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THE WEATHER: Unsettled Weather Tonight and Wednesday; Occasional Light Rain.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 10, 1903.

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VOL. XXIX

## COOKED ALIVE IN OIL, 25 DIE IN AWFUL AGONY

### Eighteen Bodies Have Been Recovered So Far, That Met Death in Awful Holocaust

### AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE ARE KNOWN TO BE DEAD

### Bodies Are Burned to Crisp and Beyond Recognition, While Many of the Injured Will Die

March 10.—It is now believed that at least twenty-five were killed and forty injured by the explosion of an oil tank at the Erie Railway near here last night. Many of the injured will die and the death list may reach thirty.

Local hospitals are crowded with victims and many who were hurt were taken to their homes. Eighteen bodies have been recovered and six have been identified. Many are so badly burned that identification is utterly impossible. All the clothing was burned off the bodies and the flesh was cooked and crisp.

The bodies of three of the dead were found in Olean creek, where they had floated into the water and were either drowned or died from burns.

Friends and relatives of the missing men and boys are flocking about the undertaking shops trying to identify the charred victims. The search of the scene of the wreck is proceeding slowly and preparations are being made for dragging Olean creek for bodies. The identified dead are:

- TOBIN, fifteen years old;
- McREADY, sixteen.
- TODMAN BROWN, seventeen.
- THOMAS FITZPATRICK, seven years.
- JOHN McMAHON, seventeen.
- RICHARD CONNELL, nineteen.
- MARTIN V. DRISCOLL, 22.
- WILLIE RODS, 18.
- HARRY GODDEN, 18.
- WALTER SWIFT, 19.
- JOHN STEEMLINGER, 17.
- FABRIZIO, 16.
- CARMIN PICELAMO, two Italians.
- WALTER JACKSON.

The fifteenth person who perished in the explosion, has been identified as Michael Lamb, of Portville. The fire is still burning at 8 o'clock. Working crews are working at the scene and all trains east and west are running around by way of Buffalo.

The horror was caused by an extra freight train on the Erie road which broke in two in the Olean, N. Y., yards. The detached parts crashed together and six tank cars containing oil caught fire. A large crowd of spectators gathered about the place to look at the flames, when an explosion occurred in one of the tanks.

Burning oil was hurled over the crowd and the consuming heat engulfed many victims. The exact number is at present unknown because the intense heat renders it impossible to touch the bodies, which are being incinerated. One estimate is that 15 are dead and twice that number burned seriously.

A report from the scene of the accident at 1 o'clock this morning (Tuesday) said 22 bodies had been taken from the wreckage. Some of them are beyond beyond recognition, only the tracks and skulls remaining.

## Buffalo Police Are No Nearer End of Mystery

### Only Development in Burdick Case Today is Suit For Damages by Miss Hutchinson

Buffalo, March 10.—There are no new developments in the Burdick murder case today and there is not likely to be any in the immediate future, according to the district attorney's office and the police who are working on the case.

The only new development today, that came any where near touching upon the case was a telegraphic dispatch from London, Ontario, to the effect that through her attorney, Philip Fennelly, Miss Marion Hutchinson had obtained suit for \$75,000 damages against the Buffalo police department. When seen this morning Supt. Bull said he knew nothing regarding the

### Six Killed In Cyclone.

Brisbane, Australia, March 10.—A cyclone struck the town of Townsville today and caused much destruction and death. The Ward hospital there collapsed and six patients were killed and many injured. A grammar school, churches and many other buildings were destroyed and hundreds are homeless.

### Fear Levee Will Break.

Jackson, Miss., March 10.—The Yazoo, Mississippi Levee Board now in session at Clarksdale, last night appealed to the Board of Control for the use of all able-bodied men on the levees and all others that can be spared. Several hundred will be hastened to the river. The levee board is seriously alarmed over the prospects of a big overflow and is doing every thing possible to strengthen the levees.

### Lives Endangered By Fire.

Boston, March 10.—Sixteen persons, all Hebrews, were rescued by firemen and policemen in East Boston in a fire which started in a four-story dwelling on Webster street early this morning. Fannie Lepinsky, one of the rescued inmates, was so severely burned she is not expected to recover.

### Anchor Liner Ethiopia Overdue.

Glasgow, March 10.—The Anchor Line people are growing anxious regarding the steamer Ethiopia, which sailed from Glasgow for New York Feb. 21. The Liner has not been reported since she passed Moville, Feb. 22. She carries a full cargo and passenger list.

