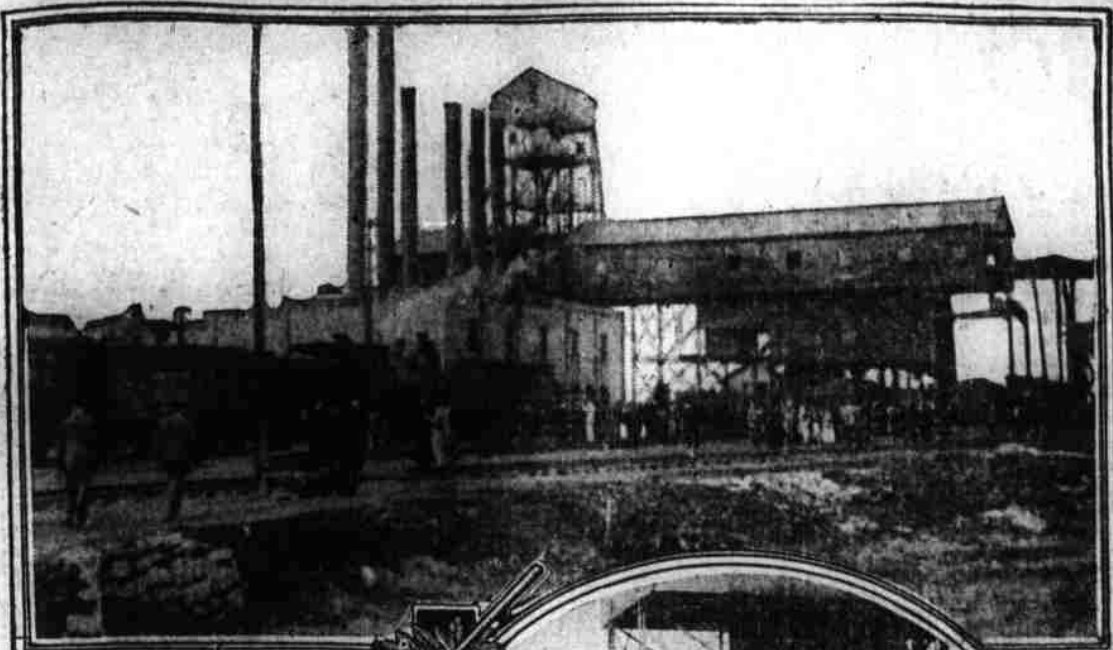


DARK SETTING OF A TRAGEDY IN WHICH 168 MEN PERISHED

OFFICIALS WANT TO KNOW STATUS OF THE AMERICANS WHEN ARRESTED

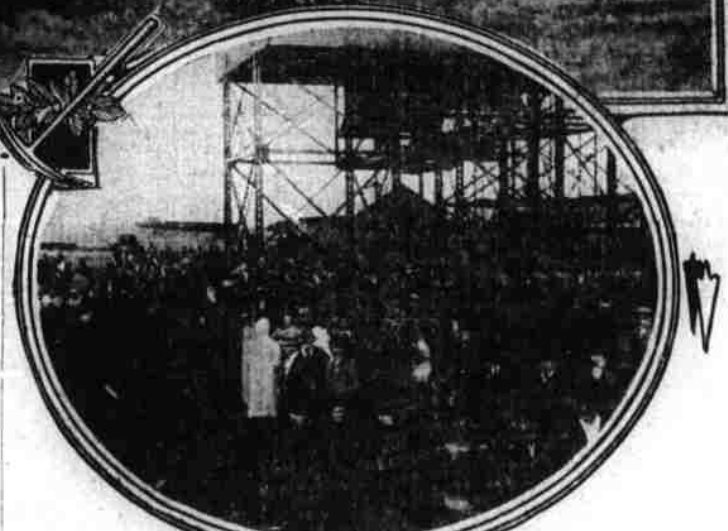


THE ST. PAUL MINE AT CHERRY, ILLINOIS.

Practically All Victims of the Cherry Disaster Accounted for—The 168 Fought Hard Battle With Death.

BLACK DAMP CONQUERED AFTER ALONG STRUGGLE

Rude, Wooden Ventilating Fans Had Been Fitted up By the Imprisoned Men in Lower Level.



SCENE AT THE CHERRY MINE SHAFT

CHERRY, Ill., Nov. 24.—Practically all the bodies of the men who perished in the Cherry disaster, not previously removed, were found this morning on the staircase at the mouth of the third or lower level of the St. Paul mine.

