russia reserves the freedom of action and will make the Chinese government responsible for the obstinacy displayed by it."

ARMENIAN LOSES \$175 TO SWINDLERS

Martin Nakashian Asks Police to Find Strangers.

Martin Nakashian, an Armenian merchant of 1422 P street northwest, yesterday asked for the arrest of two men who, he claimed, swindled him out of \$175 by a variation of the old switched envelope game.

Nakashian described one of the men as being stout, light complexioned, and well dressed. The other was of slender build, shabby in appearance, and claimed to be a Swiss. Both spoke French fluently.

Nakashian told the police that about two weeks ago he was approached by the stout man, who said he had heard Nakashian talking French, his native language. A friendship sprang up between the two, and on Thursday night the stranger asked Nakashian if he intended going to market. Upon being told that he did, he signified his intention of accompanying him.

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NOTABLE FIRE DISASTERS AND THEIR TOLL IN LIVES

Table with columns: DATE, BUILDING, LIVES LOST. Includes entries for Brooklyn Theater (297), Opera Comique, Paris (200), Hotel Royal, New York City (28), etc.

CARDINAL GIVES PLAN FOR PEACE OF ALL NATIONS

Suggests Alliance Between England and America.

RECALLS POWER OF EACH

Britain's Supremacy on Sea; Ours on Land.

Believes that if Peace Advocates of Both Nations Will Work Together World Will Follow the Example, Says Taft Saw Remote Possibility of War in Mexico When Troops Were Dispatched to Border.

"If England and the United States would join hands and say to the other nations 'Peace be with you,' I believe international peace by arbitration would be a reality in the near future."

TALKED AT LENGTH.

Sitting in the robes of his office before a bright fire in the library of his host, Rev. Father Thomas G. Smyth, rector of St. Ann's Catholic Church, last night, his eminence James Cardinal Gibbons, the most exalted prelate in America, talked at length on the subject closest to his heart—to see world-wide amity abolished and wars and carnage a thing of the past.

"By right of her supremacy on the seas England has a deciding voice in international affairs," Cardinal Gibbons said. "The United States is equally powerful on land, ruling well and wisely a great amount of territory, and recognized as the foremost power in the universe. If the peace advocates of these two English speaking nations would work together I believe the world would follow their leadership."

"What do you think of the Mexican situation?" he was asked. "If by the resignation of the Diaz cabinet peace is to be restored, I am more than glad," he replied. Continuing, Cardinal Gibbons said he was sure President Taft knew what he was about when he ordered American troops to the Texan frontier, and that there was no idea of conflict between the two nations in the Chief Executive's mind.

PRINCE SEEKS TO WED MR. BACON'S DAUGHTER

Family of d'Auvergne Believes an Adequate Dot Should Be Part of Marital Agreement.

Paris, March 25.—Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, instant suitor for the hand of Miss Martha Bacon, daughter of the American Ambassador to the French republic, is being held back by his family, Paris hears, from going too far too precipitately.

According to what Paris hears, it is permitted to be understood by the d'Auvergnes that the young man has been induced to draw the rein upon his impulsive and bring himself to a standstill at the very brink of a proposal.

What made him do so, it is credibly reported, was his family's decision that Mr. Bacon, although an Ambassador, ought to consider it worth while, in order to acquire a title even in a republic, to settle upon his daughter more of his property than he seems inclined to do, though he has three sons to be taken into account. If the d'Auvergnes find him formally prepared to allot to Miss Bacon an adequate dot, to their thinking, they will let the young man loose the rein and jump into a proposal of marriage. The princely suitor is discomfited from

GIRL EMPLOYEES LEAP TO DEATH FROM WINDOWS

New York Is Scene of Grewsome Tragedy, Due to Insufficient Protection.

BODIES PILED IN HEAPS ON SIDEWALK

Blaze Starts On Eighth Floor of Big Building and 800 Persons are Trapped—Eyewitnesses Describe Efforts to Escape.

