

Seventeen Bodies Recovered From Briceville Mine

Last Found Body Removed Early This Morning—Was in Sitting Position Indicating Death by "Black Damp"—Rain Adds to Gloom.

Many Widows and Orphans—Insurance Orders Lose Heavily—President of Company Refuses to Give Up Hope That Some of Men are Safe.

Briceville, Tenn., Dec. 11.—Seven men had been brought forth dead from the Cross Mountain mine up to 11 o'clock this morning. Only one additional body has been discovered since midnight.

It is estimated that there are still more than 100 men in the mine and that one of them will be brought out alive. The rescue work is necessarily slow and tedious as brattices or work partitions must be erected at frequent intervals through the mine to assist the collection of fresh air that is being pumped in constantly.

All of the bodies recovered have been identified and turned over to the grieving families. As most of them were in a badly mutilated condition, speedy interment has been required. They rest in a little church yard on a hillside in the heart of the village.

The prospective destitution of the families of the victims has resulted in an organized appeal throughout the state for financial relief. The Knoxville Sentinel and the Knoxville Journal and Tribune have been designated to receive money for the widows and orphans.

Dr. J. A. Homes of the United States Bureau of Mines, arriving this morning to assist in the work of rescue. An Appeal For Aid. Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 11.—This afternoon Governor Benjamin W. Hooper issued an appeal for aid for the sufferers in the Briceville mine explosion.

The men in the cross entry were reached by the helmet men of the government rescue crew who were able to proceed that distance, considerably beyond where the miners of the first rescue force could go.

It seems that the victims were overtaken by a wave of after damp after the explosion. The body of John White, like those of all the others found in the main entry, was terribly mangled and burned.

No Hope for Men. Having reached a point so near the end of the mine, three miles underground, it will be the work of but a few hours before all the cross entries are battered. Then the work of exploring these entries will begin and the finding of scores of bodies should be an event of today, for not a person in Briceville now believes that a living creature can ever come from the underground tomb.

Daylight had hardly come this morning when crowds again began to gather around the mouth of the shaft. The news has spread through the little mining town that bodies had been found during the night. The finding of the eight meant to many that the day would be prolific of finds and of heart rending scenes when the living meet their dead as they are brought forth by the workers.

Secret Orders Heavy Losers. Secret orders with which many miners are allied are heavy losers in the catastrophe. Living members are helping to care for the widows and orphans of deceased brothers and are aiding in the rescue work, the recovery of bodies and the burial of the dead. Communications from state and national headquarters have been received by some local lodges.

The membership of Stone State lodge, Knights of Pythias, is almost completely wiped out. It lost 17 members including all but one officer. Two Masons were killed, one Red Men and twelve Odd Fellows.

In the work of rescue, members of these fraternities were among the first to volunteer. They were quick to examine bodies as they were brought out, searching for lodge pins and emblems as means of identification.

Body Found at Telephone. Charles Kesterson, one of the miners killed, whose body was among the first to be removed from the mine, was found at the telephone back in the mine by the rescuing crew. Evidently Kesterson had been trying to telephone the news of the concussion to the office of the mines when he was struck by falling debris.

His skull was badly mashed and his body cut. On his person was a Red Cross badge and a pocket watch which was taken to the little school house nearby, which was pressed into service as a morgue where it was prepared for burial.

President T. I. Stephenson, of the Knoxville Iron Company, made this statement early this morning: "I know that every one believes that all the men are dead but I shall not give up hope until the last man is out. All of the men were my friends and we have always been loyal to each other."

"Men working in the relief parties tell me that they found the dust in the main entrance wet and made into balls filling holes in the brattices. I am always instructed that the mines be sprinkled to keep down dust and am sure that it was done."

In my opinion the explosion may have been caused by a blow out of a blasting charge but the real cause will probably never be known.

Appeal For Aid. Mayor Thomas Watts, executive officer of Coal Creek, five miles from the village of Briceville, today issued an appeal to mayors of all cities for financial aid for the mine sufferers.



SKETCH OF THE McNAMARA BROTHERS MADE IN COURT. (JOHN J. (ON LEFT) AND JAMES B. (ON RIGHT).)