One hundred and sixty-eight bodies were found, leaving about a score to be accounted for. The bodies were in a great, tangled mass, completely blocking the staircase leading from the third to the second vein. They were scattered along the vein where they had dropped before reaching the stairway. Black damp was the cause of death. All means of escape were blocked by debris falling, covering the top of the staircase. The men died as they tried to push through the obstructions, or in waiting vainly for rescuers.

Death evidently did not come to many for hours, if not days. Two rude wooden ventilating fans, fashioned after the same manner as those found two days ago, in the second gallery, were affixed to the shaft wall and stairway. They turned these by hand in their frantic struggle for air and in hopeless effort to rush back to the black damp. The hands of one miner were found firmly gripped about a fan.

An accurate count of the victims has not been made, but it is believed all but a score of missing men have been accounted for. The bodies were found 500 feet from the main shaft on the elevated surface where they retreated before the advancing water and the fatal black damp. They died after a struggle that continued possibly two days.

Messages scrawled on the wood and slate cropping from the walls placed the number of dead at 150 or 165. One message read: "We are all here to die together."

A Skiff Lowered. This is accepted by officials as indicating the many men who escaped from the second vein were cut off by fire and descended to the lowest level. To take out the bodies a skiff was secured and will be lowered to the vein. It will be rowed across four feet of water in the vein to a spot where the bodies lie. It will then be transported to the main shaft for removal to the surface.

An exploring party was in the gallery an hour before the bodies were found. They waded in the water waist deep through an irregular tunnel, and making their way toward the elevation of the shaft or ridge by climbing up on the ridge searchers almost stepped upon the bodies piled up on top of each other in heaps. Some had their heads resting on folded arms, as if sleeping. Others were lying across each other and some were sitting as if resting against the wall. Nailed to the wall were two fans made of timbering dug about pick handles. Under these fans the largest heaps of bodies were found.

There was no evidence that the men attempted to barricade themselves from the black damp. Many former workers in the mine protested angrily, after they discovered that the men would have been safe from the deadly gas had not the ventilating fan been reversed after the discovery of the fire. They asserted that the men retreated to the bridge where ordinarily noxious gas would not have reached them. Believing themselves in no danger they fortified themselves against hunger, thirst and supposedly less danger from gas. Fans fashioned by them, they assert, would have dispelled gas, which would have formed in small quantities, and have given the men enough fresh air to sustain them.

AN AFTERMATH OF THE CONFERENCE

The Session of the Methodist Conference Was a Fine One and Good Work Was Accomplished.

VERDICT STRANGE ONE IN THE SHERRILL CASE

The Pastor Was Found Guilty of Imprudence, No Crime at All, But He Was Temporarily Deposed.

Correspondence of The Gazette-News, Hickory, Nov. 24.—As an aftermath of the conference that adjourned Monday night it will not be out of place to say that the session was a fine one from every standpoint. The town is happy in having entertained the conference so well, and parted the guests with much regret, the association having been wholly pleasant; and Hickory will hold the day when in the course of events there will be another session here. A more lavish and homelike people this writer never saw. Long live Hickory.

There are just two things that are talked as a finality of the session: the first is the wisdom of the cabinet in making a list of appointments that give more than usual satisfaction, the "kick" being the exception, the day after conference, when, some years, there is a rush for help that makes a bishop wish he was in Mexico. The cabinet worked faithfully and gave and took, it seems, and placed men until every one wanting an appointment had one, and it may be that some have those that are not to their liking, but those who do not go will be few.

The Sherrill Case. The second matter talked of is the verdict in the case against Rev. C. E. Sherrill, a loved minister of the conference, who has done such fine work. The committee was selected for its fitness and it would be hard to find what appears to be a better set of men in the conference. And they did what they think was their duty; but to the man who can see both sides of a question the verdict is a strange one, to say the least; in fact the writer never heard of just such a verdict. He was charged with immorality, which charge was not found true, but was declared guilty of imprudence, which is no crime; yet they put him out of the ministry for a term of 30 days. What troubles some is why put any man at all on him if not guilty of a crime? If he is had enough to be put out for 30 days he is had enough to be put out for all time. Men high up in the conference think poorly of the verdict, but as that is the law, the findings of the committee, there is no going behind the verdict by the conference; an appeal being the last resort, and the taking of the appeal, as the writer understands, means that Mr. Sherrill has to lay off until the matter is settled next May.

The case has been stated in these dispatches from time to time, but it is also proper to state that some think the whole matter a case of persecution, pure and simple. If he had offended any lady, why wait months?

AIR BRAKES FAIL; TRAIN RUNS AWAY

Engineer of a Philadelphia and Reading Coal Train Loses His Life and Others Are Badly Injured.

