

Death List at Camden Increased Now to 75

About Sixty Bodies of Unidentified Dead Buried in One Grave Friday Near Scene of Awful Holocaust. FORTY-ONE CHILDREN PERISHED IN FIRE Were Also 16 Women and 17 Men Among Dead.—Today Most of Bodies of Identified Dead Will Be Buried.

Camden, S. C., May 19 (By the Associated Press).—The death list in the Cleveland schoolhouse fire of Thursday night was definitely fixed today at 75. Tom B. Humphries, of Camden, died of injuries in a hospital here during the night. Approximately 60 bodies of the unidentified dead late yesterday were buried in the Beulah churchyard within a few hundred yards of the scene of the fire, and today most of the identified dead will be interred. Two other funerals were held in the same churchyard after the unidentified had been buried.

Some confusion over the exact number of dead was caused yesterday by the condition of the bodies of the dead, it was stated here today. The committee in charge of the burial of the unidentified dead announced that 62 bodies had been buried in the one big grave, including several that had been identified. The committee said they could state positively that more than 50 bodies were in the grave, with possibly others.

The committee announcement stated that 16 women, 41 children and 17 men were known to have perished, making the death list, up to the time of Humphries' death, 74. With the dead accounted for and most of them buried, thoughts today turned to the relief of the survivors. Gov. McLeod last night issued a proclamation to the people of the state, asking that "understand aid be extended. Offers to aid from throughout the nation yesterday were declined by Mayor Carrison, of Camden, who heads the committee in charge of this work. The American Red Cross has notified officials that funds in any amount needed are available. A total of \$1,244 was raised locally yesterday and several newspapers throughout the state are raising funds in addition to the fund being raised as a result of the Governor's proclamation.

The Cleveland schoolhouse, located in the sparsely settled rural community, was one of the best school buildings in Kershaw county, according to a statement made last night by Allen M. Murchison, County Superintendent of Education. He said it was to have been abandoned after Thursday night in favor of a modern constructed high school. The superintendent said that 6,000 out of every 10,000 children in the county attend just such schools, and that if he could help it there would not be another opportunity for such an occurrence. "I will never permit, if I can prevent it, the holding of another such gathering in any of the schoolhouses—and the Cleveland school was above the average—until adequate fire protection has been provided," the Superintendent said.

Sixty-Two Buried in One Grave. Camden, S. C., May 18.—Bathed in the glory of a setting South Carolina sun, 62 bodies, that less than 24 hours before had been fun-loving men, women and children, late today were placed in one big grave in Beulah Methodist church yard. Three thousand South Carolinians, led by Governor Thomas G. McLeod, gathered from all parts of the state to pay a last tribute to those who had perished in the burning of the Cleveland school house last night, stood with

bared heads throughout the brief, simple funeral service. The bodies were those of the 73 dead which could not be identified. They were buried within a row of yards of the spot where on last night they had gathered for the commencement exercises of the community school and where an oil lamp, dashed from its hanger on the ceiling over the auditorium stage, had rained the little country school in a funeral pyre.

Last night was to have been the last use of the structure as a school building. There were reports today that it had been condemned, but County Superintendent of Education Murchison said that the building was being abandoned because of consolidation of three schools and that it had not been declared unsafe. The school was to have held its annual picnic today.

Sheriff Welch, of Kershaw county, late today announced that, owing to the fact that there were so many deaths established without doubt, there would be no inquest. "Sometimes with tearful eyes we'll see and sometime we'll understand," the choir composed of the best voices from the churches in Camden and other parts of the county sang.

Tears stood in the eyes of many. Strong men wept, holding in their arms little tots orphaned by the fire some of them sleeping. Banked high with flowers, the freshly made grave, 40 by 12 feet in freshly made grave, 40 by 12 feet in the quiet peace of those who a scant 20 hours before were planning with joyous anticipation the visit to the little schoolhouse to see the comedy playlet, "Miss Topsy-Turvy," presented as part of the commencement exercises of the Cleveland grade school.