## BARKUS IS WILLIN' SAYS CHAMBERLAIN

### If Uncle Sam Wants a Reduction in Postage He Must Broach the Subject to Johnny Bull

London, March 10.—In the House of Commons today Postmaster General J. Austin Chamberlain, replying to a question said his attention had been drawn to the United States, that Postmaster General Payne had recommended a reduction of postage between America and Great Britain. There was a suggestion in the report, he said, that Great Britain, Germany and France should negotiate to make such arrangement.

### BIG NAVAL MANEUVERS.

To Test Torpedo Boats and Destroyers Near Norfolk.

Norfolk, Va., March 10.—It is announced that preparations are being made for important and interesting naval maneuvers in the waters of this section early in the spring. A flotilla of 10 torpedo boats and destroyers is now at this station to participate in the maneuvers, which will include tests of such flotilla when placed upon their own resources.

The vessels are to be tested as to steaming radius, their value as scout-boats and as to the time they can remain away from a fleet of large vessels. Naval officers here are much interested in the project.

Sheriff B. A. Horn and Superintendent of Road Construction B. T. Fletcher, of Monroe, are in the city today, attending the Safe Cracker's trial.

### Pope Receives English Pilgrims.

Rome, March 10.—The English pilgrims led by the Duke of Norfolk, were presented to the Pope today. Norfolk read an address of loyalty and devotion and presented liberal Peter's Pence. The Pope looked better than since his recent illness, and expressed gratification for the expressions of the faithful of England.

### To Extend Marconi Service.

London, March 10.—The Pall Mall Gazette understands that the English postoffice authorities have made arrangements with Marconi to connect his wireless stations with the land wires. This has hitherto been forbidden. It means a big extension of the Marconi service.

## MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

### Mr. Thompson To Leave the Sharon Church—Other Business.

An adjourned session of Mecklenburg Presbytery was held this morning in the Second Presbyterian church. Several matters of interest were before the session.

Rev. J. K. Fraser, a member of this Presbytery and who was formerly assistant pastor of the Second Church in this city, was dismissed to the Charleston Presbytery.

Rev. George H. Atkinson will be installed as pastor of the Monroe church Thursday, April 9th. Drs. J. R. Horton and J. W. Staggs and Rev. J. A. Dorfrite will hold the installation service.

The trustees of the Presbytery were authorized to execute a refunding bond in accordance with the laws of New Jersey in order that a \$10,000 legacy bequeathed by Mary K. Minott to Miss Frances Gifford's school at Albemarle might be obtained. This it was necessary to do before the ownership to the amount could be transferred.

Rev. G. T. Thompson, pastor of the church at Sharon, asks to be released from the pastoral relation to that church, and a meeting of Presbytery will be held next Tuesday for the purpose of releasing Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson has been pastor of the Sharon church for some time. It is not known where he contemplates locating as he will not say. The people of Sharon regret very much to give him up and in fact had refused some time ago to do so.

### Shoe Store Improvements.

Mr. W. G. Thompson, the shoe dealer, has about completed the improvements in his store on West Trade street. It has been repapered and repainted throughout, new flooring and shelving put in and also modern bicycle ladders, mirrors, etc. The new show windows have been made among the most attractive in Charlotte.

## GOLD AND PRECIOUS GEMS IN MONTANA

### Prospector Makes a Lucky Strike—Old Bed of Missouri Yields its Glittering Treasure

Helena, Mont., March 10.—Considerable excitement has been created here by the discovery that an old bed of the Missouri river which yields richly in gold, sapphires and rubies. The discovery was made about 15 miles from Helena by J. H. Cowan, who drove a tunnel 300 feet, encountering the old bed which is said to be thirty feet deep.

Four hundred pounds of sand yielded \$750 in gold, fifty sapphires and one ruby. Cowan went immediately to New York to inform the stockholders of the company. It is believed it will prove a bonanza.

### SOME FINE SHOOTING.

Local Gun Club Members Witness Work of the Champion.

A number of local sportsmen, members of the gun club, went out yesterday afternoon to indulge in their favorite pastime of trap-shooting and incidentally witness the work of Mr. J. A. R. Elliott, crack shot of the country. In addition to Mr. Elliott, Messrs. Nichols and Lee, the Winchester Arms Company representatives, were guests of the club.

