

THE WEATHER.

Generally fair Sunday and Monday. Light to moderate east and southeast winds.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED 1837 WILMINGTON, N. C., SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1911.

16 Pages To-Day Two Sections

VOL. LXXXVIII—NO. 47.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1911.

WHOLE NUMBER 18,728.

HUNDREDS HAVE PERISHED IN RAGING, ROARING FLOOD

Town of Austin, Pennsylvania Swept Away When Mammoth Dam Collapsed Yesterday Afternoon.

FIRE ADDS TERROR AFTER AVALANCHE

Many Caught in Ruins Perished in Flames and the Death List Grows.

OVER 800 PROBABLY KILLED

More Than Thousand Buildings Wrecked—Town on Costello is Also Swept Away—The Serious Situation.

Austin, Pa., Sept. 30.—Austin, a town of 3,200 residents, in the northern part of the State, was swept out of existence today and more than 800 of its people were killed by a flood which followed the breaking of the Bayless Pulp & Paper Company's dam a mile and a half north of the town.

Fears that the towns of Costello and Wharton, also in the path of the flood, had been destroyed, was expressed to those familiar with the topography of the country.

Reports that Costello was wiped out and 350 persons were killed there were prevalent during the night, but the destruction of all telegraph and telephone wires, leading into the town made confirmation impossible.

It was learned definitely that the flood caused heavy loss of life and property in Costello, but the extent of the damage could not be ascertained until reports had been received from messengers hurried to the scene.

Costello had about 1,500 inhabitants. Wharton, a smaller town, was also reported to have sustained heavy damages.

In Austin the bursting of scores of natural gas mains, as the buildings were swept away added fire to the general horror of the flood and hundreds of those imprisoned in the wreckage were burned to death.

The contents of the great dam, which was filled to overflowing by the heavy rains of two weeks, swept through a natural gorge in which the towns of Austin and Costello were situated.

While many of the residents of Austin escaped to the hill bordering each side of the town, the warning given by the blasts of the Bayless Mills whistles was too brief for hundreds of others.

The catastrophe paralleled in many respects the destruction by the flood of Johnstown, Pa., in 1889, in which over 2,000 lives were lost. The extent of loss of life and the destruction of property cannot be known for several days. The property loss will surely be several millions of dollars.

Within an hour of the first general knowledge of the calamity special trains bearing physicians, nurses and food supplies were on the way to the scene. Hundreds of automobiles bearing rescuers also tolled over the rough and tortuous mountain roads to lend aid.

The food supplies of the town were destroyed and immediate aid to survivors was urgent. Hundreds of those who escaped were seriously injured in the collapse of their homes and the panic of the rush for safety.

Temporary hospitals were filled up in nearby farm houses, and improvised structures from the wreckage.

The Red Cross made preparations for immediate aid to the survivors.

The intense heat of the fire sweeping from the natural gas mains made it impossible for rescuers to visit the scene of destruction for many hours.

Fire Adds to the Horror

Austin, Pa., Sept. 30.—A dangerous situation developed immediately after the great wall of water had passed. Austin is piped for natural gas, and the great force of the flood tore the mains from the streets. One of them, the largest pipe in the town burst in the business section. A moment afterward the gas rushed out and in a twinkling it had taken fire. There was no explosion, but the flames leaped to a height of 20 feet or more, and blown by a strong wind was communicated to the nearest house. In ten minutes a dozen other gas pipes had burst and were pouring their deadly inflammable fluid into the air. Men who had rushed forward in the hope of doing some good, were overcome and fell, while others were caught in the flames and incinerated. The street became a glowing hell, and there was no salvation for those who chanced to be near. How many perished at

this point is not known, but one estimate places it at a score.

Austin has little fire protection at all, and with the swept away by the flood, and no one left to man the little apparatus the town possessed, the progress of the flames was uninterrupted. Rapidly they swept from house to house, leaping street and alleys and fed by the continual supply of gas from bursting mains there was no staying their progress. They licked up what the water had left.

Many persons, crushed and helpless in the wrecks of buildings only partly destroyed by the water, were consumed in the flames. Their shrieks could be heard by the helpless ones who, awakened from their sleep and paralyzed by the scenes about them, endeavored to save a life here and there where it seemed possible. But they were driven back by the deadly fumes of the gas or the heat of the flames, and half an hour after the flood had passed, they stood on the hillside, pitifully contemplating their ability to do anything but bemoan the fate of their friends.