Relief Worker is Sent to Camden. Greensboro, May 18.—Summoned from his seat in the conference chamber of the Red Cross state conference held in this city today, Joseph C. Logan, manager of the Southern division of the American Red Cross, received over long distance telephone detailed information of the Camden fire with its toll of 73 dead. Mr. Logan stated that the Red Cross would cooperate with the local people in every way to relieve the suffering and distress which confronts relatives of the dead and injured and incidentally dispatched Carter Taylor, director of disaster relief, to the scene. Mr. Taylor left on the train for Camden and will represent the division manager in extending aid to the stricken people.

Is Second Greatest Disaster on Record. Columbia, S. C., May 18.—The Cleveland school house fire with its death toll of more than 70 ranks as the second greatest disaster in the history of South Carolina and first in point of number of immediate deaths, according to records searched out here today. The Red Cross conference in 1886 ranks first with a total of 83 deaths, but only 27 of these perished immediately, the others dying at intervals over a period of several days. A coincidence remarked today was that the Cleveland fire occurred within three miles of the scene of another great disaster, in which 24 persons lost their lives. This was the capsizing of a raft at Boykins pond during a Charleston hurricane of 1911 resulted in 15 deaths and there has been a number of instances where storms have killed a dozen or more.

Special Permission for 399 Immigrants to Enter. Washington, May 19.—Special permission for the entry into the United States from Halifax, of 399 immigrants from the United Kingdom, who arrived on the steamer Cameronia, was granted today by Commissioner General Husband.

Commencement at Mt. Pleasant Starts Tomorrow at 11 A. M.

Commencement at Mount Pleasant Collegiate Institute and Mount Anson Seminary, the two Lutheran schools located at Mt. Pleasant, will begin tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock, when the baccalaureate sermon will be preached to the members of the graduating classes of the two schools by Rev. George J. Gongaware, D. D. Dr. Gongaware is pastor of St. John's R. L. Church, of Charleston, S. C., and is recognized as one of the best scholarly divines in the Lutheran Church. Sunday night Rev. H. Brent Schaeffer will address the Y. M. C. A.

Board of Trustees of the Institute will Special interest attaches to this commencement as the board is expected at the meeting to make definite arrangements for the erection of a new dormitory, the first unit in the enlarged and modernized plant designed for the Institute, and because of the size of the class to graduate. There are 80 seniors and there will be the largest graduating class that has ever gone out from Mt. Pleasant.

The session has been a successful one, both as regards the attendance and work done. With an enrollment of 161 representing patronage from Maryland to Florida, the Institute has been greatly handicapped on account of limited dormitory capacity. The new dormitory promised will, therefore, relieve a situation that has been an embarrassment and a hindrance to growth. It is hoped that all who have made pledges to the building fund, especially Cabarrus County folks, will make it a point to liquidate the same at an early date. The Institute can be an even greater asset to Cabarrus and Piedmont Carolina, if it is provided with the necessary equipment. The usual large attendance at commencement is expected. Already a goodly number of alumni and former students have indicated that they would be present, and many former students and friends of the two schools passed through Concord today en route to Mt. Pleasant to attend all of the exercises.

Monday morning at 10:30 a. m. the Declaimer's Contest will be held by students of the Institute and Monday afternoon Dr. Ashley Chappell, of Asheville, will deliver the literary address. Dr. Chappell is pastor of the Central Methodist Church, Asheville, and is much in demand as a commencement speaker. Monday evening the annual drama will be presented by students of the two schools. This year the drama will be "Esmeralda." Tuesday will be Alumni Day and Rev. L. A. Thomas, of this city, will deliver the address before the alumni at 10:30 a. m. In the afternoon the students of the Institute will hold their annual debate, the question this year being, "Resolved, That the United States Should Enter the League of Nations." Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock the

THE Y. M. C. A. FUND IS NOW IN SIGHT OF THE DESIRED GOAL

Total of \$18,832 Was Reached at Friday Night's Meeting of Workers When Their Reports Were in.

ALL EXPECTED BY MONDAY NIGHT

When Campaign Will Close, Was Originally Planned, Praise Service to Be Held Monday Night.

ONLY ABOUT \$1,000 SHORT OF Y. M. C. A. GOAL. At the meeting held at noon today of the captains and teams of the Y. M. C. A. campaign, it was found when the reports were turned in that the amount subscribed now is only \$1,000 short of the goal, which is \$21,500. This is a fine showing. Everyone who has not yet subscribed and who will do so is urged to hand in the subscription before noon Monday.