Some of the best shooting that has ever been witnessed on the local grounds was done yesterday. There were several club shoots at clay pigeons and the general totals, or final score of each participant, is summed up thusly:

- Elliott, . . . . . 97-100
- Anthony, . . . . . 93-100
- Nichols, . . . . . 93-100
- Purwell, . . . . . 43-50
- Todd, . . . . . 41-50
- Lee, . . . . . 36-50
- Hooper, . . . . . 24-50
- Ogburn, . . . . . 21-50
- Bryson, . . . . . 42-50

Mr. Elliott is a cool, steady shot and his work in winging 97 pigeons out of a possible 100 excited general admiration. Mr. Elliott holds the world's championship with a record of 246 live pigeons—a record, it is said that has never been approached. Mr. Elliott also took occasion to compliment Col. Anthony on the latter's fine work, a score of 93 out of a possible 100. Mr. Bryson, of the local club also made an excellent run—43-50.

Mr. Elliott, who is, by the way, a representative of the Winchester Arms Co., has just returned from a trip to Europe, where he captured several trophies. He left last night, with Messrs. Lee and Nichols for a trip South.

### Crittendon Home Trustees Meet.

There will be a meeting of the board of trustees of the Crittendon Home this evening at 5:30 o'clock in the office of the Southern Loan & Savings Bank. Every member of the board is asked to attend as there is business of importance to be attended to.

## REPORT OF STATE WORK COMMITTEE

### It Recommends the Re-election of the Present Executive Committee With Certain Additions

## RECOMMENDS FEDERATION OF CAROLINA ASSOCIATIONS

### Further That Charlotte Be Headquarters—Closing Exercises Will Be Conducted Tonight

Winston-Salem, N. C., March 10.—The State Y. M. C. A. Convention met at 9:30 with President Abbott in the chair. G. C. Huntington conducted the Bible study.

The scripture reading was Luke 19:11-27. Prayer was offered by L. A. Coulter, of Richmond. The theme of conference was "Service for our absent Lord." After prayer by A. C. Bridgman, of Columbia, H. O. Williams, of New York, presided over the conference of State work.

The report of the committee on State work was read by O. B. Vanhorn. The report says the committee succeeds in recommending that we have many things to be thankful for and look to greater service in the future.

It recommends, first, that W. C. Dowd, C. W. Tillet, Geo. Stevens, J. H. Little, of Charlotte; Dr. Thos. Hume, of Chapel Hill be elected to succeed themselves on the executive committee, and the election of new members as follows: H. A. Banks, C. E. Mason, J. H. Wear, F. J. Lethco, Charlotte; W. H. Sprunt, Wilmington; Geo. R. Collins, Asheville.

Second, the Federation of North and South Carolina associations with headquarters at Charlotte.

Third, that \$2,700 be raised for the years work, half by the convention. It urges an increase in contributions of 25 per cent.

Fourth, that the State Executive Committee be empowered to employ the office of secretary.

Fifth, that a secretary be asked to make a study of industrial conditions with a view to organization, where practicable, in all mill districts.

Sixth, that special attention be given the work in the city and railroad division points.

Seventh, that we continue the study of rural districts.

Eighth, that more attention be given to religious and educational departments.

Upon roll call of cities and colleges each association pledged amounts which reached a total of \$528. Private amounts subscribed reached \$188.75; a total of \$716.75.

The study of unoccupied fields was conducted by Messrs. C. L. Gates, of Atlanta and A. C. Bridgman, of Columbia. The needs of the work in towns and villages were considered and what lines of work had been successful, what more can be done, what should be the goal. The convention then adjourned with prayer by Prof. Hanna.

The closing exercises will take place tonight. The college work is being considered this afternoon and a business meeting at which it is most probable to Carolina, will be united, with Charlotte as headquarters.

Winston-Salem, March 9.—The morning session of the State Y. M. C. A. convention was called to order in the First Presbyterian church at 9:30 by President Huntington. The convention was led in prayer by Rev. Caldwell, of Salem.

gave the reason why Association men should support the Association literature. A number of subscriptions for the city and college associations were made.