Women and children there were among the wounded and dying, but among the scores of men who might at other times have braved death to save the lives of the unfortunate, there was none to dare.

Down at the shops of the Buffalo and Susquehanna Railroad history was in the making. The buildings were located below the business section on the banks of Freeman Run and were more substantial than most of the houses which had been swept by the flood. When the great mass of crushed and broken timbers, representing the homes of a few minutes before, came crashing down and lodged against the shops, the impact was so great that the building shivered and the walls were crushed in. But the framework stood and formed a barrier against the foaming and jetsam of the flood found lodgment.

Here as elsewhere the natural gas pipes burst, and as the shops were in operation fire was quickly communicated to the heterogeneous mass. Men were caught before they could leave their machines. Some of them were crushed to death without a warning, but others less favored of fortune were pinned down and met horrible deaths in the rapidly kindling flames. Nearby was the plant of the Standard Lumber Company. It had on hand a large stock of stove wood ready for shipment. When the pipes burst there the burning gas broke through the building, it was soon destroyed. Here, too, debris had piled high and the luckless ones who had been swept down stream met death at this point.

For hours the machine shops and the lumber plant burned. And the odor of burning flesh was so strong as to drive many persons from the scene. How many died here will never be known, but counting the crowded buildings from the plants and the persons in the flood it will not fall short of two hundred.

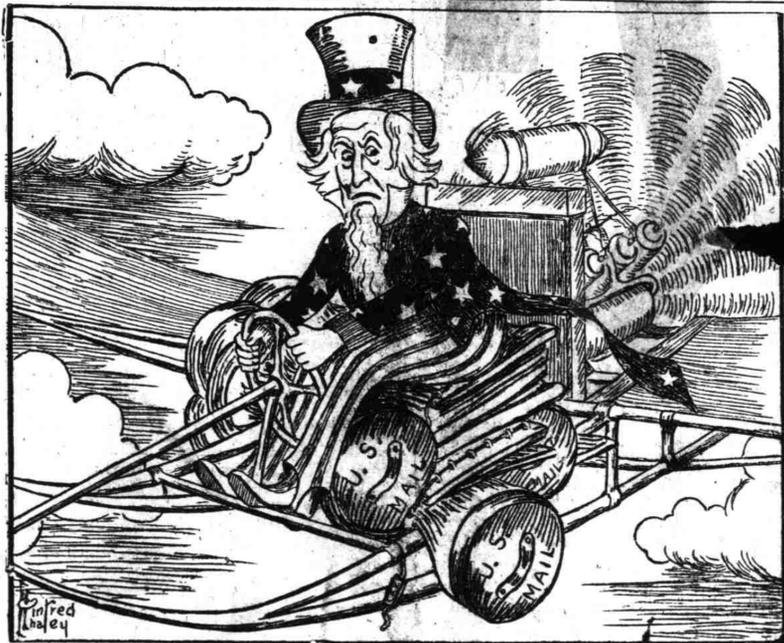
Here is where the first organized effort at relief was made. Maddened by the sights about him, one man with tears streaming down his cheeks, cried for volunteers to save the lives of men whose cries for help were gradually growing fainter. The wreck of the Austin Hardware Company had been buried from its location on Main street to the lumber mill. Here were buckets in abundance and there was the little stream, still swollen, although the force of the flood had passed. Seizing a bucket this unknown hero dashed into the stream, filled it with water and calling for help ran toward a point where it appeared one man might be saved. Others followed his example, but to no purpose. Gas and heat combined to drive them back and they eventually gave up the battle.

But the blazing pile continued to burn through the night, the most conspicuous and most deadly spot in this valley of death. Gradually the cries for help and the groans of dying men grew fainter and when the great mass of debris and the fragments of the burned buildings had become nothing more than a huge pile of glowing coals the agonizing sounds ceased and that chapter of this terrible tragedy was closed.

Over at the paper mill, the great factory where so many of the people of the town found employment, the situation was little better. Although not so many persons were killed, some of them were crushed beyond recognition. A part of the factory went down before the water. It too, caught fire, and the scenes to which the half paralyzed people were rapidly becoming accustomed, were re-enacted.

One little girl, she could not have been more than 15 years old, had been caught in the crush. The flames were approaching her with the rapidity only equalled by the speed of the flood, which had made her plight possible. Pinned down under a heavy timber, one leg crushed, it was impossible for her to free herself. No one seemed to know her name, but her cries for help were not unheeded. As in the fire in the machine shops, an unknown man rose to the occasion. Running

(Continued on Page Eight.)