The high total of \$18,832 was reached Friday as the corps of workers assembled in the Y gymnasium for their report at the end of the third day of the \$21,500 campaign. Enthusiasm ran high as the reports from the various captains were made and each report swelled the total until the final figures of \$18,832 were reached. No one a few days ago dared dream that a campaign for the Y in Concord would reach so near the goal on the third day. However, no more loyal corps of workers has ever assembled in Concord for a campaign of any sort. Scores of men have practically sacrificed their leisure time nearly all week in an effort to make the drive a success on schedule time. For a while Friday it looked as if the drive would be completed by noon today but there are so many folks yet to be seen who are considering their subscription that at a meeting of all the campaign leaders, captains and captains, it was decided to run the campaign through to Monday night as originally planned. It was also evident that the total will be reached at that time and Monday night will be a praise service for all the men who have labored hard to make the campaign a success.

Captain Caswell, of Team No. 1, started the ball rolling again Friday night and added \$23 to the total. Captain Ridenhour and A. F. Hartsell, division teammates, added \$230 and \$225, respectively, as their report. The Navy, reported \$120, \$220 and \$35, and \$35 was added by members of the H-Y club.

The Air division reported considerable difficulty in making a landing but were delighted to report a total of \$1,072, the high score of the day. Of this amount Captain Odell got \$777, Richmond \$200 and A. S. Webb \$85. The executive committee reported a total of \$2,725.50 for the day, or \$18,832.50 for the week. Lunch will again be served today. The Trinity Church ladies deserve special credit for the way they are performing their part of the program.

TOBACCO MEEN WARNED OF DRIVES BY ANTIS. A Good Five-cent Cigar is Also Said to Be a Possibility Once More.

Washington, May 19.—Cigarettes made in America in January, February and March of this year numbered 15,000,000,000, compared with 10,000,000,000 in the same months of 1922. Dr. Julius Klein, Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, said today in an address to the annual union of the Tobacco Merchants Association. Intensive drives against all forms of tobacco has been inaugurated in all parts of the country, "with the avowed object of burying tobacco in the same grave with John Barleycorn." Jesse A. Bloch of Wheeling, W. Va., President of the association, told the 400 members who met in convention here today.

Every attack upon tobacco, Mr. Bloch said, "brings forth an additional flood of scientific authority testifying to the harmlessness of tobacco. But while our victory in the recent anti-tobacco war has been almost complete, the menace has not yet passed, and it is not likely to pass so long as the public will not pay for and collect the tax." Hope was held out to the American smoker to day that he again may enjoy a good five-cent cigar. Advocating a reduction in tobacco taxes, Henry G. Wenner of Lima, Ohio, said an effort would be made to have the next Congress decrease the taxes. If relief is afforded, he added, the public will benefit in lower prices. Tobacco taxes today, Mr. Wenner declared, are high as at any time during the war. Despite this and the fact that cigar manufacturers are obliged to pay more for leaf than before the war, and wages have more than doubled, retail prices, he added, are at least 20 per cent below the war peak.

THE KIWANIS MEETING Committee Appointed to Take Up the Matter of Having All Trains Stop Here.

Kiwanians at their meeting at the Concord Y. M. C. A. on Friday evening took up several matters of business, among them being the matter of getting the Southern Railway Company stop all trains at Concord. This matter was brought up at the meeting two weeks ago, and the Secretary was instructed to present the matter to the Railway, asking that Concord be made a regular stop for trains 37 and 34 which do not now stop. The reply received from the railway officials was not favorable, and at the meeting on Friday evening a committee was appointed consisting of W. H. Felt, Tom B. Sherrill and Fred Shepherd, to confer with General Superintendent R. E. Simpson, at Charlotte, and see what can be done.

The coming Kiwanis International Convention, which will convene in Atlanta, Georgia, the last four days of May was called to the attention of the members, and it was urged that every Kiwanian who can possibly do so attend this great event. A letter from District Governor Lumpkin, at Columbia, South Carolina, advised that already nearly 7,000 persons have made reservations for this occasion, and it is probable that more than 10,000 will be in attendance.