Six Day Bicycle Race Attracts The Usual Crowds—Fifteen Teams Start

New York, Dec. 11.—The ninth hour of the six-day bicycle race found all the 15 teams that started at midnight circling the track at Madison Square Garden on even terms. Several wild sprints just before daylight failed to give any team an advantage and the score at 8 o'clock was 183 miles, 9 laps for all.

The 8 o'clock score was less than two miles behind the record of 185 miles, 5 laps established by Hehr and Goulet last year.

Nearly 5,000 persons out of some 12,000 that saw the race begin, stayed in their seats all night. New York, Dec. 11.—The six-day bicycle race, the 19th renewal of this annual feature, appears to have lost none of its popularity.

Fifteen teams started around the saucer in Madison Square Garden today and a crowd of spectators just as large as in previous years settled down forthwith on the benches around the big arena prepared to watch the endurance of the riders.

There were many spills in the early hours of the race and more than one narrow escape but no injury or delay sufficient to lose a lap for any rider. There were six punctured tires in the first ten miles and the riders complained that there were nails projecting from the boards on some of the high banked turns.

The pace from the start was a stiff one, crowding the old records closely. At 5 o'clock all 15 teams had completed 113 miles, 8 laps. The record is 119 miles, 9 laps, made by Demarra and Hill in 1908.

As a result of an eight minute sprint just before 11 o'clock, Ryan and Cavanaugh and Wiley and Galvin lost lap each and Lorenz and John Bedell got a bad spill but were able to resume a few minutes later. The eleventh hour figures showed 13 teams with 247 miles and four laps, with Wiley and Galvin and Ryan and Cavanaugh 247 miles and 3 laps.

The record for the 11th hour is 251 miles and 1 lap.

Murder Starts Trouble. Washington, Dec. 11.—Southern members of the republican national committee arriving here for tomorrow's meeting have arranged for a conference late this afternoon when pro-referendumists proposed reduction of southern representation will be made.

While the southerners will not attempt to arbitrarily bar federal officeholders from delegations to the national convention, yet as far as possible they will be eliminated.

Transposition of factional differences in Ohio to the committee is the only promise of friction looming. The Buckeye dispute hinges on the method of selecting convention delegates.

Chairman Brown of the Ohio state committee who recently came out in opposition to Mr. Taft, favors a presidential preference primary, while Arthur I. Vorys, national committeeman and Taft manager in Ohio, wants convention delegates selected by a state convention as usual.

McNamara Case Branches Out

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 11.—With the McNamara brothers at the state penitentiary the aftermath of the cases divided itself into two parts today—one being the preliminary examination of Bert H. Franklin, charged with having bribed a prospective juror and the other the conference between Oscar Lawler, special government prosecutor, and several witnesses summoned to appear tomorrow before the federal grand jury and tell what they knew of the alleged dynamiting conspiracies.

News that Orrie E. McNamara, confessed dynamiter, would soon go to Indianapolis to lay the foundations for the inquiry there, was taken to mean that the local grand jury would conclude its consideration of the conspiracy subject by the end of the week.

New Name Brought In. Chicago, Dec. 11.—A new name, Mary E. Dye, was brought into the McNamara case today by Miss Nora Haley, former bookkeeper in the office of the Structural Iron Workers in Indianapolis. Miss Dye, who is now in Pittsburgh, was the confidential secretary of John J. McNamara and recorded financial transactions of the two brothers.

Sack of Dynamite Found. Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 11.—A sack containing ten pounds of dynamite, about 200 feet of fuse and some caps, was found early today by two boys in a doorway leading to the engine room of a laundry.

Former Lieut.-Governor of Mississippi Dead. Woodville, Miss., Dec. 11.—Col. James Henry Jones, 73, former lieutenant-governor of Mississippi, died today at the family home. He formerly lived at Mobile.

Storm Threatens S. Atlantic States. Washington, Dec. 11.—Indications of a severe storm which may strike the South Atlantic states were reported to the weather bureau today from Turks Island, one of the Leeward group, about 700 miles from Miami, Fla. Cautionary advices were sent to points on the South Atlantic coast.

The belief is that one of the storms of the West Indian hurricane season is on its way.

Monument At Raleigh To Conyederate Women. Charleston, S. C., Dec. 11.—Col. A. S. Hornum has given \$10,000 for the erection of a monument to the women of the Confederacy at Raleigh, N. C., after the Kinney design, according to a telegram received here today from Gen. Julian S. Carr by Gen. C. Irvine Walker, as chairman of the executive committee on women's monuments in the South.