THE COMING R. F. D. CARRIER.

THOUSANDS OF SHOPMEN OUT

Threatened Strike on Harriman Lines Became Reality Yesterday—Traffic Without Interruption—No Rioting.

Chicago, Sept. 30.—The threatened strike of the shopmen of the Harriman lines to enforce recognition of their newly organized federation became a reality today. The number of men who quit in the 15 States affected was estimated at between 20,000 and 30,000 by the union men, although Julius Kruttschnitt, vice president of the Harriman lines in a statement to the press said the number was much smaller.

Reports from most of the points indicated that the men walked out without demonstrations and no rioting was reported. Traffic was continued without interruption and the railroad heads say that the shopmen's strike, even if extended, would not interfere with transportation.

The response to the strike order was general throughout the Middle West and in the South. The men had received notices from the international presidents of the five crafts directly involved and when the hour came they laid down their tools.

At New Orleans, where the strike already had extended from a strike of the Illinois Central clerks and the men had been out several days, two men received jail sentences for violation of Federal injunction restraining them from interfering with the company's property.

In the far West, it was said by the six roads, a small percentage of workers responded to the strike call. Vice President Kruttschnitt issued the following statement:

"At many of the intermediate points in Union and Southern Pacific lines, shop forces were laid off to reduce expenses. At other points no men at working time and effect reduction of all went out and at some points only one or two per cent. quit.

"Train schedules on all lines are normal and the maintenance of regular schedules will in no manner be interrupted."

The men involved are divided into the following groups, according to the union men:

Machinists, 10,000; boiler makers, 4,000; blacksmiths, 3,000; carmen, 11,000; clerks, 1,000; miscellaneous workers, 1,000.

W. T. Markham, vice president and general manager of the Illinois Central, issued a circular to employees of the road tonight, characterizing the demands of the men as radical, and charging that the contracts between the men and the unions had not been abrogated by the necessary 30 days' notice. Concluding, he said:

"It is well known that the international officers of at least some of the crafts supported our positions and bitterly opposed violating their contracts by consenting to call a strike on the Illinois Central. The conservatives seemed to be in the minority, however, and the result is one of the most uncalculated for walk-outs of labor in the history of this country."

"The Illinois Central has not sought this controversy and has no quarrel with organized labor as such, but it will use all the resources at its command to retain such control of the management as will enable it to continue the exercise of public functions for which it was created and which subsequent events have shown it could not have continued to exercise had the management consented to enter negotiations with the organizations which is primarily responsible for this trouble."

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 30.—State Superintendent of Public Instruction J. Y. Joyner announces the retirement of A. J. Barwick as chief clerk in the Department of Education and secretary of the State Board of Examiners, to take up the practice of law in Newton, and the appointment of Prof. E. E. Sams, now superintendent of the Fitzgerald, Ga., city schools, in his stead.

ANNIE CRAWFORD BROKE DOWN

Alleged Murderer of Four Members of Family Weeps Copiously in Her Cell—Brother Believes Her Innocent.

New Orleans, Sept. 30.—Miss Annie Crawford, charged with murdering her sister Elise, a week ago by administering morphine, late yesterday showed the first break in the self-possession rigidly maintained since her arrest on Tuesday, by prolonged outbursts of weeping. Clinging to the iron bars of a window in her ward and with her head bowed on her arm, the prisoner was found by Sgt. Octavia Kennerly, police matron, who tried to comfort her.

Almost immediately the prisoner recovered her self-possession, the lines in her face hardening at the first words of sympathy spoken by the matron and answering coolly, walked away, keeping entirely to herself. She was found crying several times, but resented sympathy. For hours she sits staring, her eyes filled with tears, her hands clasped in her lap.

Mrs. Leo, a sister of Port Arthur, Texas, was the only relative to visit the prisoner yesterday. It is now understood that the case will be put before a special session of the grand jury to be called next week.

Although the bodies of Annie's parents and her sister Agnes will not be exhumed, it is said, their deaths will be investigated by the jury. The district attorney has decreed that no more information will be forthcoming from his office concerning future developments in the case. He also said that he had instructed City Chemist Metz, who is looking for more poison in the stomach of Elise, to make a secret report of his findings. This report is expected early next week.