Messrs. R. E. Kerr and W. L. Baris were present at guests of Caleb Swink, while Mr. Chas. J. Harris, of this city, was the guest of his nephew, Brevard Harris. Major Will Felt, captain of Team 7, which on next Friday evening, announced that he is planning now to put on at the meeting this week.

GUILFORD COUNTY LEADS IN NUMBER OF AUTOMOBILES

Car For Every 7.9 Inhabitants in That County.—Cabarrus Ranks Sixteenth in State. The University News Letter has just made public statistics showing the number of autos in each county in the State and the ratio of cars to inhabitants. According to the figures Guilford has the largest number of cars and Graham the smallest number. Cabarrus ranks sixteenth in the State. Guilford has an automobile for every 7.9 persons and Graham has an auto for every 169.4 persons. In Cabarrus there is a car for every 11.7 persons.

Mecklenburg county ranks second in the number of autos but third in the ratio of cars to inhabitants. There are 8,976 autos in that county, or an auto for every 9.5 persons. Guilford has 10,777 cars and Davidson with 4,081 cars, or a car for every 9.1 person, ranks second in the State. Rowan has 4,854 cars and a car for every 9.7 persons. Winston has 4,968 cars and a car for every 11.2 persons. Iredell has 3,274 cars and a car for every 11.9 persons; Montgomery has 1,148 cars and a car for every 12.4 persons. Stanly has 2,041 and a car for every 14.6 persons. There are 3,081 cars in Cabarrus county.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES SCOTIA WOMEN'S COLLEGE.

To Embrace This Year From May 20 to May 23, Inclusive. The commencement exercises at Scotia Women's College will embrace this year May 20-23, inclusive. The following will be the program: Baccalaureate Sermon, Sabbath May 20, 4:30 p. m. Senior Preparatory Entertainment, Monday, May 21, 7:00 p. m. Class Day Exercises, Tuesday, May 22, 1:30 p. m. Annual Address, Tuesday evening, May 22, 7:30—Rev. Geo. Luccock, D. D., Wooster, Ohio. Commencement Exercises, Wednesday, May 23, 10:30 a. m.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at an Advance of From 8 to 13 Points. (By the Associated Press.) New York, May 19.—The cotton market opened steady at an advance of 8 to 13 points with active months selling 11 to 23 points net higher right after the call on trade buying of July and August contracts. The market was unsettled and showery weather in the South over the week end. After the initial buying orders had been supplied there apparently was little delay and prices soon eased off under scattering liquidation, making net declines of about 8 to 16 points on the more active positions. Cotton futures opened steady. May 23: 25; July 25.35; Oct. 23.11; Dec. 22.58; Jan. 22.38 bid.

American Golfers Defeat British. St. Andrews, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—The American amateur golf team retained possession of the Walker cup by defeating the British team in the second day tournament ending today, 6 matches to 5, with one hole.

New Judge in Higginbotham Case. (By the Associated Press.) Tallahassee, Fla., May 19.—Governor Hardee today assigned Judge A. G. Campbell, of the first judicial circuit, to preside over the trial at Cross City, of Walter Higginbotham, charged with murder in connection with the death of Martin Tabert, of North Dakota. Judge Campbell was appointed to take the place of Judge Mallory Horne, disqualified by the defense yesterday.

Four Cars Derailed. Greenwood, S. C., May 17.—Express and baggage cars and one passenger coach of Southern Railway passenger train No. 18, Greenville to Columbia, were derailed near Ninety-Six at 11:30 today. Railroad men said no one was injured.

ULTIMATUM BEHALF OF CHINESE BANDITS TO THE GOVERNMENT

Marcel Berube, Who Was Recently Released by Bandits, Now on Way to Peking to Present Ultimatum

TIME EXPIRES NEXT TUESDAY

After Which, Unless Troops Besieging the Bandits Are Withdrawn, Two Anglo-Americans Will Be Killed.

London, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—Marcel Berube, recently released by the Suchow train bandits, is journeying to Peking to present an ultimatum to the Chinese government on behalf of the bandits, says a Reuters dispatch from Tsoochwang. The ultimatum, according to the dispatch, is that the government troops besieging the bandits be withdrawn by next Tuesday, failing which, two of the Anglo-American captives will be killed. May Abandon Negotiations for the Release of Hostages.