Pottsville, Pa., Nov. 24.—A Philadelphia and Reading coal train, while descending the heavy grade on Broad mountain this morning, got beyond control of the air brakes and dashed down the mountain at a mile a minute clip, and after running for miles the engine jumped the rails and plunged over an embankment, followed by a score of steel "battleship" cars, loaded with coal. Engineer Ammons' life was crushed out, and several members of the crew were seriously injured. Some escaped with their lives by jumping.

B. S. CABLE TO SUCCEED M'HARG

Senator Cullom Made This Announcement After Leaving the White House This Morning.

Washington, Nov. 24.—After a conference with the president, Senator Cullom of Illinois, today announced upon leaving the White House that Benjamin S. Cable, the Chicago attorney, would be appointed assistant secretary of commerce and labor, to succeed Ormsby M'Harg, whose resignation been pending two months.

PEARY WILL NOT LECTURE; VISITS THE PRESIDENT

Says It Would Be a Much Easier Thing to Reach the South Than the North Pole.

Washington, Nov. 24.—Commander Robert E. Peary announced today that he would not go on the lecture platform. Commander Peary called at the White House to pay his respects to the president and receive the latter's congratulations. Peary said the conquest of the south pole would be easier than that of the north, because at the south pole conditions are fixed. He declared the south pole is surrounded by a continent, or group of islands cemented together by ice, thus step by step one may attain the pole.

Kentucky Politician Shot.

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 24.—William E. Proctor, a republican politician, was today shot and probably fatally wounded by R. M. Colley. Colley asserts that Proctor insulted his wife.

Steamers in Collision.

Norfolk, Nov. 25.—During a storm, the Old Dominion steamer Mohack and the steamer Virginia, were in collision off Town Point. The Mohack's wheels were smashed.



THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE

FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF THE PATRONAGE

T. F. Roland, in Denying His Connection With Any Agreement, Talks Interestingly.

VOTERS WON'T TOLERATE THIRD OR FOURTH TERM APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Roland Has Been Frequently Mentioned in Connection With Asheville Postoffice.

Concerning the alleged "agreement" over the distribution of federal patronage in North Carolina, especially in this section of the state, there has been much to say. The Democrats it is alleged, have charged that there was an agreement relative to this patronage distribution; that in effect Congressman Morehead would have the naming of the district attorney, Congressman Cowles the naming of the internal revenue collector, and Congressman Grant the naming of the marshal. It has also been alleged that T. F. Roland, chairman of the Democratic county republican executive committee, a man who practically carried Thurmond for the republicans last year, would be taken care of with a position as deputy marshal under Mr. Logan, who, it is assumed, will be named by Mr. Grant for marshal of the district. Just what measure of truth there is in this rumormongering is of course not known but one thing is certain, Mr. Roland is not acting as any deputy marshalship and also that he is not represented or interested in any agreement or combine having to do with a distribution of patronage, along a deputy marshalship line especially. Mr. Roland has been frequently and cordially mentioned in connection with the Asheville postoffice department and his friends are hopeful that he will land the job. Mr. Roland when seen today by a newspaper representative said, relative to the proposed slate as to distribution of patronage in the district, that there has not been any agreement or understanding with him in regard to a position in the marshal's office. He says further that he has not publicly announced himself for any appointment, but that his name has been frequently mentioned in connection with the appointment of postmaster at Asheville. Mr. Roland's friends believe that he is justly entitled to this appointment and Mr. Roland says that he appreciates the encouragement his friends give and that he would appreciate the place and that if appointed he would show his appreciation to the public in the management of the office.

THE WINDS BLOW; THE SNOW FALLS

Shipping Ready to Sail from Hampton Roads, Storm Bound Snow in Virginia and Washington.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 24.—A heavy northeast storm, with wind blowing at a velocity of 40 miles an hour over the Virginia capes, and 50 miles an hour off Hatteras, swept the Virginia, Carolina and Maryland coasts today. Shipping ready to sail from Hampton Roads is storm bound there.

A Snow at the Capital. Washington, Nov. 24.—A driving snow storm, the first of the season, set in at 9 o'clock this morning. The flakes melted rapidly, however, and there has been no interruption of traffic.

MILITANT SUFFRAGETTES ARE SENTENCED TO JAIL

One Acid Thrower Gets Seven Months and Another Three Months Term.

London, Nov. 24.—Mrs. Alice Chapin, the militant suffragette, is sentenced to seven months' imprisonment for smashing a bottle of corrosive acid upon a ballot box, injuring a polling clerk, several weeks ago. Miss Allison Nielsen, who made a similar attempt to express suffragette sentiment, is sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Writer of Comedy Kills Himself.