Robert Crawford, a brother of Annie, said yesterday that he believed if Annie was given a fair chance, she would prove her innocence.

"Even if she did give Elise the morphine," said he, "she did it by mistake."

Edward Crawford, another brother, admitted that he had visited Annie's home recently for the first time in many years. He said he had not any falling out with the family, but "had not bothered with them," remaining away until their troubles started.

Charlottesville, Va., Sept. 30.—The University of Virginia made her largest score in recent years today, defeating William and Mary College, eighty-one to nothing. After the first team had scored seventy points in the first half, Coach Yancy sent in the entire second team. Toad and Gotch each made a touch down from kick-off nearly the entire length of the field.

OUTLINES.

More than 800 persons perished in the flood that swept the town of Austin, Pa., yesterday afternoon. A big dam gave way and a large section was swept by the roaring flood resulting in the fearful loss of life and destruction to property.—The threatened strike of shopmen on the Harriman lines to enforce recognition of their newly organized federation became a reality yesterday. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 men walked out.—According to reports at Malta the Italian warships began the bombardment of Tripoli at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. There is apprehension of a rising among the Arabs.

York markets: Spot cotton quiet, middling uplands 11.35, middling gulf 10.60; money on call nominal, time loans easy; flour dull but steady. Wheat export steady, No. 2, 99 1/2; elevator export basis and 1.0; fob float; corn spot dull No. 2 corn 75 1/2; No. 2, 53; oats spot firm, standard white 52 1/2; rosin and turpentine quiet.

The French Millinery Parlors will have on display a full line of exclusive pattern hats Tuesday, October 3rd.

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SINCLAIR TO MAKE THE RACE

Prominent Cumberland Attorney, Solicitor of Seventh District, Announces Himself for Congress Next Year.

"I will be a candidate to succeed Mr. Godwin in the next Congress," said Hon. N. A. Sinclair, of Fayetteville, last night while in the city on his way home from Lumberton where the past week he has been attending Superior Court as solicitor of the Seventh Judicial District.

"My campaign will be conducted on a high plane and shall be absolutely free from political, trades, trickery, or manipulation," he went on to say, adding further that he does not desire the nomination except as the free and untrammelled choice of a majority of the people.

Speaking further of his proposed campaign for the nomination, Mr. Sinclair, who until last night had made no definite announcement that he would make the race, said in explanation of his plans and purposes:

"The most crying evil in this part of North Carolina at present is the corrupt use of money in securing nominations. I have no money to use for this purpose, and would not use it if I had, as no self-respecting man could appreciate a nomination that he has to go out in the market and buy.

"My campaign shall also be free from the dogmatic attempt to get votes by appealing to class prejudice; and neither I nor my friends will indulge in personalities, mud-slinging, or misrepresentation.

"I have no fads or isms with which to try to fool the people to catch votes. The only platform I have to offer is the platform of my party, just as it is written.

"I have no extravagant and empty promises to make. I prefer to be judged by the results I have achieved, rather than by promises. Promises mean nothing; results speak for themselves.

"I have been solicitor of the Seventh Judicial District for five years, and have done all my official work in the various counties of the district in open court and before the eyes of all the people. How well I have done this work is not for me to say. I leave that to the public, and am willing to abide by their verdict.

"If elected to Congress, I can only say that I will perform my duties there with the same fidelity, diligence, painstaking care and thoroughness that I have tried to show for the past five years as solicitor.

"I personally know a large majority of the men in the district and have personal friends and acquaintances in every township. This would keep me in close touch with the people and enable me to understand the needs and conditions of every community so that I would feel that I was representing the personal interests of every man in the district, whatever his occupation in life might be. As my time is so fully taken up with my official duties in court, together with my civil practice, I am relying with confidence on my friends in every community to look after my political interests in this campaign."

Richmond, Va., Sept. 30.—Dr. Herbert surgeon to the State Penitentiary, Mann, of this city, was today elected, succeeding Dr. C. V. Carrington, who has held the office about twelve hours. The vote of the board stood five to four members for Carrington.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 30.—Mrs. James Hay, wife of the Virginia Congressman, was operated on at the Memorial Hospital here today. Her condition is reported as not serious.

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ITALIAN FORCES LANDING AT PREVEZA

Expected to Reach Dardanelles by Today According to Position.

TURKISH SQUADRON IS ON THE MOVE

Expected to Reach Dardanelles by Today According to Position.