Peking, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—Telegrams from Tsoochwang, near which 15 foreign captives were held, indicate that the government's representatives are no longer in the position of abandoning negotiations for the release of the hostages because of the bandits' extravagant demands. Soldiers Selling Ammunition to the Bandits?

Washington, May 19.—A situation threatening defection of the government troops sent in pursuit of the bandits in Shantung province, China, was reported today in State Department advices. It was said the soldiers had not been paid for 18 months and were reported to be replenishing their pockets by selling ammunition to the bandits.

In their efforts to placate the bandits, the Peking officials are said to have granted a demand that Suen Mei Yae and other leaders of the band be given army commissions, and to have agreed to withdraw the government troops gradually in return for the release of the captives.

McBRAYER INVESTIGATION

Dr. Rankin Says Dr. McBrayer Is the Only Man in the State Who Could Have Made the Successful Administration He Has.

Raleigh, May 19.—Declaring on cross examination that in his opinion Dr. L. B. McBrayer is the only available man in the state who could have made the successful administration of the State Sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis as had in the past eight years, Dr. Watkin S. Rankin, secretary of the State Board of Health today testified before the half day session of the legislative committee making the investigation of the institution. "The Sanatorium from its beginning," Dr. Rankin said in a prepared statement to the committee "has been the source of much trouble. Its founder died prematurely from a crushed ambition and a broken heart. It is located on a hill that was once a volcano and an evil genius seems to haunt the place and disturb the serenity of the place."

With the exception of the alleged relation of Dr. McBrayer and members of his family with the Sandhills Orchard Corporation, and the alleged traffic between the institution and this corporation, Dr. Rankin said he could offer no other evidence which would justify the last legislature supervised and controlled the Sanatorium, said he had heard most of the criticism of the institution before and that it had been called to the attention of the board of health. "The Sanatorium is today," Dr. Rankin told the committee, "as can be shown by official reports, made by officers of the American Tuberculosis Association, one of the model state institutions in the United States."

Southern Women's Golf. Fort Worth, Texas, May 19.—The eyes of feminine golf players throughout the South will be turned toward Fort Worth during the coming week, on the occasion of the annual championship tournament of the women's Southern Golf Association. Officials of the Rivercrest Country Club, under whose auspices the tournament will be held, have made arrangements for the entertainment of the visiting players.

President Will Return From Trip by Water. (By the Associated Press.) Washington, May 19.—Definite plans for President Harding to return from his Alaska trip by water, through the Panama Canal with a stop at Porto Rico were perfected today by Chairman Lasker of the shipping board who designated a board vessel for the return trip.

The district conference of the Salisbury, will be held at Gold Hill July 6-7.

COMMENCEMENT AT MOUNT PLEASANT

To Embrace May 20-23.—Full Programme of the Exercises. The commencement exercises of the Mount Pleasant Collegiate Institute will embrace this year May 20-23. The following will be the programme: Sunday, May 20, 11 a. m.—Baccalaureate Sermon—The Rev. George Gongaware, D. D. Sunday, May 20, 8 p. m.—Address Before Y. M. C. A.—The Rev. H. Brent Schaeffer. Monday, May 21, 10:30 a. m.—Declaimer's Contest: B. W. Cruse, J. B. Hahn, J. H. Keller, M. L. Pennington, W. C. Thomas, C. W. Weiser. Monday, May 21, 3:30 p. m.—Literary Address—Dr. Ashley Chappell. Monday, May 21, 8:30 p. m.—Annual Drama, "Esmeralda." Tuesday, May 22, 1:00 p. m.—Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Tuesday, May 22, 10:30 a. m.—Address Before the Alumni—The Rev. L. A. Thomas, Class 1909. Tuesday, May 22, 3:30 p. m.—Contest in Debate: Query, Resolved, That the United States Should Enter the League of Nations. Affirmative: J. O. Foil, D. L. Heglar, H. G. Watson; Negative, F. O. Conrad, J. A. Kern, G. E. Kohn. Wednesday, May 23, 10:30 a. m.—Orator's Contest by representatives of the Graduating Class—R. L. Fisher, S. E. Griffin, R. C. Harris, J. D. Sheppard, G. C. Smithfield, J. E. Walker. Preparatory Exercises, Awarding of Diplomas, Presentation of Medals, and announcements.