At 10:30 Mr. Lyman L. Pierce, of Washington, conducted a conference concerning the religious conditions of young men; in what respect our religious work is failing to meet these conditions; what religious work the association should undertake outside of the building. A study of these questions brought out some interesting facts in regard to the work among young men in North Carolina. Smaller cities have a large percentage of young men who are church members and attend church than in larger cities in the United States. In the latter the percentage of church members is about 10 per cent.; 2 per cent. are active in religious work; 25 per cent. attend church. In North Carolina the condition

## SUPERIOR COURT.

### Lonnie Burns Case Nonsuited—W. S. Clanton Case.

In the civil court today the case of Lonnie Burns against the Western Union Telegraph Company was nonsuited. Burns brought suit for damages for mental anguish. The jury in the case was selected yesterday afternoon and the plaintiffs evidences was taken this morning. At its completion the defendant company moved a nonsuit. The motion was allowed. The plaintiff excepted and appeals to Supreme Court.

The court is now hearing the case of W. S. Clanton vs. the city of Charlotte. In this case Mr. Clanton brings suit for damages occasioned by the emptying of a sewer pipe in Sugar Creek near the property of the plaintiff.

## STRANGE DISEASE ON ANCHOR LINER

### Two of the Crew and Four of the Passengers of the Karamania Died on the Trip Across

New York, March 10.—The Anchor Line steamer Karamania, from Marseilles, Palum and Naples, is detained at quarantine because a number of her crew and passengers died under peculiar circumstances on the voyage.

Six died in all, two of the crew and four passengers. All were taken with the same symptoms, cramps, nausea and collapsed and it is thought they were poisoned by some noxious gases emanating from the cargo. All the passengers occupied adjoining bunks, in the steerage, and all were buried at sea. The steamer is held for a thorough investigation and disinfection.

### TO FIND THE LIFE GERM.

Dr. Jacques Loeb Confident It Can Be Done.

San Francisco, March 10.—Dr. Jacques Loeb, head of the new department of physiology in the University of California, delivered his first lecture here, under the management of the Harvey Club. He chose for his subject "Is a Complete Scientific Explanation of Life Phenomena Possible?"

Dr. Loeb explained that he did not now hold the secret of artificial life, but he was satisfied that a scientific explanation of life phenomena would be developed in the future, as, reasoning from available premises resulting from scientific research up to the present, the problem was not beyond the possibility of solution in the domain of chemistry and physics.

The logic of science must rest on the assumption that a life phenomenon had been explained completely as soon as it was possible to control it unequivocally by physical or chemical means, or to repeat it in all detail on inanimate material.

"We cannot admit," said the professor, "that there is any obstacle to our complete control and, in consequence, our knowledge of life phenomena. Every one, I believe, who recognizes the control of life phenomena to be the great problem of scientific investigation will come to the same conclusion."

### New York To Grow Its Own Oranges.

Washington, March 10.—H. J. Weber, of the Agricultural Department, declares that orange trees are now living and bearing fruit in Baltimore and other places in a similar latitude. Mr. Weber predicts that before the department is through with its experiments with the hybridization of the orange the people of Pennsylvania and New York will be able to cultivate and market their own oranges.

### Song Brought Down the House.

Bergen Point, N. J., March 10.—The West Eighth Street Glee Club was recently organized by a number of well-known citizens of Bergen Point, N. J. Yesterday when the members gathered for practice they sang so loudly that a portion of the ceiling of the hall fell to the floor. The members voted to put up a tin ceiling and rivet it in place, so the volume of the singing will have no effect on the plaster.

## DAMAGING TESTIMONY IS GIVEN AGAINST SAFE-CRACKING SUSPECTS

### Preliminary Examination is Begun Today Before United States Commissioner Maxwell

## INSPECTOR GREGORY BEGINS TO WEAVE THE WEB

### Lady Declares That Two of Men Took Supper at Her Home the Night the Post-office Was Robbed

The preliminary hearing of the four men, James Lang, Walter Wood, Charles Rogers and H. B. Wilson, charged with entering the postoffice at Greer's, S. C., and cracking the safe, was begun in the Federal Court room this morning at 11 o'clock. District Attorney A. E. Holton represents the government and Mr. Frank Armfield, the defendants. United States Commissioner D. G. Maxwell, is hearing the evidence.

Mr. H. T. Gregory, the very efficient postoffice inspector for the State of South Carolina, has accumulated a lot of very damaging evidence against all four of the men under arrest. In fact the evidence adduced at the morning's session of the court showed conclusively that all four of the men were in the vicinity of Greer's, where the robbery was committed and that they had the opportunity to commit the deed.