New York, March 25.—Long rows of coffin dead on the shedded morgue pier—last so used at the time of the Slocum disaster—marked the work of a fire in the Asch Building, at Greene street and Washington place, late this afternoon.

There were 133 of the coffins at 11 o'clock, and more were coming in. Chief Croker estimated the dead at that time at 150, but only 142 dead had been recovered. Eight died in the hospitals, where seventy-five wounded had been taken. The dead were shirt-waist makers, mostly women and girls, employed by the Triangle Shirt Waist Company, of which Max Blanck and Isaac Harris were proprietors. The ten-story building, owned by Joseph Asch, of South Norwalk, Conn., had 1,500 machines on three of the floors, and only one fire escape, which ran down into a rear courtyard.

When the fire came, men and women leaped into the street by dozens and died there. There were fifty-three corpses on the Greene street sidewalk when the reporters got there. There were more dead at the bottom of the elevator shaft, and many more, some of them burned to mere skeletons, on the upper floors.

The women and girl machine operators who were found dead on the street had jumped from the eighth, ninth, and tenth, or top, floors. They jumped in groups of twos and threes into life nets, and their bodies spun downward from the high windows of the building so close together that the few life nets stretched below soon were broken, and the firemen and passers-by who helped hold the nets were crushed to the pavement by the rain of falling bodies.

GATHER UP THE BODIES.

Toward 5:15 p. m. the police, directed by Deputy Commissioner Dwyer, Inspector Schmittberger, Inspector Daly, and Capt. Henry, began to gather up the bodies from the sidewalks close to the buildings, and to haul more bodies from the water in the basement through the hole in the vault light which the bodies had made when striking. In the meantime, firemen led by Chief Croker had got to the eighth and ninth floors—the woodwork, the windows on the tenth floor was still burning briskly about two hours after the fire started—and the firemen came out a little later to report that they had come across not only half-burned bodies, but had seen charred limbs of bodies that had been incinerated.

"The worst fire in a New York building," said Chief Croker, as he came out among the ambulances and fire apparatus again, "since the burning of the Brooklyn Theater, in the '70s."

Bring Rough Coffins. The police had carried to the east side of Greene street about fifty bodies of women. They spread a great canvas of dark red in the sidewalk and laid the dead in rows. Working their way between the clutter of ambulances, mounted policemen, patrol wagons, and throbbing fire engines, came men bearing rough brown coffins on their shoulders. The police had sent to the morgue for 75 or 100 coffins, but all the morgue could pile into the patrol wagons was about 65.

When the bodies had been covered with tarpaulins the police crossed again to the sidewalks under the windows from which the girls had jumped, and picked up the cheap belongings that the girls had clutched when they ran to the window sills.

There were many leather handbags, broken combs, and about twenty years old came shrieking out of nowhere up to the piles of bodies. There was no time to ask her name or whether she had been inside the building. The white-clad ambulance surgeons all around closed upon her and dragged her to an ambulance. She bit and screamed every foot of the way, but they forced her onto the ambulance cot and took her to St. Vincent's.

Do Not Know Cause.

Chief Croker was asked after he had come from the building whether he knew the cause of the fire. He said he did not. There was one story to the effect that the fire, which started in the cutting department on the Greene street side of the eighth floor, was caused by the explosion of a gasoline tank. The motive power of the sewing machines was electrically. There might have been fewer fatalities if so much time had not been lost in turning in the first alarm. Because of the half-holiday, the employees of a clothing firm, Meyers, Crown & Wallace, just below the waist factory, had gone home at noon and all the other floors except the three floors that were burned had been closed for the day. As a result, there was no one in the building who knew of the fire for some time, except the employees who were trapped and the runner of the elevator, who was busy taking girls to the street. Edward Reardon, formerly a detective, stationed in the district attorney's office and now superintendent of the Fleetly Secret Service, told a reporter that he was on his way into the building to keep an appointment with Mr. Blanck when some one shot past him from the vestibule yelling "Fire."

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