Marshals. Ludwig Society—H. H. Alexander, chief; J. M. Harry, R. C. Harris, N. H. Caughman, J. N. Smith, J. E. Walker, H. G. Watson. Gerhardt Society—R. S. Riser, G. C. Smithfield, G. B. Johnston, F. O. Conrad, S. E. Griffin, J. M. Duncan. Preparatory Society—S. R. McEachern, L. Cameron, J. Goodman, S. L. Petrea, W. G. Ritchie, B. L. Allen. Music by the Roanoke Orchestra. Motto: Alis Dolat Propriis. Colors: Purple and Gold. Officers: R. R. Roberts, president; W. F. Smithfield, vice president; E. W. Seclier, secretary.

Class Ball—Hugh Harris Alexander, Peter Boger Bost, Walter Brown Bost, Nesbit Harper Caughman, Robert Lingle Cobb, James Meek Duncan, Dalton O'Farrow Eggle, Roy Linn Fisher, Stephen Earl Griffin, John McKinnell Harry, Clarence Gilbert Heilig, Jr., Marshall Dewey Herrin, Messers Holmes, George Benoni Johnston, Harold Miller O'Brien, Fred Henry Quante, Jr., Rupert Sumner Riser, Robert R. Roberts, David Winston Ruffin, Lewis Glenn Russell, Ernest William Seclier, Robert Edwin Sehorn, Rudolph Seigling, Jr., John Dillon Sheppard, Clinton Brantley Smithfield, George Curtis Smithfield, Albert Cecil Vestal, James Ernest Walker, Robert Chalmers Harris.

Two Men Are Given 30 Years in Prison. Charlotte, May 18.—Malloy Friday and Hilliard Hall, negroes, convicted in Superior Court in the second degree for murder of W. E. Beach, on the night of April 15, were sentenced to 30 years each in the state penitentiary by Judge George H. Brown. Clara Davis, tried on the same charge and convicted, was sentenced to the county roads for two years. The evidence tended to show that Davis was not actually a participant in the shooting, but had piloted the white man and his companion, Robert Gordon, to the scene of the murder.

Friday and Hall confessed in court to deceiving Peach and Gordon to a point on the Southern Railway near Hill street, and to have committed the crime after which they took about \$25 from the dead man's pockets. Davis was arrested by Charlotte officers on the night of the murder and gave evidence which led to the arrest of Friday and Hall, a few days later at Durham, N. C.

GOSPEL MISSIONARIES TO MEET

Minneapolis, Minn., May 19.—Mission folks from the East, West, North and South are gathered in this city for the tenth annual convention of the International Union of Gospel Missions, which will have its formal opening tomorrow. Missions in several hundred American cities will be represented. A new feature entitled "A Clinic in Regeneration" will be staged during the meeting, and a number of outstanding converts, men who have made good in the business and in the professional world, will give short testimonials on each of the five nights of the convention.

Bonar Law Looks Tired and Old. London, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—Prime Minister Bonar Law, who has been on a voyage for his health, arrived in London this afternoon from Paris. He looked tired and ill and failed to respond to the cheers of the crowd at the station. He did not go to his Downing Street residence, but instead was taken to his private house where he will receive treatment under Sir Thomas Harder, noted specialist.

Obregon Says Bombing Was an Effort to Hinder Negotiations. Mexico, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—President Obregon said today that he considered yesterday's bombing which damaged the office of a Mexican attorney in the building that houses the United States consul general, as an effort to hinder the government in its recognition negotiations with the United States.

"What could it be but a profound displeasure?" he said. "I believe it concerns a maneuver against the government to hinder us in reaching a good understanding with the United States." After 24 hours of investigation, the municipal police and federal secret service agents early today had found no clue warranting an arrest in connection with the explosion. El Universal published a report of the inquiries, purporting to prove that the bombing had no political significance, but was rather the work of enemies incurred by Attorney Castillo while he was intimately associated with Esteban Cantu, Governor of Lower California.

Newspaper men learned from Gilberto Valenzuela, under secretary of the interior, that Charles B. Warren and John Barton Payne, the American mission, received anonymous warnings soon after their arrival on May 11 that they must leave Mexico within 72 hours. Traffic past the Escanoban Palace in which the delegates are staying was prohibited last night, and heavy forces of police maintained a watch outside the building.