While the evidence was not completed when The News went to press, it is very evident that probable cause has been shown. In this event, the men will be turned over to the South Carolina authorities and will be taken to Charleston where they are to be tried on the charge of breaking into the postoffice at Greer's, breaking open the safe and taking therefrom \$270.24 in money and stamps.

The first witness introduced by the government was Mr. Isham A. Mayfield, the postmaster at Greer's. He stated that he was in charge of the postoffice at that place and was in charge of the office on the 16th of last January. The office was broken into the night of the 16th of January. The safe was blown open and \$270.24 in stamps and money were taken therefrom. Of the above amount, \$195 was in stamps and the remainder was in silver money. According to Mr. Mayfield's statement, the burglars entered the building through the front door by breaking a sash. Once inside, they found it an easy matter to gain access to the room where the safe was located. Witness stated that he was awakened by Officer M. D. Littlefield between 2 and 3 o'clock on the morning of the 17th, and was informed of the robbery. He went at once to the building and found the front door to the building had been opened and the safe had been blown to pieces. Near the safe was a small tin cup that contained some kind of liquid. Witness found on examining the safe that the dial had been knocked off and the front door to the safe had been blown off. He examined the inside and ascertained that the stamps and money were gone; also some land deeds and insurance policies that were with his other papers. These papers witness explained, were in a small tin box inside the safe. This box was found a day or two after the robbery, 1 1/2 miles from the town. The insurance papers and land deeds were also found. Witness also stated that some tools, a hand hammer, three chisels and a monkey wrench were found about a square from the postoffice building. The safe was locked when witness left the building the night of the 16th.

## SIR THOMAS IS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC

### Will Give Shamrock III a Thorough Test and Has a Sneaking Notion He Will Lift the Cup

London, March 10.—Sir Thos. Lip-ton is very enthusiastic over the appearance of the new challenger, Shamrock III. After the preliminary runs in the Clyde, which will be the test for about a fortnight, the real tests will be sailed in the Solent.

Sir Thomas is now arranging to make these tests open races with substantial prizes for the winners, this is to encourage owners of the best yachts to compete against Shamrock and also to insure a thorough test of the new racer.

### D'Annunzio's Next Play.

Paris, March 10.—Gabriele d'Annunzio, the Italian dramatist and novelist, is preparing to go to Novaro, in Northern Italy, where he expects to stay some time.

He is gathering material for a drama, of which that city will be the scene. The hero will be Ludovico, the Moor, whose defeat and death seem to the brilliant dramatist a fine subject for a tragedy.

### That Crisis Approaches.

Madrid, March 10.—The Herald today states that the Minister of Marine is insisting on an increase in the naval estimates despite the opposition of such action by the Minister of Finance. Other departments, the paper says also, are pressing for an increase. The cabinet decision, in the matter of the budget, is accordingly awaited with anxiety.

### Mr. P. H. Gwin, of Steele Creek, is in the city today.

(Continued On Fifth Page.)

## Two Horribly Crushed in Head-On Collision

Furniture Trust the Latest.

New York, March 10.—At a meeting last night at the Tilden club, a hundred furniture manufacturers and delegates all over the country organized the Furniture Association of America. The membership is nearly a thousand concerns with an aggregate of over fifty millions capital.

The car was forced back upon a rim killing him instantly.

Joseph Coleman, seal clerk of this city, who was assisting Neal, was seriously injured. It is feared that his arm will have to be amputated. Several passengers and railroad men were more or less injured.

Both trains arrived late. No. 29 from the North, came in first. It occupied the first track in front of the station, when No. 32 arrived. Through some inadvertency No. 32 was turned into the same switch on which the other train was standing. The crew of No. 32 jumped. Both trains claim the right of way. The blame for the accident has not been placed.

Danville, Va., March 10.—A terrific head-on collision, between two passenger trains, occurred in the yards of the Southern railway in this city this morning.

Joseph E. McArthur, of Gaffney, S. C., a traveling man, and W. E. Neal, an overhauler, of Rural Hall, N. C., were killed. Both men were horribly mangled.

McArthur was standing in the vestibule ready to alight upon the platform when the collision occurred. He was caught between the corner posts and mangled to death.

Neal was under the stationary train coupling the hose of the air brakes.

(Continued On Fifth Page.)

## Southern Railway Trains, 32 and 39, Come Together with Terrific Force