St. Louis, Nov. 24.—Mrs. Grace Hubbard, whose ambition was to make the world laugh at a comedy from her pen, was herself the chief figure in a tragedy. She committed suicide because a theatrical manager stole her most elaborate comedy sketch. The woman's apartment gave evidence of want and suffering.

Kaufmann Coming Home.

Berlin, Nov. 24.—Martin Kaufmann, who is voluntarily returning to the United States to reply to charges made by The Cotton Goods Converters company of New York, called today from Bremen in company with a detective.

THE WEATHER

Forecast until 8 p. m. Thursday for Asheville and vicinity: Fair, colder tonight; Thursday, increasing cloudiness and warmer.



QUARTER BLOWN UP BY COLOMBIANS IN MANAGUA IN 1902. SOLDIERS WERE KILLED



BLUEFIELDS—A SEAPORT NOW HELD BY THE REVOLUTIONISTS. PICTURE SHOWS UNITED STATES MARINES WHO WERE IN NICARAGUA DURING THE REVOLUTION IN 1899



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Winds in Virginia. Winchester, Va., Nov. 24.—Snow fell over northern Virginia today, and the indications are for a "white" Thanksgiving. Much of the corn crop is still in the fields.

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THANKSGIVING IS TO BE OBSERVED

There Will Be a Suspension of Business, While Services Will Be Held at the Churches.

MARKET TO BE CLOSED THROUGHOUT THE DAY

The Music Feature at the Churches Will Be Notable Especially at All Souls, the Biltmore Church.

Thanksgiving day promises to be generally observed throughout the city tomorrow. Practically all business will be suspended, and the people will give themselves up to a day of home or in visiting friends and relatives, with here and there a hunting party if the weather man permits. All members of the Retail Merchants' association will close their stores the entire day; the city market will also be closed the entire day; the postoffice will be open from 8 to 10 a. m., and one delivery will be made in the city, but there will be no R. F. D. service; the city ticket office of the Southern railway will be closed the entire day. In the morning practically all the city churches will be held special services. In the afternoon, the Hincham-Mooney football game will doubtless draw a large crowd, and in the late afternoon and at night the attractions at the Grand opera house will doubtless be participated in by many.

NEGRO KILLED, BURNED BY ALABAMA CITIZENS

He Had Assaulted a Farmer's Wife, and Condition of Lady Is Critical.

Anniston, Ala., Nov. 24.—Ray Rolston, a negro, was flogged with shot, and his body was burned yesterday by a posse of citizens.

In Memory of Moravian Martyrs. Bethlehem, Pa., Nov. 24.—The 154th anniversary of the massacre by Indians of the Moravian missionaries at Gaudenshagen, November 24, 1755, now the site of Lehighton, Carbon county, was observed today with memorial exercises under the auspices of the Moravian Historical society of this place.

The Virginia Baptists. Norfolk, Va., Nov. 24.—The Virginia Baptist association has selected Roanoke as the next place of meeting. Richmond college and the new Women's college are to be independent institutions under the same trustees, with county education abolished when the new plans are consummated.

Services at Trinity. The Thanksgiving services at Trinity will be conducted at 11 o'clock by Rev. J. S. Moody of Hickory in the absence of Rev. W. G. McCready, D. D. The subject of the address will be "A Nation's Benediction." Special music will be rendered by Trinity choir. The collection will be for the Thompson Orphanage and Training school at Charlotte.

Union Services at Central Methodist. All of the Methodist Episcopal churches, south, in Asheville, will hold (Continued on page 5)

Several Days May Elapse Before Washington Authorities Are in Position to Take Decisive Action.

Washington, Nov. 24.—The Nicaraguan situation is unchanged this morning, the state department still awaiting information from Managua. The department appreciates the fact that Vice Consul Caldera is working at a disadvantage in gathering the true facts in connection with the execution of the Americans. Officials are anxious to obtain information about the status of the Americans at the time they were arrested, and especially whether they were co-operating with the revolutionist army. The officials are proceeding with deliberation and it may be several days before the department is ready to take decisive action.

JURY UNABLE TO AGREE IN \$22,300 DAMAGE CASE

Suit Involved Construction of Clause of an Insurance Policy of Lynn Hosiery Mill.

The Gazette-News Bureau, Hotel Gates, Hendersonville, Nov. 4.

In the suit of the Tryon Hosiery company against the New Brunswick Fire Insurance company and 12 other insurance companies, in Henderson Superior court, the jury yesterday reported to Judge Justice that they were unable to agree and were unanimously of the opinion that they never could agree. This was a suit involving a clause in an insurance policy in which a verdict was asked for \$22,300 on account of the burning of the plaintiff's property at Lynn last September, which the defendants had insured.

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