HEAVIEST RAIN ON RECORD FALLS TODAY AT BEAUMONT, TEXAS

U. S. Weather Bureau There Says Gauge Showed a Precipitation of 13.54 Inches Within Three Hours.

GREAT DAMAGE DONE TO PROPERTY

Loss Will Probably Reach \$750,000.—Telephone Girls Go to Work in Bathing Suits.—Boats on Streets.

(By the Associated Press.) Beaumont, Texas, May 19.—The greatest concentrated downfall of rain in the United States was recorded here today. John Bender, in charge of the United States Weather Bureau here, declared the gauge showed 13.54 inches precipitation within three hours.

Between \$500,000 and \$750,000 property damage was estimated in a check-up. Henry Franks was probably fatally burned. He slipped through a pool of burning oil when lightning hit two oil storage tanks of 55,000 barrels capacity each. The tanks belong to the Magnolia Petroleum Co. One was burned with a loss placed at \$30,000. Girls of the Southwestern Telephone Co. went to work in their bathing suits, but 3,000 telephones had gone out of commission, and they all plunged home in the relentless showers. The townsfolk turned out generally in bathing suits. Motor boats took the place of jitneys in low places of the city. Street car lines went out early in the morning and not a wheel turned the rest of the day. Havoce of the storm included \$100,000 loss to the city through buckling of wood block pavements.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN GOES THROUGH BRIDGE

Conductor and Fireman Missing—Is Thought They Are Buried Beneath Wreckage.

(By the Associated Press.) Norfolk, May 19.—Search was being made today for the official conductor, or, as Jesse Glubb, negro fireman of a Norfolk Southern freight train, the engine and car of which went through the Perquimans River bridge between Edenton and Elizabeth City, N. C., last night. It is believed at the general offices of the road that the two men, who resided in Norfolk, were buried beneath the wreckage.

Great Disaster Barely Averted. Washington, N. C., May 18.—Only a freak of circumstances prevented the gateway of the Shrine Cereemonial from being blighted by a terrible catastrophe last night when two spans of the great bridge across the Pamlico River collapsed beneath the weight of three thousand spectators and sagged to within two feet of the water.

One hundred people or more were on the section of the bridge that gave way. Three thousand people were on the entire bridge. Cooler heads prevailed as the span collapsed and there was no disorder or panic as the huge bridge was emptied of its throng. There were no injuries. The accident took place as the crowd was observing the fireworks being displayed which was being given in connection with the Shrine Cereemonial. It was without warning. There was a grind of concrete on concrete as the great structure sagged, women screamed and there was a rapid, hurried movement to safety, just as the recently completed bridge seemed about to precipitate its human load into the waters of the Pamlico River, the sinking spans came to rest, just two feet above the river.

As a result of the collapse of the bridge traffic to New Bern was obliged to detour miles up the river.

In ancient Greece a law provided that if a man divorced his wife he could not subsequently marry a woman younger than his discarded partner. H. B. Wilkinson has just received a car load of the famous Simmons oeds Read his new ad.

Obregon Says Bombing Was an Effort to Hinder Negotiations

Mexico, May 19. (By the Associated Press.)—President Obregon said today that he considered yesterday's bombing which damaged the office of a Mexican attorney in the building that houses the United States consul general, as an effort to hinder the government in its recognition negotiations with the United States. "What could it be but a profound displeasure?" he said. "I believe it concerns a maneuver against the government to hinder us in reaching a good understanding with the United States." After 24 hours of investigation, the municipal police and federal secret service agents early today had found no clue warranting an arrest in connection with the explosion. El Universal published a report of the inquiries, purporting to prove that the bombing had no political significance, but was rather the work of enemies incurred by Attorney Castillo while he was intimately associated with Esteban Cantu, Governor of Lower California. Newspaper men learned from Gilberto Valenzuela, under secretary of the interior, that Charles B. Warren and John Barton Payne, the American mission, received anonymous warnings soon after their arrival on May 11 that they must leave Mexico within 72 hours. Traffic past the Escanoban Palace in which the delegates are staying was prohibited last night, and heavy forces of police maintained a watch outside the building.