GREECE MOBILIZING ARMY

Doubt as to Turkey Having Offered Armed Resistance—Reports of Turkish Guns Sinking Two Boats—Developments.

Direct news from Tripoli is lacking. That the Italian forces have landed there is unquestioned, but there is doubt as to whether Turkey offered any armed resistance. A Constantinople dispatch says that the Turkish guns sunk two boats, with contingents of soldiers aboard, at Tripoli.

According to advice received by the Porte, Italy has effected a landing near Prevesa, in European Turkey. As a result, the reserves of Janina are being mobilized.

An official announcement that Greece is mobilizing her army.

The Italian government declares its determination to maintain the territorial status quo in the Balkans, explaining that its naval operations along the coast of European Turkey are merely a measure of safety for Italy's own coast towns, and for the security of Italy's military expedition.

The position of the Turkish squadron which is supposed to be on its way from Beirut to Constantinople, is unknown, though reports say that it should reach the Dardanelles Sunday. An Athens dispatch says that the Italian squadron shelled several Turkish warships off Gomitina.

Bombardment at Tripoli. Malta, September 30.—It is reported here that the Italian warships began the bombardment of Tripoli at 2 o'clock last afternoon. The single cable connecting Malta with Tripoli is blocked with official messages. A reliable private message from Tripoli, however, says that the Italian blockade began yesterday at sunset and a bombardment was decided upon for today. There is apprehension of a rising among the Arabs. All Europeans are safe.

The British fleet is expected here tomorrow and will coal immediately. The fleet will await orders and no shore leave will be given. The protected cruiser Barham, after her departure from here, was recalled by wireless.

Landing at Prevesa. Constantinople, September 30.—The Porte has received a dispatch that Italian forces under the protection of three cruisers and four torpedo boat destroyers, began a landing at 2 o'clock this afternoon near Prevesa, out of range of the guns of the fortress.

The reserves of the Vilayet of Janina, in which Prevesa is located, are being mobilized.

Paris, September 30.—The Matin's Constantinople correspondent wires that a rumor is in circulation at the Porte that the entire Ottoman fleet except one cruiser, has been destroyed. Officials at the office of the Minister of Marine are unable to confirm or deny the news.

United States Gets Word. Washington, Sept. 30.—Formal notification to the United States that a state of war exists between Italy and Turkey, was given to the State Department late today by the Italian charge d'affaires, Mobilio Lazzaro Del Marchesi Negroto Cambiaso. This action paves the way for the forthcoming proclamation of neutrality by this government.

President Taft will proclaim the neutrality of the United States probably Monday. The official notification of Italy carries out the Tague convention of 1907 stipulating that neutral powers must be notified of the declaration of war.

Destroys Turkish Vessel. Rome, Sept. 30.—The minister of marine received the following despatches tonight from Capt. Santo: The destroyers Artigliere and Corazziere (Italian) this morning sunk a Turkish destroyer and torpedoes near Prevesa. The Corazziere is on the way to Taranto, escorting a captured yacht. The destroyer Alpino captured a steamer manned by a Greek coming from the north and at the moment entering the harbor of Prevesa. She had five Turkish officers and 162 soldiers aboard besides a quantity of ammunition. "No damage on Italian side."

The success so far attained is all that could have been expected and each week the volume of trade through the medium of the Trade Extension Association largely increases and everything tends for the continual upbuilding of the organization. It was especially noted that during the past week a number of visitors, who came from far and near, stated without question that the free fare offer induced them to spend their money with Wilmington merchants.

Realizing that annually for years large sums of money has gone away from eastern North Carolina to northern markets and from smaller towns and the country to big mail order houses, because the people had not been instructed as to the advantages of trading in this city, the merchants conceived the idea of turning the tide of trade to a home center and a Carolina city, and the willingness already displayed by the people within the bounds of territory has been to a degree surprising.

The impression of some visitors that members of the association are adding an additional cost to goods purchased to make up for the fare refunded is entirely without foundation and can be proven beyond question to be erroneous.

COME HERE FOR FREE FARE

Extending Trade Borders by Unique Methods—The Movement

The unique methods of the Wilmington Trade Extension Association are proving a drawing card in attracting classes of trade to the city. The accommodation afforded visiting traders by the various members of the organization and the splendid free fare offer are the undisputed means of bringing people to Wilmington to do their buying that never came here before for that purpose.

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