Couple Murdered While Talking of Wedding Plans. Bradford, Pa., Dec. 11.—While discussing arrangements for their honeymoon trip to follow the wedding scheduled for next week, Miss Grace Cable and her intended husband, Anthony Kohlen, were shot and instantly killed at the woman's home here soon after last midnight.

The police and a posse are searching for the assassin, a wealthy fruit dealer, who it is alleged was jealous of the girl.

Record Breaking Cotton Crop Shown In Census Report

All Southern Poultry Show On

By Associated Press. Atlanta, Dec. 11.—The all-Southern poultry show, under the auspices of the newly organized Southern International Poultry Association, opened here today with four thousand birds of 65 varieties on exhibition. They come from all parts of the South. The show will continue all week. More than \$3,000 in cash prizes and 100 cups will be awarded.

Cotton Crop For The Year Almost Fifteen Million Bales, According to Government Report Which Was Issued To-day.

Full Report by States, Showing Increased Acreage And Increased Yield in All States—Market Slumps on Receipt of News.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The total production of cotton in the United States for the season of 1911-12 will amount to 7,121,713,000 pounds, (not including lint), or 14,885,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight, according to the first official estimate of the size of the crop issued at 2 p. m. today by the reporting board of the United States department of agriculture and made up from reports of the correspondents and agents of the bureau of statistics throughout the cotton belt.

Heretofore the record cotton crop was that of the year 1904 when 13,438,012 bales, exclusive of linters, were grown. Other large crops were those of 1906 which was 13,273,809 bales and 1908 when 13,241,799 bales were grown. In point of value, however, the crop of 1910, which was 11,608,616 bales, exclusive of linters, was the record one.

Conditions early in the growing season this year led to the belief that the crop would be one of record proportions. First estimates of the yield, based on the condition figures, placed the figures of the biggest crops heretofore grown, the acreage on which cotton was planted this season was estimated by the department of agriculture to be 35,004,000 acres, a greater area than ever before planted to cotton in this country.

This vast area exceeded the previous record of acreage by more than 2,500,000 acres. The acreage being planted this season, 32,442,000 acres in 1908, and 32,493,000 acres last year, in the record production year of 1904 only 30,653,733 acres were planted.

Scorching hot and excessively dry weather during the middle of the summer caused considerable damage to cotton in many parts of the cotton belt. Later in the season weather conditions were distinctly favorable in most parts of the belt and the crop improved. The hot weather and drought, however, were responsible for a smaller yield this year than experts early in the season predicted as a result of the record acreage and splendid growing conditions then prevailing. One result of the hot weather was that the crop matured about two weeks earlier than usual.

The estimated production by states, in 500-pound bales, exclusive of linters, with the acreage and yield comparisons for 1910, and the record years of 1906 and 1904 follows:

Table with columns for Year, United States, Acreage, and Bales.

Farmer Admits Assaulting J. W. Smith

Special to The News. Monroe, Dec. 11.—J. W. Smith, who was so seriously cut here Saturday night is gaining strength rapidly and he is now considered out of danger. Aoday at 11 o'clock Martin Privett, a farmer living near the place the terrible deed was committed, came to town and acknowledged having committed the crime, but asserting that he had great cause for doing so, which he will set forth at the hearing in the recorder's court as soon as Smith is able to appear. It develops that the cutting occurred in Privett's yard and the other party was a man named Yow, who was not implicated in the contestation may by Privett here this morning. Privett was recognized for his appearance.

Peace Conference to Be Held at Hankow

By Associated Press. Shanghai, Dec. 11.—Gen. Li Yuen Heng, the revolutionary commander, has telegraphed from Wu Chang to the representatives of the Imperialist party that the republicans have decided to select Hankow as the place for the meeting of the peace conference.

Tang Shao Yi, left Peking yesterday to take part in the negotiations with the revolutionaries. The Imperial government professes confidence that a limited monarchy will be acceptable to the revolutionaries but Tang Shao Yi is empowered to agree to a compromise on virtually any terms, owing to the difficulty of carrying on the administration with the present lack of means.

Today in Congress

Table listing congressional activities by date and location, including Senate and House sessions, reports, and committee actions.

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